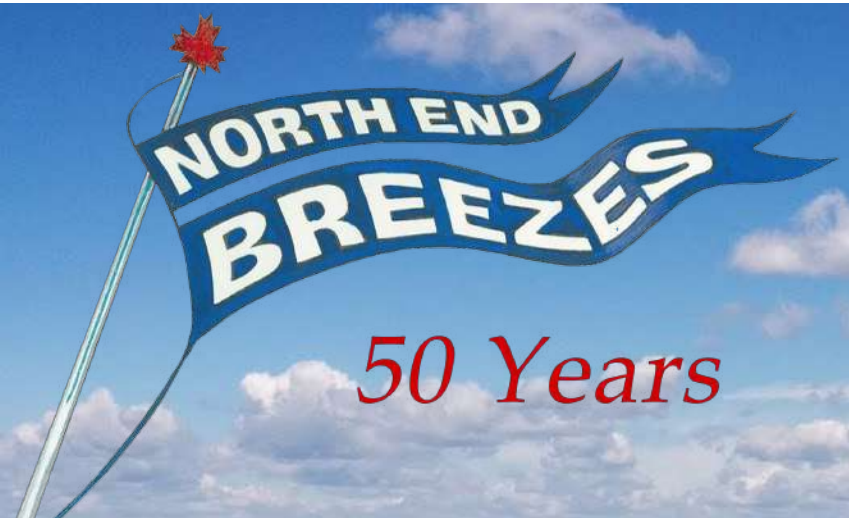




Everyone Needs A Library Card.

It's Free.



hpl.ca/librarycard



JUNE 2025 | VOLUME 5 | OFFICE@NORTHENDBREEZES.COM | WWW.NORTHENDBREEZES.COM | FOLLOW THE NORTH END BREEZES ON SOCIAL @NORTHENDBREEZES



RHYC SAILPAST

SUBMITTED BY ROYAL
HAMILTON YACHT CLUB

Sails blooming on the bay are a classic sign of springtime in Hamilton's North End. On one special day each year, the Royal Hamilton Yacht Club holds its traditional event called Sailpast.

This picturesque parade of boats, celebrating the start of sailing season, is set for Saturday, June 7. It's one way that our members maintain the historic bond between Hamilton and its harbour. More

than 150 years ago our busy waterfront bristled with boat liveries that rented out pleasure craft for the day. One talented young man, Æmilius Jarvis, went from bailing boats in return for borrowing them for races, to becoming one of Canada's most successful sailors. This inspired a group of citizens to form the Hamilton Yacht Club in 1888. (Royal designation, now enjoyed by just nine other Canadian sailing clubs, soon followed.) One of RHYC's great achievements is having trained 10 Olym-

pic sailors. They include Will Jones, who competed in both the 2024 Paris Games and in Tokyo, with fellow club member Evan DePaul, in 2020. Canada's very first Olympic sailor, Norm Robertson, trained at the club and raced at the 1924 Games. He was inducted into the Hamilton Sports Hall of Fame last year. You don't need a boat to sail at RHYC, which has its own sailing school offering classes for every age group, and an adopt-a-boat program. The nationally recog-

nized Able Sail program for disabled sailors is a vibrant aspect of club life. RHYC serves powerboaters as well, and social members who enjoy the wide range of activities the club offers, plus its pool and dining room. Inclusiveness is at the heart of RHYC's mission and its future. The club continues to foster a strong sense of community and to open up opportunities for Hamiltonians to develop skills and friendships in a beautiful, and historic, waterfront setting.

SAVOURING SUMMER:

A WALKABOUT THROUGH JAMES STREET NORTH'S PATIOS AND COURTYARDS

SUBMITTED BY KEN HIRTER



This month's walkabout comes as the summer season approaches, with the Summer Solstice arriving on Friday, June 20th, 2025.

I've been getting an early taste of summer by strolling through some of the beautiful, vibrant, and welcoming outdoor courtyards, decks, and patios in the neighborhood.

James Street North is home to a host of charming bistros, cafes, coffeehouses, and restaurants. As you meander through the tree-lined streets, colorful alleys, and vibrant corridors, take time to stop and enjoy these local gems.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

ABOUT THIS MONTH: MAY EVENTS

SUBMITTED BY CHRISSY
CHRZAN & SHERI SELWAY

June is a jamboree of events. It's a mosaic of heritage, pride and remembrance, including National Indigenous History Month, Italian Heritage Month, Filipino Heritage Month, Portuguese Heritage Month, and Pride Month.

Pride Month is celebrated in June each year in remembrance of the Stonewall Riots which began in June 1969 after police raided the Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Village, New York City. The next year, the first Gay Pride parades took place in several cities in the United States. In Canada, the first Pride demonstrations took place in 1971 in Vancouver and Ottawa and is now celebrated in many cities.

- June 21 is National Indigenous Peoples Day

- June 23 is National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Terrorism
- June 24 is Sainte-Jean-Baptiste Day
- June 27 is Canada Multiculturalism Day

The United Nations also commemorates many Special Days in June. To name a few – June 1 is the Global Day of Parents, June 3 World Bicycle Day, June 5 World Environment Day, June 15 is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, June 21 is International Day of Yoga, and June 30 is World Asteroid Day!

There are many Health Promotion and Awareness Days in June as well. This is the month to learn more about ALS, Brain Injury, Men's Health, Cataracts, CMV, and Migraines. It is also Parks and Recreation Month. June 4 is National Health and Fitness Day, and many other days are recognized in June. For more information go to [Calendar of health promotion days – Canada.ca](http://Calendarofhealthpromotiondays-Canada.ca)

Historic Moments in June:

- June 6, 1872 – Susan B. Anthony was fined for voting in a U.S. presidential election.
- June 12, 1898 – The Philippines declared independence from Spain.
- June 26, 1945 – The United Nations Charter was signed by 50 nations, including Canada.
- June 1, 1919 – “Bloody Saturday” during the Winnipeg General Strike.
- June 20, 1945 – The first “baby bonus” cheques were issued.
- June 27, 1980 – “O Canada” was officially adopted as the national anthem.
- June 30, 1948 – The Income Tax Act was enacted, taking effect in 1949.
- June 1875 – Alexander Graham Bell’s first telephone demonstration in Boston.
- 1881 – The first public phone line in Canada was installed right here in Hamilton!

THE STORIES IN THE STONES - HAMILTON CEMETARY *FREE* PUBLIC TOURS

SUBMITTED BY ROBIN MCKEE

Join us for a lively, informative tour of selected grave sites in historic Hamilton Cemetery.

Each tour will introduce you to some of Hamilton's interesting personalities and our rich history.

