

## Inside.

President's Message /3 The Editor's Desk /4 Programs Plus /5 The Somme /6 Richards Ramblings /7 The Small Arms /8 The Pines /10 Lorne Park Estates /11 Anishinaabe Legacy /12 The Darker Side /13 Requiem for a House /14 Heritage Matters /16

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#### FRONT COVER

Small Arms Limited Album, Heritage Mississauga

The demand for labour by wartime industries during the Second World War was high as most young men in the labour force were enlisted in the armed forces. Small Arms Limited employed recruiters who travelled across Canada offering jobs to single women or married women without children with husbands in the armed forces. New workers were given free passage to Toronto for assembly-line work. In total the



personnel department hired and released over 14,000 employees during its entire operation, of which approximately 63% were women. At its height of operations, the munitions factory employed 5,500 employees working three 8-hour shifts.

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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. You can also visit us at: www.heritagemississauga.com.

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

#### **Appreciating Past & Present**

We really are so fortunate in Canada, enjoying peace and political stability, relative financial wealth, the advantages of a well-educated population, our resource-rich land and vast, beautiful geography that is the envy of the world. Some of these riches are environmental luck-of-the-draws, others are the result of visionary thinking (e.g., Sir John A MacDonald) or the hard work and willingness of our citizens to sacrifice for our Country (e.g., see our latest video launched this month on YouTube: **Memories of Small Arms Limited**, a brief history of the Second World War arms plant in Lakeview and the fascinating women and men who worked there).

Part of Heritage Mississauga's role is to keep such memories alive. If they are lost, if we take our great fortune for granted, if we aren't vigilant in guarding what is wonderful about our past and present, we certainly can't expect to continue to have all that we possess today. Our social contract is very much a collective obligation to remember and recognize, to require certain standards and actions of our governments, and to fight, though rarely militarily, for what we value most.

HM will continue to recognize the efforts of our worthy heritage heroes on November 10<sup>th</sup> at *The Credits*, our annual dinner and evening dedicated to celebrating individuals, businesses, and significant anniversaries of organizations in a variety of categories. *Credits* nominations are invited until September 30<sup>th</sup> and our staff will be happy to assist you in preparing a submission, if you so wish. This year's event will again be held at the Lakeshore Convention Centre.

#### Don't Miss This Year's Doors Open!

In partnership with The Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation, Heritage Mississauga will be hosting a truly special Doors Open on October 1<sup>st</sup> at the Grange, from 10 AM to 4 PM. This event will feature an Aboriginal Gathering, with Elders conducting teachings (on water, indigenous plants, wampum belts, regalia, traditional dances and history) around a sacred fire. Visitors can visit the wigwam, attend Big Drum songs, savour foods and crafts, and learn about the Moccasin Project, among many other activities. With something to interest people of all ages, we expect our location to draw one of the largest group of attendees.

On days when the weather drives you indoors, HM is publishing 4 new educational booklets on the Cooksville Brickyard (now available), the Small Arms Plant, Haunted Mississauga, and Aboriginal History (available shortly). Pay a visit to our Grange offices to pick up copies, check out the latest art exhibits in our galleries, or conduct research on Mississauga properties, neighborhoods or personalities.

#### 2017 Sneak Peak

Although there are still happily a few weeks of summer ahead of us, your Board and Staff are currently finalizing our plans for next year. Applications for City grants are submitted in

mid-October and personally I'm very excited about several novel initiatives we'll be launching. In addition to presenting a sophisticated, refreshed website this fall, we will be expanding our Oral History program to **offer unique gift packages to the public:** this is your opportunity to capture your family history or the life story of a beloved friend or family member in a permanent, professional record for future generations. We are also working on several imaginative fundraising ideas, and anticipating numerous sesquicentennial events. Yes, 2017 will be Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

As I head outside to catch a golden Friday afternoon sunset, a reminder that **Mississauga's festivals continue into the fall**. Culture Days is on across the City September 30 – October  $2^{\rm nd}$ . Diwali Razzmatazz takes place October 14 –  $16^{\rm th}$ , and our reenactment militia, Thompson's Company, will have a Militia Muster at the Bradley Museum on October 22. Connect with your community at some of these excellent no- or low-cost events!



## Thompson's Company Fall Militia Muster at Bradley Museum

Join Thompson's Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of York Militia 1812 Re-enactment Company for an engagement at the Bradley Museum (1620 Orr Road, Mississauga) on Saturday, October 22nd from 10am to 4pm. The day will feature 1812-era soldiers drill, musket firing demonstrations, encampment and cooking over the fire. Special thanks to the Museums of Mississauga for opening their wonderful museum site.

For more information on Thompson's Company's please visit: 2ndyork.com/

Or follow on:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/2nd-Regiment-of-York-Militia-Thompsons-Company-138994486266850/

## From the Editor's Desk by Jayme Gaspar, Executive Director, Heritage Mississauga

As we go to press, the summer is almost over and fall is fast approaching. Where did the time go? It has been a busy summer for Mississaugans. We celebrated with our Canadian athletes in Rio, cheered on our young athletes in the Ontario Mississauga Summer Games, bid adieu to the Tragically Hip and celebrated all summer, in true Mississauga style at 30 cultural festivals through multiple sweltering heatwaves. What a summer. The fall plans to be just as interesting and I hope that you will join us at our events: Culture Days/Doors Open, Haunted Mississauga, and Thompson's Company Militia Muster. All the details are in this issue.

I'm very excited about the Doors Open event this year, our FREE Aboriginal Gathering, located at The Grange. Our Gathering is a wonderful opportunity to visit and share with Aboriginal Elders, Teachers, and Artists. We will have the Sacred Fire lite where you can meet Elder Garry Sault and Indigenous Cultural Consultant Kim Wheatley. Learn about plants and their medicinal qualities from Elder Mark Sault. We also have Diane Smoke with us who designs Regalia, the beautiful outfits that dancers wear during PowWow. Meet the Red Spirit Singers and learn about the drum, the songs and their special meaning. Listen to the Aboriginal stories of Metis Archie and Pierrette Martin from Quebec. We will have Anishinaabe artist Cathie Jamieson showcasing her work in the Debbie Hatch Discovery Centre and a number of information booths. Our Historian Matthew Wilkinson will also present a talk about Early Doctors in Mississauga. Did you know that Doctor Dixie, whom the Dixie Road was named after, owned The Grange in 1843. We will be launching the 4th comic in our series The Grange. This year our comic is titled *Legend of the Council Fire* and tells the story of the signing of Treaty 13A in 1805. Make sure you pickup your FREE copy and get it signed by the artists who will be on hand. There is so much to experience, I hope you will join us.

