WWW.NORTHENDBREEZES.COM

WALKABOUT TO JAMESVILLE CERAMICS & PAINTS

| VOLUME 3 | OFFICE@NORTHENDBREEZES.COM

SUBMITTED BY KEN HIRTER

l asked Manuel Picado, owner of Jamesville Hardware about the beginning of Jamesville Ceramics and Paints. Manuel and his family immigrated from Portugal and he is proud of his Portuguese heritage, and he is also a proud Canadian. The family lived in Toronto from 1972 until 1974 when they moved to the North End to join family here. He is a North Ender through and through. After high school (Sir John A. MacDonald) he began work at Tamarack Lumber in Burlington. With the encouragement of family and neighbours, Manuel opened the shop at 290 James Street North in 1990. At that time there were many family stores, primarily Italian and Portuguese until the 2000's. Then the next generation started to leave the neighbourhood and the family shops closed.

In 2001 Manuel expanded his business into 288 James Street North next door. In 2018 he downsized back to the original footprint of the shop due to the changes in the flooring and ceramic business, reduced demand, changing demographics and rising costs.

Manuel would like to especially thank his loyal and former employee Domigues.

Manuel has come full circle back to the original premise and location at 290 James Street North. Thanks to all of the longtime merchants that along with me have survived 3 re-



best.

Jamesville Ceramics and Paint 290 James Street North Hamilton, Ontario.

L8R 2L3

Phone: (905) 546-5012 Facebook: Jamesville Hardware

Motto: " Everything we have, you need. If we don't have it, you don't need it.

Did you know that in 1990 there were

cessions and with covid 2020 and 5 Hardware stores here on James with the changes, we survived. It's North. These businesses worked and called support for all of the business- supported one another. Jamesville es within our community. Thanks to Ceramics and Paint is the last Hardall the wonderful customers, family, ware store still standing and open neighbors and friends you're the as Arruda's hardware store closed their doors in August 2023 serving the North End and Hamilton for 40 years.

> The Best Little ole Hardware Store in the Neighbourhood with the friendliest customer service by far here in the Jamesville and North End neighborhoods and beyond. Garden tools, pots and pans, paint and much more under one roof. Your local Hardware Store stocking a full line of hardware products at competitive prices.

LAST CHANCE FOR US TO SEE A FULL SOLAR ECLIPSE OF THE SUN UNTIL 2144

FOLLOW THE NORTH END BREEZES ON SOCIAL @NORTHENDBREEZES

Eclipse glasses 'for everyone in Hamilton'. Mc-Master University has purchased enough protective glasses for everyone in the city to use for this once-in-a-lifetime experience on April 8. The glasses are available for free at your local library or the Bookmobile starting February 22 until April 8 (or until they run out). Just use your library card or register for one to get your free protective glasses.

Hamilton is the perfect location for this incredible 1 hour and 15 minute event. Don't miss out but take care of your vision. Get the glasses free!



ABOUT THIS MONT

SUBMITTED BY CHRISSY CHRAZN AND SHERI SELWAY

In March, we observe several days of historical and cultural importance.

Irish Heritage Month takes centre stage, connecting the North End to a rich history. Hamilton's evolution into a bustling port began in 1823 when the House of Assembly approved the construction of the Burlington Canal, ultimately completed in 1834. As the canal facilitated shipping, wharves were being built along the North End. Hamilton became a prominent destination for immigrants, particularly during Ireland's Great Famine (1845-1852). Many Irish, facing health challenges and diseases caused by famine, passed through Hamilton on their way to new homes, with some settling in Corktown, named after the Irish seaport of Cork.

A somber chapter in Hamilton's history is characterized by cholera epidemics that occurred in 1832, 1849, and 1854. Approximately 400,000 Irish citizens migrated to Canada during this period, with many passing through Hamilton on their way to various destinations, while For further exploration of Hamothers chose to make Hamilton their new home.

In 1832, predating Hamilton's official city status, substantial sheds were erected near the waterfront, specifically around Brock and Catharine streets. These structures served as shelters for families affected by illness, aiming to prevent the spread of cholera and other diseases. As time progressed, additional sheds were constructed on the periphery of what is DAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE now Eastwood Park. The sheds were operational until 1849, after which patients were redirected to the City Hospital on John Street, where the Pier

Towers stand today. The City Hospital, inaugurated in 1848, eventually relocated to Barton Street, evolving into the Hamilton General Hospital.

The Construction of Highway 403 uncovered skeletons, hastily buried and unidentified of soldiers (1812-1814) and cholera victims - most of whom were the very poor including many Irish immigrants which had been buried at Burlington Heights, prompting the relocation of some to Hamilton Cemetery. The resting places of many Irish immigrants remain a mystery today. Irish labor played a vital role in the city's development, evident in their employment as construction workers, dock workers, police officers, and city employees. MacNab, for instance, hired Irish workers for Dundurn Castle, compensating them with land in what March 17 - St. Patrick's Day would become Corktown.

Today, more that 2,000,000 Ontarians identify as Irish Canadians. Some famous Irish Canadians are Ed Broadbent, Stompin for the Elimination of Racial Tom Connors, Timonthy Eaton, Alice Munro, and from Hamilton, Victor Copps, Sheila Copps and Martin Short.

ilton's history, specific information on cholera burial grounds and deaths is available at https:// www.thespec.com/news/hamilton-region/flashbacks-hamilton/the-mystery-of-hamilton-s-cholera-burial-grounds/ article 8643db3a-6e3b-5e8eb0a3-1b87c8a4039c.html and https://www.raisethehammer. org/article/2392/time to commemorate irish cholera vic-

March 8 - International Women's Day, a global celebration of women's achievements and

a call for gender equality. It acknowledges progress while highlighting the ongoing work needed in various spheres.