No reservations necessary. Rain or
Shine. Schedule subject to change.

Schedule:

- April 26 (Best of Tour)(Tours Launch)
- May 10 (Women's Tour)
- May 24 (Civil War Tour)
- June 14 (Art Crawl Tour)
- June 21 (Power of the City Tour)
- June 28 (War of 1812 Tour)

- July 5 (Civil War Tour)
- July 12 (Art Crawl Tour)
- July 19 (Masonic Tour)
- July 26 (Hamilton 1st Tour)
- August 9 (Art Crawl Tour)
- August 16 (War of 1812 Tour)
- August 23 (Firefighters Tour)
- September 6 (Women's Tour)
- September 13 (Art Crawl Tour)
- September 20 (Disasters Tour)
- September 27 (Hamilton 1st Tour)
- October 4 (Masonic Tour)
- October 18 (Past Mayors Tour)
- October 25 (War of 1812 Tour)
- November 1 (Civil War Tour)
- November 8 (Veterans Tour-Event)

Details:

Location: 777 York Boulevard,
Hamilton, Ont.

Time: 11 AM (Saturdays, unless noted)

Where: Gatehouse (across from Dundurn)

Duration: 2 hours approx. (Bring necessary food, drink, & clothing needs)

Hosted by: Robin McKee, Historical Perceptions

For more details contact: www.hamiltonhistory.ca robinmckee3@gmail.com Tel: 289-682-6452

Sponsored by: The Head Of The
Lake Historical Society

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

SUBMITTED BY BRENDA DUKE

The North End Breezes continues to be a well-loved addition to the history and the future of the North End. Both our print and electronic issues have a growing audience. As a publication, we try to find the articles you look forward to and issues you need to be aware of. Do we always get it right? No; not without your help.

The next time you are reminiscing with your friends or family about “the good old days”, consider telling us. When you disagree or agree with a new project or proposal, consider sending us your opinion. Many of you may know how popular the “Op Ed” section of some newspapers are. They open dialogue, start conversations and sometimes, they even change the direction of the topic.

Yes, we need your ideas; but we also need your help. Our publication team has one person to do interviews and write the stories. If you can help out, please let us know. Ideas only work if there is a way to make them happen.

Our fundraising efforts continue
so please remember

How you can can help:

- If you have an invoice, please pay it promptly within 15 days.
- If you belong to a not for

profit organization, consider becoming a Community Partner.

- If you operate a business, consider advertising with us at reasonable rates.
- If you can donate any amount please do. It costs just under \$5 for each resident to receive their paper. You can donate by check, e-transfer or credit card. Please see details on our web site or give me a call.
- If you're proud to be a North End, consider purchasing a t-shirt, hoodie or any of our branded merchandise through our on-line store or in person.
- Let's continue a long standing tradition and do what North Enders do best, come together as a community to support each other.

As always, reach out to me by email or by phone at 289-933-4810 if you have any questions. Thank you.

office@northendbreezes.com

Or contact us at:

articles@northendbreezes.com
to submit an article

ads.northendbreezes@gmail.
com to talk advertising

Visit our website for all the news on line:

www.northendbreezes.com

**HAMILTON'S BUSIEST
MORTGAGE GUY!**

APPROVED

Call **Steve**
HENCZE

Mortgage Agent level 1
Lic# M09002425

905-818-8947

Mortgage Financial Corp.
Lic. # 10421



Looking for a welcoming, down-to-earth church in the North End?

James North is a church where everyone is valued, no matter their background, education, or income.

We love being part of this diverse and vibrant neighbourhood! James North has been in the North End since 1887.

It is our desire to offer a place of hope and connection for individuals and families navigating life's challenges.

We are more than just a church service on Sundays. Check out our website to see the various ministries and programs we regularly offer.



Sunday Morning Service
10:00 – 11:30AM
with Children's Ministry for
kids from birth to Grade 5

500 James St. North
905.527.3972
office@jamesnorth.church



<http://jamesnorth.church>



St. Lawrence the Martyr Parish

125 Picton Street E., Hamilton, Ontario L8L 0C5
905-529-3921

stlawrencehamilton@hamiltondiocese.com

www.stlawrencehamilton.ca

Office Hours: Tues-Fri 9am-4pm

In case of after hours emergency please call
365-888-1275

Pastor: Rev. Peter Jurzyk
Sunday Mass 11:00 a.m.

Weekday Mass Schedule:

~No Mass Monday~

Tuesday and Thursday 7:00 p.m. Mass

Wednesday and Friday 12:00 noon Mass

Confessions before Mass on Tuesday,
Thursday and Saturday.

Adoration before Mass on Thursday.

*Please check our website for
weekly updates and changes*

Sacraments of Marriage or Baptism:
Please contact the parish office to make an
appointment to meet with Father Peter.

Upcoming Events and News

In May we celebrated the first Communion and Confirmation with students of St. Lawrence, and other students who live in the area - what a joy it was to celebrate with these young people and their families! Many thanks to Bishop Crosby who was able to celebrate Confirmation with us this year! We also were able to welcome young people from Our Lady of All Souls for our confirmation celebration - what a full church!

Habimus Papam! We have a pope. We watched eagerly with Catholics around the Globe on May 8th to see if the conclave would elect a new pope. After only a very few votes, white smoke came out of the chimney and soon we were introduced to Pope Leo! the first Pope from the United States. We pray that God will bless his ministry.

Looking forward we have some dates to note:

July 12 our men's club is planning a Pasta dinner - more details to come....

On our annual Feast of St. Lawrence is on August 10.

