

# Heritage News



Summer 2015  
Volume 28 Issue 3

*The Newsletter of Heritage Mississauga*



# Inside . . .

President's Message /3

The Editor's Desk /4

Programs Plus /5

In Search of Alfajores /6

Fenian Raids /7

The Next to Fall /7

The Year of Peace Begins /8

Silverthorn /9

Lorne Scots Part 5 /10

Community News /12

The Darker Side /13

Celebrating 30 Years /14

Heritage Matters /16

**NEXT DEADLINE: August 7, 2015**

**Editor:** Jayme Gaspar, Executive Director

**Content:** Matthew Wilkinson, Historian

**Layout & Typesetting:** Jayme Gaspar

**Photography:** Friends of the Britannia Schoolhouse, Matthew Didier, Heritage Mississauga, Library Archives Canada, Mississauga Library System, Morning Star Middle School, PAMA, Steve Pecar, Wm. Perkins Bull Collection, Reel Youth, Silverthorn Care Community, Jane Watt, [www.geni.com](http://www.geni.com)

**Printing:** The Print Gurus

## Front Cover

Planting a Canoe at Heritage Mississauga June 13, 2015, back row: Aidan Dahlin Nolan, Sandra Hendrickson, Rohit Mehta, Kathleen Jay, Wanda Hall, Mr. & Mrs. Chris Nolan, Joseph Paquette, Barbara O'Neil, Desiree Web, Faith Rivers, Jayme Gaspar, front row: Garry & Tena Sault, Meghan Mackintosh, and paddling along Miss Nolan, Ryan Shum and Master Nolan, *HM*

## Contributors in this issue



Rachel Alt



Richard Collins



Matthew Didier



Jayme Gaspar



Rebekah Koury



Meghan Mackintosh



Melissa McVie



Kyle Neill



Barbara O'Neil



Rachel Schleihau



Jane Watt



Jenny Walker



Matthew Wilkinson

**Contributors not shown: Katie Hemingway**

### Staff Contacts

**Jayme Gaspar:** x 31  
[jgaspar@heritagemississauga.org](mailto:jgaspar@heritagemississauga.org)  
**Meghan Mackintosh:** x 23  
[outreach@heritagemississauga.org](mailto:outreach@heritagemississauga.org)  
**Jenny Walker:** x 22  
[programs@heritagemississauga.org](mailto:programs@heritagemississauga.org)  
**Jane Watt:** x 0  
[info@heritagemississauga.org](mailto:info@heritagemississauga.org)  
**Matthew Wilkinson:** x 29  
[history@heritagemississauga.org](mailto:history@heritagemississauga.org)

**HERITAGE NEWS** is a publication of the Mississauga Heritage Foundation Inc. The Foundation (est. 1960) is a not-for-profit organization which identifies, researches, interprets, promotes, and encourages awareness of the diverse heritage resources relating to the city of Mississauga. The Foundation acknowledges, with thanks, the financial assistance of the City of Mississauga Culture Division, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Community Foundation of Mississauga, The Hazel McCallion Fund for Arts, Heritage and Culture, The Hazel McCallion Foundation for Arts, Culture and Heritage, TD FEF, ArtsBuild Ontario, ArtsVest, the Department of Canadian Heritage, The Heritage Canada Foundation, Canada Summer Jobs, the Ministry of Culture, Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board, Peel School Board which, together with its members, donors, sponsors, and volunteers, help to preserve Mississauga's heritage in its many aspects. Articles, contributions, comments, advertisements, and letters to the Editor are welcome.

Please contact us at: Mississauga Heritage Foundation, 1921 Dundas St. W., Mississauga, Ontario L5K 1R2, phone: (905) 828-8411 or fax: (905) 828-8176, or e-mail: [info@heritagemississauga.org](mailto:info@heritagemississauga.org). You can also visit us at: [www.heritagemississauga.com](http://www.heritagemississauga.com).

### Heritage Mississauga Board of Directors

Barbara O'Neil, President,  
 Greg Carraro, Vice President,  
 Andrew Forbes, Treasurer,  
 Ram Dhanjal, Secretary

#### Directors

Luz del Rosario, Jake Dheer, Anthony Dimech, Winnie Fung, Don Hancock, Douglas Hancock, Margaret Jedlewska, Kimberly Phinney, Faith Rivers, Councillor Jim Tovey



*Board of Directors and Staff, 2015 Annual General Meeting, HM*

## President's Message *By Barbara O'Neil, President, Heritage Mississauga*

On May 27<sup>th</sup> Heritage Mississauga held its 55<sup>th</sup> **Annual General Meeting**.

In addition to providing everyone with the chance to meet-and-mingle, this is your Board's occasion to present a formal review of our activities, achievements and any special issues for membership discussion or ratification.

As well, the AGM allows us to **recognize our volunteers, our summer students, our financial supporters and our exceptional staff** (Executive Director Jayme Gaspar, Historian Matthew Wilkinson, Program Developer Jenny Walker, Administrator Jane Watt and our newest employee, Outreach Coordinator Meghan Mackintosh). And the term "exceptional" really is an understatement.

Jayme has worked with staff to achieve a \$100,000 year-over-year increase in grant funds. Matthew's depth of local historical knowledge and his commitment to a busy schedule of speaking engagements has been highly praised in the local media. Jenny continues to develop interesting new programming, establishing important relationships with the corporate community and sponsors. Jane provides the expert, calm and friendly support that keeps the office moving efficiently through our most hectic weeks. Meghan is demonstrating how quickly and competently she can jump in and manage the multiple deadlines involved in our Cultural Diversity project. **We are proud of all the terrific work you do on our behalf and thank you for delivering another year of excellent results!**

Without the generosity of **our valued financial supporters** last year, we wouldn't have been able to participate in over 248 events, reaching over 100,000 people:

- City of Mississauga Culture Division
- The Ontario Trillium Foundation
- Community Foundation of Mississauga Pendle Fund
- Community Foundation of Mississauga Hazel McCallion Fund
- ArtsVest Ontario
- ArtsBuild Ontario
- TD Friends of the Environment Fund
- Corporate Partners
- Your member donations and support.

In addition to my report and Treasurer Andrew Forbes' presentation of our Audited Financial Statements, Vice President and Thompson's Company Captain Greg Carraro gave an update on the activities of **our popular 1812 Re-enactment Militia**. This group of military heritage buffs have certainly ensured Heritage Mississauga's visibility at community functions and has broadened our contacts with other heritage groups outside the City.

The evening's guest speaker, **Elder Mark Sault of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation** gave a talk on

**"Mother Earth's Gifts – Indigenous Plants & Trees & Their Healing Properties."** From a seemingly bottomless sack, he produced a wide variety of herbs and plants which were passed around for audience viewing. There was so much to absorb, we want to have Mark back in a workshop setting so that he can provide hands-on instruction to interested members.