Before I sign off I want to encourage your participation in our awards program *The Credits*. All the details are on page 5 of this issue. Recognize those in your community who deserve credit for their work, voluntarism, support and dedication. The nomination process is easy and we have added some helpful hints to guide you in writing about your *Heritage Hero*.

Thank you for sharing this issue with us. If you have any questions about local heritage or suggestions for an article you would like to see, let us know by contacting us at 905-828-8411 ext "0" or by email at info@heritagemississauga.org.

# Aboriginal Gathering

presented by Heritage Mississauga in partnership with the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation



## Doors Open Mississauga: Saturday October 1, 2016, 10am-4pm

Sacred Fire Teachings Anishinaabe Art Exhibtion Regalia Design Early Doctors

Elder Teachings
Traditional Dance and Drums
Medicines from Mother Earth
Education Booths

## **FREE Admission**

## **LOCATION**

## Robinson-Adamson House "The Grange"

1921 Dundas St. W. Mississauga (corner of Sir John's Homestead and Dundas St. W., one block west of Mississauga Road) For program details visit: www.heritagemississauga.com or call 905-828-8411 ext 0



## **Programs Plus** By Jenny Walker, Program Developer, Heritage Mississauga

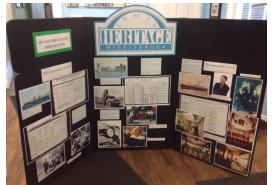
## Mississauga solidifies its position as the Festival City

Phew, what a summer! Congratulations to all of you who braved the heat and came out to the many multicultural festivals that have given Mississauga its identity as the "Festival City". We had so much fun at great events like Bollywood Monster Mashup and ITALFEST, Ferragosto in the City, as we supported various heritage elements in both festivals.

At Bollywood Monster Mashup we were part of the "Kids Zone" and made them our signature kites complete with the monster logo. New for this year, we added Asian elephant masks to our repertoire; the children were very creative and took the decoration of their masks very seriously as you can see from this spotty version.



In the last few weeks we've been researching Italian genealogy for some long standing families in that community. It's been interesting to note their early struggles and how little they came with as they carved out their new life in a foreign country; the common thread in each case is the support of family and community.



This Italfest program has developed over the last 3 years and is very popular with the local community. This year we looked closely at the Franceschini family who had a sand and gravel business in the city. Their grandfather Pietro came to Canada in 1913 and later worked at the Cooksville Brickyard for a number of years before starting the company which remained a family business for over 60 years. Once again it was great to connect with members of the Italian community; their stories are the best! We look forward to developing this partnership further and also to connecting with other cultural groups to enhance the heritage aspect of their festivals; as one attendee told her children, "Heritage is the most important aspect of the festival." I guess she's right, heritage is the support for every culture.

As the summer comes to a close, our thoughts turn to *The Credits 2016* as nominations close on September 30. Last year we celebrated over 30 heritage nominees from our community and partied with almost 450 guests at a glittering event in November. We expect this year to be even bigger, so get those nominations in and let's celebrate the "Heritage Heroes" in your community. Please fill in a nomination form at www.heritagemississauga.com/page/The-Credits; contact us if you have any queries, we're always happy to help. Check out our dedicated event website thecreditsgala2015.strikingly.com for more information on the winners and partners from last year.

Much of the success of the event is due to these great community partners and sponsors. Their support allows us to grow the event and provide financial security for many of our programs that run throughout the year; thanks so much to all of you.



airlines **GRAND** 





## Mississauga's Soldiers at The Somme

by By Al Stanton-Hagan and Matthew Wilkinson, Historian, Heritage Mississauga

"Somme. The whole history of the world cannot contain a more ghastly word."
-Friedrich Steinbrecher, German Officer

## Mississauga Soldiers Killed at The Somme

Private William George Alexander, Port Credit, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 1916
Corporal Walter George Birkett, Cooksville, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 1916
Private Joseph Garbutt, Malton, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 1916
Private Howard Sutton Shaver, Lorne Park, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 1916
Private Andrew Milligan, Port Credit, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 1916
Private Arthur Fry, Port Credit, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 1916
Private Wilbert Adair, Meadowvale, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 1916
Private Thomas Blackman, Erindale, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 1916
Private Gordon Kipp, Streetsville, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 1916
Corporal Harold Edwin Statia, Streetsville, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 1916
Private Patrick Kelly, Clarkson, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 1916
Private John William Hibbert, Port Credit, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 1916
Sergeant Percy Joseph Devlin, Erindale, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 1916
Private Edward Cosmo Innes, Port Credit, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1916
Sergeant Mosley Chapman, Erindale, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1917



Canadians at The Somme, 1916, The Canadian Encyclopedia

The Somme Offensive (often referred to as the "Battle of The Somme" or "Battles of The Somme"), which lasted from July 1st to November 18th, 1916, is remembered as one of the bloodiest and most futile battles of the First World War. It featured a horrific loss of life, with little in the way of tactical gains. The Somme Offensive was divided into smaller objectives or battles. The British Army under General Haig planned for a swift victory at The Somme that would break the stalemate and gain an advantage on the Western Front. Unfortunately, a swift victory was not to be, resulting in staggering losses to both sides: the Germans counted approximately 660,000 dead or wounded while the Allies suffered 623,907 casualties, including 24,000 Canadians (a quarter of the Canadian contingent). The villages of Toronto Township (now Mississauga) felt the losses of The Somme keenly as fifteen of our boys were killed in action there.

The infamous first day of the battle was an enormous failure for Allied forces. For many, it represents generals' foolishness and lack of concern for soldiers' lives. This is especially true in Newfoundland; the 29<sup>th</sup> Newfoundland Division lost 733 of its 801 men that first day at The Somme at Beaumont Hamel. Prior to that attack on July 1<sup>st</sup>, British divisions pounded German lines with shells, expecting such an easy advance that troops were told to walk through No Man's Land. But Allied plans were poorly concealed and the soldiers were met with a barrage of German artillery fire. Even the divisions that were able to advance could not hold their gains due to the massive casualties: 20,000 men died and 40,000 were wounded. It became obvious that what was thought to be an easy battle

would yield limited gains that would have to be hard won, and Haig turned his focus to smaller objectives in the southern sector.

