



HAMILTON: THE ELECTRIC CITY



SUBMITTED BY BRIAN ROULSTON

On the corner of Wellington and Ferrie streets is a mural of Nikola Tesla that was painted by local artist Lester Coloma. The mural of the Serbian-American inventor is on the north and west walls of the former Gold Book Business Directory Building. This building was also once part of the Sawyer-Massey Agricultural Plant in the late 1890's.

Hamilton was once known as the 'Electric City' because it was the first city in Canada to receive widespread electric power. It would be 13 years before Toronto would be lit up. Both cities would use the Decew I (No.1) Power Generating Plant aka The Power Glen Plant.

In 1894 John Patterson, who would later be part of a group known as the 5 Johns, visited the Edward Dean Adams Power Plant in Niagara Falls, New York. He was developing the Hamilton Electric Railway and was looking for cheaper hydroelectric power.

Patterson was interested in bringing power from New York state to Hamilton using the Edward Adams Plant.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

WALKABOUT: DOWN MEMORY LANE

SUBMITTED BY KEN HIRTER



My role with The Breezes means that I get to visit many interesting landmarks of The North End and I get to meet and interview the people who make a difference. Many become friends. One of those special people was Ed Stewart.

Ed was born and raised on Wood Street in the North End. At a young age, his family suffered a tragedy when his brother Bill was killed on the Athabaskan and moved away.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

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NEW KID ON THE BLOCK?



Welcome to **JAMES NORTH BAPTIST CHURCH** – a part of the North End since 1887. What???

This newcomer to the North End is really just Hughson Street Baptist Church under their new name and in their new facility at the NE corner of James and Picton Streets. For the past two years you've watched the building take shape. The main floor and basement will house all of the church functions and the 2nd to 4th floors are the North End Landing - 45 affordable housing apartments, operated by Indwell.

Hughson Street Baptist Church has been located at 383 Hughson St N, across from Bennetto School, for the past 133 years. Their congregation has been more than just a worship gathering on Sundays. Under the leadership of Pastor Dwayne Cline, now in his 29th year with the church, they have been a trusted place in the community for exploring the Christian Faith through their children's and youth programs, working in the local Breakfast Clubs, tutoring programs, and hosting after school clubs. For over 25 summers (except this one of course) the North End Soccer League welcomed almost 300 children on Tuesday nights to Eastwood Park. Coffee's On, the Friday morning

drop-in and food bank, and the Thursday night Hub have been safe and welcoming places for people to come for good food and conversation. At Christmas special boxes of food and toys have been a welcome addition to hundreds of homes each year.

In 2011 the church purchased the building at 500 James St N because they had outgrown the old church building and were looking for a way to expand. The original plan was to renovate the existing building, transforming it into a new Worship and Ministry Center, but in conversations with Indwell, that direction changed to include a new affordable housing option in the neighbourhood in partnership with Indwell.

Indwell is a recognized leader for affordable housing in Hamilton. They are a Christian charity that creates affordable housing communities that support people seeking health, wellness and belonging. Their roots go back to 1974 when John and Siny Prinzen saw a need for housing vulnerable adults in the city. They started opening their home to others and this began a chain of events that has grown into a network of housing in the City of Hamilton and beyond. Indwell currently has more than 365 tenants in seven buildings in the City of Hamil-

ton, with 280 other tenants in Woodstock, Simcoe and London. Tenants started to move into North End Landing at the end of August and the move-in will be complete by early October. Indwell homes support individuals with a variety of needs. This building will be home to people who live independently but benefit from the security of a financially viable place to live with some staff support. We look forward to welcoming this new group of friends into our neighbourhood.

The church is looking forward to welcoming neighbours to the new building. They are gathering on Sundays, but in limited numbers due to the pandemic protocols. Check out the website at www.jamesnorth.church for details on attending. There will be an Open House for neighbours in September, a date is still to be determined as final touches are completed and a plan for welcoming people under the pandemic protocols is put in place. Watch for signs and further communications. A grand opening for the facility is planned for November, again, details are still to be announced.

Call the church office for details, 905-527-3972, or email office@jamesnorth.church

ARE YOU A TENANT? WATCH OUT FOR BILL 184

SUBMITTED BY ROBYN GILLAM

Bill 184, which became law in July, rewrites provincial legislation governing residential tenancies, making it easier for landlords to evict tenants, bypassing hearings at the Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB). In particular, it focusses on private repayment agreements between landlords and tenants. Although Premier Ford promised there would be no evictions during the pandemic, the legislation is retroactive to the beginning of the state of emergency on March 17. As soon as it ended on July 28, pending evictions became active again and new applications can be made. LTB hearings resumed in August. Many tenants who lost employment and have had difficulty meeting rent are at risk of eviction. The new legislation makes it harder for them to renegotiate repayment plans, without the opportunity of an LTB hearing.

Even if you are not having difficulty paying your rent, your tenancy may not be secure. Long-term tenants can be at risk for "renoviction," where a landlord wants to upgrade and turn over the unit for a higher rent. This is a common practice, as rent increases on vacant units are not capped. It often leads to landlords neglecting problems in rental units as a way to force tenants out. These can include basic infrastructure (e.g. plumbing, water and heat) or pest control, as well as activities that create noise or other inconvenience and can even extend to cash inducements to leave. Failure to clean common areas is also particularly troubling in the present situation with Covid-19 and has caused tenants great anxiety. Many are afraid to complain, fearing the loss of their homes.

If you are under threat of eviction, having problems negotiating back rent payments with your landlord or are experiencing significant health and safety issues in your living situation, you should contact Hamilton Acorn at hamilton@acorncanada.org or 905-393-5734 and/or the Hamilton Community Legal Clinic at hamiltonjustice.ca or 905-527-4572.

NORTH END ALLEYS ARE A HIDDEN GEM

SUBMITTED BY CAMERON KROETSCH

Alleyways are an important part of our city's urban infrastructure and make up a network of green space that helps to keep our neighbourhoods vibrant. They serve a purpose by connecting our streets, roads, and neighbourhoods to one another.

