

DVD RELEASED! DISCOVER BENARES

On July 24, 2010 we celebrated the 90th birthday of Barbara Larson, one of the original donors of Benares, and in honour of the day, we unveiled the new "Discover Benares Historic House" DVD.

The DVD features "Welcome to Benares", providing an introduction to the historic home and its residents in English and French, with subtitles available in English for the hearing impaired, traditional Chinese characters, Urdu, Polish and Japanese. Recent visitors from Kariya, Japan,

Mississauga's twin city, were surprised and delighted to enjoy this introduction to Benares that they could readily understand!

The DVD also includes five thematic features that provide context and background to Benares: the impact of World War One, the intriguing life of Barbara Larson's sister Dora Sayers Caro, local history, and an introduction to Mazo de la Roche and her intriguing connections to Benares. The interactive "Benares Virtual Tour", hosted by Barbara Larson, is also featured on the disc.

The project was supported by the Benares Endowment Fund, the City of Mississauga, and the Friends of the Museums of Mississauga. The Friends are also funding free distribution of the DVD to public schools and libraries across Mississauga. "Explore Benares Historic House" DVD is available at the Museums of Mississauga gift shops for \$10. All proceeds go to support the Friends of the Museums.

All visitors to Benares Historic House will have a chance to see "Welcome to Benares" in the newly refurbished Summer Kitchen, prior to their personal, guided tour of the house. As well, this project included filming a tour of "Upstairs and Downstairs" at Benares, so that visitors with limited mobility can now enjoy seeing the house from top to bottom! Many thanks to the former Benares Advisory Board, Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee, the Friends of the Museums of Mississauga, and VCR Active Media for their support of this project!



VOLUME 3 FALL 2010
MUSEUMS OF MISSISSAUGA

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MUSEUM CALENDAR

- October 24**
**Tricks or Treats:
Historic Hallo'wen Fun**
- December 12**
**Home for the Holidays
at the Museums of
Mississauga**



Friends Update

Fred Durdan, Chair,
Friends of the Museums of Mississauga

Wow – what a summer! Great weather since the 1st of June and a myriad of activities involving the Friends of the Museums of Mississauga members and volunteers. As some events are detailed in other portions of this newsletter, I will simply touch on the highlights and extend my thanks for convenors, coordinators, volunteers and others who participated with Friends and Museums Staff in making these events a success.

Early in June, Gallery in the Garden and Strawberry Fair drew a large crowd of local artists and artisans who displayed their art, handmade crafts, glass and other items of interest for sale.

Throughout the summer, almost every Friday evening featured an event On the Verandah at Benares Historic House. A series of local performers have entertained guests who have enjoyed some fine musical programs.

Driftwood Theatre presented 'Shakespeare under the Stars' at Bradley Museum on a Friday and Saturday night in mid-July. Again with weather cooperation, a good sized crowd of adults and children enjoyed the spectacular Twelfth Night.

Late July allowed us to honour Barbara Larson on the occasion of her 90th birthday at Benares. Barbara along with her brother and sister donated Benares Historic House and its contents to the Ontario Heritage Trust, who subsequently donated it to the City of Mississauga. A large crowd of family, friends and relatives of Barbara's were on hand for a very festive occasion which was successful in spite of a torrential rain fall.

If you have not been involved in any of the above events, you have missed a great outing and I would urge you to follow the Museums, join the Friends and become a large part of the action around the Museums.



Chair Fred Durdan helped Barbara Larson cut her birthday cake on July 24.

Museum News is published three or four times each year by the Museums of Mississauga – Bradley Museum and Benares Historic House. Both are owned and operated by the City of Mississauga.

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Construction Starts at the Leslie Log House!

Work is underway on the Leslie Log House Project, getting us closer to the opening of the Museums of Mississauga's third site, in partnership with the Streetsville Historical Society! Look for a grand opening in May of 2011! For more information check out our website www.museumsofmississauga.com for updates!