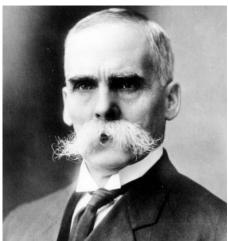
Canadian forces joined the battle at the end of the summer (Newfoundland was not yet part of Canada). Although some served earlier within British units, the first concerted Canadian action came at the battle of Flers-Courcelette, which lasted from September 15<sup>th</sup> to September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1916. With only two tanks, Canadian divisions moved forward on the village of Courcelette and the nearby German trenches.

After a week they had captured the village and German forces had moved back slightly to a prepared trench north of the village. On the first day of the battle, two men from Port Credit were killed in action: William Alexander, an English labourer from the 18<sup>th</sup> Battalion, and Howard Sutton Shaver, a bricklayer who was fighting with Princess Patricia's Light Infantry.

Wounds were also heavy at Courcelette: in September, Egerton Sayers, a relative of the Harris' of Benares Historic House in Clarkson, sustained a shrapnel wound in battle, but recovered by November and continued to serve until he was killed in action in June 1918. Percy Joseph Devlin, a "nursery man" from Erindale who attended St. Peter's Anglican Church, died on October 16<sup>th</sup>, having been shot in the head, hand, and arm on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Two Port Credit boys, George Hall and Alan Duncan, served through The Somme and avoided casualties, but both were killed in action later in the war.

## A Downtown Edmonton Park Honours Mississauga Resident

A young man was laying out lead blocks of type at the *Toronto Globe*'s office when he began assembling an advertisement urging men from the east to go west for free land, plenty of adventure and unlimited opportunities. Not keen on being a



Frank Oliver - City of Edmonton Archives

printer's assistant for the rest of his life, and very much keen for the kind of adventure that he had, up to now only read about, he took the ad's advice. Unlike so many American claimants, no one man "won the west" in Canada but Frank Oliver is as great a champion as Canada's west has ever known . . . for better or worse.

He was born Frank Bowsfield but when he was a child his mother took her own mother's maiden name after a separation from Frank's father, Allan Bowsfield. The Oliver family was a large one and about as well off as a family could be in the relatively untamed wilderness of Canada West, back when "Canada West" was the official name of the future Ontario.

After leaving his father, Frank lived with Uncle William on a farm on the west side of Hurontario Street, on the north side of what is now Skyway Drive. Uncle Josiah's farm was the next lot south. Another of Frank's uncles, William J. Oliver was a founder of the first Methodist church in the village of Britannia. The school on the northeast corner of Hurontario and Derry – S.S. #13: Derry West – had been founded just three years earlier by Uncle Josiah when Frank began attending at age six. At a time when truant kids outnumbered truancy officers, attendance was lax but Frank's mother Anna knew that without a father, Frank was in no position to inherit land so she insisted that her son get a good education.

Because of his schooling, Frank found a job at the *Streetsville Review* when he was 14, working as a printing press assistant to the paper's publisher, Solomon Barnhart. The *Review* went out of business a year later but as fortune would have it Barnhart had a contract to supply local news stories to the *Toronto Globe*, so the owner of that daily, George Brown hired Frank as a typesetter. Hearing the Canadian equivalent of Horace Greeley's call, Frank moved to Winnipeg in 1873. Brown found him a job at the recently-formed *Manitoba Free Press*. Instead of sending Frank to the assembly room, publisher William Luxton gave his new apprentice a job as a reporter. Three years

later, Luxton sent Frank out to scout the frontier in hope of establishing a Liberal paper in the burgeoning west of the Northwest Territories.

Yes, west; not north. Frank was bound for what is now Alberta. In 1876 Western Canada (except British Columbia, which had recently become a province) was administered by Ottawa under the name Northwest Territories. Edmonton wasn't the capital. There was no Alberta yet. Edmonton was a backwater burg with scattered homes, a small Methodist church and a trading fort. And one newspaper. Frank teamed up with Alexander Taylor to found the *Edmonton Bulletin*. Both men were just 27.

Frank liked to claim that his newspaper was the first in Canada, west of Ontario. It wasn't. Saskatchewan's *Battleford Herald* started two years earlier, in 1878 but for Frank the truth was never something to stand in the way of self promotion. Another story that Frank loved to print on a regular basis was the one about him returning to Edmonton in 1880 with a printing press that he had carried west from Winnipeg on his ox-cart.

Storytelling aside, Frank was at his best (or worst, really) when it came to his opinions. Frank was not a subtle man. Where Aboriginal Canadians were concerned, Frank's editorial were exemplars of racism. He believed that the Cree should be removed from their sacred land in what is now the southern part of Edmonton so that this land could be settled by "better men". Of course "better men", in Frank's view, were any men who thought and talked like Frank. Frank dreamed of a British Alberta. No foreigners (except the British, of course), no French, no Catholics, no Bolsheviks and most of all, no "Indians". Frank did like Mormons, at least on a perfunctory level because, in his opinion they were hard workers. That's about as liberal as this Liberal got.

Still, Frank's tone was a hit with the newly-arrived homesteading masses; so much so that the Liberals welcomed Frank as their candidate for the lone riding of "Alberta" in 1896.

It was really more of a proto-Alberta at the time. Alberta was a province on probation. Frank's desire was to have Alberta prove itself worthy of being recognized as a full-fledged province. That happened in 1905, during Frank's third term in parliament. The year 1905 was also the year Frank was appointed Minister of Interior. Frank's boss, Wilfrid Laurier also appointed him as Superintendent General of Indian Affairs. The second appointment, an ill-advised one, given Frank's well-publicized opinions on the Cree, was nonetheless essential in making it possible for Frank to do the first job. Settling the Canadian interior required negotiating with the Aboriginal people who owned that interior.

## **Memories of Small Arms Limited**

by Meghan Mackintosh, Outreach Coordinator, Heritage Mississauga

May 17, 2016 was a special day. It was on that day that I headed to the Small Arms factory in Lakeview to interview munitions workers who worked there in the 1940s. Two of those workers, siblings Hilda Insley and John Kelly shared their memories from this time period in their life with me and a small film crew



**MEGHAN MACKINTOSH**: Tell me about your time working at the Small Arms?

HILDA INSLEY: When I started at the Small Arms, my name was Hilda Kelly, I was 18 years old, I'm 93 now. I had a sister Pat, who was working in the Small Arms, and she says: "Why are you going all the way into John Inglis, when you're closer to home at the Small Arms?" So I applied for the Small Arms and I got in.