Most alleys are categorized into 2 groups by the City, assumed and unassumed.

Assumed alleys include those that are currently being maintained in one way or another and unassumed are those that are hanging in a sort of limbo state, often public but not looked after officially.

It's these unassumed spaces that communities often come together to maintain and clean up.

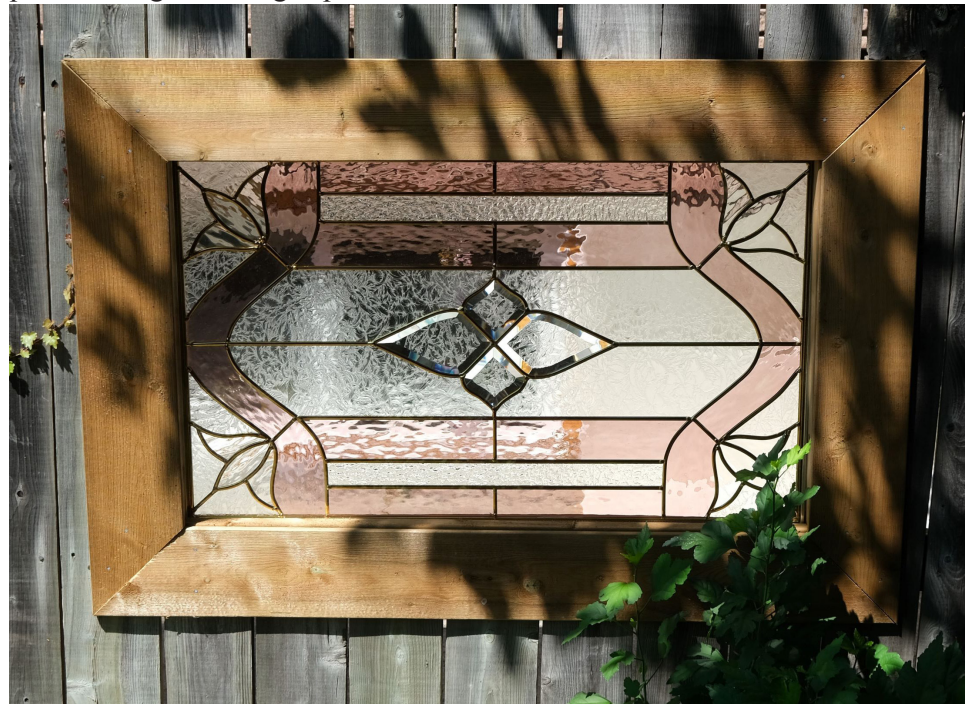
For me, those clean ups are a regular part of living in the lower city, an annual ritual of getting out to the tracks, alleys, trails, and parks to pick up what the winter snow kept hidden.

This year, because of the pandemic, that just wasn't possible and I know that many are thinking about how we might all be able to do some of this much-needed work in the coming cooler months now that getting together at a distance outdoors might be safer.

While cleanups along the rail corridor or in parks are a feature of spring in the North End, alleyway cleanups haven't really taken up as much real estate of late. In fact, in the North End, according to the City's maps, there are only a handful of public alleyways left (public are blue, private are yellow).

If you're looking to get a sense of what's out in the North End, I'd recommend a short walk down Simcoe Street from Wellington to James starting at Jackie Washington Park. There are public alleys just before Mary Street and just before James Street that connect Simcoe Street to Strachan and are definitely worth a few minutes exploring.

Even if there are only a handful of alleyways left in the North End, they still shine with that quintessential North End pride. Down one Simcoe Street alley folks have displayed their North End pride by installing a stained-glass panel to brighten things up.



A trek down an alleyway isn't usually a long enchanting walk but a short verdant hop through what's left of a vital network of local pathways that continue to be used and preserved throughout the city.

Nowhere is that more evident than at the border of Ward 2 and Ward 3 at Wellington Street where a gridlike network of alleys still exists to provide alternative transportation routes for residents in the lower city.

The pictures I've included with this

article were taken recently and are a mix of private and public alleys along Simcoe Street. They should give you a sense of the kind of space that alleyways create and why they're important. Most alleys are overflowing with greenery, tiny oases of respite from the heat and humidity.

Trees, shrubs, and plants are allowed to take over to provide a sort of temporary urban getaway—shade and plant life keep them cool. Alleys have seen less foot traffic this year because of the pandemic and, from what I could tell when I was out, they're flourishing.



If you're looking to preserve your North End alleyways, want to organize a physically distant outdoor cleanup, or just have ideas about what to do with this vital public space please reach out to Beautiful Alleys at hamiltonalleys@gmail.com.



Welcome Inn
Community Centre

WELCOME INN UPDATE

New Horizons re-opened in mid-July to continue our support for the Welcome Inn community programs. We are pleased to see our returning customers and excited to welcome some new faces too! We value everyone's company and appreciate the patience and support as we learn to operate under the guidelines of Public Health.

Please note to maintain our safe community space, including social distancing, we are only accepting donations on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 10am to 4pm. Donations accepted include housewares, clothing, linens, sports goods, and very small furniture.

The Welcome Inn food bank hours have changed for the fall. Hours are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 10:30am to 2pm.

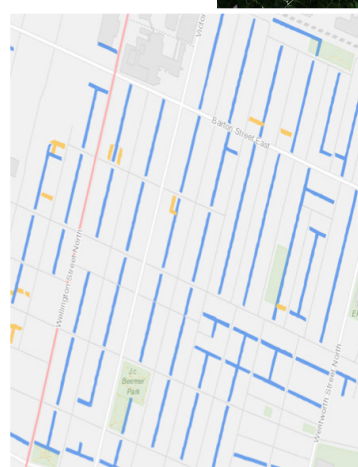
The food bank will still maintain the grab-and-go, hamper-style for the fall. We ask that all of our attendees please wear masks when waiting in line and also when approaching the door to maintain a safe environment.

We continue to assist our seniors by providing hampers and supportive phone calls. The seniors support line can be reached at 289-260-3771.