### **Summer Fun**

Generally, our family doesn't travel out of the province during the summer months. Why leave Ontario during its most beautiful season? However, we do visit cottage country, wine country, Stratford or Shaw, and many local events. With lane restrictions and congested Toronto roads expected during the Pan Am and Parapan Am Games from June 29<sup>th</sup> to late August, we're making our own list of Mississauga activities to participate in over the coming weeks. You'll note that most items on my list don't require the physical endurance of a marathoner and hence are **suitable for families with children or seniors**:

1. Play a round of golf at Lakeview during our week off in July (haven't golfed there for several years and it's a lovely, historic public course)
2. Take a hike through Rattray Marsh (again, we haven't done that for some time; if you can make it in the morning, you tend to see the most wildlife)
3. Try out more of the bike paths that have been built in our ward (I tend to stick to the same local path that runs along the ravine at the bottom of our street – time to branch out)
4. Pop by the Art Gallery of Mississauga for a visit (literally a hidden gem in the centre of the city)
5. Complete a couple of Heritage Mississauga's walking tours in a less-familiar corner of the city (you can download these off our website, or pick up brochures from the office, or try our GPS app)
6. Check out one of the Farmers Markets that operate here through the season
7. Visit the Sacred Garden on Mississauga Road (officially opened last November) and see how it's evolving
8. Attend the Southside Shuffle Jazz & Blues Festival in September
9. If you're free at noon on July 10<sup>th</sup>, the Pan Am Opening Ceremony at Celebration Square should be an exciting spectacle.
10. Pick up one of the many heritage books written about Mississauga for rainy days.. All are available through our gift shop. Check available titles on our website at: <http://www.heritagemississauga.com/page/Gift-Shop>

May we all have a sunny, active and healthy summer.



What a busy spring we have had at Heritage Mississauga. Involved in a number of unique events and programs, we have met so many new people and caught up with old friends. The Carassauga Pavilion this year celebrated Canada's achievements and was well attended attracting over 20,000 visitors. Our 1812 Thompson's Company team were rock stars once again during the Saturday program and our own Richard Collins and Meghan Mackintosh portrayed Sir John A. MacDonald and wife Isabella for the parade of nations. A wonderful event, congratulations to Pavilion Chair Linda Zongaro and her team of volunteers who really made Canada shine throughout the weekend.

I told you in an earlier addition of "The News" about the loss of 52 trees on The Grange property due to the Emerald Ash Borer; this spring the reforestation began on the property. A strong crew of volunteers from the community and committee members came together and planted 50 fragrant sumac, dogwood and other species that will fill in to the north of the driveway where we lost a large number of trees. We even found a few interesting artifacts buried in the area. This time next year we expect an explosion of colour and fragrance that will attract birds and butterflies. We also received 8 new sugar maples that will hopefully bring our heritage driveway to life this fall with a bit of dramatic colour. In the fall we will be working with the City to install a wildflower meadow along the Sir John's Homestead green space. Keep tuned to our website if you are interested in participating in that historic planting event.



*Thanks to planting volunteers including: Sharon Bonham, Phil Cancilla, Don Hancock, Sandra Hendrickson, Lynn Martin, Joseph Paquette, Faith Rivers, Wanda Hall, Nancy and Heather Boden, Sir John's Homestead residents and City Staff, HM*

June's program focus seems to have been all about supporting mother earth as we continued working with the soil and added a new garden to The Grange property. Have you ever planted a canoe? I know at first glance it is odd to find a canoe, with flowers, herbs and vegetables in it, however it is a great idea brought about by the David Suzuki Foundation and their Homegrown National Park Project. First started in 2013 it has grown in communities across Canada. Defined simply by the

Homegrown Community Canoe Project as: "A Community Canoe is a flower pot that means a lot. It marks lost waters, acknowledges First Nations traditional territory, and grows pollinator habitat". Under the direction of our Aboriginal Programs Committee Chair Faith Rivers and member Carolyn King, Heritage Mississauga and its partners have installed the first canoe in Mississauga and the Credit River Watershed. Each Watershed is identified with a specific colour. We chose the colour red and look forward to red canoes sprouting blossoms all over Mississauga before too long.

This canoe is appropriately placed close to the Credit River on First Nations Traditional Territory and in honour of the Mississaugas, the first permanent "Mocassin Identifier" was painted on our canoe. It has been an honour for us to have been instrumental in bringing everyone together to plant this first Credit River Watershed Mississauga canoe.

Heritage Mississauga gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Hazel McCallion Fund for Arts, Culture and Heritage at the Community Foundation of Mississauga, a registered charitable public foundation serving the people of Mississauga, for their support for this project.



A special thank you to Elder Garry Sault for leading ceremony at the event. We also thank Aidan Dahlin Nolan, Community Canoe Project for his guidance and support, City of Mississauga Parks Staff Emily Meade, Neil McLaughlin, Colin Deerling and Bruce Hailey who installed the canoe for us. Emily chose the many pollinator varieties for the garden including: Strawberries, Daisies, Yarrow, Lupins, and Bee Balm. We also thank the Métis Nation of Ontario Veterans Council and its President Joseph Paquette for the donation of traditional plants for the garden. It will be wonderful to see flowers blooming in the canoe, butterflies and bees investing in the garden and know, that we are playing a small but significant role in helping to support the natural heritage of Mississauga, one pollinating plant at a time.

Our busy June continued as we shared a booth with the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation at Fort York on Sunday June 21st in celebration of Aboriginal Day. A full day enjoying a traditional Pow Wow, and opportunities to talk with the community about the contributions of the Mississaugas during the War of 1812 conflict.

As we move into the summer months we look forward to seeing you at the many cultural festivals in the community including the Mississauga Latin Festival, Bollywood Monster Mashup and Italfest. Look to our website for more info on these festivals. Have a wonderful summer, see you in the fall.

## Programs Plus by Jenny Walker, Program Developer, Heritage Mississauga

As the summer season gets underway, the nominations deadline for the Credits 2015 is also fast approaching. What was once a small awards ceremony that took a couple of months to plan has now become a year round marathon of many tasks with a full committee who work tirelessly to ensure the event's success.

We've had so many quality nominations in the past; competition has been really tough and it's great to see the ripple of excitement that runs through the crowd as winners are announced. This was especially true when Morning Star Middle School from Malton won the Heritage Youth Award in 2014; the shrieks of delight were great to hear. This was a documentary project involving 40 grade seven students covering five key topics: History, Multiculturalism, Environment, Education and Health and Safety. The students researched, filmed, and edited the five-part documentary with interviews from over 80 local residents.



*Morning Star Students and Teachers, MSMS*

The changing face of heritage was also evident in the group winners of the Modern Heritage Award; the Colonial Youth and Mentors Film Project. This was a unique project which brought together youth and mentors from the community to produce short films, resulting in a sense of pride and place in an area of high urban growth which has often been highlighted for problems rather than solutions. Collaboration between the Reel Youth Project, Safe City Mississauga, Peel Regional Police, the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services and the City of Mississauga was a fantastic project which created cultural bridges between multiple generations celebrating urban growth in the community.

*With thanks to The Credits 2015 Sponsors:*



*Colonial Youth and Mentors Film Project, ReelYouth.ca*

By contrast, a number of individual local residents were also honoured, many of which had worked tirelessly for years and were largely unrecognized for their hard work. People like Ron Lenyk, CEO of the Living Arts Centre who has worked endlessly in the community for many years who won the Members Choice Award, and Johnny Bozzo; the man who for 10 years has served as chair of "Paint the Town Red" July 1st Canada Day Festival. Johnny has gone well beyond the call of duty to make Port Credit's Canada Day festival one of the best celebrations in the country. From an outstanding parade to the giant birthday cake, all day free entertainment and a spectacular fireworks display by the Credit River, much of our Canada Day fun in Port Credit would not have been possible without his commitment and service to the community.

Of course the event would not be possible without our fantastic sponsors who we recognize here. In addition to our dedicated committee we thank all of our sponsors for their continued support; without them, the event simply could not exist.