**Hall Rentals are available! Call the office or
visit stlawrencehamilton.ca/hall-rentals for more information**



Welcome Inn
Community Centre

We're looking for
Volunteers
who are
interested in
helping out in
our food bank

**We are especially in
need of help unloading
our food truck from:**

**9:45am - 11:00am
on Mondays,
Wednesdays,
Thursdays and Fridays**

**For more information about
volunteering in our food
bank, contact:**

ruth@welcomeinn.ca

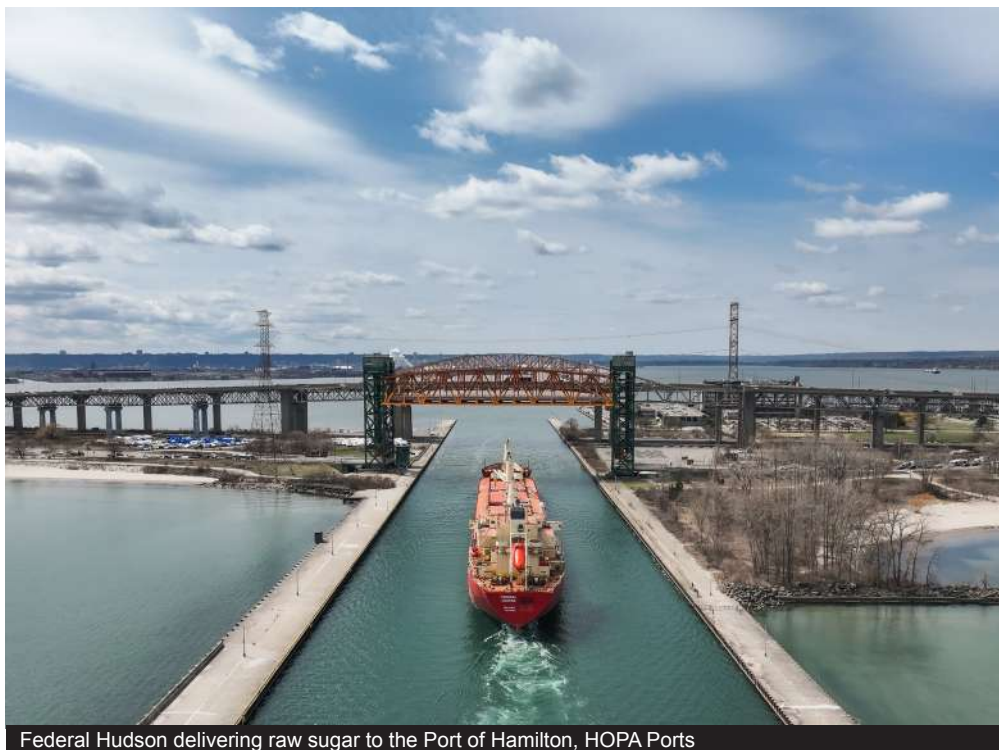
welcomeinn.ca/donate





HAMILTON
OSHAWA
PORT
AUTHORITY

THE BOOMING AGRI-FOOD SECTOR IN HAMILTON



Federal Hudson delivering raw sugar to the Port of Hamilton, HOPA Ports

Hamilton has become a hot spot for the agri-food sector, bringing in businesses and investments that are boosting the local economy. The Port of Hamilton is at the heart of this growth, with 600 vessels arriving in 2024 and nearly 11 million metric tons (MT) of cargo handled. More than 15 companies are involved in the port's activities, managing everything from grain and fertilizer to food oils, beer, and warehousing.

HOPA Ports recently welcomed the first vessel importing raw sugar for Sucro Can's refinery. Close to 150,000 MT of sugar will come through the port this year, supporting Canada's thriving food and beverage industry.

In the last decade, HOPA Ports has diversified its cargo, with agriculture now making up 40% of its commercial value. This shift shows the impact of strategic investments aimed at supporting key industries and strengthening Ontario's supply chains.

"Through strategic, long-term investments, we continue to support key industries and strengthen Ontario's supply chains," said Ian Hamilton, President and CEO at HOPA.

Hamilton now hosts a growing cluster of agri-food businesses, with over a dozen companies at the port and more than 120 food ingredient businesses across the region. The city's infrastructure and port services are crucial for these companies to thrive, allowing them to efficiently manage and expand their operations.

Hamilton's agri-food sector is booming. The city's support for this industry is clear, with ongoing investments and developments at the port. As Hamilton grows as an agri-food hub, it's playing a vital role in Canada's food production and logistics, ensuring a bright future for local businesses and residents.

Learn more: www.hopaports.ca/ontag

HAMILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY UPDATE

All HPL Branches are closed on Tuesday, July 1st, Canada Day. Bookmobile is off the road. Extended Access and Study Halls are not available. Regular service hours resume on Wednesday, July 2.

Summer Reading Club 2025 - Launch Parties Take HPL around the world in your reading adventures this summer! Join the Summer Reading Club, running from June 28 to September 2. Complete fun activities, and earn stickers and great prizes.

Celebrate with free family-friendly kickoff events on Saturday, June 28. Pick up an SRC Boarding Pass and register in person or online to get started. Visit www.hpl.ca/src-launch for a listing of summer programs, including cute animals and exciting performers!

Save the Date: Steeltown Love at Central Library On Saturday, July 12, 11am-4pm, join other romance book enthusiasts at Central Library for a day of swoon-worthy events including author talks, book signings, workshops, a vendor market, and more. Visit www.hpl.ca/steel-town-love for the full day line-up.

New! Bookmobile Visits Promise Summer Fun at Hamilton's Waterfront HPL's Bookmobile will visit Hamilton's waterfront (77 Harbour-side Way), every Saturday throughout the summer. HPL Staff will lead games, activities, programs, and recommend library materials every Saturday from 1pm to 3:30pm. See you there! Visit www.hpl.ca/bookmobile for a list of Bookmobile sites across Hamilton.

Hamilton Reads 2025 Have you heard? Local author, Pasha Malla's newest novel, *All You Can Kill*, is this year's Hamilton Reads title choice. Borrow the book and then participate in branch programming throughout the year. More details at www.hpl.ca/hamilton-reads

Hamilton Civic Museums and Your HPL Library Card Explore Dundurn Castle, Whitehern Historic House and Garden, and other Hamilton Civic Museums FREE with your Hamilton Public Library card. Each person over the age of five must have a physical or digital Hamilton Public Library card to gain free entry. Learn more at www.hpl.ca/museum to plan your next visit.

Explore Outdoors with Conservation Passes from HPL Get outdoors this summer and start exploring with Hamilton Conservation Authority, Grand River Conservation Authority, and Niagara Peninsula NaturePlus passes. Borrow one or all with your HPL library card.

Linkedin Learning and BrainFuse for Students and Job Seekers From online studying and tutoring services to job search resources and tools, visit Brainfuse and Linkedin Learning free with your HPL library card).

Online Resources at HPL Read. Watch. Listen. Learn. From magazines to movies to music, access a variety of online resources for your entertainment on a budget (free with your HPL library card).

Our virtual branch at hpl.ca is always open. Questions? Call 289.779.7588, email askus@hpl.ca, or chat with Staff at hpl.ca.

Discover the endless benefits that come with an HPL library card. Borrow more, free passes and entry to local museums, free PRESTO cards for kids, create in Makerspaces, and more.





BENNETTO COMMUNITY CENTRE
450 Hughson Street North | 905-546-4944 | www.hamilton.ca

Drop Into Bennetto Community Centre this Spring!