We are looking forward to re-opening our Learning and Fun After-school Program (LAF) program for youths this January, 2021.

Please remember, nothing is impossible. The word itself says, "I'm possible!". – Audrey Hepburn

If you have any questions about our programming, call us at Welcome Inn, 905-525-5824.



BOOK CLUB CORNER

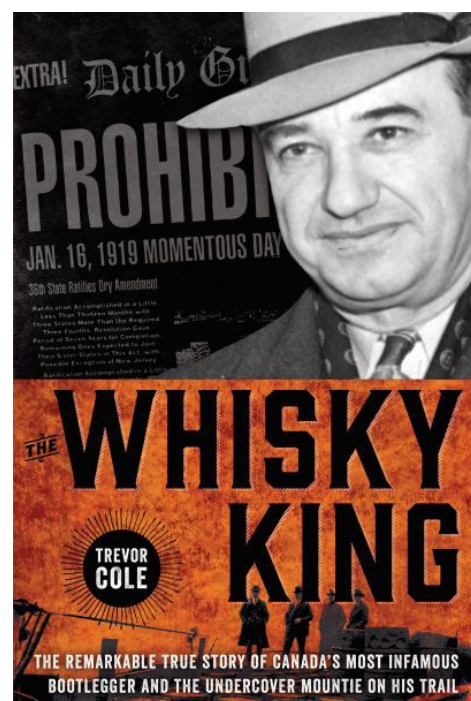
SUBMITTED BY KIT DARLING AND THE MEMBERS OF THE BAY AREA BOOK CLUB

Here are a few reviews of titles that we have enjoyed. To borrow them or place a reserve, go to <https://hpl.bibliocommons.com/>.

Beneath the Tamarind Tree by Isha Sesay. Sesay is a CNN journalist of Sierra Leonean descent who covered the story of the 276 school girls who were abducted by the militant Islamic group Boko Haram in 2014, a group that is inherently misogynistic and opposes education for women. The kidnapping made international headlines and prompted the #BringBackOurGirls movement. The girls who were from poor families sought an education in order to make better lives for themselves and their families. Sesay follows three of the girls and tells of their sisterhood and survival while suffering mental and physical abuse. She tells of the suffering and anguish of their families. She exposes the appallingly and inadequate response by the Nigerian government. Today 60% of the girls remain missing. A good read. Paige Turner

Forgiveness by Mark Sakamoto The 2018 Winner of Canada Reads, this memoir is an account of WWII via the familial recollections from contrasting sides of a human tragedy. The book challenges the image and rhetoric that Canada is a peaceful, liberal and multicultural enclave of the world. The author's paternal grandparents were forced from their home in British Columbia, stripped of their growing businesses and sent to live in squalor as indentured servants on a sugar beet farm in Alberta. The author's maternal grandfather was captured in Hong Kong, faced brutality, starvation and forced labour in a Japanese POW camp. A powerful story of two families linked together through compassion, understanding and forgiveness. Paige Turner

I Can't Breathe, a Killing on Bay Street by Matt Taibbi. Eric Garner died from a choke-hold at the hands of the police in New York City, July 2014. His death and his words "I can't breathe" were caught on video. Despite the evidence Garner and his family were ultimately denied justice. The emphasis on 'stop and frisk', the reliance on statistics to prove the effectiveness of the police and belief in the "broken windows theory," which focused on policing minor offenses in order to prevent serious and violent crime formed the backdrop to this tragic end. This is an excellent description of systemic racism and how it works for the individual and in justice and policing. A MUST READ book! Sheri Selway



And for some local colour, **The Whisky King by Trevor Cole.** The story of Rocco Perri, infamous as "the King of the Bootleggers" and his empire and of Frank Zaneth, an immigrant from northern Italy and the 1st undercover operative for the RCMP - the man who pursued Perri until Perri's disappearance in 1944.

HAMILTON: THE ELECTRIC CITY

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

However, the Americans weren't interested in selling hydro to Canada even at double the rates. Also, the Hamilton group was not able to secure water rights on the Canadian side of Niagara Falls. Those rights were given exclusively to The Dean Adams Power Plant owners in the U.S.



Hamilton had a population of about 51,000 people in 1896, and needed cheaper more sustainable power to attract industry, jobs, prestige and political clout to the city. Necessity contributed to the formation of the Cataract Power Plant Company on July 9th of that year by the 'Five Johns', John Patterson, John Gibson, John Dickenson, John Moodie Sr. and John Southerland. Cataract Power was formed with capital stock of \$99,000 (\$3,038,322.00 in today's dollars) The Company faced several challenges. It was then believed to be impossible to send hydroelectricity over long distances. That made it difficult to secure financing as well. The search was on for another suitable place with an equivalent drop. Decew Falls, located two miles south of St. Catharines, beside what is now Brock University, was chosen as the site for the Decew I Power Generating Station.

The problem with Direct Current was the loss of power over great distances. Tesla's system solved this loss with his Alternating Current methods. Most all appliances in your home today uses Tesla's Alternating

current. Electronic circuits use Direct Current.

It is worth noting that the only record that Nikola Tesla had of any involvement with bringing hydro from Decew Falls to Hamilton was that he reviewed the plans and approved them.

Cataract Power was already supplying electricity to both industry and homes on a much smaller scale with a steam-generating plant built in Hamilton's North End at 366 Victoria Avenue in 1896. A single large building was built for this purpose.

In 1898 the plant was converted into the original substation for power arriving from Decew Falls 56 km (35 miles) away. Another section would be added onto the existing Victoria Avenue building in 1899 and then again in 1907. This building is still occupied and being used for other activities.

In 1897 Westinghouse started construction on the Decew Falls powerhouse.

On August 26th, 1898, the power was turned on in Hamilton for the world's second longest transmission line.

The 'Official' opening of the Decew I Power Generating Station took place on November 12, 1898 followed by a big celebration.

For several years after the City of Hamilton promoted in the city's promotional booklets three key areas to lure businesses and heavy industry to the city:

- Hamilton was "Home of the Manufacturer."
- Had unrivalled Shipping Facilities
- and was home to the "Cheapest Power in Canada."