The reach and success of the Credits program is vast; heritage can mean many things to many people and Heritage Mississauga looks to celebrate and support all.

For more information on past winners please visit <http://www.heritagemississauga.com/page/The-Credits> and remember to get your nominations in for the 2015 awards before August 31, let's give credit where it's due and recognize the "Heritage Heroes" in our great community.





## In Search Of Alfajores *by Meghan Mackintosh, Outreach Coordinator, Heritage Mississauga*

In early 2012, I spent two incredible months travelling throughout Argentina and Brazil where I experienced the warm hospitality, vibrant culture and delicious food of Latin America.

I also met numerous local people who introduced me to traditional delicacies that became routine in my diet while overseas. One of those being the famous pastry treat: the alfajor. An alfajor is the French macaroon of South America. It consists of two delicate shortbread cookies usually held together with dulce de leche (sweetened condensed milk), and sometimes with other sweet spreads. You can find them dusted with powdered sugar, dipped in chocolate, covered in coconut or with an extra cookie in the middle. They became my staple snack, and I took it on as part of my job as a curious traveller to try as many types of alfajores as possible.



Alfajores, Rincon de España, HM

When I came back to Mississauga I moved to the Cawthra and Lakeshore area. Since I grew up in Meadowvale and Streetsville, I found great pleasure walking around my new neighbourhood discovering the different restaurants and stores in the area.

During one of my walks, I came across a Latin American store called Rincon de España. My first thought was, I wonder if they sell alfajores. I walked in, and my mind took me back to the many memories of my trip. Rincon de España is an absolute gold mine of groceries and accessories for those who enjoy Latin culture and food. A range of items can be found in the store from a genuine Paella pan to empanadas and ingredients to make your most favorite Latin dishes. And yes, they also sell my coveted alfajores.

When I was assigned to write an article for this newsletter, I decided to go back to the store and interview the owner of Rincon de España, to find out how this quaint store began.

Gladys Perez, 54 is standing behind the counter with her daughter Diana, 15. She has a smile on her face and a warm way about her.

"I knew I wouldn't make enough money in Ecuador doing what I was doing, so the opportunity to immigrate to Canada came at the right time," says Perez, who worked as a secretary in Ambato, Ecuador before moving to Canada in May 1988.

In the 1980s, Ecuador was going through a debt crisis brought on by the collapse in oil prices and the havoc caused by El



Diana Perez Veiga & Gladys Perez, HM

Niño. Unemployment was high and there was a dramatic decrease in wages. It was her older sister Rosa who lived in the Jane and Finch area of Toronto who encouraged her to move. Perez was only 27 at the time and didn't know English, but she decided to take a chance and move in with her sister's family in the city.

Diana Perez Veiga is Gladys' 15-year old daughter. She was born in Canada and grew up in a house built by her father on a street within walking distance of the store. Back then, Lakeview had mostly cottage sized homes.

"My mom met my dad [Jose Veiga] at a wedding. Since my mom's sister was much older than my mom, she [Gladys] would go out with her nieces to meet people," says Perez Veiga.

Jose Veiga, originally from Vigo, Spain, lived in Mississauga and worked in construction. He introduced Gladys to many Spanish people who lived in the area.

"In December of 1988, I moved to Lakeshore and Cawthra," says Perez. "I admired the lake waterfront. At the time, Lakeview and Port Credit were still very small, but still just as beautiful [as today]." Perez notes that it hasn't changed too much since she first moved and that "it still has the same feel. There are many cute little shops, great family facilities and over the years it has continued to grow into a diverse community. It reminded me of where I'm from. It was calmer than Toronto and I felt safe," she adds.

Her husband knew some friends who wanted to open up a Spanish store, so he gave them money to support the opportunity. The store first opened in 1989 in a different location, just a few doors down and it was called Mosto European Euromarket.

*Cont'd pg. 15*

## The Fenian Raids

By Rebekah Koury

The Fenian Raids were a dark period in nineteenth century Canadian history, one of which is not commonly known by many people today. Fenian activity began in America in 1858 when the Fenian Brotherhood was founded in New York City. Its purpose was to elevate Irish discontent with the British Empire and ultimately force the separation of Ireland from Great Britain. The Fenians wanted to capture British North America to instill conflict between America and Britain, and should this conflict have become unsolvable it would ultimately lead Britain towards freeing Ireland from the Empire. At least that was the objective of the Fenian Brotherhood.

These Fenians instilled widespread fear and terror amongst a disorganized British North America at the time. British North America had been experiencing frustration with the United States after the American Civil War and their insistence upon annexation. They were facing struggles in attempting to come to a unanimous consensus on Confederation, essentially leaving British North America divided. The Fenian Raids played an important role in the route that would, in 1867, culminate in Canadian Confederation, as Canada began to recognize that the nation needed to be unified.



36th Peel Militia at Niagara, c1870 - WP Bull Collection, PAMA

What makes the Fenian Raids so interesting to Mississauga's history is that many of the battles took place close to home. The raids began in April of 1866, starting with a battle at Campobello Island (in New Brunswick). British troops were sent in and forced the Fenians to withdraw. Later on in the year, the Niagara Raids consisting of battles at Ridgeway and Fort Erie in June of 1866, took place. Mostly Canadian militia volunteers faced a battle-hardened Civil War veteran army of Fenians. It was at the Battle of Ridgeway where many men from historic Mississauga (Toronto Township) took part. The ill-prepared Canadian militia struggled to hold off the well-trained American Fenians, but with assistance from British troops the invasions of Canada West were eventually stopped. The American government also began hindering the Fenian cause by arresting Fenian leaders and intercepting troops in their movements. A few attempts at invading other

*Cont'd pg. 15*

## The Next to Fall: Streetsville's Sons

By Rachel Alt

As the Great War surged on, more men from historic Mississauga (Toronto Township) made the supreme sacrifice near the end of 1915 and early 1916. These are the first of Streetsville's fallen sons.

Cyril Talbot Burney Croft was born in Streetsville on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 1891, the only child of Rev. Otto Burney Croft, Rector of Trinity Anglican Church in Streetsville. Cyril was educated for the ministry at King's College of Boniface, Warminster, but was not quite old enough for ordination when he returned to Canada. When war broke out in 1914, Cyril was working as a secretary. He soon enlisted with the 1<sup>st</sup> Cyclist Division on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1914, at Valcartier, Quebec. The following spring, Cyril was given a commission as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant of the 8<sup>th</sup> Somerset Light Infantry. In the summer Lieutenant Croft volunteered for the Royal Flying Corps and was trained in Birmingham, England. On December 8<sup>th</sup>, 1915, Lieutenant Croft, at the age of 26, died in an aviation accident during a flight over Curdworth, near the training base in England. Cyril was a passenger in the plane, which encountered engine trouble at a height of 300 feet. The pilot of the plane sustained severe injuries. Cyril is buried at the Curdworth Mortuary Chapel in England.

Frederick (Fred) Still was born in Brighton, England on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1891. His family later immigrated to Streetsville. Before enlisting, Fred worked as a shoemaker. He joined the 35<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 1915. He served as a Sapper with the 8<sup>th</sup> Field Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Division Engineers. Sapper Still was killed in action on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 1916, at the age of 25 years. Frederick is buried near Ypres at the Maple Copse Cemetery.