March 12 - the tragic train wreck at Desjardins Canal Bridge in 1857. A Great Western Railway train derailed, claiming the lives of approximately 60 passengers. Read more about this historical event at HPL Local History and Archives - lha.hpl.ca articles

March 14 - Commonwealth Day which unites 56 countries, including Canada, in celebration and collaboration.

March 15 - International Day to Combat Islamophobia - the fear, hatred, or prejudice against Islamic religion or Muslims in general. This is the day to choose inclusion over intolerance and build a community safe, equal, and equitable for evervone.

Celebrate Irish history and culture. There will be many events around town!

March 21 - International Day **Discrimination** reminds us of the ongoing battle against racism, injustice, and discrimination, emphasizing the need for respect and kindness.

March 31- International Transgender Day of Visibility, honoring the spirit and resilience of transgender, Two-Spirit, and non-binary individuals. Together, we strive for a fair and equitable future.

For more details on these special days, visit https://www. canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/important-commemorative-days.html Important and commemorative days - Canada.ca



ONLINE APPOINTMENT BOOKING FOR PRIMARY CARE CLIENTS

Compass Community Health is thrilled to announce a significant enhancement to our services! Our Primary Care department offers a seamless online appointment booking system for our Primary Care Clients. Booking your appointments with your Doctor, Nurse Practitioner and Nurse in Primary Care has never been easier

Key benefits of our online appointment booking system:

- Available 24/7: Log onto the system any time that suits you to book an appointment with your Primary Care Provider. No need to wait on hold or adhere to office hours
- **Instant Confirmation:** Receive immediate confirmation of your appointment, giving you peace of mind and assurance that your appointment with your Primary Care Provider is
- Quick and Secure: Our user-friendly interface ensures a smooth and secure booking process. It only takes a few clicks to schedule your appointment
- Appointment Reminders: Forget about missing appointments. Our system sends timely reminders to keep you informed and prepared for your upcoming visit.

For your convenience, simply click the Online Appointment Booking link on our website https:// www.compassch.org/ to access our secure platform.

Alternatively, you can scan this QR code to book online.



As always, if you have any questions or need assistance, our dedicated support team is here to help. Reach out to us at clientcare@compassch.org or 905-523-6611 ext. 2000.

Thank you for entrusting Compass Community Health with your convenience and efficiency.

SPRING TIDE **BULB SHOW**

Blooms and Bees

MARCH 8-17, 2024 Gage Park Greenhouse 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Daily

Floral Shop & Cafe **DIY Workshops & Seminars**

Weekend Vendor Marketplace



Free Admission



Food and monetary donations for Food Share are appreciated.

905-546-CITY (2489) hamilton.ca/springtide





Sunday Worship 10:00 - 11:30AM **Children's Ministry Nursery to Grade 5**



500 James St N, Hamilton Contact Phone: 905.527.3972 Email: office@jamesnorth.church Office Hours: Mon to Fri 9AM - 4PM www.jamesnorth.church

James North Baptist Church (formerly Hughson Street Baptist) has been a part of the North End for more than 135 years. We have been more than just a worship gathering on Sundays as we meet as many people during the week as we do at our Sunday worship times. We believe the Lord has called us to a very simple philosophy of ministry - we seek to bless the North End of Hamilton in Jesus' name.

We would be glad to welcome you any Sunday at our morning worship gathering. We believe the gospel changes everything. The good news of the gospel is that the death of Jesus Christ has paid the price for our sin, taking the penalty we deserve on Himself, saving us with certainty because of His resurrection. The gospel grants us purpose, hope and a hew perspective on joy and fulfillment. Life may not always be easy, but our hope in Jesus Christ gives us strength for the journey.

We also offer the hope of Jesus to others through our ministries and programs. There are several weekly ministries that you and your family can attend. You could come by on Fridays from 9-11am for Coffee's On where our Food Bank is open to help those who need a little boost. We have children's programming running on Tuesday nights during the school year. Check our website for up-to-date information for programs (www. jamesnorth.church) or give us a call at 905-527-3972.

We are located at the corner of James St N and Picton Ave, the building with affordable housing on top. We would be glad to welcome you.





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 - Confession 6:30 p.m. Mass 7:00 p.m. Wednesday - Mass 12:00 noon Thursday - Confession and Adoration 6:00 p.m., Mass 7:00 p.m. Friday - Mass 12:00 noon Saturday-Confession 9:30 a.m., Mass 10:00 a.m. Please check our website for weekly updates/changes

Sacraments of Marriage or Baptism:

Please contact the parish office to make an appointment to meet with Father Peter

Parish News and Important Date

Upcoming Dates:

CWL Bake Sale - Sunday March 24th 12:15 pm in the Parish Hall

First Communion - Saturday, May 11, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. Confirmation - Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. If your child doesn't attend St. Lawrence school but you would like them to celebrate these sacraments, please call the parish office.