Museum Hours

Guided Tours for Drop-In Visitors:

Wednesdays and Sundays, 1 pm to 5 pm (Wednesday to Sunday during the Summer)

Admission to both Museums:

Adults \$5.38; Students \$3.43; Children \$2.05; Family \$13.40 (+tax)

Exhibits in the Anchorage at Bradley Museum and Benares Visitor Centre:

Free, Monday to Friday 10 am to 4 pm

Both Museums are also available for pre-booked tours and programs 7 days a week, 14 hours a day

Ask about curriculum-based education programming at 905-615-4860 x 2107

Bookings for meeting room rental and wedding photography, please call 905-615-4100

Museums of Mississauga

Bradley Museum 1620 Orr Road, Mississauga, ON L5J 4T2

Benares Historic House 1507 Clarkson Road North, Mississauga, ON L5J 2W8
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COLLECTIONS CORNER

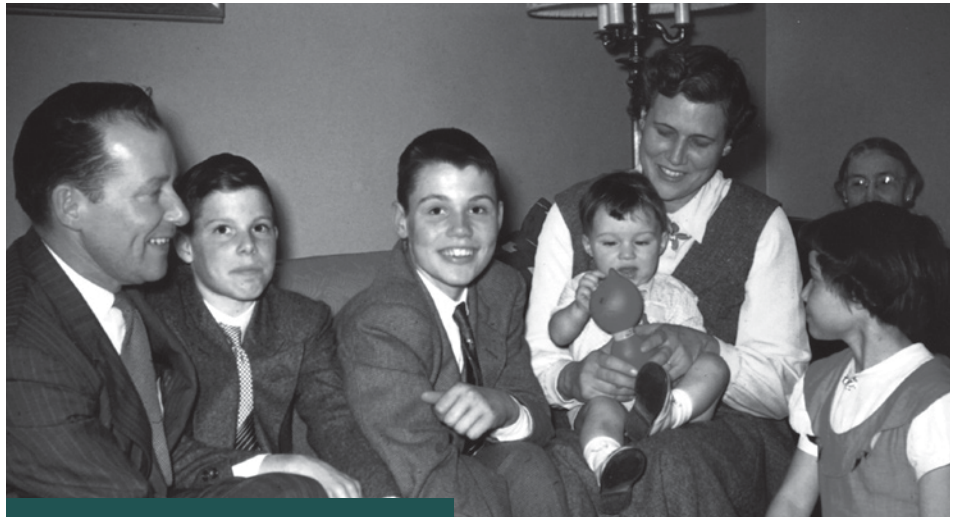
The Lawrences: Saving our History

By Stephanie Meeuwse,
Collections & Exhibit Coordinator

Bill Lawrence, a long time resident of Port Credit, recently passed away at the age of 93. Bill and his wife, Margret, made a significant impact in Mississauga through their many efforts to save our local history.

William (Bill) Lawrence (1912-2010) was born in Bond Head, Ontario. His father was a Methodist minister so his family moved every four years. One stop brought them to Clarkson in 1922. Bill graduated from the University of Toronto in 1933 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He worked on the development of radar during WWII which meant he was not allowed to join the Navy as he wanted. In 1938 he married Margaret Gray, who had recently graduated as a dietician.

Bill and Margaret moved to Port Credit in 1950 with their four children; three boys and one girl. They lived at 92 Cumberland Drive enjoying a happy family life. Bill bought Rumble Automations where he worked until his retirement in the 1970's. Margaret, always interested in history, became secretary for the Toronto Township



Bill & Margaret Lawrence with their family c.1955.

Historical Foundation in 1968 and remained a board member until 1988. Margaret was also an active member of the Mississauga South Historical Society and a volunteer for the Mormon Genealogical Library in Mississauga.

Margaret was very involved with the opening of Bradley Museum in 1967, working with Toronto Township Historical Society, later Heritage Mississauga. Her hand-made costume is currently on display as part of our Port Credit 175 Exhibition at the Anchorage. She was also a driving force

behind the restoration of the Anchorage which opened in 1991. Bill recalled her getting up at 2 am to see it being moved to its present location in 1978.