Special thanks to Vic Djurdjevic President of the Nikola Tesla Education Corporation.

LESTER COLOMA

SUBMITTED BY ROBYN GILLAM

Lester Coloma's murals can be seen all over Hamilton, painted directly on walls or in portable media. North Enders may be familiar with the whimsical food landscape at John and Barton that decorates the former Vegan and Butcher building, or the bicycle-riding pink elephant at Canon and James that briefly vanished back into the artist's studio when the building changed hands. Both of these works represent some kind of community initiative—the Vegan and Butcher mural was a collaboration between Coloma and Art Forms, a project that brings together artists and marginal youth; they also worked together on another mural commemorating the history of Corktown at 134 Jackson St. The elephant, which was commissioned for Supercrawl, also celebrates the inauguration of bike lanes on Canon. As well, the artist has taught in mural painting in Hamilton, Halton and Niagara schools and led a Hamilton city workshop for people with intellectual disabilities.

Coloma, who was born and raised in Hamilton, says that he was first attracted to large scale art as a child by the Touchdown sculpture outside the old Canadian Football Hall of Fame near City Hall. Although he originally wanted to do medical illustration, a job at a mural artist's studio after graduation from OCAD got him

hooked on the format.

Coloma has worked all over Canada and the US, but his work is firmly based in his home location. His clients include local businesses and charities, as well as government, but many of his works have a local flavour. Apart from Corktown, other facets of neighbourhood life celebrated include the labourers who lived around 1 West St. South and the Ferguson Railway Station district, shown on the Salvation Army Building. Even if his public and private commissions are all different, Coloma says he always like to dig around for forgotten, local stories. Among the many mural artists working in Hamilton, all relating in different ways to specific locations, he sees himself as more formal, and coming from a background in illustration, drawn to tell broadly relatable stories.

The Tesla mural on Wellington is a good example of this. Coloma drew on his childhood fascination with Greek mythology to imagine his subject bringing electricity to Hamilton, just as Prometheus gave fire to humans. The mural is located at the foot of the vanished Ferrie Street bridge, which once connected workers living in the North End to those electrified workplaces. As in his other works, the artist has dug into a forgotten past to bring a place back to life.

The author would like to thank Lester Coloma for speaking to her about his murals and allowing her to photograph him at work.



St. Lawrence the Martyr Parish 'where faith builds community'

A MESSAGE FROM ST. LAWRENCE THE MARTYR PARISH

Over the last few months we've endured a long closure and the slow reopening of our church for Mass. There has been a lot of work involved but our goal has been to open the church, following the best health guidelines available to us so that those attending can feel safe.

Sunday Masses have resumed!
11:00 a.m.

NB: Public Health Regulations require anyone entering the church to wear a mask. Please do not attend if you have traveled outside of the country in the last 2 weeks, or if you have had contact with anyone diagnosed with Covid-19, or if you have any symptoms consistent with Covid-19.

Contact Us

Please note: the office is currently closed due to Covid 19 restrictions.

For non-emergency issues, email the parish click here to email the parish or Phone: (905) 529 3921 and leave a message.

For PASTORAL EMERGENCIES ONLY please call the emergency number 365-888-1275

For Sunday Masses we've been able to accommodate about 75 people. Unfortunately we have had to turn away a few people on some Sundays when we hit our capacity. Our Mass schedule has been amended to allow 72 hours between our Sunday Mass and our first weekday Mass to reduce the amount of sanitizing and cleaning we have to do, but the church is being fully sanitized in between our weekday masses and we've reduced seating at those masses to also make it easier to ensure surfaces are sanitized. Even confessions have added complexity. They've moved to the sacristy with a screen to allow for social distancing and to keep a barrier between parishioners and the priest. After each person that goes to confession, the chair is removed, sanitized and a new chair is put in its place. As things progress, we will perhaps see restrictions loosened, or if things go the other way, we may see additional closures but whatever the outcome, we thank our parishioners and benefactors for the ongoing support of the church during the last several months.

The North End Breezes Team

The Breezes is published on the first day of the month and delivered to 4,200 homes and businesses. Contact us at 905-523-6611 x.3004, by email at office@northendbreezes.com or on our website: www.northendbreezes.com

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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. We strive to publish articles based on these principles and the applicable time frame for the content.

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 enthusiastic volunteers who produce a monthly newsletter in order to promote community connectivity and mutual support by engaging our North End Neighbours.

NORTH END BREEZES VISION:

The North End Breezes will be a vital resource that promotes harmony, pride and collective community action in a diverse and dynamic neighbourhood.

Help us grow your Breezes.

We are looking for ideas, submissions, advertisers. Please email your thoughts to office@northendbreezes.com or call 905-523-6611 x.3004. Leave your contact name and number and we'll get back to you.

Do you already contribute to our publication? Are you interested in sharing your thoughts about layout, design and content? Let's get together! I'd love to hear your ideas. Email or call and let me know. Thanks, Brenda

WALKABOUT: DOWN MEMORY LANE

CONTINUED FROM
FRONT PAGE

His life’s journey kept him active with the 607 Athabaskan Associations.

Over the years, Ed’s journeys took him across the world and he visited and resided in many cities. He settled in Oakville with his wife, built a home and lived there until his passing in August of this year.

During his travels, he still kept in touch with his childhood friends in the North End and remembered his roots. He knew when they celebrated their birthdays, when they were mentioned in the paper, what they had done and when they had passed. A true “old school” person, Ed would call or write to keep in touch.

One of Ed’s passions was The North Ender of The Year Award which he started and which will carry on through the leadership of The Breezes Board of Directors.

Ed was a gifted graphic designer and won the honour of designing the logo that we use to this day for The Breezes. His passions included being involved in the Sea Cadets and the 23rd Field Ambulance. Ed was a collector of memorabilia and shared many of his photos and stories with the North End through The Breezes.

As Wendy Collins relates “He had a great sense of humor; he was very generous with his talents (graphic arts) and his wealth of experience. An all-around kind and wonderful person. I feel blessed to have known him. In my life’s journey, he was a stand out.”