Easter is early this year! Holy Thursday Mass - March 28, 7 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy - March 29, 3 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass- March 30, 8 p.m. Easter Sunday Mass, March 31st, 11:00 a.m. We invite you to join us at any of the Masses and liturgies during our Lenten observance and the Holy Triduum.

Hall Rentals are available

Call the office or visit stlawrencehamilton.ca/hall-rentals for more information Please keep an eye on the bulletin or our parish website for further updates

CWL Easter Bake Sale Sunday March 24th 12:15 (after Mass) St Lawrence Church Hall







In with the new...



Welcome Inn's Seniors Diners Club is looking for more members! For more information, please call (289) 260-3771



We are seeking food donations. Please refrain from donating clothes, furniture, toys, and appliances. Thank you!

HAMILTON PUBLIC **HBRARY MARCH HAPPENINGS**

Easter Holiday Closure All Branches are closed on Good Friday, March 29, Easter Sunday, March 31, and Easter Monday, April 1. The Bookmobile is off the road, and Extended Access and Study Hall services are unavailable. Central Library will be open as a Warming Place (First Floor) during these three days from 1-5 pm.

March Break 2024

Looking for free, fun ways to keep your kids busy this March Break? From March 9-16, visit an HPL branch for crafts, movies, special events and more. Pick up a March Break schedule insert or download and print it from our website HPL.ca

Pick Up Your Free Solar Eclipse **Safety Glasses**

The countdown to the April 8 Solar Eclipse is Totality On! Pick up your free ISO solar eclipse safety glasses (one pair per HPL library card while quantities last) to view this once-in-a-lifetime experience. Each pair comes with a safety flyer. Learn more at HPL.ca.

After Hours Study Halls

Looking for a quiet study space or space to work? The Central Library (now reopened!), Dundas, Red Hill, Terryberry, Turner Park, Valley Park, and Waterdown branches offer this after-hours service (hpl.ca/study-halls) from Mondays-Thursdays, 8 pm-Midnight (except on statutory holidays).

Our virtual branch at hpl.ca is always open. Questions? Call 905.546.3200, email AskHPL@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.

FAREWELL TO THE LIGHTHOUSE FISH MARKET

SUBMITTED BY KEN HIRTER

The Jamesville District neighborhood will be saying a final heartfelt farewell this Spring when the Llighthouse closes on April 3rd 2024 after serving Hamilton 1985. Wishing Elcina Miranda and her family all the best. As Elcina indicated, it was time to move on. With Spring arrival on March 19th 1 told Elcina Miranda that I will surely miss their wonderful gardening center and her wonderful gardening tips, "I thank you". Drop by before they finally close up shop as another family run business is closing their doors here in the neighborhood.

Continue to support your small local businesses within your neighborhood community today. Stay local and shop local.



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



Find Out What is Happening in Your **Community**

with the North End Neighbourhood Association

MEETINGS EVERY MONTH

We meet the first Wednesday each month at 7pm. Meetings are currently on zoom.

Everyone is Welcome!

This is the place to meet your neighbours and hear about what's happening in the North End.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter www.facebook.com/NorthEndNeighbours www.twitter.com/nenhamilton

Check out our website and sign up for our e-newsletter at www.northendneighbourhoodassociation.com

MUSING ON THE GARDEN

SUBMITTED BY CANDY VENNING

Have you ever stopped to wonder what it is that might define a garden as 'Canadian'?

Or, before we had borders and a name for this geographical area (Canada), what makes up and defines a garden as being 'of this place'?

For some, images of red Adirondack chairs next to the dock come to mind or perhaps a neighbors' proud display of red geraniums and white petunias in pots for Canada day but garden gurus are suggesting something else entirely, native plants.

A stunning photo I observed recently, of a woodland garden containing native ferns, orchids, several groundcovers as well as Trilliums and some mushroom covered logs, really got me thinking on this 'Canadian Garden' concept.

Early native peoples of Canada would have had food gardens / food forests, or variations thereof, sometimes referred to as 'permaculture' and all species would have been native to Canada.

As early as the 1600's we have records of Acadian colonists bringing wheat, barley, oats, rye, hemp, peas, cabbage and more. Perhaps there were even earlier visitors bringing exotic crops of annuals or medicinal plants. Humans and birds have been moving seeds around for as long as we've existed but a bird will (rarely) move a seed as much as 300kms. (another reason we have the seeds of exotic species being spread into uninhabited areas – ideally we stop growing non-native, seed filled plants like privet, barberry and Burning Bush)

Did you know that native species of Goldenrods we consider 'weedy' were grown ornamentally in Europe? Canadian Goldenrod was one of the first decorative plants that was brought from North America to Europe. In Britain, it has been known since the 17th century and was spread across most of Europe in the 19th century. It used to be planted in botanical gardens, parks and gardens

from where it has spread and become an invasive species, crowding out other native plants with dense Goldenrod stands. Even today, for clients with urban gardens I avoid Common Goldenrod and recommend other, less prolific, Goldenrods, as they do support so much biodiversity. Asters and native Sunflowers are also on par.

Really, with garden planning, using native plants doesn't necessarily mean you'll water less or have a 'maintenance free' yard any more than planting imported English Ivy as a groundcover (don't do it) means you'll have a maintenance free yard. At the very least, if you did end up with fence-to-fence Goldenrod for example, your vard would be abuzz with insects but wouldn't be very interesting from December to July.