As well as supporting local history through their participation, Margaret and Bill have donated over 65 artifacts to the Museums over the past 40 years. Both made a huge impact in saving our local history and their efforts over their life time are to be commended. People like them ensure that we have many of the historical treasures that are preserved today.

Upcoming Events

By Stephanie Meeuwse,
Collections & Exhibit Coordinator

Port Credit 175 exhibit will continue to be on display until December 29 at the Bradley Museum. It features items from our collection related to Port Credit including artifacts from St. Lawrence Starch Works, Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and local families such as Naish and Maybee. We have also borrowed a number of paintings from local artists and from other heritage organizations. In the Meeting Room there are more than 15 posters of images from through-out Port Credit's recent past, including an aerial view of Port Credit Harbour in 1989. This eclectic exhibition helps to celebrate this wonderful historic community in Mississauga.

Reminders of Home is an exhibit that will be featured at Benares Visitor Centre from August 20 to December 22. Like the Harris family who first moved here from Britain in 1836, many people living in Mississauga have come from another country. We have asked our staff and volunteers who immigrated to Canada or who are first generation, to share some cherished item that tells of their heritage. These 'reminders of home' often help give people a sense of belonging to a community or to their past.

Woodland Nurseries originally owned by the Hancock Family, will be the focus of a two dimensional exhibition at Bradley Museum displayed January 16 to June 15, 2011. UTM intern, Stephanie Bellissimo, worked extensively with Marjorie Hancock to organize, document and scan

over 70 years of the nurseries' history. Established in 1930 by Leslie Hancock, Woodland Nurseries was a ten acre haven filled with numerous types of azaleas, specimen trees from around the world and his specialty rhododendrons, as well as ordinary nursery stock. Leslie experimented with rhododendron since the 1950's and formed the Rhododendron Society in 1972. His research and work helped to popularize the plant in Canada. The business grew and Leslie was helped by sons, Macklin and Don, along with his daughter Marjorie. Woodland Nurseries is located on Camilla Road in Cooksville. and has recently been purchased by the City of Mississauga to become one of its newest public parks.



PORT CREDIT:

Our Community, Our Library

By Liz McQuaig, Librarian,
Mississauga Library System

Port Credit Public Library has been part of the community since 1896. In celebration of Port Credit's 175th Anniversary, the Mississauga Library System has posted the library's story on the Local History webpage, www.mississauga.ca/portal/residents/localhistory. Find out where Port Credit's Library began, who paid for it, and how local residents pitched in to move the books to its current location! Research for the project was conducted by UTM intern Meaghan Eldridge.

MUSEUM CALENDAR

September 24 to 26
Celebrate Culture Days
Featuring free, hands-on, interactive activities to participate "behind-the-scenes" & discover the cultural life of your local community.

culture days CELEBRATING ARTS + CULTURE FROM COAST TO COAST TO COAST



fête de la culture CÉLÉBRER LES ARTS + LA CULTURE D'UN OcéAN À L'AUTRE

www.culturedays.ca

I Can See Clearly Now

By Joe Zammit, Chair, Collections & Storage Sub-Committee (CASS)

As the old song goes, "I can see clearly now the rain has gone...it's gonna be a bright, bright, Sun-Shiny day". Those are the thoughts that come to mind each and every meeting I attend of the various committees, sub-committees, steering committees and support groups of the Museums of Mississauga. When I am in the presence of the people who care and the people that make an effort and effect positive change for their community, then I truly can see that we are indeed entering "bright and sun-shiny" days.

It was not too long ago when I began to write about the problems we encountered with storage needs for our collections and artifacts. So it was with a heart filled with joy and pride that one of the aspects of our work toward solving this problem has finally paid off. One of the pieces of the puzzle fit into place when we received funding from Cultural Spaces Canada and the City of Mississauga to upgrade our storage areas at the Benares Visitor Centre and thereby increased our storage capacity nearly three fold. Walking into the storage room recently, after construction and assembly of a new shelving system was completed, it was immediately discernable that we have made positive advancements in this area. I now understand that all the work and effort was well worth it.