MEGHAN MACKINTOSH: What did you do at the Small Arms?

**HILDA INSLEY**: I was [working at] a place called the AID, Army Inspection Department. It was like a gated part of the Small Arms, and it was the final

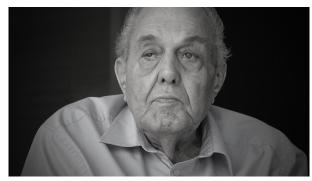
inspection of the Lee Enfield rifle. Mind you we were putting bullets in and making sure that they fired out and all that sort of stuff.

MEGHAN MACKINTOSH: What one memory stands out for you from your time there?

HILDA INSLEY: They took us out on to the range and let us shoot the gun that we had been playing around with and they said hold it up against your shoulder. I wish they'd strapped it to my shoulder it nearly knocked my shoulder off that thing, I don't know how the fellas used it, because that thing it "ew gee", it really kicked back. But anyway, that's memories of the Small Arms and the people that we met there were really, really nice.

MEGHAN MACKINTOSH: John, can you tell me about your time at the Small Arms?

JOHN KELLY: I guess where I should start is before these buildings were here. I was born and raised in this area, so I know the area really well. At the beginning of the war this was all fields. It was trees, nothing. When they came in to build the Small Arms, they found a body in the field. I guess the police were called, and some guy was shot and killed. It was a gangland slaying of some kind, but that went over quickly because this place was being built.



**MEGHAN MACKINTOSH**: How did you end up working at the Small Arms?

**JOHN KELLY**: The reason I came to the Small Arms to work [was because], Hilda's husband was oversees, Pat my other sister's husband was overseas, and [my sister] Margaret, her husband was going overseas, and I thought, well they're all way over there and I should be doing something here. So I came down to the Small Arms, and my brother Tom came with me, we're twins, but he's shorter than I am. When we saw the personnel manager he said: "I believe you're 15." Because he couldn't say I was 16 because you had to have a registration card when you were 16. So I told him I was 15. And he says: "I believe you're 15, but he says: I don't think this fella is 15, but he must be because he's your twin brother," so they hired him too. So we worked at the Small Arms when we were 12 years old.

MEGHAN MACKINTOSH: What did you do at the Small Arms?

**JOHN KELLY**: I was operating machines, in the body department, remember they're making the body of the rifle of course. There were mainly women that were in the building, I mean there were very few men. There were hundreds if not thousands of women in that place. They brought them in from all over the country. This one woman working beside me, she's going along the way with

## Memories of Small Arms Limited

her work and everything and I look down and there's a finger in the coolant, by itself, I mean it had been cut off, and she doesn't realize it, and then all of a sudden she looked down and she screamed and they took her out in a sweatshirt. It's quite a shock for a young fella to see all that you know, it's not very pleasant. I will say, that I enjoyed working there; I think we did a good job while we were there. Turned out a lot of rifles.

These were just two snippets of stories from the five people I interviewed who worked at the Small Arms. If you or someone you know worked there, please contact us, as we'd love to hear your story. In the meantime, please check out the Heritage Mississauga YouTube channel to watch the short film. www.YouTube.com/HeritageMississauga

## Looking Back, Looking Forward: Building 12 and Small Arms Limited

By Matthew Wilkinson, Historian, Heritage Mississauga

Building 12 (or the Inspection Building) of the Dominion Small Arms Factory in Lakeview, located at 1352 Lakeshore Road East, has a fascinating story to tell, albeit one that is unfinished. The building is one of the few remaining elements of a much larger Second World War era munitions factory. While the modern chapter of its story is currently unfolding, first let us look back.

The Canadian Department of National Defence authorized the construction of a small arms manufacturing facility in Lakeview on June 6, 1940. Originally named the Dominion Small Arms Factory, on August 7, 1940 a Crown Corporation called Small Arms Limited assumed responsibility for the facility under the guidance of the wartime Department of Munitions and Supply. By November of 1940, the factory was operational. By the end of 1941, some 7589 rifles had been manufactured. Production reached its height in 1943 with the manufacturing of 357,724 Lee-Enfield No. 4 rifles. The factory employed over



14,000 workers during the course of the Second World War, and approximately 62% of the munitions factory workers were women.

Following the war, Small Arms Limited became a division of Canadian Arsenals Limited. The former Small Arms Limited munitions factory (Long Branch Facility, Division of Canadian Arsenals Limited) closed in the summer of 1976.

In 1981, the property was transferred to Canada Post, and in 1992 was sold to the Toronto Regional Conservation Authority. Today the former Building 12 is all that remains of the much larger Small Arms Limited factory. After 1992 the building was utilized by



Ontario Power Generation and by the Cadet Organization Police School (C.O.P.S.). Today, the building is mostly silent, its halls largely empty. But it may not remain quiet for much longer.

The Small Arms Society is planning a community event at the building in the late fall. Plans are also in progress by the City of Mississauga to acquire the site, to re-purpose the south (rear) portion of the building for community engagement purposes. The first phase of this eagerly anticipated plan will breathe life back into this remarkable property. These developments, while far from complete, are offering a tantalizing glimpse into the future of this significant heritage building. (smallarmsbuilding.ca)

## The Pines: The Formative Years, Part Three

By Don Hancock and the late Marjorie Hancock

Do you know that the White Pine is the official tree of Ontario? Do you remember the tall iconic White Pines that we had told you about?

The Pines did indeed capture Dorothy's heart, and Leslie's too.

Those tall trees on the ridge kept their vigil and watched the little family during the winter of 1931, as they crafted their frame house where it sits today. The excavation was scooped from the fox sand by the so-called "honey dumper" (manure spreader), and Tommy Clark and his two immense Clydesdale horses. It seems as though everything and everyone was Scottish. They were a neighbourly bunch and assisted our Dad at times in the heavier construction.

Mom and Dad would drive up from the wee house on Cumberland Avenue in Port Credit to work on the structure. When nature called, they would go up the slope, beyond the old pines where a small grove grew on the northward slope. Mom wanted some



The Tall Pines stand behind the house, offset along the ridge Dad is working, standing in the window, c1931, Hancock Family

privacy so Leslie stretched burlap around several tree trunks to make a screened "privy". In later years, telling of that spring, she described those trunks as "young pines" and would hold out her hands as though enclosing her fingers about one. Now eighty years later, those young pines are almost as strong and tall as the sentinels on the ridge.