Think of the shop local movement and a wish to support neighbourhood economies, avoiding imported goods when possible as you plan or enjoy your yard this year. Whether you're responding to the ecological destruction we see around us, want to re-create a naturalistic and ecologically viable garden to feed, house and see more birds and butterflies, think native plants. There is no going back to a perfect utopia where every non-native plant and animal is removed, that's unobtainable, but doing a little something good for the co-evolved species in the neighbourhood, totally do-able and very Canadian.



HOPA

HOPA PORTS CELEBRATES **EXPANSION OF P&H** MILLING GROUP / PARRISH & HEIMBECKER LTD. FACILITY AT THE PORT OF **HAMILTON**

The Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority (HOPA Ports) celebrates expansion plans to P&H Milling Group and Parrish & Heimbecker Ltd., longstanding partners at the Port of Hamilton. This expansion reaffirms P&H's commitment to supporting Canadian agriculture producers and meeting the demands of the thriving Ontario baking industry.

The expansion means P&H's existing facility on Pier 10 will grow with the construction of a new flour mill, the third mill at this location, with shovels in the ground this spring. Two new storage silos will also be added, dedicated to handling essential ingredients such as soymeal and distillers dried grains, as well as wheat for milling.

"This expansion marks a significant milestone in the 15-year partnership between P&H and HOPA Ports," said

Ian Hamilton, HOPA's President and CEO. "We applaud P&H's growth at the Port of Hamilton, and their success in increasing grain exports along with value-added food processing. We are committed to continuing to invest in the very best transportation and supply chain infrastructure to enable companies to invest and grow. Together, we are supporting farmers and food manufacturers across Ontario."

When the first flour mill was built at Pier 10 in 2017, it was the first new-build flour mill in Ontario in 75 years. Since then, P&H doubled its capacity in 2020 with the addition of a second mill and increased storage, significantly contributing to the company's ability to receive and process wheat efficiently. The new addition will solidify P&H's position as the single-largest user of Ontario wheat.

HOPA has been growing a leading agrifood cluster at the Port of Hamilton, anchored by companies like P&H. There are now 14 agri-food companies located at the Port, and agrifood has grown to represent 31% of the port's overall cargo mix. The sector is connected to 105,000 jobs and \$48 billion in economic activity in the province of Ontario.

Learn more: www.hopaports.ca



COUNCILLOR **UPDATE**

SUBMITTED BY WARD 2 COUNCILOR CAMERON KROETSCH



Most of my time over the past few months has been spent in meetings about the City's 2024 budget process. We went from an outlook of 14.2%, to a draft budget of 7.9%, and finally landed on 5.79% on February 15. I voted in favour of the budget.

The breakdown of that 5.78% increase, for the average taxpayer, is a 1.64% increase for municipal services, a 1.60% increase for housing and homelessness supports, and a 2.55% increase for costs downloaded to us by the Province.

Unfortunately, and despite the police board

turning down motions by Dr. Menezes and I to shave about \$5m from the board's \$215m budget, City Council was not willing to vote down the budget presented by the police board. It was a sad moment. While every other department across the city was asked to find additional savings this year, the police board was made an exception by the majority of Council.

That being said, the number of Councillors who voted against the increases to the police budget of \$16.7m over last year, jumped from 5 last

year to 6 this year. I hope, when this conversation comes around next year, there will be an opportunity to add to those numbers and increase accountability in this process. I have received hundreds of messages, emails, and calls asking for me to hold the police board to the same standards as every other City service and I'm proud of the efforts we made this year.

More locally, I've been hearing from residents across the city about the Jamesville project. As you likely know, CN Railway appealed the decision of CityHousing Hamilton and the City who were planning to proceed with the project. That has meant a delay while waiting for a hearing date, set for late spring, and a lengthy set of discussions between CHH, the City, the developer, and CN. While I'm not part of those negotiations, and cannot direct them, Council will get a say in the matter if a settlement is reached and any potential settlement would be presented to City Council for consideration (e.g. to accept, propose modifications or reject). I'm



Ward 3 Councillor Tammy Hwang, Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson, and Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch in Council Chambers to kick off Black History Month on February 1, 2024

very aware of the concerns raised by neighbours, including the desire for less above ground parking and more greenspace, saving additional trees where possible, permanently preserving the Sunset Cultural Garden, and finding a way to add in some ground level retail space, among others.

Height and density have also been brought up as community concerns but, more than anything, what I hear is that people want to see demolition begin soon and building start this year. So do I. Since no one from the North End registered as a party to the appeal to represent the neighbourhood at the hearing, I will continue to do what I can to ensure the final project addresses as many concerns as possible and will report back to the neighbourhood when there's anything that I can share publicly. For those who don't know, I'm bound by confidentiality, so I need the consent of all parties to speak about the details publicly or involve neighbours in the discussions.

It's possible, given the current building climate and construction costs as a result of

the delays from the CN appeal, that the developer will request changes to be made to the overall design. This could be an opportunity, in my view, to try to achieve some of the community benefits the neighbourhood has been asking for in exchange for some increased density on the site. I'll keep everyone posted as soon as I have more information that I'm per-

mitted to share publicly.

Finally, we have set up our new Ward 2 Heritage Council and it will be having its inaugural meeting in the coming months. We'll also be announcing dates, soon, through our social media and newsletter, for this year's town halls and community councils, including some specific meetings in the North End. If you haven't signed up to get our monthly newsletter updates, sent out at the end of every month, join by visiting ward2hamilton. substack.com.

