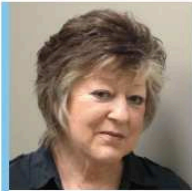
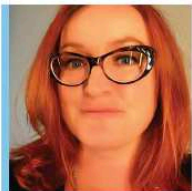


THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE BREEZES



BRENDA DUKE

So everyone wants to know "what does a coordinator do?" Well, we coordinate I guess. Basically, bring it all together: build the team that builds The Breezes, the volunteers, sell ads, invoice, collect payments, answer emails, research and write grants, follow up on articles, proof read and look for new ideas so we can include everything you want to see. We start the next issue immediately after the last issue goes to print so there really isn't a down time. My "work week" is 15 hours but I swear I do that or it seems like it, in a day or two. I'm not complaining believe me. I love what I do but I couldn't do it without the people we are featuring here and others. These are some of the key people who volunteer their time and expertise to the finished product. If you look at the number of volunteers and what they contribute, there is a small organization working upwards of 20 hours each issue. If we put a dollar figure on that, and we don't because they give freely of their time, even calculated at the ridiculous dollar amount of \$15 per hour (deemed to be living wage) we have a small "company". Then, we have expenses that can't be volunteered like printing and postage. It costs money and that is why you see us ask for donations to keep us going. We are in our 48th year; almost unheard of in the publishing world and definitely in the world of community newspapers. We're moving forward, getting better all the time. Let's keep it going and keep bringing news of the community to the community. Thanks to everyone who makes it possible.



CANDY VENNING

My name is Candy Venning; I have a local landscape/design business called Venni Gardens. I've been a landscape designer for 20 years, I volunteer in various public gardens, plus I teach with Sheridan college and Mohawk.

Each issue I contribute a garden article to help inform, guide and share my experience with neighbours. Most articles accumulate from notes over multiple days and a writing session of between 6-10 hours. Topics are seasonal as well as lighthearted and heavy on encouraging everyone to plant pollinator friendly yards. I really enjoy sharing the new & old landscape and garden experiences I've been so fortunate to accumulate.



MICHELLE FERRARA

I am proud to be a volunteer writer for the Breezes, and have been contributing about 3 years. My professional background: a very long career in dental nursing and sales, about 10 years ago I became a Community Services Chaplain and Grief Companion. In my 50's I completed Geriatrics at McMaster-I wanted to devote my time to the elderly-they are the only naturally occurring resource in the world!

As Director of Community Relations at a local Retirement Residence attached to a Long Term Care Home-both with significant expansion plans-my work revolves around Community Outreach and working with families needing services for elder relatives.

A long-time advocate for the elderly, I write a blog on facebook: elderadvocacy-hamilton. Many of my articles for Breezes come from the blog which I created to provide information pertaining to the elderly-Hamilton is a City of Seniors! It takes me 2-3 hours to write an article depending on the amount of research-sometimes extensive-I am a voracious reader and tenacious researcher. Working with Seniors, and as an adult-child on the 'Alzheimer Journey' with 2 parents, I see many issues affecting our community: healthcare, government, research, housing, programs, accessible information, preparedness for health decline and end of life issues...add in compassion and caring and caregivers. I try to provide information, hope and encouragement to people. **I am grateful to be a voice for our Community's elders.**



KIT DARLING

My name is Kit Darling. In 2009 I retired from the Hamilton Public Library System after close to 40 years of working in various roles from Story time to Information Technology. I planned to potter in my garden, enjoy my

North End Neighbourhood and catching up on my reading. The latter led me to the Bay Area Book Club. Several years ago, I started contributing the monthly Book Club column. Easy enough I said. Then I met Brenda and now I seem to be doing much more. I compile the Events List, with a main focus on events that are free or nearly so, family friendly and in our neighbourhood or within walking distance or a short bus ride. I also research and write articles as required, for example around the municipal elections. And finally, I try to help Brenda as much as possible with organizing meetings with the Editorial Team, planning themes and helping to ensure content for each month.

With the Book Club Column, Events List, addition columns and communication/logistics, the time spent working on The Breezes adds up to 12.5-18 hours per month.

THE FOLDING TEAM

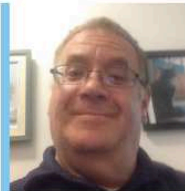


The Breezes relies on many volunteers. See more People Behind the Breezes profiles on page 12.



KATIE FITZGERALD

My name is Katie Fitzgerald. I am an administrator at McMaster University and love cooking, organizing, travelling and beer sampling in my spare time. I joined the Breezes team in May 2017 to help with the technical side of the paper. I am responsible for the design and layout of the paper and making sure the final product is ready for print. The best part of my contribution is seeing everyone's submissions come together! Depending on the month, my time spent working on the Breezes is usually between 10-16 hours hands-on time each month.

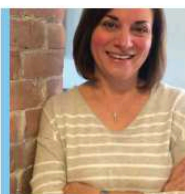


BRIAN ROULSTON

Brainstorming up ideas is the hardest part for me. However, once I get an idea I do research and it can take an hour or 3 or 4 days. It's 50-50 chance a trip to the library is in order.

Many times I start out doing an article and something better pops up and go with that. I will then take that info and try get the main points and shorten it down. Then start putting it together which again can take a couple hours, a day or longer. Then when the story seems to take on a life of it's own I have a rough draft. Then I'll put it together move paragraphs around, tweak it and proof it.

My biggest thing is to try not to overdo the tweaking or writing. What can I say, I'm a stickler in trying to get the wording just right.



ROSE DIVECHA

Rose Divecha writes a column for the NEB (previously titled North End Newcomer) which highlights and draws from her personal experiences, in an upbeat and often humorous way, various events, people and everyday occurrences that are distinct to our community. Some of her stories include Cannabis awareness, RHYC milestone, CityKidz Christmas and interactions with neighbours.

Rose works for the Art Gallery of Hamilton and in her spare time also writes a blog, www.mypeleelife.wordpress.com, which is linked to the Discover Pelee website (another place she is passionate about).

"Writing is a creative process for me. My 400 +/- word column can take me a few hours (6 - 10) or a few days...staring at the screen waiting for inspiration to hit..."