This summer we will embark upon the Feasibility Study process for a new artifact preservation and collection storage facility, funded by the City of Mississauga. The study will provide us with solutions to completely address all of our collection and storage needs. Stay tuned!

It is with a sense of excitement that I look forward to the next six month period when our third museum site will open at the Leslie Log House. I have quite enjoyed the reaction I receive when I tell people that Mississauga will soon have a third Museum site! As stated before, the potential that this site holds is astounding, and I look forward to the realization of our dreams and seeing the tangible results of all our work come to fruition.

People involved in groups such as the Friends of the Museums do an outstanding job of providing all of us with that invaluable touchstone of contact with a team of volunteers that have given their hearts in devotion to our Museums. They provide staff support for our events, they use their professional expertise and they raise much needed revenue for our sites as well as encourage and market our Museums in an unending campaign to draw more folks onto the sites. They make people realize the wonderful asset that the Museums represent in our municipality.

Individual historical societies, that are also populated with loving and caring individuals give of their own free time and in many cases their own money to protect the memory and history of our many townships that formed together to create the City of Mississauga. They all make me very proud to serve as a citizen representative in a capacity that helps and supports the Museums of Mississauga. While others may forget or not realize the rich past we are evolved from, there are many in this city who will not allow us to forget and constantly reach out to teach our citizens about our great and proud past.

The collective interest of all of these groups and people creates and fosters a continuous cycle of energy. This is a fountain of energy that has a contagious ripple effect that helps to sweep us all in a current of progress. We are moved to act because we surround ourselves with positive and effective visionaries who may not even live to enjoy and see the fruits of all of their labours. That is what is most impressive. That all of these people make an effort not for the comfort and enjoyments of themselves but the reality is that they actually work hard to ensure that future generations of people, they do not even know, will have the opportunity to benefit from the Museums of Mississauga. Where I come from (which is the great City of Mississauga) that is all in keeping with the way we do things here.

Indeed, we are to enjoy more *bright and sun-shiny days* for many years to come.

Kelly's Korner

Kelly Kubik, Museums Community Program Supervisor

It has been a lively summer at the Museums of Mississauga and the fall promises to be just as exciting!

Doors Open Mississauga will be held across the City, and at both of our Museums on Saturday, September 18 from 11 am to 4 pm. The Bradley Museum will feature our annual "Fall Festival" with great folk music and an environmental theme "Get Back to Simple Living", horse and wagon rides, children's activities, 'green' displays and much more! "Share-IT: Free E-Waste Collection" will be onsite to collect old computers, cell phones and electronics to be recycled and re-distributed to families in need. Benares Historic House will also be part of Doors Open this year, with guided tours of the historic house. For more information visit www.mississauga.ca/doorsopen.

Historic Hallowe'en Fun will be held from 1 pm to 4 pm on Sunday, October 24 at

Benares Historic House. Come and enjoy music, games, screamfest and the haunted barn. Reptilia will return again and Applefun puppetry will be there to entertain the family. Don't forget to come in costume!!

In December, celebrate the holiday season with us. Our Home for the Holidays event runs from 1 pm to 4 pm on Sunday, December 12. Festivities include carol singing, horse and wagon rides at Benares; and at Bradley come have your family photos with Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus, historic crafts and cooking. Admission is free with a donation of a non-perishable food item.

And in conclusion, MANY thanks to our wonderful volunteers and Friends who have been so helpful in making our spring and summer events at the Museums such a great success and in ensuring that our gardens are a delight to behold! If you or your family are interested in joining in by volunteering at the Museums please contact Kelly Kubik at 905-615-4860 ext. 2111 or kelly.kubik@mississauga.ca.

Many thanks to the following supporters of our very successful 16th Annual Teddy Bear's Picnic at Benares Historic House! Feedback from visitors was excellent!

