



Both Gourmet and Spirits nights sold out

Milton Historical Society's inaugural Gourmet and Spirits Evenings fundraisers on October 23 and 29 are sold out!

Hosted by noted local historian and author



John McDonald

John McDonald, both evenings will begin with a tour of Town Hall (formerly Halton County Court House & Jail), with a specific focus on the mysterious and strange happenings in the old work yard.

The haunting intrigue will continue at La Toscana Restaurant (formerly the Thompson House Hotel) over dinner and spirits in the original bar room.

MHS's annual great Christmasfest Books and Curiosities Sale Dec. 7

In conjunction with Downtown Milton HolidayFest 2019, Milton Historical Society will host its annual ChristmasFest Books and Curiosities Sale on Saturday December 7, 2019, from noon to 6 p.m. at the historic Waldie Blacksmith Shop in beautiful downtown Milton.

The Society has some unique and highly desirable Christmas gift ideas for that hard-to-buy-for family member or friend who loves Milton. Watch for an amazing bundle deal, to be announced shortly, on the Society's wide variety of coffee table-quality books of local history.

Also available are the Society's classic coffee table mugs, and great gift certificates for the 2020 Guided Walking Tours and 2020 blacksmith courses.

Our professional blacksmiths will also be selling some unique iron items they have hand-crafted. They are also available to discuss making that unique item you'd like them to hand-craft for you.

For further information, please visit the Society's website at www.miltonhistoricalsociety.ca.

Remembering Jim Dills

(August 11, 1930 – July 19, 2019)

Jim Dills, the one-time publisher of The Canadian Champion and, later in his career, Executive Director of the Canadian Community Newspaper Association, passed away on July 19.

He was instrumental in the formation of the Milton Historical Society, co-founding it in 1977.

John Challinor II, current President of the Society, eulogized his co-author, mentor and friend at St. Paul's United Church on September 7, 2019.

Turn to page 5 for his eulogy and photos.





MHS Essentials



Ancestry rep to speak at November meeting

Community Liaison and Spokesperson Lesley Anderson will help Miltonians unlock their family histories during a special Milton Historical Society presentation on Thursday November 21, 2019, from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the historic Waldie Blacksmith Shop, 16 James Street, in beautiful downtown Milton.

Pot-luck dinner on December 19

Just a reminder of the members-only pot-luck dinner to be held Thursday Dec. 19 at 6:30 pm at Waldie's Blacksmith Shop.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Rain, heat affect walking tours

Weather played a factor in the fall walking tours. There were four walking tours scheduled, on successive Sundays starting on September 8.

Although a number of people had registered for each tour, rain washed out the Sept. 15 walk, and excessive heat cancelled the following week's walk.

Many thanks to those who volunteered to assist and lead the walks.

BLACKSMITH NEWS

Fall courses heating up

The blacksmith shop has been busy welcoming visitors Saturday mornings to coincide with the Milton Farmers' Market. The blacksmiths have been demonstrating their skills and educating visitors about their craft. We have visitors from across the country and around the world and they are appreciative of the historic collection of the horseshoes, the horse stocks and of course the blacksmith shop and blacksmiths at work.

Thanks go out to our Saturday volunteers Darwyne Hourie, Jonathan Miller, Toby Druce, Steve Wallace, Nolan Piette and David Brandow for the great work they do. Thanks also to Don Thomson who comes in alternate Wednesday mornings to work at the forge.

The blacksmith shop is holding blacksmith courses both beginner and advanced this Fall and the first course was held September 15 and there are several more scheduled between now and the end of 2019.

If you would like more information, please go to our website or contact Bruce Carlin at bdcarlin@gmail.com for details.



Waldie's Blacksmith Shop was open during the summer's Downtown Milton Classic Car Show. Visitors were treated to a working blacksmith shop and some classic vehicles on display.

Car lovers drawn to blacksmith shop

Classic car lovers who attended the Downtown Milton Classic Car Show were invited to drop by the Waldie Blacksmith Shop while downtown and get a great sense of old Milton!

Hosted by Milton Historical Society the Shop featured a working blacksmith demonstration, a display of unique collectibles as well as having some special books of local history available to buy. Treasure seekers were able to find something to get their motor running!



This summer, four more tree carvings were added to Milton Evergreen Cemetery including this one of a soldier from the First World War. They were crafted by Jim Menken (above).

Tree carvings added to historic Evergreen Cemetery

A few years ago, the Milton Evergreen Cemetery Board wanted to create something beautiful and unique for people visiting the cemetery, as well as adding special features for the final resting place of Milton's citizens.

A number of tree sculptures were added to the landscape over the past few years with four more this summer.

One new sculpture commemorates our veterans by incorporating features from Milton's two war memorials located in Victoria Park and Haltonville.

It features a soldier from the First World War from the Haltonville Memorial who is standing behind a cross feature from the Victoria Park Memorial.



Halton's northern townships celebrate 200 years in 2019

It is interesting to note that both Nassaggiweya and Esquesing Townships (north Halton) are celebrating 200 years in 2019.

They were both named by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor. Halton (County) Region had four townships – Nelson, Trafalgar, Nassaggiweya and Esquesing.

Milton and Oakville are in Trafalgar, Burlington is in Nelson, Acton & Georgetown are in Esquesing, while Campbellville and Brookville are in Nassaggiweya.

John Duignan to show local artifacts at October meeting

Longtime local member and local historian John Duignan, perhaps best known by Miltonians for his unprecedented collection of early Milton postcards, will unveil some rare local artifacts from the non-card side of his collection at the monthly meeting of Milton Historical Society on Thursday October 17, 2019, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

John will also share the stories behind the artifacts he has collected, answer any questions those in attendance might have about them and gather reactions from the audience about what he has unearthed over the years.

As always, attendance to the meeting is free-of-charge and Miltonians of all ages are welcome to attend. The meeting will take place at the Waldie Blacksmith Shop, 16 James Street in beautiful downtown Milton.

Third volume of Milton's Historic Homes set to be available November 23

Ever passed by an older home in Milton and wondered about its history?