GYM SCHEDULE - SPRING 2025 - April 7, 2025 - June 29, 2025						
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Cardio, Balance & Strength (55+) 10:00am - 11:00am *\$3.05 per visit	Open Gym (Parent & Tot) 10:30am - 12:00pm	**School Gym - FREE (Bennetto School students only) 1:15-1:45pm	Open Gym (Parent & Tot) 10:30am - 12:00pm	Cardio, Balance & Strength (55+) 10:00am - 11:00am *\$3.05 per visit	Open Gym - FREE (Family) 12:00pm - 1:30pm	Closed
Open Gym (Family) 5:00pm - 6:30pm		Basketball (18+) 7:30pm-9:00pm	Pickleball (18+) 12:30pm - 2:30pm	**School Gym - FREE (Bennetto School students only) 1:15-1:45pm	Pickleball (18+) 1:45pm - 3:45pm	
Volleyball (18+) 6:45pm - 8:45pm			Open Gym (9-12 years) 5:00pm - 6:30pm	Open Gym (13-17 years) 5:15pm - 6:45pm		
			Pickleball (18+) 6:45pm - 8:45pm	Volleyball (18+) 7:00pm - 8:30pm		

*Price is subject to change
**Only operates when school is in session

SWIMMING SCHEDULE - SPRING 2025 - April 7, 2025 - June 29, 2025							
PROGRAM	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Open Swim 18+	10:00-11:15am	10:30-11:30am	10:30-11:30am	10:30-11:30am	10:00-11:15am	1:30-2:30pm	Closed
Water Fit	11:15-12:00pm		9:45-10:30am				
Open Swim	7:15-8:45pm	7:15-8:45pm		7:15-8:45pm	6:45-8:15 pm FREE	2:30-3:30pm	
Open Swim (Family)	5:00 – 6:00pm	9:30-10:30am		9:30-10:30am	5:00 – 6:30pm		
Length Swim Swims marked with a * 2 lanes only	12:15-1:30pm 7:15-8:45pm*	9:30-11:30am* 11:45am-1:00pm 7:15-8:45pm*	11:45 am-1:00pm 8:30-9:30 pm	9:30-11:30am* 11:45am-1:00 pm 7:15-8:45 pm*	12:15-1:30 pm	12:15-1:15pm	
Open Swim 55+					11:15-12:00 pm FREE		

Please see our up-to-date drop in programs using the QR code below:



NORTH END BREEZES TEAM

The Breezes is published on the first day of the month and delivered to 4,200 homes and businesses in print and reaches across the City on-line. Contact us at 289- 933-4810, by email at office@northendbreezes.com, on our website: www.northendbreezes.com or social@northendbreezes.com.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Maureen Scally, Interim Treasurer
- Chris Pearson, Community Connector
- Mark Mackesy, Board of Governance Officer
- Mariko Bown-Kai, Secretary
- Julie Maue

PUBLICATION TEAM

- Brenda Duke, Editor
- Kit Darling, Editorial Assistant
- Katie Fitzgerald, Layout and Design
- Marie Mushing, Website Design
- Cat McKay, Marketing & Socials

Circulation & Distribution: The Board, Sheri Selway, Chrissy Chrzan and Maureen Snowball along with a dedicated team of volunteers.

When submitting an article for the Breezes we also like to share the content on our social channels. Please include as many pictures as possible and a couple lines of copy we can use for Facebook, Instagram and Twitter posts. The articles written represent the opinions of the individual and must meet the Mission and Vision of The Breezes and the Board of Directors as set out.

Articles may be edited for length, tone, clarity and are subject to publication based on available space.

Deadline for submission is the 15th of the month prior to publication. We appreciate an early notice by the 10th of the month if you want to reserve ad space and early submission gives us time to edit your articles. Pictures and logos are accepted and will be included as space allows.

NORTH END BREEZES MISSION

The North End Breezes is a not-for-profit team of volunteers who produce a monthly newspaper and online publications to promote connectivity, share community news and encourage mutual support by engaging our North End neighbourhood community.

NORTH END BREEZES VISION

The North End Breezes is a vital resource in the North End that promotes harmony, pride and collective community action in a diverse and ever-changing neighbourhood. For over 50 years we’ve been a resource for the community and rely on our volunteers to keep the information flowing for years to come.

Help us grow your Breezes. Please email your thoughts to office@northendbreezes.com or call 289- 933-4810.

Facebook - facebook.com/northendbreezes
Instagram - instagram.com/northendbreezes
Twitter - twitter.com/northendbreezes
Website: www.northendbreezes.com

Take our quick survey here:

We'd Love Your Feedback

HELP US PLAN THIS YEAR'S NORTH END EVENTS!

OUR ONLINE SHOP IS NOW OPEN!

Shop and support North End Breezes with every purchase! Your support helps keep our community connected.

ORDER NOW

WWW.NORTHENDBREEZES.COM/SHOP

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

SUBMITTED BY NANCY HINDMARSH

On Mother's day weekend Sunset Cultural Garden and the North End Breezes hosted a Plant and Rain Barrel sale.

There were over 175 plants for sale! There were rain barrels on site for sale and ready to order! If you missed getting a rain barrel, the sale is open until the end of June.

We had five different species of one hundred tomato plants, 30 canna lilies, perennials, annuals, succulents, indoor plants and much more. The sale was well attended and an opportunity for socializing and sharing knowledge. There were also North End Breezes t-shirts for sale and complimentary postcards, pens and Granddad's donuts. A great success all in all!



A collage of images including a patio with umbrellas, a blue Bookmobile bus, and a yellow crane.

SUMMER AT THE WATERFRONT

SATURDAYS 1PM-3:30PM 77 Harbourside Way, Discovery Centre

hpl.ca/bookmobile

Visit HPL's Bookmobile every Saturday for games, activities, library materials, and more.

Hamilton Public Library

NORTH END FAMILIES DISPLACED AFTER VICTORIA DAY HOUSE FIRE



SUBMITTED BY DAFNA BENER

On what began as a typical Victoria Day Monday—tragedy struck at the corner of Hughson Street North and Simcoe Street East in Hamilton's North End.

Multiple families living in a building on that corner started the morning with plans

like so many others. But their day took a heartbreaking turn when a fire broke out and quickly engulfed the entire building. The residents were forced to flee for their lives, with no time to save belongings or cherished mementos.

After burning for hours, the fire consumed everything these families owned—their

looms, photographs, furniture, and the place they called home. In its wake, the fire left only shock, grief, and uncertainty.

Among the displaced are Julia, a single mother well-known in the community for volunteering at local neighbourhood and Bennetto Elementary School events, and her children, Alexandra and Crixus. Also

impacted are neighbours Courtney, Denise, and Art, along with other residents of the building. Pets, seniors, families, and roommates—all lost their sanctuary and their connection to each other in a single devastating afternoon.