Lead Sponsor:



Other Supporters:

Dr. Tom Kalina, Chiropractor, Clarkson
Volunteer Staff from Credit Valley Hospital
La Villa Bakery, Port Credit
Dare Cookies
Friends of the Museums of Mississauga
Mississauga Fire Services
Peel Region Ambulance
Sun Safe – Peel
Mississauga Animal Control
Boston Pizza
Redpath Sugar – Acts of Sweetness truck
Softball Ontario
St. Michael's Majors
Strider Pre-Bike
Avon Canada
Scooters Catering & Event Services
Metro – Clarkson Corners
Vinyl 95.3 and Wave 94.7



James Breuer helped keep these girl's bears in perfect health at the Teddy Bear's Picnic July 25th.

"Our girls, ages 3 and 5, had a wonderful time – especially when they had their teddy bears checked out by the volunteer nurses. One nurse even took the time to stitch one of the bears who had a boo boo on his neck. Our daughters learned lots from the nurses and will remember their kindness!"

THANK YOU!

In 2010 the Museums of Mississauga, City of Mississauga has received funding from the following Federal and Provincial programs:

Cultural Spaces Canada, Department of Canadian Heritage – Benares Compact Shelving Project

Young Canada Works, Department of Canadian Heritage – funding for Summer Collections Assistant

Service Canada, Canada Summer Jobs – funding for Day Camp staff positions

Community Museums Operating Grant, Provincial Ministry of Culture

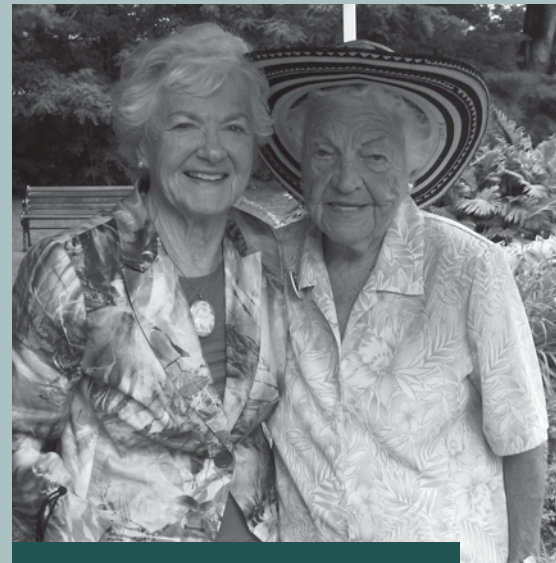
SUMMER IN REVIEW



Sara-Jane Gloutnez and Aoife Quinn returned again this summer to work in the day camp and Matthew Graves worked as the Collections Assistant.



Sasha & Ivan Shevehenko at Teddy Bear's Picnic on July 25.



Despite the rain, Barbara Larson's 90th birthday party, held at Benares on July 24, was a 'splashing' success. Shown is Barbara with Mayor McCallion.



Many talented artisans participated in Gallery in the Garden on June 4 at Benares



The Mississauga Friendship Association hosted a delegation from Kariya, Japan, Mississauga's twin City. One highlight was a trip to Benares Historic House on July 7.

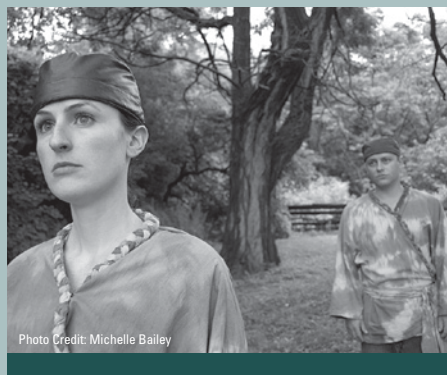


Photo Credit: Michelle Bailey

Driftwood Theatre: "Shakespeare under the Stars" was back at Bradley Museum July 16 & 17 featuring Twelfth Night. Shown are actors Karl Ang and Madeleine Donohue.



The Friends of the Museum's "On the Verandah" Outdoor Music Concerts were a continued hit this summer. Moira Nelson, Elena Jubinville and Laura Savage played a range of harp, cello and percussion music on July 9.