Ed’s kindness, knowledge and love of the North End will be missed but never forgotten.



HOPA P O R T S

Brand-New Ship Repair & Fabrication Program at Mohawk Open to Hamilton



The Hamilton Oshawa Port Authority has partnered with Heddle Shipyards and Mohawk’s City School to deliver a brand-new Ship Repair and Fabrication course that is now open for enrollment and will begin online this fall. The 9-week, online program will introduce participants to core and foundational concepts of ship repair: from the parts of a vessel, to retrofits, and even the legislative requirements involved in the business of fixing and fabricating a ship. It is a free program open to anyone looking to get into the field or try something new. Learn more or apply online at:

<https://www.mohawkcollege.ca/programs/get-prepared-for-college/city-school-by-mohawk/try-college-for-free/start-ship-repair-and>

Crime Stoppers of Hamilton is ‘On the Water’

Hamilton Harbour is home to a vibrant recreational boating scene, and an avid sailing and fishing community. This summer, Crime Stoppers of Hamilton, HOPA Ports’ Harbour Masters Office/ Port Patrol team, and the Hamilton Police Marine Unit are forming a new partnership with the debut of Crime Stoppers “On the Water” to help keep all 200 square kilometers of Hamilton’s waterways safe for everyone who uses them.

Common crimes that can be reported, but not limited to, include:

- Illicit activities
- Thefts
- Vandalism
- Break and enters
- Drugs
- Habitual watercraft violations

Crimes that should not be reported as TIPS, and should instead go to 911 are:

- In progress criminal activity
- Impaired driving

Remember, if you are the victim of a crime you cannot be a tipster. Please contact 911 or emergency services instead.

If local residents, boaters, or visitors have information regarding illicit activities that have taken place on or around the water, or any other crimes, and wish to remain anonymous, they are welcome to contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or visit www.crimestoppershamilton.com and Submit a Tip.

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950 King Street West, Hamilton
In the Heart of Westdale Village

BULBALICIOUS, BOUNTIFUL JOY BUCKS

SUBMITTED BY CANDY VENNING



I just purchased approximately 18,000 fall bulbs, I don't live in a castle so no, they're not for me. Fortunately, as the buyer for all my garden clients, I can pick all my favourites and watch them come up in gardens around the city.

May I recommend you purchase and commit to planting as many bulbs as you can find and get in the ground this year? Allow me to explain that I choose to call these little flaky balls of potential 'Bulbalicious bountiful joy bucks' because they'll earn you compound joy as interest. May I also recommend that you plant with wild colourful abandon because what may seem gaudy at the end of a hot, bright summer will truly be balm to your snow blasted eyeballs come spring. We need cheerful in spring and those sedately subtle white daffodils you purchased will not bring you the kind of smiles and squeaks that flaming orange and pink and blue and fuchsia combined, can and will.

Sure, sure, you say – but WHAT ABOUT THE SQUIRRELS???

yes, the squirrels have more time than you do and a much keener sense of smell but we're (usually) smarter so I recommend...

1. Plant often & plant more! I believe the very best way to stump a squirrel is to plant a few hundred bulbs rather than 10 or 15 (if squirrels eat 5 out of 10 tulips it will be disheartening, if they eat 5 out of 50 or 100, it won't be noticed)
2. Go deep or stay home – following the instructions on the packaging is nice but not accurate as the bulbs are packaged in Holland which has a milder climate and apparently milder squirrels. I know we all cheat a little just to get the job over with, and just who takes a measuring stick out into the garden anyway? Squirrels will only dig in loose soil and not for long, so dig deep.
3. Get sneaky & cover your tracks; leaving a trail of papery bulb casings is a map to your buried treasure combine it with freshly turned soil it's a flashing scent beacon to fur fiends. Tamp the soil down with your boot (prevents frost from heaving them up to the surface too) and water well after to dilute scent signals.
4. Fritillaria, Alliums, Daffodils, Muscari and Eranthis are less appetizing and wonderful bulb choices if you can't bear the thought of tulips disappearing – I find many of these bulbs come back more reliably
5. Blood, Bone & Hen – it's fertilizer, not voodoo – a good idea for the health of your soil overall, also rumoured to be somewhat effective at 'cloaking' your bulbs. Acti-sol is my favourite organic manure but there are plenty of other options.

The main problem with planting bulbs is it occurs at a time of year when we are done with the garden and ready to curl up with a good book in front of a fire, carve pumpkins, drink spiced cider – anything but planting something that is completely invisible – BUT – your delayed gratification is repaid with compound interest come spring when each fresh bloom confirms that life will again come to the garden – and after this year, we could all use some extra joy!



BRENDA DUKE

Welcome Back! We hope that you will enjoy having your copy of The North End Breezes available to you on line at www.northendbreezes.com. If you would like a PDF copy emailed to you, please let us know at office@northendbreezes.com

I'd like to thank everyone for their well wishes during my recent illness. Our publication team has done an excellent job of putting together this September issue for you. My sincere thanks to Kit Darling who pulled the team together, Paul, Chris and Ian

from our Board of Directors, Katie Fitzgerald who brings the magic to life and our contributors who supply the stories, the updates and the news to you.

Well not a true "North Ender", I have come to appreciate the community and grown to think of it as my other home. NENa has attributed me VIP status and that is an honour I hope to live up to.

We had hoped to have some changes and perhaps a paper copy available but we are still respecting the safety regulations of the pandemic so we will continue with on line for now.

You will have heard that a dear friend and supporter of The North End has passed away. We hope to continue the legacy of Ed Stewart and continue to offer the North Ender of The Year Award when we can safely do so.

In the meantime, we hope to carry on in sharing your stories to keep the history of the North End alive and support our local businesses and partners.

Be well, be safe and enjoy!

Just another reason to join our folding team!

Coffee & Donuts supplied by:

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GOOD FOOD BOX

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The Breezes is supported by your generosity! Hundreds of volunteer hours go into each publication but we need your help to cover those essential costs of printing and delivery. A tax receipt will be issued to the address noted. Please send your cheque to North Hamilton Community Health Centre at 438 Hughson Street North or visit our website www.northendbreezes.com to make a donation through paypal.