1. NAME		2. DATE OF BIRTH		3. RESIDENCE		4. CHRISTIAN NAME	
410000		PRIVATE		MALONE, John Joseph			
5. DATE OF DEATH		6. DATE OF ENTRY		7. U.S. REG. NO.		8. RESIDENCE	
12th Battalion		21-0-11		6470-0-071		Barnes, Ontario	
9. CIRCUMSTANCES OF DEATH				10. NAME, RELATIONSHIP AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN			
<p>"Died of wounds."</p> <p>While taking part in operations on 12th March, 1916, at about 2:00 p.m. he was wounded in the left side and abdomen by enemy shell fire. He was taken to the 4th Canadian General Hospital, and later evacuated to No. 10 General Hospital, London, where he died on 21st March 1916, at the age of 25.</p>							
11. LOCATION OF BODY AT TIME OF DEATH							
12. NAME OF BURIAL PLACE				13. GRAVE LOCATION			
St. Joseph's Military Cemetery, Belgium							
14. PHOTOGRAPH OF DEATH				15. PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE AND MONUMENT			
16. PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE AND MONUMENT				17. PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE AND MONUMENT			

Private John Malone - Circumstances of Death Record, LAC

John Malone was born in Inglewood, Ontario, on December 20<sup>th</sup>, 1894, to Mr. and Mrs. E.J. Malone. John and his family later moved to Streetsville, where he grew up attending Streetsville High School and was popular around the village. The Malones eventually moved to Regina, where John was working as an

*Cont'd pg. 15*



## The Year of Peace Begins *Update on the activities of Thompson's Company*

*By Ensign Matthew Didier*

On February 11th, 1815, just over two-hundred years ago as of my writing this, at the mouth of Mobile Bay in Alabama Territory, American Major William T. Lawrence surrendered Fort Bowyer, a small stockade and earthworks, to British General Sir John Lambert. On February 12th, the British marched into the fort and as such, held control over the entrance to Mobile Bay entirely. February 13th, however, brought intelligence that changed things quite a bit for Britain and for the Canadas ... news of the ratification of The Treaty of Ghent and an end to three years of warfare, much of it, centering on the colonies of Upper and Lower Canada. The reason why militias, like our own Thompson's Company, were mustered for active duty was over. February 11th at Fort Bowyer, a British victory, was the last battle of the War of 1812. There would be no more powder burned, cannon fired, and no more bloodshed. Peace was established and the business of civilian life could become the primary concern of most of the populace.

In many ways, 2015 is the bicentennial of lasting peace between Canada and The United States of America. It represents a friendship between two nations that has now spanned over two centuries.

Living historians, reenactors, and interpreters, like Thompson's Company of the 2nd York Militia, are keenly aware that although we demonstrate, present, and even act out the conflict, we get to do so with the knowledge that it's history from a day long ago, and those stars and bars fluttering in the distance are only in on the act with us. We are all friends, and we all love our past ... and most importantly, we all enjoy showing history in living action.

Our demonstrations have taken us a couple of times to Historic Fort York in Toronto to brush off the winter rust on our soldierly drill and prepare for the season which is now just beginning. In front of the public, we went out of step, turned left instead of right, were gently chided by sergeants and officers, and after a time, re-honed our skills to exemplify military perfection ... well, as perfect as we can be as citizen soldiers.

This work was shown off as our company was honoured to be a part of the Silverthorn Care Community Re-Naming Event, in which a body of our company celebrated the community taking on the name in reference to Thomas Silverthorn. Thomas received the land grant on which the community is situated in 1832 for his service as a private in our own 2nd York Militia during the War of 1812, so the connection was wonderful and our participation, as stated, a true honour.

Not long after, we were thrilled to be photo-magnets in our uniforms yet again at Carassauga, celebrating the diversity and culture of Mississauga. Heritage Mississauga's table was a high-spot for visitors to come and learn about the history of



*The Company at the Silverthorn Care Community: Greg Carraro, Phil Booker Jr. Rob Smol, Matthew Didier, Richard Collins, Sandra Hendrickson, Jayme Gaspar, Mavis Wilson, Phil Booker, HM*

the 2nd York and of the war and yes, have a photo taken with bayonets charged beside our fine lads and camp followers in period dress! We were all sincerely thrilled that we attracted such attention and very much enjoyed our time at the event.

Following this, a small group of our men, led by an extremely handsome, debonair, well-appointed junior officer, were posted to act as guard once more at the Starlight and Candlelight Gala held by Museums of Mississauga at the Holcim Estate. Representing an earlier era, our dashing sergeant put the guard through their motions and ensured that Thompson's Company was front and centre... well, front of the centre hall. A great time was had and we thank Museums of Mississauga for this chance to shine.

Thompson's Company was then ready for action and joined in a battle that members of our own 2nd York were most likely active in over two-hundred years back. We were honoured to be a part of The Battle of Stoney Creek reenactment this year with a stalwart contingent of fighting men ready to defend crown and country! This said, there was a disturbing report that SOME of the men may have ... well ... turned coats! They may have joined the Americans and attempted to free Canada from the tyranny of King George III!

Truth be told, yes, this happened ... but for a good cause! Most good reenactors often do something like this for the good of the spectators and the good of the events. The reality is, in Ontario, most fellows want to be on the home team, and precious few are willing to be the opposition. On occasions, small groups will go to the other side to fight to ensure that it doesn't look like a regiment of red coats facing three poor fellows in blue or grey. Members of our company were honoured to join The Canadian Volunteers and fight for the stars and bars instead of the union flag. The Canadian Volunteers were a much reviled group amongst the loyalists in Upper Canada. Made up of disaffected Canadians (British colonists living in the Canadas), they had a reputation



for ruthlessness and settling scores the hard way using the war as an excuse for violence and visiting gross privations on their former neighbours. They were also fighting troops in line of battle, which is what members of Thompson's Company joined to ensure the spectators had a good show on the field.



*The Company at Stoney Creek: Rob Smol, Greg Carraro, Chris Travers, Matthew Didier and in front Giuseppe Carraro, HM*

Members of Thompson's Company will also be found at...

- Battle of Fort George, July 11 & 12 in Niagara-on-the-Lake**
- Battle re-enactment, Siege of Fort Erie on August 8 & 9**
- Battle of Backus Mill in Port Rowan on Sept. 12 & 13**
- Invasion of Upper Canada, Fanshawe Pioneer Village on Oct. 3 & 4 and a special October event soon to be announced.**

When I was a young fellow, it was historical interpreters and living historians that ignited a life-long thirst for the past, and now as a living historian in Thompson's Company, I feel and hope we – all of us involved – are passing that torch ... hopefully spreading the fire of enthusiasm for Mississauga and its people's past. A past that belongs to all of us as it shaped our nation, our towns, and our customs in so many ways. It is good to see young people caught in the moment at our events, literally seeming to be stepping back in time to the rattle of the muskets, the boom of cannon, the bark of the drill sergeant, the piping of fifes, beating of drums, and the smell of the campfire. It's twice as sweet now as we step ahead and also celebrate a bicentennial of neighbourly peace and friendship.

Thompson's Company of the 2nd York will carry on, celebrating our heritage, teaching our history, allowing people to step back to a terrible, yet important and optimistic time. We are thrilled to bring that experience to life.