As firefighters worked well into the evening to ensure the blaze was fully extinguished, the displaced families stood together outside their burning home for what may be the last time, supported by stunned neighbours and the greater North End community.

In the aftermath, these families have been temporarily placed in hotels or shelters, but they are now urgently seeking permanent housing. Some may have to leave the community altogether due to the financial burden of starting over. Others are still too shaken to make any decisions about what comes next.

Now more than ever, our North End family needs to come together. There are tangible ways to help:

Support via GoFundMe:

For Julia and her children:
<https://gofund.me/8496f5b1>



For Courtney, Denise, and Art:
<https://gofund.me/6a978ee0>



Please note these are the two GoFundMe's as of June publishing deadline for the Breezes.

The families would like to express their deepest gratitude to the community for the outpouring of love, support, and donations—clothing, toiletries, food, and heartfelt prayers. Your kindness has reminded them that even in the face of loss, they are not alone. Let us continue to support our neighbours as they begin the long journey to rebuild their lives.

SAVE THE DATE!

SUNDAY, JUNE 29

NORTH END GARAGE SALE DAY & CATHARINE STREET BLOCK PARTY

Mark your calendars — the North End Garage Sale and Catharine Street Block Party are back on Sunday, June 29, 2025!

Last year, over 40 households took part in the garage sale, and the block party was a hit with neighbours of all ages. This year, we're turning up the fun again — and yes, B.A. Johnston is loading up his mom's van with Hawkins Cheezies and returning to Catharine & Simcoe for the third annual North End Block Party!

Start your day by browsing some fantastic garage sales throughout the North End in the morning, then head over to the block party from 1:00 PM onwards to enjoy live music, karaoke, food and kid's activities.

We're also looking for volunteers to join our organizing team! Help us make this community day amazing — tasks include event promotion, connecting with participants, distributing flyers, setup, teardown, and more. It's a great way to meet your neighbours and be part of something special.

Interested in joining the fun? To volunteer or sign up for the garage sale: northendgaragesale@gmail.com

To get involved with the block party: NorthEndParty@gmail.com

Visit northendgaragesale.com for event updates and to add your garage sale to the map.

Let's make June 29 a day to remember — see you there!

RICHARD SPRINGER:

THE FOUNDING FATHER OF HAMILTON'S SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY

SUBMITTED BY
BRIAN ROULSTON

In the early 19th century, Hamilton, called Head-of-the-Lake, coexisted harmoniously with nature. Its borders ran from Queen St. to Wellington St., once called Lover's Lane. Young boys caught trout at the corner of Stinson and Erie Ave. Numerous creeks and streams flowed through town from the mountain to Macassa Bay, now known as Hamilton Harbour. On a hot summer day, one could leisurely canoe from Gore Street (Wilson St.), parallel to James Street and down to the bay.

Scrubby pines covered hills of clay. Undulating plains occupied the spaces between the creeks. Trees of every description shadowed the lower valley. Where Jackson Square is you could pick tart green apples. Farmers hoed potatoes at the present site of the Sopinka Courthouse. A low moving black cloud of thousands of wild pigeons would fly over the lake. They could be knocked down, literally, with just a stick. Splendid duck hunting was to be had. On a windy day, dust swept down Merrick (York), King, and Main; so unbearable it would halt the day's business, and all trades in the area suffered greatly.

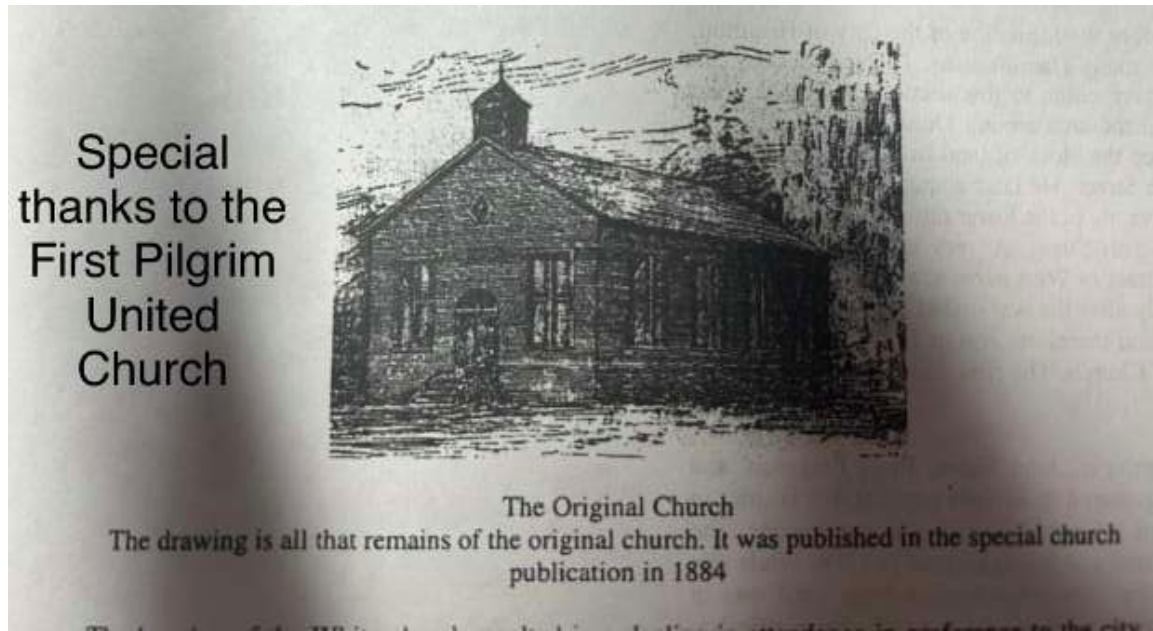
John Street was a trail known as the Mountain Road, the only route up and down the escarpment.

The first tavern, school, and church were on the corner of present-day King and Wellington. The Lower Valley settlers were Methodist, Presbyterian, Anglican, Baptist, Roman Catholic, Unitarian and other faiths. Regular ministers refused to venture into Hamilton because of its frontier-like wilderness. So-called 'saddlebag preachers' visited the community most months as they visited some of the most rugged, remote communities in the area to preach the gospel. These preachers on horseback were true bushmasters of their

day, living off the land, travelling through fierce snowfall, relentless rains, bone-chilling cold, and fiery summer days. They waded through swamps and fast-flowing streams, fighting off rattlesnakes, bugs, and prey to sing hymns and pray with the most isolated families.