If you need the Ward 2 Team, for anything, please reach out to us on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8am to 4pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8am to 8pm, and Saturdays from 10am to 2pm. Joey, Liesl, or Hasnain would be happy to help you! The best way to reach us is by sending an email to Ward2@hamilton.ca or by calling our office phone number at (905) 546-2197. If you'd like to reach me directly, send me an email at Cameron.Kroetsch@hamilton.ca.

- Cameron-Kroetsch





LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

SUBMITTED BY NORTH END BREEZES EDITOR, BRENDA DUKE

I just want to say that I am not a lover of cold, dreary winter days. I spend that time snuggled under a heated blanket with a hot • cup of coffee. My body takes a rest but I can't stop the ideas popping up in my head.

So, your publication team has been busy planning with the Board of Directors on ways to make The North End Breezes even better in 2024.

And do we have plans! Not all of them are final but here's our wish list:

Update our website. Together with Marie Mushing, we'll find ways to feature our advertisers and community partners. Kit Darling will continue to "encourage" your stories and find news to inform you. And Katie Fitzgerald is waiting to bring it all together and do her magic. You'll get double the pleasure with our printed copies and a

more robust online issue.

- Changes are coming for The North Ender of The Year Award and if you want to help, let us know.
- Who doesn't love a Family Reunion? We hope to put together a North End Reunion again this year.
- Can't wait to start gardening? We'll help you with that. The Breezes and Sunset Garden are holding a plant sale on May 11, 2024. We'll have Rain Barrels available to purchase on line and you'll be entered in a prize draw when you purchase to support the Breezes.

It's going to be an exciting year and we are off to a great start. Stay tuned for updates or join in the fun!

Email office@northendbreezes.com

TREASURER NEEDED!

Do you like numbers? Put those skills to use! Join our team to fill this need! **Email office@northendbreezes.com**

Revive with Us!

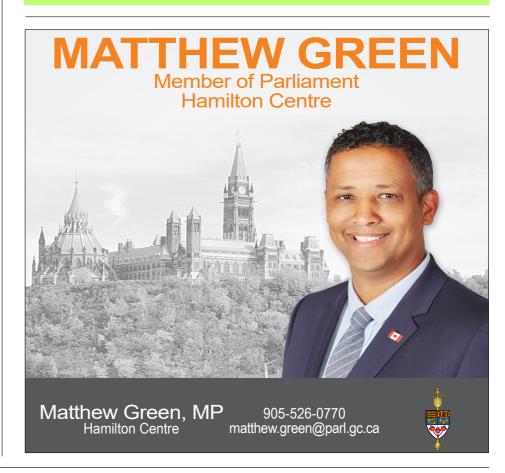
CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION 2024



Am I a Central Neighbour?

YES...if you live in the area between: CN Rail Tracks, Queen Street, Main W and James Street

> CNAHamiltonW2@gmail.com Instagram: @cnahamiltonw2







A VERY BRIEF HISTORY OF HAMILTON'S POSTAL SERVICE

SUBMITTED BY BRIAN ROULSTON

In an age where constant communication spans the globe, the personal touch and warmth of handwritten correspondences appear to have vanished into the shadows of time. Hastily created emails and texts, despite their proficiency, often fall short in conveying the depths of the sender's thoughts. Written letters, now considered relics of a bygone era, were not just about exchanging information for the purpose of billing or banking, but about sharing part of our lives, our dreams, our fears, and our joys. Let's remember the Post Office, the vessel that carried our hearts across the grand prairies, the great mountains; vast oceans and through devastating wars in spite of what mother nature threw at them.

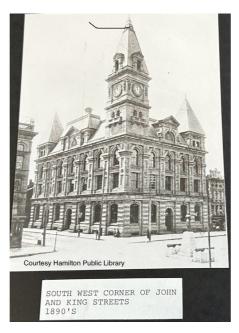
On August 3, 1527, the first known letter written in English, was sent from North America at St. John's, Newfoundland by Captain John Rut to King Henry VII of England, informing him of his discoveries and his intended expedition southward to Cape Breton to meet up with a fellow explorer.

In 1780, four or five families set up the first permanent residences in Upper Canada at Niagara-on-the-Lake. By 1784, the population had increased to over 600 people owing to the loyalist militia of Butler's Rangers, a ruthless and feared provincial military force of the American Revolutionary War. With loyalists travelling north from the states, the land flourished swiftly, and Hamilton was quickly populated.

Wandering priests on horseback would often deliver letters from the 1800s until the mid-1810s whenever they travelled through the Port of Hamilton, which was more or less once a month.

The necessity for a post office in Hamilton was first explored during the War of 1812. For the majority of the soldiers of this area, overseas was considered home. Relatives would often send their sons letters, money and other comforts. These deliveries took weeks if not months and in some cases they would never receive their deliveries due to the hazard of loss or theft when sailing across the oceans, bateaux then by stagecoach. Often these letters or packages would sit in the office at York (Toronto) for months before they could find anyone to forward them to the Head-of-the-Lake. In many cases it was probably quicker for the soldiers to travel to York to pick up their letters or shipments. However, the troops found this difficult if not impossible, possibly due to their short leave times or the difficulty of travelling there. It was also expensive for soldiers of humble means to send mail. Canada to England cost six shillings for just one single sheet of paper and some simply could not afford it. Letters returning home were sometimes blocked in Montreal or Quebec City unless they had contacts or relatives who could pay for the postage of in-land and overseas mail. This caused distress to many families. They had no idea if their loved ones were dead or living.