Well, Milton Historical Society is publishing a book featuring more than 60 historic homes in Milton. The book is still being finalized but will be ready for Christmas with a November 23, 2019 launch date.

This is the third in the series of Historic Homes and Buildings of Milton. The first book was published in 1991. That book was written and researched by Jack Charlton, with assistance from Alex Cooke and Jim Dills.

The second volume was produced in 2000 and was written and researched by Marsha Waldie and Jack Charlton, assisted by Alex Cooke and Jim Dills. Technical support and layout by Ken Lamb, Don Hayward, Rex Sutcliffe, Brian Williams and Konrad Richter.

Unlike the previous two volumes, this volume will feature colour photos of all the homes as well as detailed descriptions of the buildings, in addition to the buildings' histories and the names of those who lived in them.

Watch the Society's website for pre-order details.



Peru Road heritage home draws concern

A heritage home on Peru Road remains unoccupied and has drawn the attention of area residents, one of whom, has approached Barb Koopmans, the Town of Milton's Director of Planning and Development on the matter.

The home at 94 Peru Road, also known as the Socrates Center homestead, is covered in tarps, its windows covered with plywood. It was designated under the Ontario Heritage Act by the Town in 2017.

The owner was asked five years to properly mothball the house, for preservation purposes.

The surrounding area is being considered for future development and there is concern for this heritage home.



Summer student volunteers assist with archives

This summer, the Archives of the Milton Historical Society benefitted from two local volunteer students assisting with research.

Savannah Landry, a graduate of Milton High School and Adya Dutt, student at Bishop Reding High School, were the volunteers.

Savannah's focus was data entry of the Jim Dills photo collection whilst Adya visited the Main Street businesses updating the archival records.

The work continues and Archives would welcome volunteers throughout the winter months assisting with digitization and data entry.

Reflections on Jim Dills

MHS co-founder, local publisher passes away at 88

By John Challinor II

Cast your minds back to the first day of your careers, getting comfortable with your new responsibilities, learning how to use your work tools and meeting fellow employees.

For most, Day One was typically a pretty casual introduction to what was to follow.

On Jim Dills' first day on the job in May 1951, he was required to plan and assemble the editorial, photographic and advertising content required to publish a newspaper seven days later in a small southern Ontario town where, at the time, the Canadian Champion was the prime communications conduit for the community.

Rumours were just that until you read it in The Champion.

Jim, not yet 22 years of age and not yet living in Milton, had one week to assemble a newspaper that strongly reflected all aspects of the community through its written word and photography, continue the tradition of journalistic excellence established by his father and do so on time, in a high-quality fashion and, of course, on budget.

How monumental was Jim's task?

Using a term we are all too familiar with today, The Canadian Champion was our internet. The Canadian Champion was our world wide web.

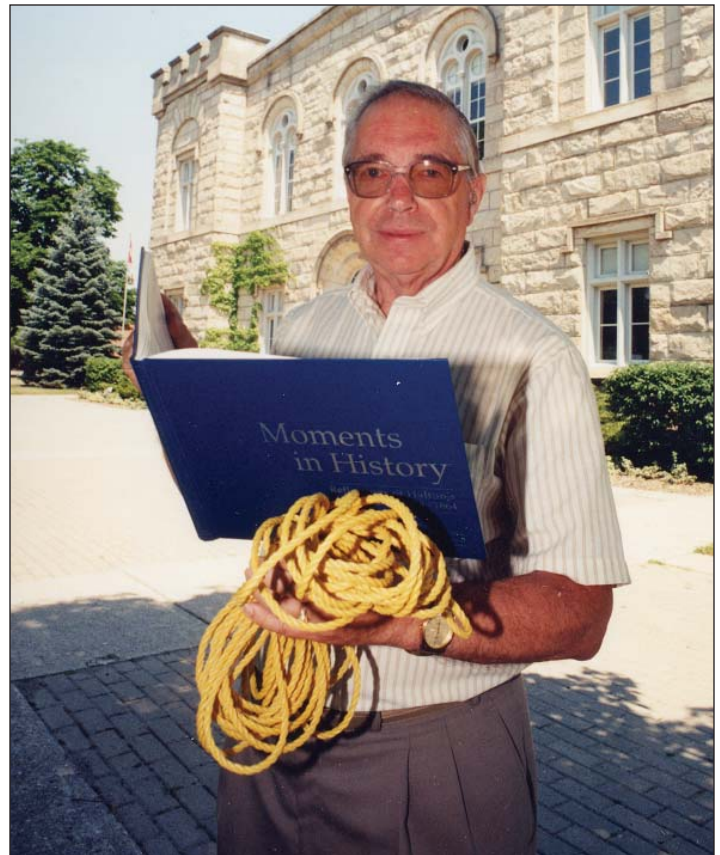
Jim would go on to publish more than 1,400 editions of The Champion over the next 27 years.

Together with brother David, Jim would build Dills Printing & Publishing into a significant employer in north Halton. And Jim and David would earn unparalleled provincial, national and even international recognition for their newspapers in Acton, Georgetown and Milton.

With The Canadian Champion and Dills Printing & Publishing, Jim was thrust into assuming the mantle of leadership early in his life. That notion of accepting responsibility well in advance of his contemporaries became a recurring theme that would come to define his involvements in this growing community, here at St. Paul's United Church, in his favourite pastimes and in his professional pursuits.

The other recurring theme was Jim's life mantra: it has to be right.

James Arlof Dills was born in Acton, Ontario, on August 11, 1930, to Arlof and Isma Dills and, by all accounts, had a happy childhood, although it was one shaped by the Great Depression and a father who was a hard-working newspaper publisher.



Jim Dills helped preserve what it is now Town Hall. It was slated for the wrecking ball.

It came as no surprise to anyone when Jim was accepted into Ryerson Polytechnical Institute's first journalism program in 1949 and, further, that he was recognized for his academic excellence upon graduation. His eldest son, Steven, would follow in his footsteps almost 30 years later.