Thank you all for your support of our company! **GOD SAVE THE KING!**

### Name Launch Party

*By Melissa McVie, Director of Resident and Family Relations, Silverthorn Care Community, Sienna Senior Living*

What better way to do an “about-face” into the future than to hire a group of local war re-enactors to march into your long-term care home's launch party? This was the unique approach taken by the leadership team at Silverthorn Care Community who enlisted the help of Heritage Mississauga's Historian, Matthew Wilkinson, and Thompson's Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> York Militia Re-enactment Company to pull off what proved to be a very successful evening on May 6, 2015.



*Silverthorn Staff and Thompson's Company, HM*

The team at the former Specialty Care Mississauga Road helped choose the name “Silverthorn” based on its significance to the Home's property. Thomas Silverthorn (1788-1834), was one of the original owners of a beautiful stretch of land with neighboring apple orchards, a turkey farm and apiary. Silverthorn served in the War of 1812, with the 2nd Regiment of York Militia, and received 300 acres as a reward for his loyal service – which includes the land on which our Home stands today. In order to pay homage to this rich history, the Silverthorn launch party adopted an 1812-theme. With the management team dressed in replica clothing of the era (on loan from Heritage Mississauga), ranging from farm-wear to upper-middle class attire, the stage was set for guests to be transported back in time.

The evening kicked off with the sounds of marching feet as Thompson's Company entered the Home's Multi-Purpose Room. Thompson's Company Captain, Greg Carraro, announced the Home's new name and presented the Executive Director with a commemorative Royal Standard (Union Jack). Heritage Mississauga played an important role in the evening; Historian Matthew Wilkinson provided some historical context for the group and thanks to his archival searches, Brooke Skelton, a descendant of Thomas Silverthorn's brother, Joseph Silverthorn, travelled from out-of-town to participate in the event as an honorary guest.

*Cont'd pg. 15*



After full demobilization, with the end of the Great War, the army in Canada returned to normal strength in 1920. The 20th *Halton Rifles* was reformed as the 1st Battalion, 20th Regiment of the Non Permanent Active Militia. The 76th Battalion and the 164th *Halton and Dufferin Battalion* were placed on reserve, as the 2nd and 3rd battalions respectively. In Peel, the 36th was reformed as the 1st Battalion, 36th Regiment of the Non Permanent Active Militia. The 74th Battalion and the 126th *Peel* and 234th *Peel* battalions were placed on reserve, as the 2nd, 3rd and 4th battalions respectively.

Over the next year, the men of the five reserve battalions in Halton and Peel were released from duty and those wishing to remain in the army could apply to join the 20th or 36th active militia. At this time the 1st battalions of each regiment, comprising the non-permanent active militia, were subdivided into smaller companies spread out through their respective districts.

The regimental numbers were dropped. The 20th was renamed the *Halton Rifles*. A Company was assigned to Oakville, B Company was in Milton, C Company in Burlington, and D Company and the regiment headquarters were located in Georgetown.

The 36th became the *Peel Regiment*. Peel's C Company was in Brampton and D Company was in Port Credit. The A and B companies are a different story. Most of the nearly 1,700 men recruited by the 126th *Peel* and 234th *Peel* regiments were not from Peel, despite the regiments' names. Commander's Hamilton and Wallace recruited men in Etobicoke and Toronto to get their recruitment numbers up, and as a result, when the reorganized 36th *Peel Regiment* demobilized its men in 1919, it was convenient to have a presence in Toronto. In fact, the 36th ended up with two companies in Toronto, HQ'd in an office at Dundas Street West and Pacific Avenue. Once the men on the 36th reserve list were discharged, the Company A and B offices in Toronto were closed and the regiment reorganized to include Dufferin County. The short-lived *Peel Regiment* was renamed the *Peel and Dufferin Regiment*. The existing Peel companies became the new A and B Companies (Brampton and Port Credit, respectively) and new companies were stationed at Inglewood (C Company) and Orangeville (D Company). All four of the 36th's "company towns" were along Highway 10, to facilitate mobilization should the need arise.

Lieutenant Colonel Gordon B.S. Cousens, commander of the *Halton Rifles* in 1931, was raised in Glasgow and was determined to restore the Scottish connection that William Allan had first brought to the unit in 1881. He wanted to bring prestige to the regiment and to improve recruitment potential. Cousens requested permission from the 10th Duke of Argyll – the nephew of the former Canadian governor-general – to use the Lorne name once again. In November of that year the

name was approved and the *Halton Rifles* was redesignated as the *Lorne Rifles (Scottish)* – with the "Scottish" added to represent the Campbell tartan to be worn by soldiers. Historically, the Campbells were the largest clan in County Argyll.

The *Lorne Rifles*' A Company got a new armory on Thomas Street in 1933. The Lorne Scots' Oakville company still uses this armoury as a drill hall today.



*Lt Col Gordon Bryce Seymour Cousens, www.geni.com*

Just when the two regiments seemed to be settling in, the Tories lost their hold on Ottawa to the Liberals under William Lyon Mackenzie King. The new government decided once again to reorganize the army. The change took place in 1936, and this time the reorganization was more of a modernization. In Halton and Peel, as with just about everywhere in Canada during this post-WWI time of peace, men were being trained on how to properly ride a horse and fire antique hunting rifles, while, in Germany, soldiers were learning how to use tanks, radios and ground-to-air missiles.

To facilitate a much-needed modernization, Canada's smaller post-WWI regiments were amalgamated into fewer units, each with more men trained in specific skills. The purpose, mostly successful, of the 1936 reorganization was to establish regiments which could be sent into battle as individual, independent units with men trained for all possible contingencies. This kind of force would be needed should the unrest in Europe flare into a full-scale war.

During this reorganization, the *Lorne Rifles (Scottish)* and the *Peel and Dufferin Regiment* were amalgamated. This is the formal birth the *Peel, Dufferin and Halton Regiment* – a.k.a: The Lorne Scots.

*Editor's Note: The conclusion (Part 6) of this article series will appear in the Fall 2015 issue of the Heritage News.*

### Save the Date!

Heritage Mississauga is bringing the Souterraine Impressions exhibition to Mississauga. Opening day is **Doors Open September 26th, 2015** and will be open for two months. For more information on this First World War Vimy Ridge exhibition visit: [http://www.canadigm.ca/Project\\_STI.html](http://www.canadigm.ca/Project_STI.html)



## Medical Miracles *by Katie Hemingway*

### Early Doctors and Medicine in Historic Mississauga: Part 9

Another doctor to practice in the Toronto Township was Dr. Moses Henry Aikins. Dr. Aikins was born in 1832 in Burnhamthorpe village. He graduated as a silver medallist from Victoria College and he received his medical degree from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia and from there he went to England where he received his M.R.C.S., which was the highest degree a physician could obtain at the time. He received his medical license in 1855 and became a member of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1858. In 1859 he returned to Burnhamthorpe where he established his practice. For twenty-five years while maintaining his practice he was professor of Anatomy at the University of Toronto. Dr. Aikins was another of the true horseback doctors and he took great pride in his horses. He kept several teams and treated them with great care. In his professional role he took great care of the members of his community, often never charging those who could not afford it. It was said that "no one dared die in the southern end of the county without his permission." Despite this sentiment, Dr. Aikins saw his fair share of outbreaks over which he had little control.

In the 1880s there was an outbreak of smallpox. Smallpox is caused by the viruses *Variola major* or *Variola minor* and is passed by droplet infection. The disease had an incubation period of ten to sixteen days at which point symptoms akin to influenza would set in. Following that, a rash would appear which would slowly form pustules. These would in turn destroy the normal skin and form hard scabs. Once someone had contracted the disease treatment was simply to apply lotions to the skin and soothing serums to the eyes. Although the method of inoculation that Edward Jenner had developed in the late eighteenth century was effective it was not mandatory and would not become so until the late nineteenth century.