Richard Springer owned 40 hectares (100 acres) of farmland bordered by Catharine, King, and Wellington Street. It was said that when cider-making time came in the fall, Richard's place was popular among men and boys, a good long straw required. Springer's profound religious beliefs and actions, including establishing the first regular place of worship in Barton Township, would shape the future of Hamilton's spiritual community, fostering inclusivity and diversity. He was born in 1757 in Albany, N.Y., to David R. Springer and Margarita "Margaret" Oliver Springer and had two brothers and three sisters. After his father was shot by revolutionary troops, young Richard, walked with his mother and siblings to Niagara-on-the-Lake. He was a private in Butler's Rangers during the American Revolutionary War and settled in Niagara-on-the-Lake, marrying Sarah Boyce in 1786. They came to Hamilton in 1801.

Religion was a vital force to get through tough times during the long, harsh winters and in other seasons as they toiled the land. At first, people would meet in homesteads around the village for prayer and worship. In the first decade of the 1800s a Church of Scotland congregation built a tiny wood frame church on what is now Mohawk Road. In 1810, Springer created an altar in the kitchen of his log farmhouse on Hunter and Spring Street. He invited his neighbours to weekly Methodist prayers, which he performed in German and broken English. His lectures were fiery and hilarious, which was a popular style of preaching at the time, however Sar-



ah, his wife, sometimes worried he had gone mad when he preached. This inclusivity eventually extended to other religious denominations, who also held prayers there. As more and more attended Richard's services, circuit preachers eventually took over the services. The congregation quickly outgrew Richard's cozy little kitchen, forcing him to hold services in his barn for several years.

In 1810, the congregation relocated to Hamilton's first schoolhouse, a one-room log building on Wellington and King streets. Other religious groups subsequently began to worship in whatever rental buildings they could find at the time. Richard's church paid £5 to Robert Land Junior for a 1/4 acre of land, a block bounded by Wellington, Main, and King streets. According to The Head-of-The-Lake Historical Society Robert Land II had previously bought the land from a man for a yoke of oxen and a barrel of pork!

Originally known as the White Church, it became solely Methodist and the forerunner of Hamilton's United Church. It was built by Springer's son-in-law, Mr. Day Knight, on the property for \$1,700, a considerable sum at the time. The board of trustees were Richard Springer, Charles Depew, John Aikman, John Eaton, and Peter Ferguson. The deed was made to the gentleman as "To the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church".

Elder William Case is believed to

have preached the first sermon in the newly built church in May of 1824. This was also the year in which the Methodist Church of Canada virtually separated from the Methodist Church in the United States. Because of its location, this church would later be known as the King Street Church. The first burial in the churchyard was of tavern keeper Samuel Price in 1822, a year before the actual date on the deed.

Springer died in 1829 at the age of 72 and buried adjacent to the White Church. His tombstone was later removed and built into the wall when the church was enlarged. Marcus Smith's map of Hamilton in 1850 show's the property as being the "British Wesleyan Church."

In 1914, a third church was erected on this location, a Renaissance-style Methodist chapel with seating for 1600 parishioners. By 1925, the Methodist Church had

evolved into the newly founded United Church of Canada and was later named First United. On Saturday, September 13, 1969, fire gutted the First United Church. The fire was said to have shot up as high as 10 stories and could be seen from Burlington. Firefighters had to tackle not just the church fire, but also residences along Victoria and King William that were caught on fire by embers floating in the air. The estimated loss to the church was \$1.5 million. The Fire Marshal's Office reported that the fire began in the dome and no cause was reported. Instead of rebuilding, they moved to donate the land in 1976 and built a highrise with 513 non-profit units for seniors now known as First Place. First United Church held services on the second floor until the congregation amalgamated with Pilgrim United Church to form First-Pilgrim United Church in 1981.

First Place no longer has a direct connection to the United Church of Canada.

Westdale Law
Barristers & Solicitors, & Notaries
Public
David R. Simpson
James R. Simpson, QC
Real Estate, Wills and Estates, Powers of Attorney,
Mortgages & Small Business Law

WARD 2 UPDATE

SUBMITTED BY WARD 2 COUNCILOR
CAMERON KROETSCH



This time of year is full of events, gatherings, and celebrations. I know many of you are finding ways to connect with your neighbours while the weather is good, and I'll be doing the same, including knocking on

doors during the warmer months to hear from you directly.

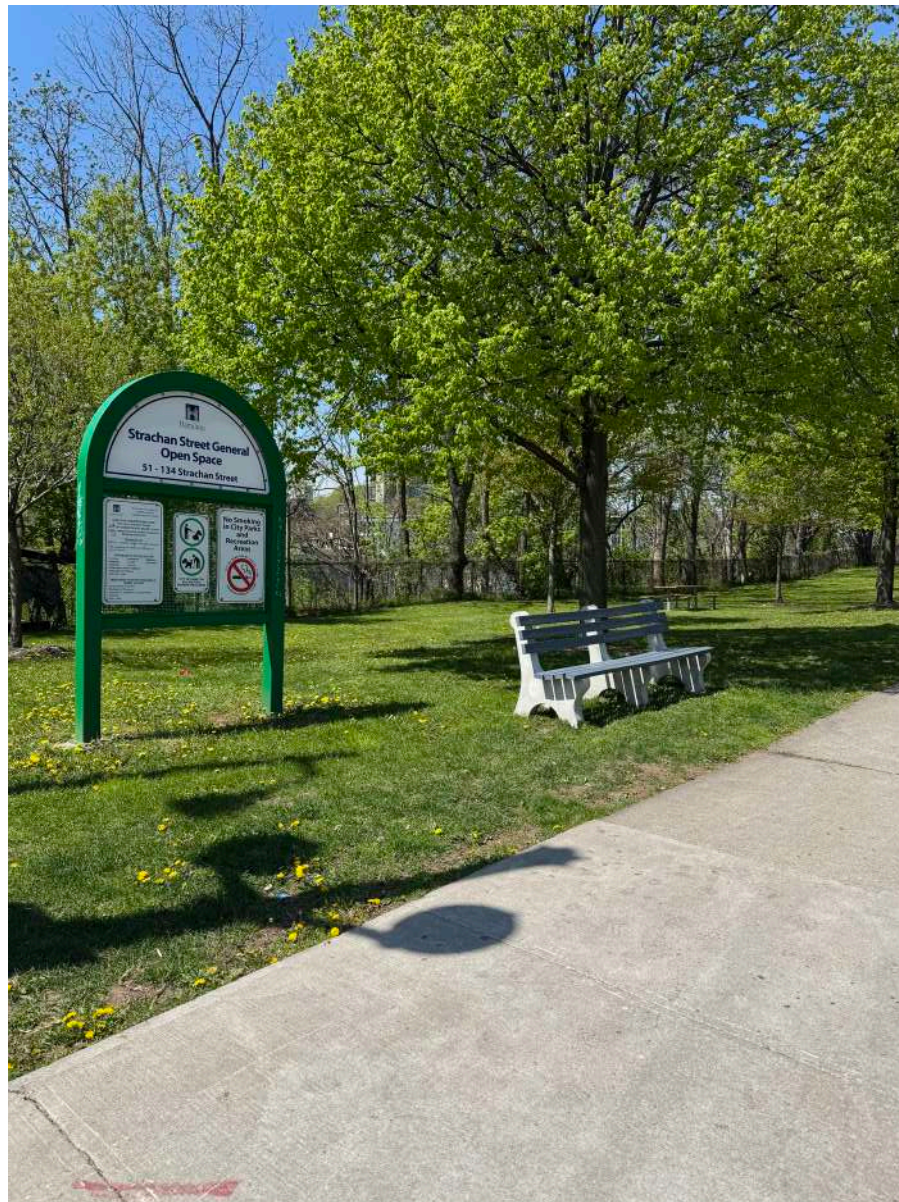
As North Enders know, many popular events will take place in the neighbourhood over the summer. I continue to hear a lot of positive feedback about these events, but there have been a few that were excessively noisy and disrupted some neighbours' ability to enjoy this time of year.