In 1814, the Upper Canada government organized weekly mail service from Montreal to Niagara. Government postal contracts became a significant source of revenue for stagecoach lines, allowing them to subsidize passenger service year-round, especially during the winter.



Dundas would build a post office with John Second as postmaster, and this office would become the distribution hub for the Niagara Peninsula when Dundas Street was extended Toronto from and the Beverley Road to Amherstburg.

Before we proceed, there seems to be some confusion regarding

the establishment of Hamilton's first post office, founded in 1819 with James Bethune as the inaugural postmaster. This is however incorrect. The town of Cobourg, initially a cluster of smaller villages such as Amherst and Hardscrabble, was later renamed Hamilton, and subsequently became known as Hamilton Township in Northumberland County; this is the location of that post office. Toronto was still called York at the time.

When construction on the Burlington Canal began in 1823, hundreds of migrants and their families arrived at the Port of Hamilton in search of work on the project while the elites settled at the Gore. They built homes, shops, warehouses, taverns, and inns. During the summer of 1924 local mail from Kingston through Niagara was delivered aboard the steamer FRONTENAC.

In 1825 a rickety old corduroy road led from wharves on Burlington Bay up to the top of a hill and past a tiny unassuming house on the east side of what is now James Street, overlooking the bay, an area surrounded by cedar swamp. Past that at today's Main Street stood a one storey wood frame building, Hamilton's first post office. In 1825, William B. Sheldon, who lived on 13 Catherine Street, became the village's first postmaster. He also kept a cow and continued as a barber. That same year; postal franchises were also awarded to Ancaster, London, Brantford, and St. Thomas.

This post office was then relocated to the south side of King Street near Hughson before being relocated again to the north side of James Street. In 1879, the post office moved into the McInnes Building at King and John Streets, which also housed the first Bank of Hamilton and several other offices and businesses. Unfortunately, that structure would be destroyed by fire later that year.

After the McInnes fire debris was swept away, plans emerged for the new Dominion Public Building and land was purchased for \$45,000 on the corner of Main & John Streets. Red sandstone was used to construct a stunning structure that was a modern marvel for its time. The new Post Office was regarded as one of the finest public buildings of the entire British Empire. Construction began on August 1st, 1882, and the doors opened on June 1st, 1886.

However, as Hamilton's population reached over 41,000 people, this structure became too small and antiquated and closed in November 1934. A temporary post office was established in the Duffield Building once located on the corner of John and

Jackson Streets. Demolition of the once magnificent Dominion Public Building started in April 1935. Because the stone in the main tower was three to five feet thick, demolishing this historic structure took considerably longer than expected. Wreckers estimated that this structure would have lasted for hundreds of years.

The cornerstone of the old Dominion Public Building was discovered on May 3, 1935. Inside was a large glass candy jar containing \$1.20 in 1882 coins and paper money. The jar also had several publications tightly rolled inside. Copies of the 1883 Canadian Almanac, The Canada Gazette, The Ontario Gazette, and the Evening Tribune which was published in Hamilton at the time. Copies of the Labour Union, the Globe Daily, the Hamilton Times, and The Hamilton Spectator were also discovered. The latter publications featured either write ups or notices of the huge ceremony that took place when this cornerstone was laid. Another festival was held at Dundurn Park with massed bands, a string orchestra, Chinese lanterns, and (possibly) free beer.

This new six-storey federal edifice was constructed as a relief project for construction workers who were struggling during the Great Depression. All the materials used in the building's construction were Canadian made. On September 19th, 1936, the RCMP were the first tenants to move into the sparkling new \$1.6 million Federal Public Building offices, followed by gas, hydro, and electric inspectors. Other tenants quickly followed, including the National Health Department, Tax Inspectors, and the Marine, Agriculture, and Immigration Departments. Finally, the postal workers moved into their new offices in October.

Land adjacent to the post office was soon acquired for \$150,000 in order to construct a new \$300,000 trucking facility to transport mail. George H Lees and his family owned the property for almost a century. George was born on the site and eventually established a jewellery business under his name.

In 1971, the Hamilton Post Office was one of three postal facilities in Canada to launch a new coin-operated photocopying service on a six-month trial basis, which proved to be successful.

On March 23, 1976 computer aided mail sorting began in Hamilton, allowing for 500,000 pieces of mail to be sorted daily at 36,000 pieces an hour. Similar equipment started operating in Ottawa, Winnipeg, Regina, Saskatoon, Edmonton and Calgary.

In May 1990 the automated mail processing facilities in Hamilton, Burlington, and St. Catherines were deemed outdated and closed in May 1990. Employees were relocated to a more modern facility in Stoney Creek. The post office closed a year later.

The historical core of the old federal building was retained throughout a \$77 million renovation that included the addition of a seventh floor and a west-facing tower. On May 1, 1999, the 63-year-old former post office building was converted into the John Sopinka Courthouse named after a Hamilton lawyer chosen by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney to serve as a puisne justice on Canada's Supreme Court. He was also a CFL player, having played 29 games for the Toronto Argonauts from 1955 to 1957 and 8 with the Montreal Alouettes in 1958. John Sopinka passed away on November 24th, 1997, in Ottawa.