Jim embraced the joys and responsibilities associated with family early in his life, marrying the former Shirley Elliot in 1952, establishing roots in Milton in 1954 and celebrating the birth of Steven, their first of five children, in 1955. Over the next 12 years, the Dills family would grow to include Mark, Paul, Catherine and Carolyn. Jim and Shirley would go on to enjoy a marriage of some 67 years.

While they were both raised in Acton, Jim and Shirley considered themselves to be Miltonians. And, great Miltonians they were and are.

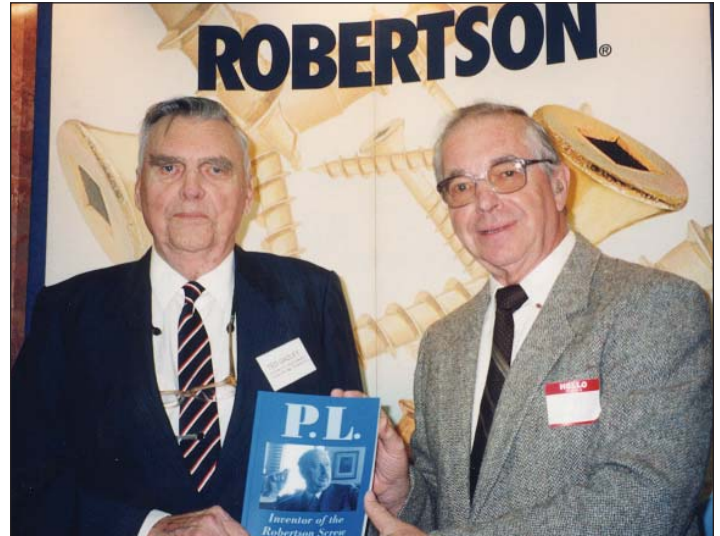
At the age of 26, Jim was elected President of Milton Rotary Club, the community's foremost service club at the time,

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REFLECTIONS ON JIM DILLS



Jim is celebrating the 10th anniversary of the society with fellow co-founders (from left) Len McNeil, Don Hayward and Val Grimshaw in 1987.



Jim at the launch of the biography of Canadian hardware entrepreneur P.L. Robertson in 1998. He's with Ted Gazely, former VP of sales at the company.

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and, in assuming the role, was the youngest President in the Rotary world that year, which included almost 200 countries around the globe.

In 1967, at the age of 37, he was named Chairman of the Milton Parks Board of Management, continuing in that role until it was disbanded as a result of the establishment of Regional Government in 1974. In 1977, now in his mid-40s, Jim co-founded Milton Historical Society, serving as its president for four years. Jim had a plethora of local involvements, but the Society gave him the platform to pursue his passion – local history – in a community that needed leadership in that area.

The Society also gave Jim an opportunity to complete an unfinished assignment given to him by his father – write the definitive history of Milton as his father had done for Acton in the 1930s.

Jim had made a best-efforts attempt at doing so in time for Milton's Centennial in 1957 and went on to research and write more than 100 articles about the community's history in the pages of the *Canadian Champion* over the next two decades. He returned to the pages of the *Champion* in 2001, authoring time capsules until earlier this year. But, his experience in 1957 nagged at him. He wasn't completely satisfied with the result. Back then, he had assumed there was a base level of institutional knowledge about Milton's history to build on when, in fact, there was none. The Society was his opportunity to set the record straight, to do it right.

Over the next 40 years, Jim authored or co-authored almost two dozen books of local history on a myriad of topics in extraordinary levels of depth, establishing he and the Society as

one of the most prolific chroniclers of local history in Canada. Toronto's Mike Filey might be the only other significant comparator in this category.

As ill as he was, one month before his passing in July, Jim was still researching and writing Milton's history.

Jim was well recognized for his many contributions to our community – Milton Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year and Lifetime Achievement awards, Milton Heritage Awards,

Rotary Club Paul Harris Fellowship, Ontario Heritage Foundation Achievement and Lifetime Achievement awards, Dominion of Canada 125 Anniversary Commemorative Medal, Queen Elizabeth Jubilee and Diamond Jubilee awards amongst many others, including being inducted into the Town of Milton's Walk of Fame.

But, even great local deeds don't get you into the Walk of Fame. That is reserved for Miltonians who have shone on the national and/or international stage for an extended period of time. Jim was amongst the first group to be inducted in 2007 for extraordinary works very few Miltonians know about, but newspaper publishers across Canada are very familiar with and most thankful for.

Sensing the economic, competitive and other forces lining up against the publishing industry, Jim and his brother David sold Dills Printing & Publishing in 1978, in retrospect, probably at the height of the market for their business.

Shortly thereafter, Jim signed on as Executive Director of the Canadian Community Newspaper Association and, for the

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REFLECTIONS ON JIM DILLS



Jim is with Bob McArthur (centre) his brother Dave Dills (right) in 1978. They are marking the sales of Dills Printing and Publishing to Inland Publishing.

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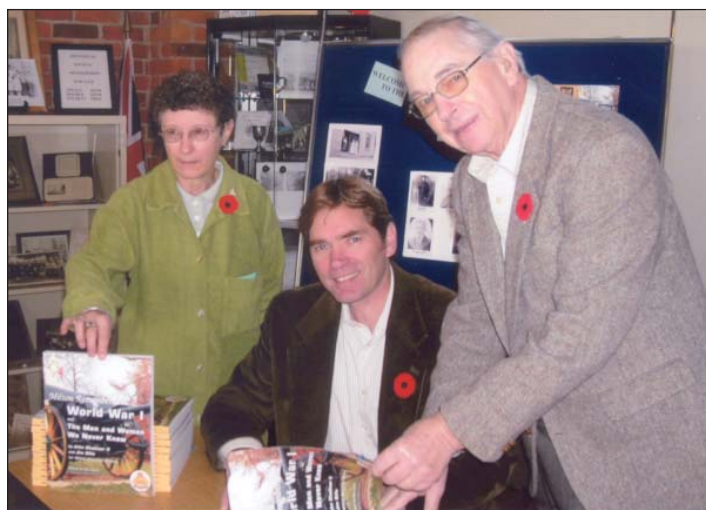
next eight years, travelled back and forth across Canada helping publishers across the country shore up their businesses while advocating with governments and colleges and universities the importance of high-quality community journalism. To say it was missionary work is not putting too fine a point on it. It was a tough assignment. Many local newspapers were saved. Some simply could not be. Jim left no stone unturned. After all, it had to be right.