A couple of months ago, the City increased services through the bylaw division to address excess noise. These services are now available on weekends and evenings. This is a huge improvement and long overdue. Hopefully it comes as good news to neighbours I've been working with to address this issue, especially those affected by events in Pier 4 Park. Thank you to everyone who raised concerns and worked with me on last year's pilot. Your input helped move things forward.

If you have an issue with excessive noise from an event this year, call (905) 546-CITY (2489), and bylaw officers will respond as soon as they can.

The City is also planning to take further action to help address concerns about events at Pier 4 Park. That work can't move forward until the Hamilton Waterfront Trust is officially dissolved and its assets, including Pier 8, are transferred to the City. As Chair of the Trust, I'm happy to say that process is now underway and should be complete before events take place next year.

Over the next couple of months, the



New signage, picnic table, and bench along the multi-use path on Strachan Street East in the North End.

City will complete a safety review of Bay Street, focusing on pedestrian and road safety in the Durand, Central, and North End neighbourhoods. I've asked staff to take a close look at the entire stretch of Bay Street North and to consider a raised and signalled intersection at Bay and Strachan. I'll update the community once the review is complete and share the City's recommendations.

Work on the Strachan Linear Park is progressing. This spring, staff installed benches, picnic tables, and garbage cans to support people using the multi-use trail, including when out with their dogs. Seniors in the North End have specifically asked for more benches, and I hope this helps address that need.

The City is also reviewing fencing along Strachan Street. Once approved, I'll be connecting again with North Enders to talk about programming the entire park

space. Last year's survey offered helpful ideas and feedback, and I look forward to continuing those conversations.

For those who've reached out about garbage cans along this stretch, I've asked the City to replace the current steel-drum-style bins, which are being misused for dumping household garbage. If you see this happening, please call (905) 546-CITY (2489) to report it.

If you'd like to get in touch, it's usually fastest to contact the Ward 2 Team at ward2@hamilton.ca or by phone at (905) 546-2197. If you leave a message, Liesl, Joey, or Phoenix will get back to you. You can also reach me directly at cameron.kroetsch@hamilton.ca. I hope to see you around the neighbourhood this summer.

Cameron Kroetsch



You don't need a membership to learn to sail



Explore our programs
for all ages at
rhyc.ca

Book a free tour
welcome@rhyc.ca

THE TRACKERS

INDOOR WALKING GROUP FOR OLDER ADULTS

Join us for a **weekly indoor walk!**

Starting June 17th, **every Tuesday from 2-3pm** until the end of August, at Compass!

Walk indoors, socialize, and experience mindfulness

To register, please contact Christine
905-523-6611 x 2059
csorbara@compassch.org





Are You Pregnant?

Join a weekly **free** prenatal nutrition group that's close to where you live!

Compass Community Health
438 Hughson Street North
(Between Macauley Street and Picton Street)
Date: Thursdays 12:30pm – 2:30pm
Bus Route: 02 or 04

Register at group during your first visit or call Cory at 905-523-6611 Ext. 3047.

Talk with a Registered Dietitian and a Registered Nurse about:

- Pregnancy
- Labour and delivery
- Eating well and cooking healthy food
- Breastfeeding

You will get:

- Grocery gift card
- Bus tickets
- Prenatal vitamins gift card
- Vitamin D for your breastfed baby
- Child-minding for your children under 6 years of age



 Cory Ma, Registered Dietitian
905-523-6611 ext 3047

 www.hamilton.ca/PrenatalGroups

 /HealthyFamiliesHamilton



Funding provided in part by the Public Health Agency of Canada

REGISTER FOR GRUB CLUB

Wednesdays
5:30pm-7:00pm

RUNS MAY 21, 2025 UNTIL AUGUST 27, 2025

Compass Community Health
Main Site
438 Hughson St. N.

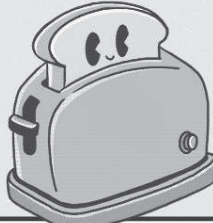
AGES 6-12

SEE YOU THERE!

More information contact Health Promotion at
905-523-6611 x2084 or
mbown-kai@compassch.org



COMPASS BREAKFAST CLUB



438 HUGHSON ST. N.
COMMUNITY ROOM @
COMPASS COMMUNITY
HEALTH MAIN SITE

FREE!

NEW TIME
8:00 AM - 9:15 AM
EVERY DAY BEFORE SCHOOL!
To register call
905-523-6611 x 2084
WWW.COMPASSCH.ORG



STORY CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

SAVOURING SUMMER: A WALKABOUT THROUGH JAMES STREET NORTH’S PATIOS AND COURTYARDS

SUBMITTED BY KEN HIRTER

Did you know that Hamilton’s patio season—especially here in the North End—officially runs from April 1st to October 31st? That’s six full months of outdoor dining, sipping, and socializing!

Whether it’s coffee, cold drinks, food, or more, the neighborhood offers something for everyone. As we say goodbye to spring and welcome the sunny days ahead, now is the perfect time to embrace outdoor living and the full bloom of the season.

Here are just a few of the standout spots to check out this summer:

Fisher’s Pier 4 Pub

A beloved North End staple since 1993, Fisher’s is family-owned and known for being a gathering place for celebrations. Enjoy fish & chips, seafood, burgers, and more on their welcoming patio.

Saint James

A snug, industrial-chic café offering stand-out brunches, coffee, and sandwiches.