Following the smallpox epidemic, the township also experienced a large number of tuberculosis (consumption) deaths in 1881, some 28 deaths in total. Consumption, although not epidemic, was a constant burden on the doctors of the nineteenth century. Tuberculosis was a disease which caused the wasting away of the body, this led to the disease commonly being called consumption. People could be infected with the disease for years and not know until symptoms began to appear. The cause of the disease was bacterial and it was proven to be contagious by the mid-nineteenth century. For the elite, treatment involved visits to the sanatorium. For those who could not afford such luxuries, agaricus albus was used as a cough suppressant. Morphine was also commonly given as pain relief and as an expectorant. Effective methods of battling the disease were not available until the twentieth century. The Mantoux test was used to identify people carrying the disease and in 1944 the antibiotic streptomycin was proven effective in treating the disease.

## Genealogy Corner

*By Jane Watt, Administrative Assistant, Heritage Mississauga*

So far this year Heritage Mississauga, in partnership with Halton Peel Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society have held four very successful Genealogy Workshops here at The Grange. On February 21<sup>st</sup>, we had an Irish Research Workshop, which sold out so quickly that we repeated it again on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Sold out again! On April 11<sup>th</sup>, we had a workshop titled "Organizing and Writing your Family History" which was well attended. Our most recent workshop on June 13<sup>th</sup> was on Scottish Research and everyone seemed pleased with the material presented. The last workshop of the year will be on October 3<sup>rd</sup> with a focus on First World War Research. We thank Ruth Blair for being our speaker over the last couple of years and we appreciate all the time and knowledge that she puts into her talks.

If you are interested in starting to research your family history or have been working on it for awhile, you are welcome to attend a meeting of the Halton Peel Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society which are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month except June, July, August and December. Our fall meetings are as follows, September 27<sup>th</sup> at the Oakville Public Library where Christine Woodcock will speak on "Lesser Known Databases for Scottish Research". Christine is a genealogy educator, lecturer, writer and blogger. She organizes research trips to the Scottish Archives in Edinburgh to help genealogist discover their Scottish heritage. On October 25<sup>th</sup> at the Oakville Public Library, Sher Leetooze will speak on "The Ulster Detective-Research in Northern Ireland" where you will learn how to find your ancestors in Ulster through a variety of ways, not just the standard births, marriages and deaths. She is a family researcher, author, historiographer and storyteller. To round off 2015, on November 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Brampton Four Corners Library, Matthew Wilkinson, Historian with Heritage Mississauga will give a talk "A Call to Arms: Historic Mississauga and the War of 1812", this presentation provides an overview of the War of 1812 and explores the connections between the people of historic Mississauga, their involvement in and during the war, and the experiences of volunteer militiamen from this community who served during the war. Our meetings run from 2:00pm-4:00pm. Everyone interested in genealogy are welcome to attend.



*Kathy Baker and Jane Watt OGS Conference, J. Watt*



## End of an era: Auld's Butchers Closes

A familiar Clarkson institution, likely one of the oldest family-run businesses in Mississauga, quietly closed its doors at the end of May, after 68 years in business. Doug Auld & Son Butchers, located at 1109 Clarkson Road North, first opened its doors on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 1947. Auld's butcher shop was first operated by Doug Auld, who retired in 1990, and then his son Bill. Bill Auld's retirement and the sale of the property marks the end of a remarkable run for the old-fashioned butcher's shop, which has served generations. The butcher shop building is one of the last remnants of the old "Clarkson's Corners". From 1913 until 1938 the building housed the Merchant Bank of Canada, which became part of the Bank of Montreal in 1916. The building itself is likely even older, possibly having been built by Henry Clarkson in the 1870s. The fate of the old building is not yet known within the context of the forthcoming development.



*Bill Auld in front of the shop, Clarkson, May 2015, Steve Pecar*

## Ben's Corner At the Britannia Schoolhouse

At the old Britannia Schoolhouse, the Friends of the Schoolhouse recently created a special part of the garden to honour Ben Madill's many years of association with the schoolhouse. Ben attended the Britannia Schoolhouse in the 1920's and continued throughout his life to support efforts to preserve it as a historic site. His memories and the stories he told were invaluable in documenting the history of Britannia.



*Marjorie Madill with daughters Bessie and Shirley, Friends of the Schoolhouse*

The garden, dubbed "Ben's Corner", will be a place for visiting children to listen to stories about schools of long ago and for others to enjoy a quiet, contemplative moment. Ben's Corner is almost on the spot where Ben had his own schoolhouse garden in the 1920's.

A plaque installed in the garden reads in part:

**Ben's Corner**  
**This conversation and storytelling corner of our**  
**garden is dedicated to the memory of**  
**Benson A. Madill**  
**1915-2013**

Ben's stories, reflections, humour and kindness enriched the lives of all who knew him.

## The Mississauga News turns 50!

The Mississauga News, our City's newspaper and leading news resource, celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2015. First published on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1965 from a small office at the corner of Lakeshore Road West and Meadow Wood Road in Clarkson, under the direction of founder and editor Kenneth Armstrong, The Mississauga News has grown with, and documented the growth of, the City of Mississauga. Congratulations to the past, present (and future) staff of The Mississauga News on this milestone and for their dedication to chronicling Mississauga's news. Visit The Mississauga News website to learn more as they explore their own history over the last 50 years: [www.mississauga.com](http://www.mississauga.com)







## **Trio of Murders** *By Rachel Schleihau*

For many years, historic Mississauga was seemingly a quiet rural community. In short, a lovely place where citizens enjoyed the comforts of a safe community and a growing economy. This vision experienced a drastic transformation in 1967-1968. Mississauga's crime rate soared, and went from homicide-free for over 30 years to witnessing three successive murders.

The first murder occurred on December 21<sup>st</sup>, 1967 in what the South Peel Weekly newspaper referred to as the "Trio of Murders." 74-year-old George Hilivka Sr. fell victim to a brutal beating and was found dead in Cooksville. After an extensive police investigation, his son George Hilivka Jr., 24, was charged with non-capital murder for the murder of his father. While the killing of George Sr. shook the community, citizens of historic Mississauga couldn't have anticipated the events that followed.

Within a month, 17-year old Karen Madigan was found strangled in her own home with a nylon stocking. Karen's body was discovered on the floor by apartment owner Charles Dewey on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 1968. The Peel County Coroner determined that Karen had been sexually assaulted and that the cause of death was by strangulation. During the investigation, the police asserted that the murderer was likely someone Karen knew since she allowed them into the apartment.

This investigation resulted in two suspects: the first was Charles Dewey, the apartment owner, who found Karen's body when attempting to repair a light fixture; another possibility was 17-year old John Graham, the basement tenant, who had also reported visiting the Madigan apartment on January 5<sup>th</sup>. On January 29<sup>th</sup>, 1968, John Graham was arrested and charged with murder. Graham, who had recently married, was defended by his wife Vera who said "John is not guilty, I will stick with him to the very end."