For his considerable efforts, the industry named Jim an Honorary President and Honorary Life Member of the Canadian Community Newspaper Association. He received similar commendations from provincial newspaper associations in Atlantic Canada, British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario and the Yukon. In 2000, the Ontario association named the Dills family amongst its 50 people who had most contributed to the industry over the last 50 years.

There is no question that Jim should be remembered for his exemplary stewardship of The Canadian Champion at a time when newspapers mattered most to this community. And, it is unlikely the Canadian newspaper publishing industry will ever, to quote Shakespeare, “look upon his like again.” But, what is Jim’s legacy locally?

Here are some of his local achievements to contemplate...

• Jim uncovered and exposed Milton’s rich vein of history for all to understand and appreciate, setting the record straight on a number of historical matters, including how Milton got its name;



Jim at the launch of Milton Remembers World War I with Marsha Waldie and co-author John Challinor II.

• Jim led the charge to save the County of Halton Court House from the wrecking ball and encourage its development as Milton’s new Town Hall. Today, it is one of the most historically significant and beautiful municipal buildings in Ontario;

• Jim encouraged Milton Rotary Club and the Town of Milton to restore and maintain Sproat House, the historic residence largely associated with legendary Canadian hardware entrepreneur P.L. Robertson. It is now in historically sympathetic, private ownership;

• Jim encouraged the Town of Milton to dust off the bell at old Town Hall and ring in the new year to celebrate Canada’s Centennial in 1967. This has since become an annual tradition;

• Jim planned Milton’s first Canada Day fireworks, which also celebrated Canada’s Centennial, an event that continues to this day;

• Jim conceived of the idea of naming Milton streets for significant local, provincial and national figures. A stroll along Milton’s streets today is a walk through local, provincial and national history;

• Jim, assisted by Shirley, created a meticulous archive of articles about and photographs of Milton from its modest beginnings in the 1820s to the present day. A little over a year ago, that treasure trove of local history was donated to the Society and can be found in the Cooke-Dills archives upstairs at the Waldie Blacksmith Shop. It is currently in the process of being transformed into digital records by the Society for use by Miltonians for generations to come; and

• Jim was a mentor to many in this sanctuary this afternoon. He was a role model for us all. But, most of all, Jim was a

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REFLECTIONS ON JIM DILLS



Jim in 1937 aged 7.



Jim in 1944 in his band uniform.



Jim and Shirley signing their wedding registry in 1952.



Family picture from 1970.



Family picture from 2014 -- From left, son Steven, daughter Carolyn, son Paul, Shirley, Jim, daughter Catherine and son Mark.

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great son, brother, brother-in-law, husband, father, grandfather and uncle to his family. Like most men of his generation and perhaps a few since, Jim regretted not being at home as often as he would have liked because of work commitments.

He and Shirley still managed to raise a great family. And, Jim would readily give Shirley full credit for this accomplishment. Their children had great childhoods and have grown up to become high achievers and outstanding citizens who have gone on to raise great families of their own. Yes, were he with us today, Jim would tell you he is proud of his many accomplishments in business, in the community and at his beloved

St. Paul's, but he is most proud of his family.

So, what is Jim's greatest legacy and his greatest accomplishment in this community? It's his family.

In closing, Jim was a hard-working, thoughtful and modest man who was called upon often and at an early age, rose to the occasion each time and achieved much in several areas of endeavor. After all, as Jim would say, it had to be right.

His essence is appropriately captured by our community's founder, Jasper Martin and his favourite poet -- the name-sake of our community, John Milton, in his poem, *Paradise Regained*.

"That who advances his glory, not their own, then he himself to glory will advance."



Featherstone House was sympathetically de-constructed and re-built as a frame house with a stone veneer at the edge of Featherstone Park in Milton.

Mayor presents heritage plaque to current owners of Featherstone House

Featherstone House owners Brett and Sheila Winchell received their Ontario Heritage Building plaque from Milton Mayor Gord Krantz at Town Hall in mid-September, just prior to a regular meeting of Milton Council.

Their home, located at 963 Stouff Crescent, has been designated by the Town of Milton as a Heritage Building under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Known as Featherstone House, in honour of the family who owned it for more than 100 years, the one-and-a-half storey Regency cottage is a replica of the circa-1860 farmhouse built by William and Lexey Kennedy, which sat on the bank of Sixteen Mile Creek, overlooking Regional Road 25, for more than 150 years.

The design is a rare example of a five-bay stone cottage in the Regency cottage style. It displays most of the typical characteristics of mid-19th Century Regency cottages in rural Ontario, including being single storey height with a shallow hip roof above, having grey or pale yellow stone or stucco walls and having large windows.

In 2015, Featherstone House was sympathetically de-constructed and re-built as a frame house with a stone veneer at the edge of Featherstone Park, which is located within the original 100-acre Featherstone farm.



The Winchell family received their Heritage Building designation plaque from Milton Mayor Gord Krantz.

MONTHLY MEETING

Nassagaweya featured in monthly series

The former Township of Nassagaweya was the focus of the September meeting of Milton Historical Society when Nasagiweya Historical Society members Audrey Allison and Cindy Lunau guided the audience through an insightful then-and-now audio-visual presentation.

Founded in 1819 but later amalgamated with the Town of Milton in 1974, the former Township derives its name from the Mississauga First Nation word "nazhesahgewayyong," or "Nasagiweya" and meaning "river with two outlets." This refers to the fact that watercourses in the former municipality drain into Lake Ontario from the south and Lake Erie from the north, through the Grand River system.