During this time of social distancing, we are still accepting e-transfers to: office@morthendbreezes.com



JOIN OUR TEAM!!

The Board of Directors is looking for eager volunteers to bring new ideas and skills to the table.

Now in our 48th year, The Breezes is looking to put some new wind in our sails that will lead us forward. If you have skills in technology, event planning or fundraising, we can use those skills to grow our team. The North End Breezes relies on our volunteers to bring the community news to you. We require minimal commitment of two hours per month. Contact us for details and to discuss how you can be part of the team! Email office@northendbreezes.com

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Letters to the Editor



Did you enjoy an article? Was there something we missed? Is there something you don't like?

Or maybe you have an update we missed? The Breezes is YOUR paper! Help us spread the news you want to hear. Email office@northendbreezes.com

REPLANTING OUR NORTHEAST ROOTS

SUBMITTED BY DAVID MICHOR

My name is David Michor and in 2012 my partner Christopher Brown and I bought a house on Wood West, we are now proud 'new' Northenders.

But I come from Northend roots, in the 1930's and 40's my mother and her big sister (Dorothy and Betty Hemingway) grew up on Simcoe East as 'true' Northenders. The Hemingway Sisters, born in Hamilton to Canadian parents of English descent, are now both widows, in their late 80's, living on the Hamilton Mountain but, to this day they tell "You have to have grown up north of the tracks to be a 'true' Northender'."

My mother always jokes that my father, Reggie Michor, born in Hamilton to Romanian and Polish immigrants, grew up on "the wrong side of the tracks"; Barton at Bay is just south of those tracks and so he was 'nearly' but not 'truly' a Northender, she laughs.

My Aunt Betty will add that her husband, Jimmy Hay, was born in Hamilton to Scottish immigrant parents, but, he grew up on Wood at Wellington, a 'true' Northender she proudly explains. They have many stories of Bennetto School, Eastwood Park, mobsters and booze cans and dancing at the Leander Boat Club but, one of our favourites is the story of Uncle Jimmy's legendary Strawberry-Rhubarb.

Like many old family stories various versions are told the story we love goes like this. Uncle Jimmy's father came to Canada from Scotland in the 1920's, he brought with him only a few possessions. One of those treasures, was a gift from his father, a root of Strawberry-Rhubarb, to be planted in his new country, in his own yard, in Hamilton's Northend. A taste of home.

In the 1950's Betty and Jimmy, and Dorothy and Reggie got married. In the 1960's and 70's, like many 'true' and 'nearly'



Northenders. they moved up to the new subdivisions spreading across the Hamilton Mountain, to raise families.

In the 1990's the last tie to the Northend was severed when it was decided to sell the Hay home on Wood East; none of our family would then be in the Northend. My cousin heard the new owners were intending to tear down the old house and rebuild. She made one last visit to her grandparents yard and took a root to plant in her own garden in St. Albert, Alberta. Then in the 2010's not long after Christopher and I settled in on Wood West we received our first house warming gift in the mail, all it read was "bringing it home".

A root from a plant that started in Scotland, that sailed across the Atlantic Ocean, that landed in Halifax, Nova Scotia, that boarded a train and travelled to Hamilton Ontario to be planted in the 'old' Northend in the 1920's, that flew to Alberta and that was returned to be replant-

ed just 6 blocks west of its first Canadian home and now in 2020 again is thriving on Wood West in the 'new' Northend, 100 years after it's journeys began.



Now we enjoy nothing more, especially during this global pandemic, than to sit under the grape vines in our back garden eating a delicious piece of fresh Strawberry & the legendary Strawberry-Rhubarb pie (Christopher has mastered the family pastry recipe) and talk to the Hemingway Sisters. We laugh about the 'truly' and the 'nearly' Northender's tales, we listen about the immigrant roots and family stories. We tell them about what the great grandchildren are learning now online, we talk about the old times and new developments here and we proudly talk about how Christopher and I have replanted the family in the new Northend.

NORTH END BREEZES FREE CLASSIFIED ADS

Ad content subject to approval by the Board of Directors in keeping with the Mission and Vision of North End Breezes. Call 905-523-6611 ext 3004 or email office@northendbreezes.com

Send your upcoming events to events@northendbreezes.com to be included in our monthly calendar and on our website: www.northendbreezes.com

Lawn Mowing: I am a 14 year old boy looking to make some money over the summer by mowing lawns in the north end. If interested call Ezra Oucharek at 905-517-1661.

For Sale: BIKINIS: Hand crocheted, Made to order, Very daring. \$95.00. Call Beryle @905-540-4242 for an Appt.

Children's Birthday Parties: Make your child's birthday the talk of the neighbourhood. Earlee the Entertainer will make it happen Magic, balloons, paintable tattoos for only \$75.00 per hour North End Neighbours – special rate of \$65.00 per hour Call Earl Ross – 289-439-0166

Take off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) meets Monday evening at 7pm-8pm at the Eva Rothwell Centre 460 Wentworth st. N Call 905-544-5088 . First night is free! Come and join us!

Community Garden, VON Hamilton – Show off your green thumb! Volunteers are required to assist with our garden on Tuesday and/or Thursday mornings for a couple of hours. Interested gardening enthusiasts can contact Janis at 905-529-0700 x2251 or voncsshamilton@von.ca.

Hamilton – Let's Do Lunch! VON Hamilton is in need of volunteers to help deliver hot and frozen meals over the lunch hour. Driver and server spots are available for our downtown routes. Call 905-529-0700 or email voncsshamilton@von.ca to find out more.

Downtown Delivery Driver: Looking for a MATURE adult to do deliveries in the City of Hamilton's lower city. Trips / tips / extras you keep. You should have a float of at least \$75 to make change for customers as a float will be provided to you to purchase items. If you are interested, please call 905-921-9339 and ask for Pearl.