With thanks to Canada Post for their informative email. They report that they currently have 35 postal outlets in the Hamilton area. These consist of corporate post offices and locations within various Hamilton-area businesses. The activities of Canada Post are supported by about 900 employees.

Bennetto Recreation Centre

450 Hughson St. N 905-546-4944



Aquatics - Spring Registered Programs

	Starting week of April 2	2, 2024		
	MONDAY			
Program	Time	Ages	Code	Fee
Parent and Tot 1/2/3	6:00-6:30pm	4m-3yrs	00057761	\$60.93
Splash 1/2/3	6:00-6:30pm	3-5yrs	00057767	\$68.58
Swimmer 1	6:30-7:00pm	6-12yrs	00057764	\$68.58
Swimmer 2	6:30-7:00pm	6-12yrs	00057770	\$68.58
	TUESDAY			
Program	Time	Ages	Code	Fee
Splash 1/2/3	5:00-5:30pm	3-5yrs	00057773	\$68.58
Swimmer 3	5:00-5:45pm	6-12yrs	00057786	\$75.69
Swimmer 2	5:00-5:30pm	6-12yrs	00057806	\$68.58
Swimmer 1	5:30-6:00pm	6-12yrs	00057776	\$68.58
Splash 1/2/3	5:30-6:00pm	3-5yrs	00057813	\$68.58
Swimmer 4	5:45-6:30pm	6-12yrs		\$75.69
Splash 4/5/6	6:00-6:30pm	3-5yrs	00057791	\$68.58
Swimmer 2	6:00-6:30pm	6-12yrs	00057779	\$68.58
Parent and Tot 1/2/3	6:00-6:30pm 6:30-7:00pm	6-12yrs 4m-3yrs	00057818 00057782	\$60.93
Private Swim Lesson	6:30-7:00pm	3yrs +	00061936	\$253.35
Swimmer 1	6:30-7:00pm	6-12yrs	00057822	\$68.58
	WEDNESDAY			
Program	Time	Ages	Code	Fee
Splash 1/2/3	5:00-5:30pm	3-5yrs	00057869	\$68.58
Swimmer 1 Splash 1/2/3	5:00-5:30pm 5:30-6:00pm	6-12yrs 3-5yrs	00057876 00057872	\$68.58 \$68.58
Swimmer 2	5:30-6:00pm	6-12yrs	00057872	\$68.58
Bronze Medallion	5:30-8:15pm	13yrs +	00061891	\$135.71
Adult 1/2/3 Swim Lesson	6:00-6:45pm	12yrs +	00057875	\$85.50
Private Swim Lesson	6:45-7:15pm	3yrs +	00061938	\$253.35
Swimmer 7/8/9	6:45-7:45pm	6-12yrs	00057884	\$75.69
Private Swim Lesson	7:15-7:45pm	3yrs +	00061941	\$253.35
Private Swim Lesson	7:45-8:15pm	3yrs +		\$253.35
Private Swim Lesson	7:45-8:15pm	3yrs +	00061943	\$253.35
Filvate Swill Lessoll	THURSDAY	Jyls +	00061944	\$200.00
P			0.4	F
Program	Time	Ages	Code	Fee
Splash 4/5/6 Swimmer 1	5:00-5:30pm 5:00-5:30pm	3-5yrs 6-12yrs	00057917	\$68.58 \$68.58
			00057929	
Private Swim Lesson	5:00-5:30pm	3yrs +	00061946	\$253.35
Swimmer 2	5:30-6:00pm	6-12yrs	00057920	\$68.58
Swimmer 3/4	5:30-6:15pm	6-12yrs	00057932	\$75.69
Splash 1/2/3	5:30-6:00pm	3-5yrs	00057941	\$68.58
Bronze Cross	5:30-8:15pm	13yrs +	00061892	\$115.09
Swimmer 2	6:00-6:30pm	6-12yrs	00057944	\$68.58
Splash 1/2/3	6:00-6:30pm	3-5yrs	00057923	\$68.58
Swimmer 5/6	6:15-7:00pm	6-12yrs	00057935	\$75.69
Splash 4/5/6	6:30-7:00pm	3-5yrs	00057926	\$68.58
Swimmer 1	6:30-7:00pm	6-12yrs	00057947	\$68.58
	SATURDAY	,		
Program	Time	Ages	Code	Fee
Swimabilities Beginner/Intermediate	9:00-10:00am	3-17yrs	00057950	\$67.14
Swimabilities Intermediate/Advanced	10:00-11:00am	3-17yrs	00057953	\$67.14