Misses Allison and Lunau took those gathered at the historic Waldie Blacksmith Shop through the modest beginnings of the Township in 1819 to the present, showing local landmarks then-and-now like Nassagaweya Presbyterian Church, Mohawk Raceway, Nassagaweya Tennis Club, St. John's Anglican Church, Highway 401, Guelph Line, Brookville Hall, Brookville Public School and Ebenezer United Church, amongst many others.

The presenters also shared the history of the hamlets and villages that made up the former Township, such as Brookville, Campbellville, Darbyville, Eden Mills (now in Wellington County), Guelph Junction, Haltonville, Moffat and Sayers Mills.



Nasagiweya Historical Society member Cindy Lunau takes the audience through a then-and-now audio-visual presentation about the former Township of at the September meeting of Milton Historical Society.

The Society's monthly speaker series continues on Thursday October 17 with local historian John Duignan doing a show-and-tell of rare Milton artifacts and ends on Thursday November 21 with Ancestry.ca liaison Lesley Anderson sharing tips and techniques related to searching one's family history.

A BLAST FROM THE PAST

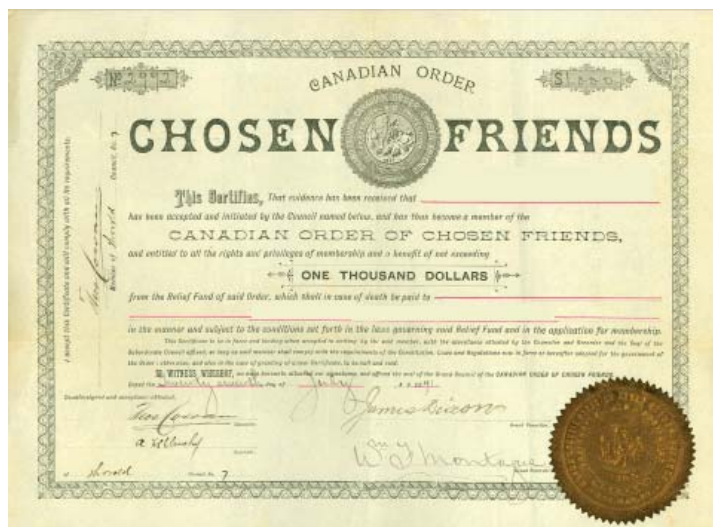
Milton's 'Canadian Order Chosen Friends'

According to Wikipedia, the order of Chosen Friends was a fraternal order that existed in North America in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

In Canada, it was originally incorporated in the Province of Ontario in 1887. The Order established a sickness department in 1890 and a child insurance department in 1917. In 1943 the Order became the Reliable Life Insurance Society and was turned into a stock owned life insurance company in 1964.

The minutes' book of the Milton group indicates that the first meeting of this Order, #218 was held on April 12, 1894. Some of the members were:

D. W. Campbell, John Head, W. I. Dick, Thomas Peacock, James Bolton, Thomas Whalen, Charles Jones, James Shepard, Wm. Alexander, Dr's McColl and Stuart to name but a few.



100 Years/100 Women, CFUW/FASM collaboration

FASM, CFUW, work together on huge mural to be displayed in November

By Nancy Cuttle

FASM's Create Team Project leader

The Canadian Federation of University Women, CFUW, is celebrating its 100th Anniversary and our Milton & District Chapter is going all out with a massive project.

The chapter approached the Fine Arts Society of Milton through Nancy Cuttle to see if FASM would be interested in collaborating on a work of art celebrating the significant contributions of the women of Milton over the past 100 years.

As part of their mandate to bring art to the community, members of FASM have created several public art projects including a mural for the Pan Am Games in the Mattamy Velodrome and 33 x 8 foot mural for the new addition at Milton District Hospital. This is FASM's first collaboration bringing together researchers and artists to creative a massive work of art.

Over the past six months CFUW researchers have worked with our MHS archivists and society members, particularly Kathy Lawday, to help find those women who made a difference in the lives of other women and in their community, women who broke barriers or women who were first in their fields or endeavours. When we reached 80 women of significance, we raised the bar and went for 100!

Together we are creating a sculpture installation of five 8 x 2 x 2 foot pillars representing the arts, advocacy, rural, education and the professions. Using layers of heavy duty cardboard construction, paint and collage techniques, each woman will have an image and up to three lines describing her contribu-



tion. With a vertical timeline, the viewer will be able to see the progress of women through the decades across all pursuits.

100 Years/ 100 Women will debut at FASM's Members Exhibition in the Holcim Galley, FirstOntario Arts Centre Milton on November 19 for a six-week run.

Milton Mall has generously given us a retail unit to build this work of art and will be the first community location to feature the installation, hopefully followed by the hospital and our public libraries. All the research on these women will be passed over to the Cooke/Dills Archives for digitization.

We hope that experiencing this beautiful installation will be a learning and inspirational process for Miltonians new and old and particularly for young women and men.

Fall garage sale nets \$1,865 in proceeds

Milton Historical Society hosted yet another successful Fall garage sale in early September, raising more than \$1,865.

Several hundred Miltonians flocked to the Society's offices at the historic Waldie Blacksmith Shop in beautiful downtown Milton to find some hidden gems. Through their purchases, Miltonians helped the Society raise the funds necessary to assist in the preservation of local historic visual and written records.

Miltonians will have another opportunity to find a few other gems as well as the best books of local history on Saturday December 7, 2019, from noon to 6 p.m. when the Society holds its annual Christmasfest Book Sale.

We would like to thank all members and non-members who donated items. Also, many thanks to those who helped with setup, take-down and those who gave their time to welcome visitors who purchased various items.



Milton Historical Society recently held another successful Fall garage sale, raising more than \$1,300 to help preserve local historical records.

Three historic homes for sale for \$1

By John Challinor II

There are three significant historic homes for sale in Milton with one minor catch -- all of them need to be moved from their current sites by their new owners to a new location.

While all three can likely be purchased for \$1 each, it will cost upwards of \$300,000 to move them and very likely in the range of \$500,000 \$600,000 to site them on a piece of property with a foundation.