On April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1968, citizens of historic Mississauga filled the courtrooms waiting to hear the much-anticipated verdict of the Madigan trial. John Graham reaffirmed his innocent stance with support from his lawyer, John Bowlby, who directed attention towards the circumstantial nature of the evidence. Bowlby argued that the evidence was equally as incriminating for apartment-owner Charles Dewey as both John Graham and Charles Dewey had reported being present in the Madigan apartment from 8am to 10am on the day of Karen's death. The trial began looking even more hopeful for John Graham following testimony from 17-year old Lynn Perrin. Perrin asserted that, on the day before Karen's death, she

witnessed Charles Dewey push Karen down on the bed as a joke. Additionally, the examination did not find blood or loose hairs on Graham, despite not bathing for 24 hours prior to the murder. Following intense deliberations, an all-male jury ruled that Graham was innocent. "Mr. Graham, you are free to go," concluded Justice Patrick Hartt.

The last homicide in the Trio of Murders occurred on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 1968, just three days after the death of Karen Madigan. Mrs. Desmond Carpenter returned home to find her beloved sister Freda arguing with her estranged husband Richard McDonald. Suddenly, the argument escalated and Mrs. Carpenter ran out of the house to protect her youngest child. As she waited for the police, four gun shots reverberated through the house. Upon hearing that, Mrs. Carpenter rushed back into her house to find her sister Freda dead with three bullet wounds: two in her head and one in her back. Richard MacDonald was semi-conscious on the floor with a self-inflicted bullet wound in his head. By January 9<sup>th</sup>, it was reported that McDonald was "in fair condition" at Toronto Western Hospital and was charged with murder.

In January 1969, one year after the Trio of Murders, the murder of Freda Carpenter remained the only case to get resolved. Richard McDonald, 47, was convicted and jailed for eight years. In the death of George Hilivka Sr., his son George Jr. was acquitted shortly after being charged. Consequently, the culprit behind the senseless beating remained unanswered. The Madigan case also remained open following the trial. On August 20<sup>th</sup>, it was reported that John Graham received a three-and-a-half year sentence for two charges—assault occasioning bodily harm and possession of an offensive weapon. Two days following the charges, Graham was quoted in the Toronto Telegraph saying he "didn't remember leaving the Madigan girl's apartment and his mind was blank until he was in his own apartment washing his face." Although the murder of Karen Madigan was never solved, the suspicion rests on Graham.

The South Peel Weekly reported that the crime rate increased by 15-20% after 1968. The Trio of Murders contributed significantly to this dramatic increase. The South Peel Weekly speculated that an increase in population – from 107,000 to 120,000 citizens – also influenced an upsurge in crime. The paper wrote: "Chief McGill cited three other factors involved. He said more people reported crimes; there were more men to apprehend and detect criminals; and much of the increase in criminal activity revolved around the younger age group."

## Celebrating Diane Allengame's 30-year career as a Peel Archivist

By Kyle Neill, Senior Archivist, PAMA

Diane Allengame, a gifted and popular archivist, has retired after 30 years of dedicated public service with the Region of Peel Archives, now part of the Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (PAMA).



Diane Allengame 2013, PAMA

Diane started her professional career in 1982 when she joined the Peel Archives as a summer student. Her assigned task was to identify and collect all of the older school records in Mississauga, Brampton, and Caledon. She tackled the project in earnest, and diligently researched, inventoried, and described a wide variety of records. Her hard work resulted in the creation of a collection that has

proven to be an invaluable resource when researching one-room school houses, early continuation schools, and the formation of the various school boards.

Diane joined the Peel archival team full-time in 1985 when an Archives Technician position became available. Her enthusiasm and skills were readily apparent, and within a year she was promoted to Staff Archivist. In the years following, Diane's presence ensured that the archival program would continue to grow and thrive.

One of Diane's major projects over the years has been overseeing the processing of the William Perkins Bull fonds. These fonds, which have grown to over 16 metres of records, are possibly the most popular resource in the archives holdings, consisting of Peel related research material compiled by Bull and his staff during the 1930s. In 2013, after receiving additional records from Bull's grandson, Professor Thomas Symons, Diane was thrilled to curate the PAMA exhibition *All the Comforts of Home*, an exploration of the operation and legacy of The Perkins Bull Convalescent Hospital for Canadian Officers established in England during the First World War. While most of the exhibition has since been dismantled, Diane's popular exhibition program is still available in the Archives Reading Room.

In addition to Bull's records Diane has dealt with a great number of collections, including the government records of the Region of Peel, the Cities of Mississauga, Brampton, and the Town of Caledon. In short, Diane has been instrumental in ensuring that the archival records of all these area

municipalities and their predecessors have been identified, preserved, and made accessible to researchers. Diane regularly reviewed records at various record centres across Peel, and then personally transported the selected records back to the archives to be processed and described. This crucial work has ensured that Peel's citizens can keep all of the municipal governments accountable through their records.

However, simply keeping archival records safe is not enough if municipal archives are to facilitate government transparency while also encouraging and supporting private research into a wide range of subjects. To be truly effective as a public archive, the public needs to know of the existence of the records. To that end, Diane also strove to implement ambitious outreach initiatives, including offering teachers easy access to primary source material for use in their classrooms, offering to speak on a variety of topics at countless local events, and pushing for the creation of PAMAs digital interactive touchtable map of Peel (currently located in Manning Square at PAMA).

Diane flourished at maintaining positive rapport with the various municipal heritage staff in the Peel area. At her retirement party in May, local municipal heritage staff from Mississauga, Brampton, and Caledon shared their thoughts on Diane's tenure at the archives. Their responses were filled with praise for Diane's willingness to help others, her friendly demeanour, her expert knowledge, her professionalism, and her commitment to excellent customer service. They also spoke of the great respect they have for her and for her work, and the gratitude they wished to express to her upon her retirement.

All of Peel's citizens owe an enormous debt to Diane: she has professionally and passionately ensured the survival of the documentary heritage of the entire area, and has gone to great lengths to make the collection usable and known. We here at PAMA wish her nothing but happiness and contentment during her well-earned retirement!



Diane in the stacks, PAMA

For those wishing to read more about Diane Allengame and her time at the Peel Archives, Diane has written a reflection piece, *"Old Friends": An archivist reflects on treasured favourites*. It can be found on the Peel Archives blog: <http://peelarchivesblog.com/>



## Alfajores Cont'd....

"The friends who ran the store decided it wasn't a fit, so we took over," says Perez. "The first store sold grape juice and grapes, along with accessories [pressers, barrels, bottles, corks, etc.] to make wine."

Then "the customers came into the store and asked why don't you bring in more Spanish produce," and that's when the popularity of the store really took off.

"There was a Sol de España in Toronto, which was around for 40 years. The lady who ran it retired and told us we should use the name to pass on the tradition," explains Perez.

The store in Mississauga was known as Sol de España for many years and Jose Veiga opened up a small warehouse in Mississauga with the same name, which today supplies local stores with Latin American food, seasonings, and produce.

"We had to change the name of the store in Mississauga because people got confused. They would go to the warehouse and it wouldn't be open," says Perez with a smile at the small oversight.

"Sol de España means Sun of Spain, so I chose Rincon de España, because it's the corner of the sun. I wanted to keep my Ecuadorian roots alive and allow others to find a piece of their cultural background despite the fact that they are far from their country of birth."

Incorporating the diversity of different Hispanic cultures in a Canadian community is important to Perez and the store gives her the ability to "share the various flavours from multiple countries, along with crafts. We carry many products from other countries, so I learn the cultural traditions of other people as well," she adds.