Dad acquired seedling conifers available from the Ontario government for farmers for reforestation, and planted them along the open northwest boundary of the property as a windbreak.

Through the '30s, The Great Depression, Dad and Mom continued with a sequence of landscape projects, keeping their spirits high, enabling them to make improvements on the property: a shed in the bank for the car, a lath house, and the head house with the first greenhouse, a garage space for a truck, and a small office. The buildings took into consideration the thermal heating qualities of the soil, carved four feet deep into the ridge where the temperature is about the same summer and winter, 4.5C (40F). The meadow field was soon filling with rows of young shrubs and trees, and in summer, the flowering perennials were picked and taken to the big florists in Toronto, Cooper's, Simpson's and to Tidy's, starting in 1877 and still functioning. Our Mom named the flourishing farm -Woodland Nurseries. There were some upsets: the sadness when the neighbour cut down several beautiful pines just beyond the boundary to the north, in order to prepare



The nursery service yard from the roof of the house c1938, Hancock Family

more crop land; another year the scare of a field fire from the northwest blowing into the woods with flames leaping high on the bark. Again the Scottish settlers helped, putting it out manually with mops which they soaked and then swatted the burning bark. The woods had indeed been threatened!

But there were good times too – the forming of a neighbourhood of strong friendships, a new baby girl ("that's me, Marjorie!"). With Mom's early nursing training, she was able to be a help to the one district doctor as midwife for several local babies, once even as the taxi driver with police escort in a dash to the Women's College Hospital!

Our special family outing was a visit to the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto. Mom, having grown up in China, liked the Chinese section: Dad w a s interested in Geology and we kids visited the dinosaurs and the mummies! Then we always had a Chinese m e a l Elizabeth Street



Dorothy, Leslie, Donald, Marjorie and Macklin in front of the ROM, Hancock Family

and on the way home, stopped at the Downyflake Donuts at Sunnyside!

## Exploring Lorne Park Estates By Victoria Loconte

Lorne Park Estates is a densely forested, 77-acre exclusive community located in the City of Mississauga. The community has been around for numerous years and, unlike any other community in Mississauga, it is privately run; the residents contribute their time and labour to maintain the Park. Over the years the community has had a number of different residents and developments, however it has kept its charm, nature and close community feel.

The first known inhabitants of the area were Native Mississauga who belonged to the Ojibwa (Chippewa) tribe. During the 18th century, French and English traders exchanged goods, including blankets, clothing, guns and tools, with the tribe. On August 1st, 1805, 74,0000 acres of land was transferred from the Mississauga's to the Crown in exchange for around 1,000 pounds worth of goods. the land that is Lorne Park Estates today was first granted to Lieutenant Arthur Jones in July 1833. Eventually, the land was turned into a pleasure resort, opened by the Marquis and Marchioness of Lorne, whom the Park was named after. Between 1905 and 1910, the Park was closed to the general public and became a private summer resort. Only those who owned cottages on the Park could vacation there during the summer months. During the fall and winter, the Park was barred and looked after by a caretaker. The Lorne Park Company Limited owned the land starting in 1909 and soon they were plagued by financial difficulty. They sold the land to Lakeshore Country Club Limited in June 1909, who then sold the land in March 1911 to an outsider, Sydney Small. Many of the remaining lots were sold off but would not see houses until after the Second World War. In 1940, residents voluntarily paid fees for the oiling of the roads, upkeep of lamps, payment of the caretaker and garbage collection. In 1947, the Lorne Park Estates Association had a special meeting to discuss whether the Park should remain as private property of the residents or be taken over by the city. It was ultimately decided that the Park should remain private.

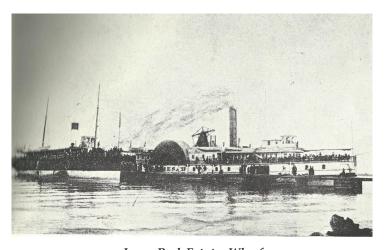
Mary Louise Clarke was a very critical member of the Lorne Park Estates community. Her family first moved to the Park in 1886 and since then, four generations have grown up there. She was the first daughter of James Bellingham Boustead. He was born in England in 1832, his family immigrating to Canada that same year. Raised and educated in Toronto, he successfully started his own tannery business. Boustead was an active member of the community, playing a large role in many different clubs and societies, spending his summers in the Park until his death in 1902. His daughter Mary Louise, was born in 1863 and also grew up spending summers in the area. Once married, she and her husband bought land near her parents in the Park. Like her father, she ran the family tannery business and was very active in the community. She headed a group of land owners, called the Lorne Park Estates Limited, who wanted the Park and the common areas to be owned by those who lived in the Park, not by an outside source.

In 1919, they were successful in gaining the rights to the land, and they could decide how they wanted the neighbourhood to be run. Following her death, in 1931, she donated land to the community so that it may not be publically owned.



Lorne Park Estates Hotel Louise

Hotel Louise was designed by Edmund Burke in 1889 and was used as a hotel, meeting place and social club for the vacationers visiting Lorne Park Estates. It was named after Princess Louise and was in service for 30 years before being turned into a private house in 1912. Around 1920, a tragic fire destroyed the hotel. However, there is very little information available on the fire and its origin remains a mystery.



Lorne Park Estates Wharf

A long wharf was constructed in order for steam ships to travel from Toronto to the Park. Ships from Toronto would travel twice daily to the Park for visitors to enjoy picnic areas, restaurants, swings, merry-go-rounds, shooting galleries and dancing pavilions. On Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1903, as three hundred people waited for the steamer, *Niagara*, who had arrived from Oakville with members of the Saint James Square

## Building Mississauga: Legacy of the Anishinaabe - Part One By Zaineb Survery

Contrary to what many of us believe, we owe a large debt which we can never repay to the First Nations people who once lived in what is now the City of Mississauga. The Credit Mississaugas were here, and then, in most people's imaginations, they left. Even official publications in the city lead us to believe that they left little trace of their habitation beyond a pale footprint, leaving it to us, our immediate forebears and ourselves, to develop the city.

Little could be further from the truth.

From the 1700s to the late 1800s the Anishinaabe left an imprint that remains, and is part of what makes Mississauga what it has become today – a thriving city poised for greatness. Their legacy is outlined in a two part article, beginning with our city's name, and making way for the economy through food and medical treatment. Part two outlines how lodging and the system of roads still in use today accelerated city growth; and sparked public education, individual rights, and national sovereignty in Canada.