6712 Highway 25: Known as Rosehill Cottage, this one-and-a-half storey, Regency cottage style, red brick home was built in 1835 by John Willmott. The Willmott family owned the home until 1972. It is in good condition and can be moved relatively easily, given its height, weight and physical size. It is currently owned by the Town of Milton.

6699 Eighth Line: This two-story Gothic Revival-style, red brick home was built in the late 1800s and extensively modified in the 1970s. It is currently owned by Enbridge Inc. It is in fair condition. Given its height, weight and location, it could be a challenging move.

6603 Eighth Line: This two-story Georgian tradition-style, red brick home was built in the late 1800s and was extensively modified in the late 1960s. It is currently owned by Enbridge Inc. It is in fair condition. Given its height, weight and location, it could be a challenging move.

Each of these buildings can be moved as is or sympathetically deconstructed and rebuilt elsewhere. The Eighth Line properties could also be sympathetically demolished. While there is no deadline associated with moving the Rosehill Cottage, the Eighth Line residences need to be moved by summer 2020.

For further information, please contact John Challinor II at by telephone at 416-918-4472 or via email at jbcicbj@gmail.com.



6712 Highway 25



6699 Eighth Line



6603 Eighth Line



Fine Arts Society of Milton member Tina Clancy (right) discusses her artwork with guests at this year's Doors Open Ontario event at the Waldie Blacksmith Shop.

Waldie Blacksmith Shop hosts Open Doors Ontario event

The Waldie Blacksmith Shop, featuring a special art exhibition, served as one of the local destinations for Doors Open Ontario on September 28th, hosting more than 60 guests.

The Shop was one of two local Doors Open sites -- the other being the Mattamy National Cycling Centre. About 35 Doors Open locales were established across Halton for this year's edition of the now 17-year-old event.

Established by the Ontario Heritage Trust in 2002, Doors Open Ontario was the first province-wide event of its kind in Canada. The City of Toronto launched the first Doors Open event in North America in 2000.

Every year, Doors Open Ontario attracts large crowds across Ontario. From April to October, residents and visitors are invited to discover first-hand Ontario's hidden heritage treasures, some of which have never been open to the public. Since the program was launched, more than 7.3 million visits have been made to heritage sites participating in this exciting initiative.

The first Doors Open Day (La Journée Portes Ouvertes) took place in France in 1984.



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*To contact MHS executive members, email
 info@miltonhistoricalsociety.ca
 or call (905) 875-4156.*

Virginia Mule (nee Restivo)

Homemaker, Merchant, Theatre Owner, Business Woman • 1930-2012

By Marsha Waldie

Virginia was born November 17, 1930 in Milton, Ontario. She was the daughter of Guiseppa Bellomo (May 3, 1907-Oct. 26, 1999) and Agostina Restivo (Aug. 5, 1889-Dec. 23, 1972). Both her parents had immigrated from Racalmuto, Sicily.

She was raised with four siblings: Charlie, Angela, Sylvia and Alfonzo. Her father sold produce door to door by horse and buggy in the early 1900s in the Acton and Milton Heights area until purchasing 164 Main Street in 1938 and opening their own store, St. Lawrence Market (St. Lawrence Grocery Store) on Main Street.

She attended Bruce Street Public School and Milton High School. Virginia and her brother Charlie worked in the family business during their youth and as young adults. The other children helped on the weekends. One youngster who was sick as a child remembered a young girl who came to school with an orange in her lunch box each day, Virginia who gave up her orange in the hope of making this young student feel better. He never forgot it!

The family recall the gatherings on Sunday when Guiseppa provided a feast of homemade pasta dishes and her husband enjoyed smoking his cheery tobacco and homemade wine.

On June 11, 1952, Virginia married Nick Mule (Feb. 7,



1925-) son of Salvatrice Agro and Peter Mule at the Holy Rosary Catholic Church, then located on Pine Street. The couple raised their two daughters: Sylvia and Josephine in Milton.

Virginia worked in the grocery store 12 hours a day, 6 days a week. She was an individual who on numerous occasions extended credit to

those customers who were having difficulties now and then.

Many Miltonians will recall Virginia and her husband operating the old Roxy Theatre at 158 Main Street. The couple worked 7 days a week from 7 a. m. to 11 p. m. with a Saturday matinee. Her daughter Josie recalls watching a Disney feature along with other children and Virginia allowing her friends anything they wanted from the concession stand. Her mom was also a mom to many of the children attending the matinees in the 1970s.

Virginia quite often put the needs of others before her own. She was generous and thoughtful but at the same time maintained her integrity as a business woman. She was an interpreter for many of the Italian citizens who moved to Milton to live.

Mrs. Mule died on June 11, 2012 and is survived by her husband and children. She was interred in Evergreen Cemetery in Milton.

MILTON **ROXY** MILTON

FRI. - Sat. APRIL 1 - 2

"EDGE OF ETERNITY" Color
with CORNEL WILDE & VICTORIA SHAW
Plus "GUNMAN FROM LAREDO" Color
with ROBERT KNAPP

MON. - TUES. - WED. APRIL 4 - 5 - 6

"ASK ANY GIRL" Color
with DAVID NIVEN & SHIRLEY MACLAINE
Plus "PROFILE OF A MIRACLE"—Short Subject

EVERY THURSDAY STARTING MARCH 31

Doors Open 7 p.m. **BINGO** Games Start 7.30

20 REGULAR GAMES

No Picture 10 GAMES — \$ 5.00 Cash Door Prizes
will be shown 10 GAMES — \$10.00

\$200.00 JACKPOT

SHARE THE WEALTH — 5 LATE NITE-OWL GAMES

Admission \$1.00 with free card Extra Cards 2 for 25c
Sharing in the Proceeds the Oddfellows and Rebekah C.P.T. Committee

An ad for the Roxy Theatre from The Canadian Champion from March 31, 1960.