The Mulberry Coffeehouse

Located in the lobby of a former 1880s hotel, Mulberry offers a cozy vibe with a delicious menu of coffee, teas, sweets, panini, and cocktails. Seating available on both their side and back patios.

Dunas Verdes Café / Restaurant

A hidden gem with a nostalgic European flair. Dunas Verdes serves mouthwatering Portuguese cuisine, including steak and seafood. Follow them on Facebook and Instagram for updates.

Architect Hair Design & Patsy’s Ringside Bar

More than just a barbershop and bar, Architect is a vibrant hub with a stunning adjacent courtyard and colorful alley. Check out Patsy’s Ringside, a retro-inspired bar next door. And don’t miss their award-winning hot dogs, voted Readers’ Choice Best!

Art Crawl Season is Back!

The monthly Art Crawl kicked off on Friday, May 9th and continues every second Friday of the month. During the most recent event, the patios, courtyards, and shops were buzzing with life, music, and community spirit—

especially at Architect Hair Design and its lively courtyard.

It’s heartening to see the neighborhood come alive in celebration. Be sure to explore, support, and shop local throughout the season!

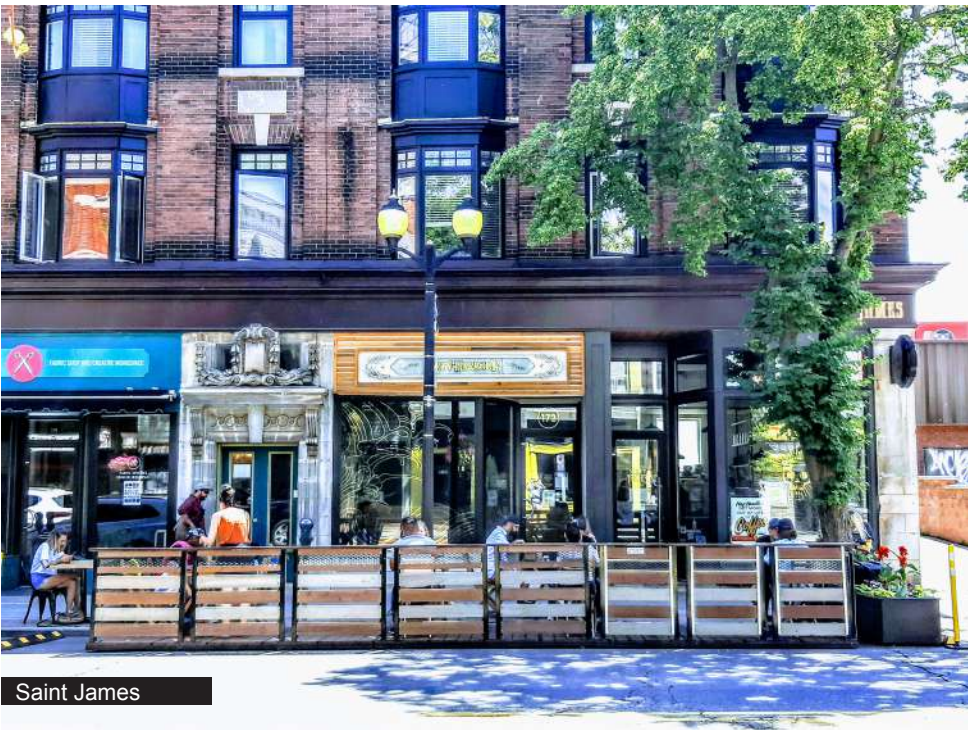
Other Notable Patio Hotspots to Explore This Summer

- King William Street
- Hess Village
- Locke Street
- Westdale

A heartfelt thanks to the wonderful businesses who welcomed me and allowed photos for this month’s Walkabout. As the season turns, let’s continue to celebrate, support, and enjoy everything our vibrant community has to offer.



Mulberry Coffeehouse



Saint James



Dunas Verdes Restaurant



Fisher’s Pier 4 Pub



Fisher’s Pier 4 Pub

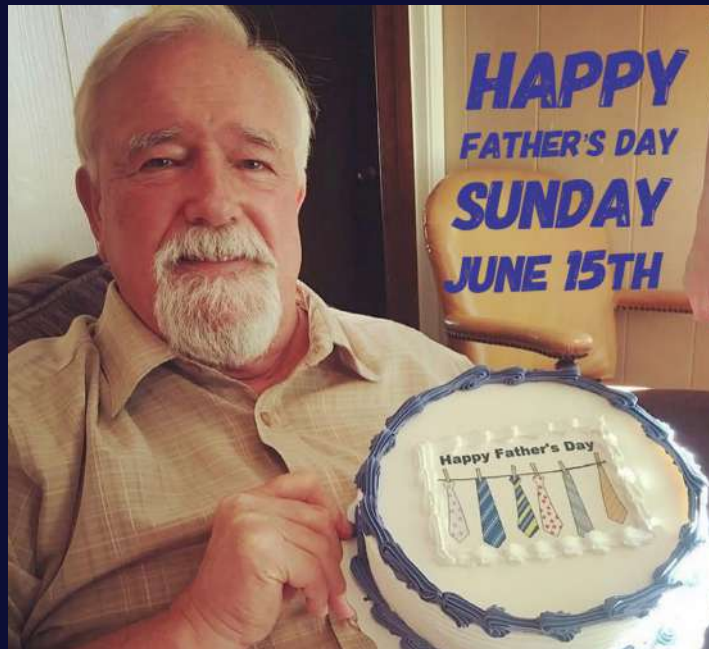


Patsy’s Ringside Bar

FISHER'S PIER 4 PUB



554 James St North
905 526 9622



Website Design & Support Services



Websites that Work!

Marie Mushing

16 Anson Ave.
Hamilton, ON L8T 2X3

905-387-1883

marie@peopleinconnection.com

www.peopleinconnection.com

KELLY FISHER
Sales Representative

905-648-4451

kellyfisher@royalpage.ca

<http://www.royalpage.ca>



1144 Wilson Street West
Ancaster, Ontario,
L9G 3K9

I'm Here for all Your Real Estate Needs!

St. Lawrence Men's Club

Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday July 12th

5-6:30pm[Seating 1] or 7-8:30pm[Seating 2]

Adults \$10/Kids under 10yrs \$5

Drinks \$1 Dinner includes Plate of Spaghetti with 4 meatballs,

Location: Parish hall Sauce & Dinner roll

Drinks \$1 Location: Parish hall

For tickets:

*1)Call/Txt 289-456-6935 2)Paulino1aa@gmail.com
3)Contact Parish Office 4)Sunday after 11am Mass*

Tickets on sale until June 30th

★No ticket sales at Door★



Unfortunately, our Parish hall is not fully accessible at this time