#### Our Name

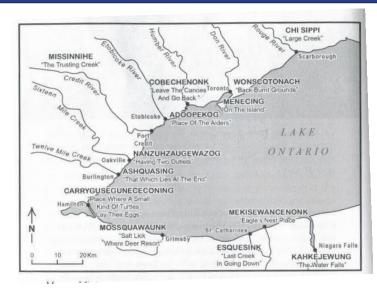
The Anishinaabe are more commonly referred to as the Ojibwe, or Mississaugas in our area. There are theories how the Anishinaabe became known as "Mississaugas". One theory is in 1640, Jesuit fathers recorded them as "Oumisagai," as they used to live along the Mississagi River north of Lake Huron before moving to northern Lake Ontario in 1700. Another theory is tribes in the Bay of Quinte and Kingston area referred to the Anishinaabe as "Minzazahgeed," meaning 'people living where there are many mouths of rivers,' given the network of water routes. A third theory is a third of the band that moved from Lake Huron belonged to the eagle clan, pronounced Masesaugee.

Which theory is most likely? The authorities cannot agree, so take your pick!

The early French and British settlers decided, inaccurately, to refer to all clans north of Lake Ontario as Mississaugas; while the Anishinaabe, to this day, consider the first settlers and their descendants, as the 'saltwater people.'

Ultimately, and perhaps inevitably, trade between the settlers and the Anishinaabe prospered along the Missinihe River, also known as Credit River. The river was a backbone for growth and development over time. However, prior to reaching this stage of development, a number of key features were needed for the town to flourish: land and agricultural skills to ensure a stable food supply, robust health to enable survival in what was then a wilderness, and adequate personal and group safety through the provision of appropriate lodging. Then, and only then, could a city begin to grow.

The Anishinaabe were experts in all of these.



'Mississauga Place-Names at Western Lake Ontario, <u>Mississauga</u>
<u>Portraits</u> by Donald B. Smith, 2013'

#### The Food Providers

The Anishinaabe would have been the primary food providers for the early settlers. They knew the best seasons, locations and techniques for hunting protein-rich food sources, particularly salmon and deer. In contrast, the early settlers encountered a number of challenges in adapting to their harsh new environment. They would likely have accepted, or at least learned from the Anishinaabe how to become self-sufficient.

Having dealt with the pressing issue of food, there was the matter of stocking up on food for the long, harsh winter months. Mississauga was once abundant in oak trees. The Anishinaabe made a practice of digging trenches around oak trees, forcing the trees into survival mode. As a result the oaks produced more acorns to harvest. These were the go-to protein and fat rich foods of both the Native peoples and the early settlers during the winter months.

Once the main winter passed and snowmelt was under way, the Anishinaabe began tapping sap from maple trees, also abundant in the area in those days, to produce maple sugar – a key flavouring ingredient which they used all year long in fruits, wild rice, vegetables and fish. The early settlers quickly caught onto the Anishinaabe technique of extracting sap to make maple sugar. We all know how important annual maple festivals are to our city culture now.

The Anishinaabe also demonstrated the agricultural potential of the area by growing wheat, corn and wild rice. Being able to use the land for agriculture made it all the more attractive to settlers who established farms along roads, such as Dundas Street and Eglinton Avenue.



## The Eddie Melo Murder, By Rachel Alt

Out of all the places Eddie Melo could have been targeted, with his long history as a mob enforcer in Toronto, who would have guessed it would be a parking lot in Mississauga? The 40-year-old was shot in the head in his Jeep Cherokee around 6:30 pm on Friday, April 6, 2001, along with his friend Joao (John) Pavao, who was leaning into the vehicle, chatting with Melo. They were in the Cliffway Plaza parking lot, near Hurontario Street



Eddie Melo, www

and the QEW, in front of a sports bar called Amici, or "Friends".

Right from the beginning of the investigation, it was an assumption that this was the work of a hit man; in 1989 Melo was the target of an unsuccessful hit. The hit man, at first was described as unprofessional and having performed the murder unlike most mob hits, because of his inability to flee the scene by his own means, as a car was stolen as a get-away vehicle (a Honda Civic was carjacked, and driven to the Sherway Gardens Mall parking lot in Etobicoke, where it was abandoned).

As it turned out, the murder was the work of a hit man, who was paid \$75,000 to do it. It was assumed that Pavao was not an intended target, but was shot down for being present when the hit man was in the parking lot targeting Melo. Charles Gagne, from Buckingham, Quebec, pleaded guilty to having shot Melo and is currently serving a life sentence in prison.

But who was Eddie Melo? He was born in Portugal in 1961, and immigrated to Canada when he was only 6 years-old. He was the son of a construction worker. The Melo family moved from Toronto to Montreal, where Eddie began boxing and caught the attention of Frank (The Big Guy) Cotroni, a local Montreal mobster. By the age of only 17, Melo was in the professional ranks of boxing, and had won the Canadian middleweight championship. He was also a mob enforcer.

Melo had run-ins with the Canadian Immigration and Refugee Board, as they attempted to deport him back to Portugal on the grounds of criminal activity. In 1997, Melo had claimed to the Board that he was a salesman in restaurant specialties.

It is not known for certain why Melo was targeted, although rumours include numerous previous run-ins with the law and other crime figures, stock market scams, bikers who were

Cont'd pg 15

# A Short History of Windmill Music Productions - 2006 to 2016,

By Brian Pritchard, Artistic Director

"Good evening ladies and gentlemen ('Good evening Brian,' comes the response from the audience). My name is Brian Pritchard and I am the Artistic Director of Windmill Music."

Starting in September, 2006, with a battered piano, a Roland keyboard, and a dedicated group of singers, Windmill has presented up to six vocal productions annually, consistently supported by enthusiastic and involved audiences, first in Clarke Hall and now in the Great Hall of the Mississauga Unitarian Congregation. Now completing its tenth season, Windmill has mounted 56 productions totaling more than one hundred performances.

Windmill Music as an arts group has always been about singing. My own background in community theatre put me in touch with a number of talented vocalists who responded enthusiastically to an opportunity to sing the great Broadway – and other songs frequently. This is the genesis of Windmill Music. The Windmill Singers are all auditioned by the Musical Director, and are equally comfortable singing solos or as a chorus. Their versatility is evident in their remarkable ability to sing in all musical genres. Many brilliant instrumentalists provide backup from classical to rock, and every genre in between.