Milton Historical Society MEMBERS



FEATURED MEMBER

La Rose Bakery has been serving the community since 1986

Milton residents have been feasting on the fine offerings from La Rose Bakery for more than 33 years.

Cosimo and Maggie Lizzi from Milton have owned and operated La Rose since the beginning. Their son Sal also has a leading role within the business.

Starting from a small location at White Oaks Plaza on Bronte Street opposite Lumberville, La Rose began as a local Italian bakery.

Quickly, their offerings expanded, customers increased and the bakery moved to the site of a former supermarket within the same plaza.

Although the bakery is La Rose's bread and butter, so to speak, customers can find fresh fruit and vegetables, a wide selection of European delicacies, a full delicatessen, an extensive cheese bunker and a full range of hot lunch choices.

La Rose also offers catering with a wide selection of pre-arranged choices.

The bakery has supported Milton District Hospital for all 33 years. Over the years, through barbecues and gala celebrations, the bakery has raised over \$100,000 for the hospital. The bakery continues to support various fundraising events held by the Milton District Hospital Foundation.

La Rose also supports the Townsend Smith Foundation to build a hospice facility in North Halton. Support began in 2011, with the first annual Italiafest hosted in the La Rose parking lot. La Rose holds Italiafest every June in support of the foundation, and looks forward to continuing this annual tradition to help build a hospice facility in our community. To date, \$10,000 has been raised for the foundation.

Membership Information

We'd greatly appreciate your support to keep our mandate going
for another 40 years!

We at MHS, call it History in the Making!

Corporate Memberships

Level A: \$100 yearly for businesses
with 10 employees or less

Level B: \$200 yearly for businesses
with 10 employees or more

General Memberships

Single\$25 yearly

Family\$40 yearly

StudentsFree (ages 12-18)

Corporate Members

Boston Pizza

(Member since July 9, 2018)

Casa Americo Italian Bistro & Restaurant

(Member since September 25, 2018)

Dr. Glen Hunter

(Member since January 8, 2019)

Edward Jones Investments - David Illingworth

(Member since July 17, 2018)

Fitzgerald Insurance –

a division of Spriggs Insurance Ltd

(Member since September 13, 2018)

Given Road West Communications

(Member since January 7, 2019)

Halton Region Heritage Services

(Member since March 21, 2019)

Hibbert Foot Clinic – Foot Care Specialists

(Member since January 3, 2019)

Historic Lumber

(Member since October 13 2018)

Hudson Restoration

(Member since May 27, 2019)

J. Scott Early Funeral Home

(Member since January 2, 2017)

La Rose Bakery

(Member since July 18, 2018)

La Toscana Ristorante

(Member since June 14 2019)

Pressé Law – Barristers & Solicitors

(Member since Aug. 28, 2018)

Roto-Static Milton

(Member since January 3, 2019)

Sedgwick Marshall Heritage Homes Ltd

(Member since October 16, 2018)

Strutt Armstrong

Chartered Professional Accountants

(Member since July 18, 2018)

The Linklater Group

(Member since September 25 2018)

The Vacuum Store

(Member since July 24, 2018)

TLC Mortgage Group

(Member since October, 2019)

Watada Medicine Professional

(Member since November 15, 2018)

**Special thanks to our valued
Corporate Members. Please kindly
support their businesses.**



THE MILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Preserving Milton's History for Future Generations

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name:	_____
Address:	_____ _____
Phone:	_____
Email (please print)	_____

MEMBERSHIP DUES (Check categories that apply)

____ New Member or ____ Renewal
____ Single \$25 ____ Family \$40 ____ Youth (free)
____ Corporate (10 or less employees) \$100
____ Corporate (11 or more employees) \$200
____ Yes, as a new member I wish to receive the Journal and other e-communications.

VOLUNTEERS HELP US FORGE OUR FUTURE

We know all members have certain unique talents, skills and abilities.
We ask you to share these, as our society relies on your active support and involvement.

These are just a few of the areas you can help the society with:

__ Office Support/Communications	__ Artistic Opportunities
__ Social Events	__ Building Stewardship
__ Finance Opportunities	__ Museum Greeters
__ Education Opportunities	__ Archives Cataloguing & Care

(Please check those that interest you as listed on the back of this form)

DONATIONS

I wish to make a separate donation to MHS in the sum of _____

Donations and payments can be made on line through **PayPal** from our website.

(A tax receipt will be issued for all donations totaling \$25.00 or more)

Note: The Milton Historical Society has set up a foundation
under the "Community Foundation of Halton North" (CFHN).
You can also donate through this foundation towards the Milton Historical Society.
Please contact our Society for further information.

The Milton Historical Society is a registered charity # 110041358RR0001

Please make cheques payable to Milton Historical Society Mail completed form/remittance to: The Milton Historical Society 16 James St., Milton, ON L9T 2P4

HELP SUSTAIN MILTON'S RICH HISTORY FOR GENERATIONS TO COME!

The Milton Historical Society was founded in 1977 to encourage appreciation of, and promote knowledge of, the historical and cultural heritage of the Town of Milton. To that end, the Society organizes popular community activities throughout the year and undertakes numerous projects including:

- The restoration and operation of the Waldie Blacksmith Shop
- The publication of books on the history of Milton
- The operation of the Cooke / Dills Archives
- Research and plaquing of Milton's historic properties
- Walking Tours of historic Milton neighbourhoods

To help fund these worthwhile projects, the Milton Historical Society is actively seeking to engage members of Milton's business community as sponsorship partners through our Corporate Membership Program. As a Corporate Member, you will not only help to support a vital and high profile local cultural organization, but you will also receive recognition and benefits including:

- Name mention in The Journal (the Society's quarterly newsletter)
- Name mention in the monthly e-Newsletter (Launching this Fall)
- Name mention on the MHS Website
- Name mention on Social Media Channels
- Name mention in Media Press Releases
- Name mention at the Speaker Forum Presentations
- Name mention at the Student Educational Class Presentations
- Name mention at the Monthly Meeting Series
- 10% off Guided Walking Tours
- 10% off all MHS Publications
- MHS Member-Level access to the Cooke/Dills Archives
- 10% off Carriage Room rental
- 10% off Blacksmith Classes (Waldie Blacksmith Shop)
- One free employee activity evening at Waldie's Blacksmith Shop
- Company presentation by the MHS President



Note: Visit our website for more details and how to take advantage of these special offers.