Be a driving force in your community! Drivers are needed to provide transportation for seniors to get to medical appointments. Flexible schedule and mileage reimbursement. Please call 905-529-0700 or email voncsshamilton@von.ca

Hospice Volunteer Visiting– VON Hamilton is looking for caring, sensitive volunteers to visit and support people with a life-threatening illness through the end of life journey. Visits are a couple of hours per week. To join our compassionate team of volunteers call 905-529-0700 or email voncsshamilton@von.ca

Part-time Dispatcher; Looking for a mature adult to answer phone and dispatch orders to drivers, Weekends only to start Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoon. Looking for some local here in the North End. As we are in walking distance. Training provided and after training you can work out of your own home. Please call 905-921-9339 ask for Pearl

Sewing & Dressmaking. Students and clients wanted. Lessons or alterations available. Ages 6 to 106! Expert in African apparel. Please call Hyacinth 289-308-6176

CRIME STOPPERS OF HAMILTON IS “ON THE WATER”



Hamilton Harbour is home to a vibrant recreational boating scene, and an avid sailing and fishing community. The Port of Hamilton is one of the largest ports in Ontario, the busiest Canadian port on the Great Lakes, and is visited by over 650 vessels each year. This summer, Crime Stoppers of Hamilton, HOPA Ports’ Harbour Masters Office/Port Patrol team, and the Hamilton Police Marine Unit are forming a new partnership with the debut of Crime Stoppers “On the Water” to help keep all 200 square kilometres of Hamilton’s waterways safe for everyone who uses them.

This initiative will provide the public in and around Hamilton Harbour an opportunity to help keep waterfront safe by reporting tips anonymously. The partnership is committed to protecting the community, providing safety, and fighting crime on the water. Common crimes that can be reported, but not limited to, include:

- Illicit activities
- Thefts
- Vandalism
- Break and Enters
- Drugs
- Habitual Watercraft Violations

Crimes that should not to be reported as TIPS, and should instead go to 911 are:

- In progress criminal activity
- Impaired driving

Remember, if YOU are the VICTIM of a crime you CANNOT be a tipster. Please contact 911 or emergency services instead.

How the partnership will work for the public and boating community:

If local residents, boaters, or visitors have information regarding illicit activities that have taken place on or around the water, or any other crimes, and wish to remain anonymous, they are welcome to contact

Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or visit www.crimestopper-shamilton.com and Submit a Tip. Like the current structure of Crime Stoppers of Hamilton, the public is reminded that this platform is for tips only. If there is an emergency or crime on the water in progress, call 911.

The Marine Unit and HOPA Ports’ Harbour Masters Office/Port Patrol work to keep the waterways clear of criminal activity; however, with such a large area to patrol and protect, the public can be a valuable asset with information sharing. This partnership allows for more public involvement and the opportunity for the boating community to contribute to the safety of their peers. Crime Stoppers provides an avenue for the boating community to provide tips anonymously without the fear of reprisal or having to attend court. The offer of reward also diminishes apathy.

Signs will be posted throughout the boating and surrounding community, acting as a deterrent to potential criminals, while encouraging boaters and the public to contact Crime Stoppers with their tips. These tips are valuable and are cascaded to Law Enforcement, the Marine Unit and HOPA Ports.

QUOTES

“Today’s announcement is another way our organization can assist in keeping our community safe. It is critical that the public can provide tips anonymously with an opportunity for a financial reward. Expanding our services on the water in partnership with HOPA Ports’ Harbour Masters Office/Port Patrol, and Hamilton Police Services Marine Unit signifies a tremendous growth in our charitable organization. The tips generated by this service are es-

sential to helping solve crimes taking place on and around the waterways in our community”

– Carol Lazich, Chair of Crime Stoppers of Hamilton

“The Hamilton Police Marine Unit and the Hamilton Oshawa Port Authority have been partners for many years. Both agencies work together to promote safety and security in the Hamilton Harbour and surrounding area. Today’s announcement further strengthens our commitment to the City of Hamilton by providing another way to report crime in and around the waterways. This new partnership with Crime Stoppers of Hamilton will provide the marine community, both recreational and commercial, a resource to keep the waterways safe for all to enjoy.”

– Fab Giuliani, Sergeant, Hamilton Police Service Marine Unit

“We take great pride in providing a safe and secure environment for the Port of Hamilton’s commercial shipping activity and vessel traffic. As stewards of the port, we also want Hamilton residents to feel safe and secure in their enjoyment of the waterfront. By aligning our efforts and being transparent with the public, we know residents and visitors will feel more at ease while engaging in recreational activities this summer.”

– Vicki Gruber, HOPA Ports Harbour Master and Manager of Port Security

Are you tech savvy? Do you have a few hours each month to help update our website?

We are looking for a dedicated volunteer to help us keep The Breezes in the news!

Training provided. Please email us at office@northendbreezes.com

ADOPT THE BREEZES

We hear stories every day that touch our hearts and make us wonder how we can make a difference. Should we bring a new pet into our family? Is there a child that needs a loving home? Or perhaps there is a cause that could use your support.

Thank you for supporting your community newsletter. Since 1971 this newsletter has been published in a variety of forms, but it is the partnership with our readers that has always been at the heart of what we do. This is seen in the financial stability of the newsletter as in 2015 24% of our income came through donations and fund-raising activities.

We’ve seen many changes over the past few years. Colour added to our newspaper, a website presence and Twitter bringing our social media presence to the forefront. Over the past few months, we have continued to bring the news of the community to you in a digital format but as soon as the situation warrants, you will have a paper copy to enjoy while you sit on your porch with your cup of coffee. The on line readership has increased over 57% s we know you are still looking forward to the monthly edition of the Breezes. We continue to look for ways to balance our books and keep the Breezes sustainable as we approach our fiftieth year of publication.

We hope that you will join us with a financial gift that will allow us to continue to keep the people and resources of the North End connected. You will receive a charitable donation receipt for your donation. Thank you in advance for your donation.

Sincerely,

The North End Breezes Board

SAFE & FRIENDLY

SUBMITTED BY SHERI SELWAY

There has been some recent concern about crime in the North End. Damage and break-ins to cars and homes. Believe it or not, safe and friendly go together!