Each Windmill show is built around a musical theme: Celtic, Italian, jazz, rock, Motown, humour, and love among others. The list is long and the inspiration endless. The annual Christmas show is arguably my favourite, eagerly anticipated and lauded for its innovative approach and content.

Windmill's core of exceptional vocalists (some were featured in our first show) remains the backbone of our group, while the bi-annual vocal scholarship has introduced a number of young singers to the ranks. They offer a vibrant level of performance and enhance our community involvement, a key element of Windmill's mandate.

Special thanks are extended to the Windmill Board, the volunteers, sponsors, and subscribers and, of course, the performers, for their dedication. At Windmill the joy of music is strong and the joy of singing is our strength.



Windmill Theatre exhibition, HM

## The Anishinaabe Role cont'd...

#### The Doctors

Besides the necessity of establishing a reliable source of food, early settlers needed access to medical treatment as they learned to adapt to their new surroundings. It was part of the Anishinaabe culture to help, rather than to let one suffer. The wilderness at the time was unforgiving, and the climate harsh and overwhelming. Doctors were not readily available to the early settlers before about 1830. By 1820, the whole of what is now the Region of Peel had a population of 1,400. The Loyalist population in the south end of Peel numbered considerably less than that.

Most medical treatment in those days would have been carried out by the Mide, or Midewin – doctors of the Anishinaabe. The Mide knew of the various plants growing by the Credit River that would treat common ailments the early settlers no doubt faced. The bloodroot plant treated athlete's foot. The hips of the wild rose helped to avoid scurvy. They used the May apple root for constipation. The St. John's wort plant helped rebuild the nervous system, provided some anaesthetic properties, and sped up healing. The trillium plant was used to ease the pain of childbirth. Everyday cuts, minor wounds, things like hives and rashes were treated using sap from certain trees – a much welcomed relief to the early settlers as they tried to clear the land and build their houses.

Part two outlines how the Anishinaabe taught the early settlers to build durable housing for all four seasons, and how they created the roads needed for Canadian travel, education, democracy, and sovereignty.

Frank's predecessor in the Interior Ministry, Clifford Sifton, addressed the problem of Aboriginal land claims in the west by ignoring them in hope that either the problem or the Cree would go away. Once Frank was in Sifton's place, he took a stance more consistent with US policy than anything we'd like to think Canadian. He began wholesale removal of the Indians to isolated reserves where the soil was so poor that no settler would want to settle there. And what made the policy all the worse was the fact that it was popular. In 1911 Frank was reelected with his largest victory to date. Frank won every election (seven of them) from 1896 to 1917.

When Frank finally lost an election campaign, in 1921 it was with a sense of bitter irony. He was defeated by Donald Macbeth Kennedy, whose Progressive Party had been formed by farmers disappointed with the agricultural policies of the recent Tory governments. The men who voted for the Progressives in droves were the same farmers that Frank had encouraged to come out to the west, over the previous 45 years.

You can visit Frank Oliver Park at Jasper Avenue and 100th Street in downtown Edmonton near the site where, as Frank's own legend has it, he forded the Saskatchewan River for the first time, to set up his printing press.

## Requiem for a House: 21 Main Street, Streetsville

By Rachel Alt & Matthew Wilkinson

The Designated heritage home situated at 21 Main Street in Streetsville, known as the Heron-Dandie House, suffered a fire on July  $2^{nd}$ , 2016. Although still standing, the fire took a toll on the home. It is currently being evaluated to determine its future. The cause of the fire is unknown.

This old Regency-style home has a rich history. An early owner, and possible builder of the homes, was Patrick Heron. The home was likely built in the early 1830s.

James Dandie, a Streetsville farmer, was a notable tenant of 21 Main Street. He and his wife lived there, and officially bought the home as a retirement home for themselves in 1919. The next time it exchanged hands was in 1944 to Dandie's brother in law, James C. Rutledge.

A southern extension to the home was added around 1953 when Christopher Rutledge was the owner.



In March of 1987, under bylaw 218-87, the house became Designated under the terms of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for its architectural and historical significance. While the fate of the Heron-Dandie house is unknown at this time, it may be added to a sad list of heritage homes in Mississauga that have, over time, been lost to neglect, fire, or vandalism.

## Lorne Park Estates con'td...

Sunday School, a short section of the wharf collapsed. Around 50 people fell into the water, but thankfully it was not very deep and everyone was successfully rescued. This incident was caused by rotting boards that crumbled under the weight of the people. It was decided a new wharf would be built, especially due to a series of unfortunate events that made it irreparable. The community produces a newsletter called The Pines Speak, which has run for many years. The newsletter focuses on events going on in the Park, including births, people moving and anecdotal stories submitted by the residents. The Centennial Picnic was held in June 1979 to celebrate the first opening of the Park 100 years earlier in May 1879. Past and present residents gathered, many in period costumes. There was a piper who led the dances as well as competitions and games of the era. There were medallions made and given to the denizens as keepsakes. It took weeks of planning, though many described it as a huge success.

A strong community spirit remains as many residents have lived in the Park for over thirty years. The community contains a wide range of historical and modern architecture, giving a rather distinctive character. In 2009, City of Mississauga designated the 1888 cottage of William J. Davis as a landmark under the Ontario Heritage Act. Davis commissioned Burke to design his retreat in 1888 and it was built by the following year. The City has also designated the "country" abodes of Lieutenant Governor John Beverley Robinson, Eaton President Robert Young Eaton and lawyers W.R. Percy Parker and William Watson Evans. Lorne Park Estates has gone through many changes over the years, but it continues to hold onto its unique traditions and values.

#### The Darker Side cont'd...

looking to expand their territory, or rival mobsters who were unsuccessful at killing Melo previously.

Melo, even with his past affiliations with mobsters, was also remembered for his other qualities, like being a good father, husband, and being a boxer with a good heart and drive. He even attempted to get back into boxing at the age of 34, but was unsuccessful.

At his funeral, a \$6,000 bottle of Cognac was reportedly poured over Melo's casket before he was buried on April 16, 2001. Following this gesture, the burial ground was washed with champagne; even in death, Melo was given grand gestures, as he was loved and admired by

grand gestures, as he was loved and admired by many, family and friends alike.

At the time of the murder, Melo left behind his wife, Rhonda Elizabeth Sullivan, and three children; Jessica (19 years old), Elise (14 years old), and Eduardo Jr. (4 years old).