Becoming a Corporate Partner costs only \$100 for businesses with 10 employees or less, or \$200 for those with more than 10 employees. By the way, Single memberships are \$25 and \$40 for Family. These memberships are a great way to get your employees involved. We are always looking for Volunteer Support at our numerous events around town.

Note: These prices are for a year and renewed on their anniversary date.

Also see us around town at various events • Display at the Milton Downtown Classic Car Show • Display at the Milton Downtown Farmers Market • Float in the Milton Santa Claus Parade • Pot Luck Dinners for MHS Members • Festivities surrounding MHS Heritage Week • MHS Garage Sales (please visit our website for more details).

As a registered charity, the Milton Historical Society will be happy to issue a tax receipt for your contribution (Our registered charity # 110041358RR0001).

Please make cheques payable to Milton Historical Society. Mail completed form/remittance to: The Milton Historical Society 16 James Street, Milton, Ontario L9T 2P4

On behalf of the MHS Board, we very much appreciate your support and working together to advance our historic mission!

Brad Collis – Community Marketing Lead



LET'S MAKE HISTORY TOGETHER WITH A CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP



We'd greatly appreciate your support to help us make history for another 40 years!

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

GREAT VALUE!

Level A: \$100 yearly

for businesses with 10 employees of less

Level B: \$200 yearly

for businesses with 10 employees or more

Plus we have General Memberships available:

Single: \$25 yearly ~ Family: \$40 yearly

Students: Free (aged 12-18)

MHS will be happy to issue a tax receipt for your contribution
(Registered charity # 110041358RR0001)

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Name mentions in the quarterly Journal newsletter
One feature write-up in the quarterly Journal newsletter
Name mentions in the eNews bulletin
Receive copies of the Journal and eNews bulletin
Name mentions on website
Name mentions on social media channels
Name mentions in media press releases
Name mentions in email signatures
Name mentions at Speaker Bureau presentations
Name mentions at Student Educational presentations
Name mentions at Monthly Meeting Series
10% off Guided Walking Tours
10% off Blacksmith Courses
10% off History-Themed Programs
10% off MHS publications
10% off Carriage Room rentals
10% off MHS gift certificates
Free attendance at Pot Luck Dinners
Free attendance at Sessions on local history
Free attendance at Monthly Meeting Series
Free use of MHS Speaker's Bureau presenters
Free company employee activity evening at Waldie Blacksmith Shop
Free local history presentation by MHS Speaker's Bureau presenters
Member-level access to the Cooke/Dills Archives

MANY PRIVILEGES

VISIT TODAY! miltonhistoricalsociety.ca

Contact: Brad Collis, Community Marketing Lead
marcommguy@bell.net

THE MHS STORY 40 Years in the Making

PRESERVATION: Generating awareness about, helping to preserve our historical culture, infrastructure and memories in Milton and "keeping the history alive" for generations to come

MEMBERSHIPS: Appreciating our loyal corporate and general members and attracting new members

EVENTS: Informative, fun and engaging garage sales, guided walking tours, member Pot Luck dinners, Christmas Sale, Farmers Market, Heritage Week, Downtown Milton Classic Car Show, and Downtown Milton Street Festival

PROGRAMS: Educational and insightful Blacksmith courses, MHS free tours, history-themed programs, Carriage Room rentals, monthly Speakers' Series meetings, Cooke/Dills Archives use, gift certificates, research requests, historical MHS Round Table sessions & photo archives

RECOGNITION: Celebrating and saluting our rich "cultural heritage" with House & Building Plaques, Town Displays, Yearly MHS Milestones & Milton Walk of Fame

EDUCATION: Publications library, MHS Speakers Bureau presentations, student educational talks & "Take Me Back Milton" stories

COMMUNICATIONS: Telling and communicating our story through our Journal newsletter, eNews bulletin, website, website landing pages, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, public relations, brochures, displays, MHS signage, banners, newspaper ads, directory ads, publication ads, sell sheets, videos, seasonal eCards & MHS-branded mugs

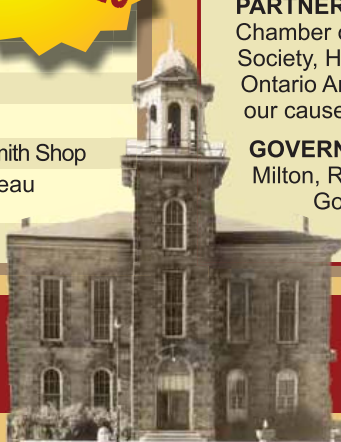
MHS AMBASSADORS: Recognizing and thanking our tireless volunteer network of MHS Board members, high school students, current members & non-members goodwill

FUNDING: Donations in-kind, Blacksmith courses, garage sales, guided walking tours, various grants, gift certificates, corporate memberships, general memberships, history-themed programs, publication sales, Cooke/Dills Archives use rentals, special groups, Carriage Room rentals, research requests & MHS-branded mugs

MHS BOARD: Developing and implementing the Vision, Goals & Initiatives of MHS, essentially leading our "Reason for Being"

PARTNERSHIPS: Working with Downtown Milton BIA, Chamber of Commerce, Heritage Milton, Ontario Historical Society, Halton Region Historical Societies, and the Ontario Artist Blacksmith Association to further advance our cause

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS: Collaborating with Town of Milton, Region of Halton, Government of Ontario and Government of Canada through education, appreciation & influencer relations



MILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

16 James Street, Milton, Ontario L9T 2P2
905.875.4156 or info@miltonhistoricalsociety.ca



LET'S MAKE HISTORY TOGETHER WITH A GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

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Free attendance at Monthly Meeting Series

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Contact: Susan Platt, Community Membership Lead
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