In addition to selling products at the store, they also offer to help people from other countries send money back home to their relatives. "They come to us because they trust us, since we've been here for a long time," explains Perez.

Although Gladys is no longer married to her husband, she has family close by since she encouraged her sister Elvia to move to Mississauga from Ecuador a year after her arrival.



**Rincon de España Inc.**  
550 Lakeshore Road East,  
Mississauga, ON L5G 1J3  
(905) 274-2109

I asked Gladys what Mississauga means to her, and she looks at me with a wide smile, nearly choking back tears when she answers: "The airport is in Mississauga, the lake is here, I can see the Marilyn Monroe Towers. I am grateful that Mississauga is a safe community and the local support of residents have contributed to my business and family." "Living here, I've accomplished more than I thought I could do."

## Fenian Raids Cont'd....

areas of Canada took place in the years after, but were for the most part shut down immediately. Both Britain and America recognized the severity of the consequences of allowing a Fenian victory and were able to impede Fenian efforts and effect, eventually, a full surrender. The Fenian Raids project is an attempt to shine light on this part of our history that is often poorly understood. While it seems like a small piece of history, it did play a role in larger issues, such as Confederation, and deserves more recognition as a vital part of our history. As mentioned, many militia men from historic Mississauga, most with little or no previous military experience, were involved with the Fenian Raids. A few family names from historic Mississauga with connections to the Fenian Raids include: Armstrong, Cotton, Graydon, Elliot, Grafton, Hamilton, Rutledge, and several more that will be further delved into in upcoming issues of *The Heritage News*. Our goal is to illuminate this somewhat obscure chapter of our history and to honour and remember "our boys" who volunteered to serve Crown and Country just prior to Canadian Confederation.

## Streetsville's Sons Cont'd....

engine mechanic and studying at the Regina Collegiate Institute. On December 11<sup>th</sup>, 1914, John enlisted with the Canadian Expeditionary Force. He served until March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1916, when he died of wounds sustained from shell fire. John Malone is buried at the Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery in Belgium and is remembered on the Streetsville Cenotaph.

Sadly, many more of historic Mississauga's sons fell as the war continued to rage on.

## Silverthorn Cont'd....

Over 100 guests including residents, families, staff and stakeholders enjoyed homemade appetizers, featuring foods connected to the former land uses (such as crostinis topped with an apple-raspberry chutney and warm brie cheese, turkey meatballs in a honey-mustard sauce and sweet apple tartelettes. The night was capped off with a celebratory toast of sparkling apple juice (or beer/wine) to a new name with historical significance and embarking on the Home's next chapter as Silverthorn Care Community!

# Heritage Matters

## Heritage Mississauga

### Exhibits

#### **Lower Exhibit Hall**

**July 28-Oct 23** ALFEW "Aggregation 18"

### Exhibits

See you at summer festivals in Mississauga.

**Art Gallery of Mississauga** [www.artgalleryofmississauga.com](http://www.artgalleryofmississauga.com)

#### **Friends of the Britannia Schoolhouse**

Sept. 12, 13, 14 Brampton Fair

Sept. 27 Doors Open 10am-4pm

Sept. to June, open the 2nd Sunday of the month

#### **Halton Peel Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society**

contact Jane Watt [jwatt@ica.net](mailto:jwatt@ica.net) 905-281-1701

Sept 27, 2pm-4pm Oakville Library "Lesser Known Databases for Scottish Research" speaker Christine Woodcock

Oct 25, 2pm-4pm Oakville Library "The Ulster Detective-Research in Northern Ireland" speaker Sher Leetooze

**Mississauga Arts Council** 1055-300 City Centre Drive Mississauga, ON L5B 3C9, 905-615-4278 [mac@mississaugaartscouncil.com](mailto:mac@mississaugaartscouncil.com)

#### **Mississauga South Historical Society**

For more info contact Richard Collins [chessie217@gmail.com](mailto:chessie217@gmail.com)

July 21, 7:00pm, On the grounds of the Bradley Museum

1620 Orr Road, Clarkson

"Clarkson: Past, Present, Future"

September 15, Join us for dinner at 6pm, meeting at 7pm

At the Orchard Family Restaurant, 2550 Hurontario Street, Cooksville

"Cooksville: Past, Present, Future"

#### **Mississauga Sports Council and the Sports Hall of Fame**

5600 Rose Cherry Place - Suite 101, (Concourse Lobby - near the elevator), Sports Complex - Hershey SportZone, Mississauga, Ontario L4Z 4B6 Contact: [info@mississaugasportscouncil.org](mailto:info@mississaugasportscouncil.org) Tel: 905-267-3536 [www.sportsmississauga.com](http://www.sportsmississauga.com)

#### **Museums of Mississauga**

June - August Friday evenings at 7:00pm On the Verandah Concert Series

July 19, Aug. 23 and Sept. 20 Traditional Tea at the Bradley Museum

July 5, Aug. 9 and Sept. 13 "Downton Abbey" Tea at Benares Historic House

Reservations for the above teas, call Museums of Mississauga 905-615-4860 Ext. 2110

#### **Streetsville Historical Society**

905-814-5958 [mbyard@sympatico.ca](mailto:mbyard@sympatico.ca)

The archives at Leslie Log House are open on Sundays and Wednesdays from 1pm-4pm. Tours are available.

#### **Trafalgar Township Historical Society**

For info contact [jwatt@ica.net](mailto:jwatt@ica.net)

July 8, 7pm Historian Chris Raible will be speaking about William Lyon Mackenzie and Mackenzie's Rebellion: Memories and Myths

**Visual Arts Mississauga** [www.visualartsmississauga.com](http://www.visualartsmississauga.com)



**Sat. Aug. 22**  
Grand Entry  
1pm & 7pm  
**Sun. Aug. 23**  
Grand Entry 1pm

**Admission**  
\$5.00

**Children 6&  
under FREE**

New Credit  
Indian Reserve

**For more information and directions visit:**  
**[www.newcreditpowwow.com](http://www.newcreditpowwow.com)**

## Did you know?

**One-room historic schoolhouse  
continues in the heart of Mississauga**



Benson (Ben) Madill, 1915-2013, who was recently honoured by the Friends of the Britannia Schoolhouse with a garden dedication, left behind a treasure trove of memories and recollections about life and time in historic Mississauga (particularly focused on the rural community of Britannia) and on the old Britannia Schoolhouse. In particular, his book *Britannia School and School Farm ... and My School Days* captures a period of time and conveys a wonderful story of rural historic Mississauga, and of a one-room schoolhouse that still, thanks in part to his efforts and support, and many, many others, continues to operate today in the heart of the City of Mississauga. The Old Britannia Schoolhouse, formerly S.S. #12 Toronto Township, was built c1852, replacing an earlier clapboard school building. A date of 1876 has often been given for the schoolhouse, but this date is likely referencing repairs and alterations to the 1852 brick building. The Old Britannia Schoolhouse welcomed generations of children from 1852 until 1959 when it closed its doors. Since 1982, and continuing today, students and the public have had the opportunity to visit the Old Britannia Schoolhouse and participate in first-person historical re-enactments of early settlement life in historic Mississauga.



*Britannia Schoolhouse, HM*

[www.britanniaschoolhousefriends.org](http://www.britanniaschoolhousefriends.org)

**For more Heritage Matters contact Jane Watt at**  
**[info@heritagemississauga.org](mailto:info@heritagemississauga.org) or 905-828-8411 ext. "0"**