Gunman sought in hit on 'enforcer' Melo

Eddie Melo Murder headline

- Toronto Star,

April 8, 2001

Though Alan was only 19, he was awarded a Captaincy after the Battle of The Somme.

The heaviest losses of Mississauga's soldiers occurred in October, 1916, early in the bitterly fought Battle for Regina Trench. The battlefield and trench conditions were abysmal following heavy rains, and tanks were rendered useless by the mud. While a few men were able to break through the German lines, they were easily cut off and captured or killed. Three soldiers from Mississauga were killed in an attack on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Thomas Blackman, a farmer from Erindale who attended St. Peter's Anglican Church, was part of the Battalion Bombing Platoon in the attack on Regina Trench. He was presumed dead after he went missing on October 8th, at the age of 22. Gordon Kipp of Streetsville, a writer for the *Streetsville Review* who was popular around the village, also went missing at that battle just three weeks after arriving at the front. For some time he was believed to be a prisoner, but was later presumed to have died at Regina Trench at the age of 28. Harold Statia, another Streetsville boy and editor of the Review, was also killed in action on October 8th. In June he had written to his sister thanking her for biscuits she had sent and reporting very muddy conditions at The Somme. Edward Cosmo Innes and William George Green, both from Port Credit, were also killed in the battle for Regina Trench, which was finally captured by the 4<sup>th</sup> Canadian Division on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Further losses include Andrew Milligan, who died of wounds on September 28 at the Battle of Thiepval Ridge. Privates John William Hibbert and Arthur Fry of Port Credit were killed in action at The Somme, and Mosely Somerville Chapman of Erindale was wounded and paralyzed at The Somme, and died in 1917 as a result of his injuries.

Shortly after Regina Trench was captured the Battles of The Somme finally concluded with the Battle of Ancre, November 13<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>. Not much land was gained, but it had at least relieved pressure on the French at Verdun. The conditions had been horrific, the gains small and the loss of life massive. The Somme was a far cry from the glorious victories that Mississauga's eager soldiers expected when they enlisted: it was poorly planned, bloody, and largely futile. The Somme claimed over 1 million casualties. We remember their brave service.

## Support Heritage Mississauga

Heritage Mississauga is the only independent citywide organization devoted to heritage. A not-forprofit charity since 1960, our mandate is to research, record and communicate Mississauga's heritage.

Charitable #11924 5660 RR0001

## **Heritage Matters**

#### Heritage Mississauga

Oct. 1, 10am-4pm, Doors Open, Aboriginal Gathering

Oct 14, Haunted Mississauga at Dixie Union Cemetery

Oct 15, Genealogy Workshop

Nov 10, "The Credits"

Nov.TBA Aboriginal Workshop

Dec 6, 10-8 Holiday Open House

**Exhibits** 

**Debbie Hatch Discovery Centre** 

Aug 16-Sept 23, Art Exhibit of Maxine McLean

Oct 1-Nov 11, Aboriginal Art Exhibit Cathie Jamieson

#### IN THE COMMUNITY

#### Art Gallery of Mississauga

www.artgalleryofmississauga.com

#### Friends of the Britannia Schoolhouse

**Sept. 16-18,** Brampton Fall Fair at Brampton Fair Grounds in Caledon.

October 1, from 10-4 Doors Open Mississauga at the schoolhouse Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov.13, 1pm-4pm, Open Sundays

Dec 4, 1pm-4pm, Annual Christmas Sale

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

contact jwatt@ica.net 905-281-1701

Sept 25, 2pm-4pm, Oakville Public Library"-Rejuvenate and Stimulate Your Research"-Mike Quackenbush

Oct 23, 2pm-4pm, Oakville Public Library-"Why Should you Test your Autosomal DNA"-Dave Naylor

**Nov 27,** 2pm-4pm, Brampton 4 Corners Library-"Preserving The Analog Past for a Digital Future"-Steve Fulton

#### Mississauga Arts Council

1055-300 City Centre Drive Mississauga, ON L5B 3C9 905-615-4278 mac@mississaugaartscouncil.com

#### Mississauga South Historical Society

For more info contact Richard Collins chessie217@gmail.com **Sept 27,** 7pm Alan Skeoch will speak on his Ten Years in the Wilderness, venue to be announced

Nov 29, Speaker and venue to be announced

#### 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 Tel: 905-267-3536 www.sportsmississauga

#### Museums of Mississauga

#### **Benares Historic House**

Oct 1, 1pm Heritage Bites-Farm to Table Discover the historic roots of cooking using locally grown produce led by a culinary professional \$45 per person.

#### **Bradley Museum**

Sept 18, 2pm Afternoon Tea

Teas begin at 2 pm, \$15.35 per person, Call to register 905-615-4860 ext 2110

#### **Streetsville Historical Society**

905-814-5958 mbyard@sympatico.ca

Oct 1, 10am-4pm, Doors Open Leslie Log House

Oct 13, 7:30pm-9:00pm, John McDonald, Halton Historian will talk on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of Halton County at Streetsville United Church

**Nov 10,** 7:30pm-9:00pm, Speaker from Streetsville Legion. The Streetsville Historical Society's archives at Leslie Log House is open on Sundays and Wednesdays from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm.

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

Oct 1, 10am-4pm Doors Open at the Palermo Schoolhouse For further information contact Michelle Knoll at 905-617-0068

Visual Arts Mississauga www.visualartsmississauga.com

## 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Haunted Mississauga Evening

Heritage Mississauga's ever-popular 15<sup>th</sup> annual "Haunted Mississauga" spirit tour evening brings us back to the historic Dixie Union Cemetery (737 Dundas Street East). The event will take place on **Friday**, **October 14<sup>th</sup>**, **2016**, with tours starting at 7:00 pm. Visit www.heritagemississauga.com for more information on tour times and parking. Space is limited.

Come and meet "spirits" of people from our past, such as Andrew Allison, Jacob Cook, Doctor William Poole Crewe, Andrew Gage, Sylvia Robinette, James Robinson Shaw, Asa Walterhouse, Absalom Wilcox, Amos Willcox, and many others. The evening will feature a little history, some tales, and a contentious election. This year our story is set in the fall of 1836; a local election will have ramifications close to home for years to come. Some of the many issues include the building of a schoolhouse, the need for a new church, and the secret ballot, not to mention if anyone present would dare to support the Reformers on the threat of imprisonment. The actors are volunteers. The story is part of our history.



For more Heritage Matters contact Jane Watt, 905-828-8411 ext "0" or by email at info@heritagemississauga.org