Bennetto Recreation Centre

450 Hughson St. N 905-546-4944



Gym and Club - Spring Registered Programs

	Starting week of Apri	12, 2024		
	MONDAY			
Program	Time	Ages	Code	Fee
Tumble Playgroup (with parent)	10:00-11:30am	1-2 years	00061725	\$54.99
Anime	5:30-6:30pm	9-12 years	00065655	\$37.62
Yoga Hatha	6:00-7:00pm	16+ years	00061735	\$83.61
Cardio, Balance & Strength	7:15-8:15pm	16+ years	00061739	\$70.11
	TUESDAY			
Program	Time	Ages	Code	Fee
Sports Blast Fundamentals	5:00-5:30pm	3-5 years	00061740	\$25.11
Soccer	5:45-6:30pm	6-8 years	00061742	\$28.26
Recreational Basketball	6:45-7:30pm	6-8 years	00061744	\$28.26
Soccer	7:30-8:30pm	9-12 years	00065665	\$37.62
	WEDNESDAY	•		
Program	Time	Ages	Code	Fee
Tumbling Fundamentals (with parent)	5:00-6:00pm	1.5-2 years	00061748	\$36.63
Tumbling Fundamentals	6:00-7:00pm	3-5 years	00061749	\$50.22
	THURSDAY			
Program	Time	Ages	Code	Fee
Girls Who Play	4:00-5:00pm	9-12 years	00065704	FREE
Girls Who Play	5:00-6:00pm	13-17 years	00065705	FREE
Exploring Art	5:30-6:00pm	3-5 years	00061755	\$25.11
Art	6:15-7:00pm	6-8 years	00061756	\$28.26
	SATURDAY			•
Program	Time	Ages	Code	Fee
Tumbling Fundamentals	9:00-10:00am	3-5 years	00061751	\$50.22
Tumbling Fundamentals	10:15-11:15am	3-5 years	00061752	\$50.22
Art	11:30am -12:15pm	6-8 years	00065659	\$28.26
Exploring Art	12:15 -12:45pm	3-5 years	00065658	\$25.11
Exploring Science	1:00-1:30pm	3-5 years	00065660	\$25.11

Registration Information

Ways to Register:

Be sure to obtain your USERNAME and le recreation or in-person at your local rec

require this information in an accessible

Are you 55+ and live in the Strathcona, Central, North End or Beasley neighbourhoods?

Join a mobility and healthy aging program designed with older adults who live in your community!



You will receive one \$25 gift card for each interview completed (total of three interviews)

Contact us today to take the next step!



(905) 525-9140 x 22305



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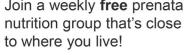




Version 5 Jul, 31 2023. This research study has been reviewed by the Hamilton Integrated Research Ethics Board under project #13387

Are You **Pregnant?**

Join a weekly free prenatal nutrition group that's close





Compass Community Health

438 Hughson Street North

(Between Macauley Street and Picton Street)

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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:

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- · Labour and delivery
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- Breastfeeding

You will get:

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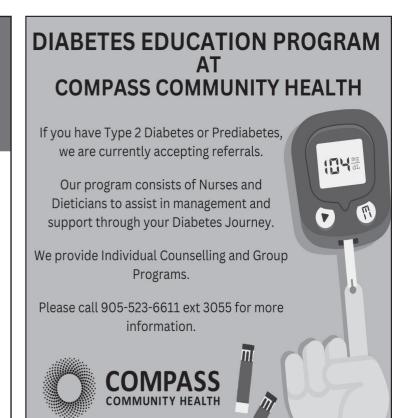


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Pathways to Education Hamilton is proudly hosted by Compass Community Health







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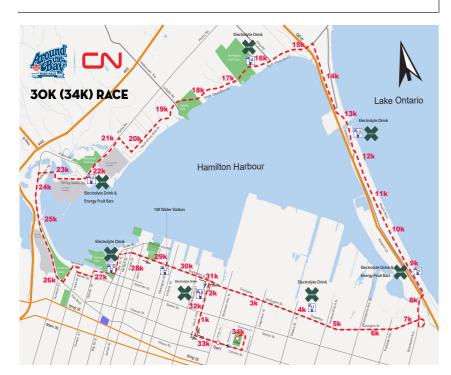
to register!



See you there!



COMPASS COMMUNITY HEALTH





On Sunday, March 24, the 130th anniversary of the Around the Bay Road Race will run through Hamilton and Burlington. The Around the Bay Road Race is the oldest road race in North America, established in 1894, three years before the Boston Marathon. Throughout the years, the route has changed and race categories added. This year, there will be 5K, 10K, 15K, and 30K (really 34K) races starting and finishing at Tim Hortons Field. The main roads in the north end affected by the races are:

- Eastbound lanes on Burlington St from Bay St to Birch Ave closed for runners from 8:30am 3:00pm
- Full closure on Bay St N from Barton St to Burlington St 8:30am 3:00pm

The best way to maneuver out of this area would be to travel south to:

- King St
- Main St
- Cannon St from Sandford Ave and west (Cannon is closed at Birch Ave)
- Barton St going west
- Barton St going east only up to Wentworth St (full closure on Birch Ave from 8:30am 3:30pm)

This year, approximately 8,000 participants will be tackling the streets of Hamilton. This long-standing race has been known for its tremendous spectator support along Beach Blvd, North Shore Blvd, at LaSalle Park, and on Plains Rd. We hope with the routes entering the north end of Hamilton this year, a new community of supporters will emerge to add even more flavour to this race.

The support of the community always lifts the participants spirits and helps motivate them to push forward. The community support has become part of the Bay Race tradition and great history.

Thank You to all the residents in the north end for their support, patience and understanding. If you have any questions regarding the presentation of the race please email us at info@bayrace.com.

More race details and to become a volunteer can be found at www.bayrace.com.

NORTH END BREEZES TEAM

The Breezes is published on the first day of the month and delivered to 4,200 homes and busi-nesses 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

Published by North End Breezes Board of Directors:

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Co-Ordinator: Brenda Duke

Editorial Assistant: Kit Darling

Layout + Design: Katie Fitzgerald

Web Site Development: Marie Mushing

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 in-dividual 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 avail—able 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 newspa—per and online publications to promote connec—tivity, 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 ev-er-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.

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