I have lived in the North End for over 30 years. During that time, I have been broken into once. (Knock on wood!) Yes, I called the police after the break-in.

But calling the police does not prevent these kinds of crimes. A safe community also relies on residents to take personal and community steps to protect each other.

In thinking about community safety, I spoke to a number of residents to get their ideas and perspective, as well as reading a couple of articles.

According to the Hamilton Police website

“Most criminals who break into homes do not want to be seen and most often, break into homes that appear to be unoccupied. These culprits are often looking for a house that they can break into quickly and leave without being detected. Once a burglar has select-

ed a home, most will spend no more than a minute trying to break in and less than five minutes inside. There is no fail-proof way to keep out a burglar, but every little bit of deterrence helps.”

Here are some suggestions that may help keep you and your neighbours safer.

1. Know your neighbours. That doesn't mean you have to be best buddies, just know your neighbours to say HI and have a conversation. When I was away, neighbours on both sides watched my property, watered my plants, cut the lawn, took out the garbage, checked the doors, and had an emergency number to phone. When new neighbours moved in, some of us introduced ourselves right away.
2. Help Each Other. On our block, we shovel snow (sometimes at the same time) and often for those who are older or have difficulty doing the task. I helped tenants put in a front garden and together we weeded and planted a vegetable garden in the back yard to share. One neighbour has difficulty getting around, so another neighbour puts out the garbage and puts the bins back.
3. Keep your neighbourhood clean and tidy. It helps. A clean block tells a stranger that people here care for the neighbourhood. So yes, that is a little work. Our block shovels snow for each other, brings in the garbage bins on garbage day, picks up the flyers that are delivered onto our lawns, etc. One of our neighbours pulls up random weeds.
4. Sit on the front porch. Say HI to those walking by. They might not live on your block, but they are probably neighbours. Be aware of what is normal and what seems odd.
5. Door to Door scammers. From time to time, people come to our doors. Often more than one on the block at the same time. NEVER let them in. Warn your neighbours, especially seniors.
6. Lights on! Using “outlet timers” or technology (Alexa, wireless remote, etc.) to turn radios, and lights on and off makes it seem someone is home.
7. Keep in touch. Technology may help. You can create a “page” or “group” on several platforms to

keep in touch with your neighbours.

8. Alarms. It might help. Our houses are pretty close together and I can hear smoke alarms and CO2 detectors go off in other houses. Sometimes I just leave a radio or tv on.
9. Leave a pair of shoes on the porch. That says someone is home and took off their shoes before coming inside.
10. Be Nice! I save my beer bottles for the same person who comes around. We give bottles of water and snacks out to the postal carrier or sanitation workers. If someone is looks sad or in distress, ask if they need help. Pay attention.

Yes, I do see homeless in my neighbourhood. Say Hello. They are people, down on their luck. One neighbour has a tree in the front yard where they hang up mittens and hats in the winter. Carry around extra mittens and hats or granola bars in your bag or purse. Buy them a coffee. Or lunch. You will make their day!

A friendly caring community is a Safe, Friendly Community.

UPDATE ON BENNETTO AND OTHER REC CENTRE REOPENINGS

THE FOLLOWING IS AN EXCERPT FROM A MESSAGE RELEASED FROM THE CITY OF HAMILTON AND WOULD PERTAIN TO THE BENNETTO COMMUNITY CENTRE

We're going to be in Phase Three for a while – it is our “new reality” – and we'll be here until a COVID-19 vaccine or other treatments are available and are in widespread use. While

we're in Phase Three, we will continue our focus on delivering municipal services in a safe and responsible manner, while the risk of COVID-19 remains in our community.

We will reopen more municipal spaces and continue implementing measures to enable physical distancing and health screening of those visiting our spaces. As well, we'll focus on bringing more municipal services, recreation programming and events back online with a safe and phased approach. This is a great step forward in our journey to reopen municipal spaces and restart City services.

For more on exactly what is included in Phase Three, visit: <https://www.hamilton.ca/reopens/service-availability-by-phase> You may notice that there are a few details from Phase Two

that haven't yet been implemented – we are working on these and making progress toward these reopenings over the coming weeks. We will be providing you with more updates related to the reopening of Council Chambers over the coming weeks as well. Please stay tuned for those.

Recreation Programming

Also today, we will announce the reopening of additional recreational facilities and restart of some swimming and other recreational programming.

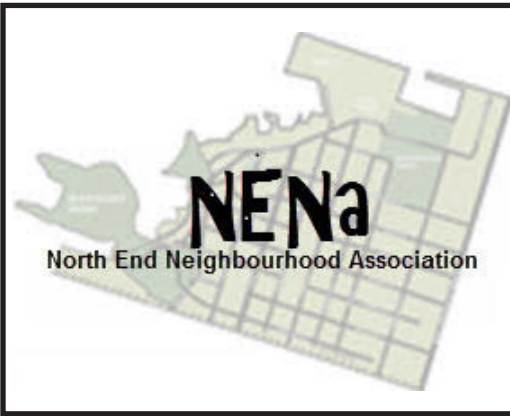
On September 14, we will restart more swimming programming with open swims for families, parents, tots and open groups. We will also begin open gym programming.

On October 5, we will restart some

modified swimming lessons, sports and fitness programs, general interest and preschool programs and rentals of recreation space for groups who have typically rented space in our facilities in the past.

More information on the reopening of Senior Centres and clubs should follow in the next few weeks – stay tuned.

As a reminder, back in June we shifted away from twice weekly media/public update events on Cable14 and YouTube and are now inviting the media to virtual scrums when we have announcements to make. The scrum itself is just for media to come and ask questions, but we do expect media coverage of the announcements once the event has completed.



NENA
North End Neighbourhood Association

NENA Meetings are held monthly and can be accessed via Zoom. For updates and more information, please visit northendneighbours.blogspot.com and follow on Facebook at [Facebook.com/NorthEndNeighbours](https://www.facebook.com/NorthEndNeighbours)

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