Programming at the Museums

By Fiona Ryder, Education Programs Supervisor

After a busy summer of day camps and lots of drop-in visitors at both Museum sites, we're looking ahead now to a busy fall of educational programming at the Museums. It's going to be a time of change as we say a fond farewell to two of our well-loved historic interpreters. Jenna Craig has stayed with us part-time as she's started her teaching career, but is now leaving – though she promises to bring her students back for our great programs! Sonia Basu, who has been working with us for almost a decade, is taking a leave of absence to start the Master of Environmental Studies and Tourism Policy and Planning program at University of Waterloo. Both will be missed, though our Upstairs/ Downstairs Video Tour of Benares features Sonia, so her lively presence will be at the Museums for a long time to come!



Caption- Sonia Basu, Teddy's Bear's Picnic, 2007.

As well as farewells, we have a few welcomes to mention! Tammy Pulinec is a recent Graduate of Sir Sanford Flemming's Museum Program, and Nancy Brown has worked in an Historic Interpreter at other sites for a number of years. We are very excited to welcome both of these individuals to the team!

Heritage Mississauga Update

By Matthew Wilkinson

Saturday, September 18 brings the annual City-wide event, Doors Open, which is organized by the Culture Division of the City of Mississauga. Heritage Mississauga is thrilled to again open our doors at The Grange to be part of this great free event.

Friday, October 22 (rain date October 24) brings the 9th annual "Haunted Mississauga" evening. This year sees the event returning to the streets of Old Port Credit Heritage Conservation District, where visitors will enjoy a guided heritage tour and have the opportunity to interact with "spirits" from Port Credit's past. The event runs from 7 am to 7 pm, with tours departing from the Port Credit Lighthouse. Please visit www.heritagemississauga.com for more updates.

The Heritage Resource Centre and the Debbie Hatch Discovery Centre at The Grange continue to be busy, and work continues on our upcoming book, "The Lost Villages of Mississauga", which is due out in the late fall of 2010. Please join us throughout 2010 as Heritage Mississauga celebrates our 50th anniversary: look for updates on our newly redesigned and re-launched website, and please connect with us on Facebook to keep in touch with the heritage happenings and events in Mississauga!

Pre-registered Fall Programs at the Museums

What could be better than Bread & Jam? Our pre-registered workshops for the fall will provide you with the skills to create this perennial pairing in your own kitchen!

Saturday September 25 (Benares) and November 13 (Bradley) learn all about baking breads in the cast iron stove and over the open hearth. Come prepared to surrender to the aroma that will fill the house and tempt your taste buds!

Are you looking for a way to take advantage of all the locally grown produce and decrease your carbon footprint? Join us Saturday October 30 to make both a sweet (jam) and sour (pickle) from fresh local produce – add something unique to your own pantry shelf or share as a seasonal gift this winter!

As well, join us for a Sunday afternoon tour of Bradley Museum and a lovely afternoon tea in the Log Cabin on September 12, October 3, November 14 & December 19. Register through City of Mississauga Connect2Rec (www.connect2ec.ca).

Engaging Education at the Museums!

At both Museum sites, our engaging curriculum-based educational programs for all grade levels focus on 'doing' – one of the best methods for retained learning. Participants use a rope maker, prepare foods of the era, create crafts linked to our sites and the time period; all experiences with strong curriculum ties that make for great memories. Were you aware that Friends of the Museums will fund bussing for schools that might not otherwise have the resources to make a visit to our sites? Interested teachers should call the Museums at 905-615-4860 ext. 2110.

Overnight bookings in the Log Cabin enjoy a rustic experience and the same hands-on learning opportunities linked to Scout or Girl Guide badges for their age level.

As a supporter of the Museums of Mississauga you are an important link to maximizing our effectiveness – please tell teachers, educators, community group leaders that you know or encounter – even your neighbours. Network our news and grow the participation in our Museums of Mississauga programs!

WHAT'S HAPPENING at the Museums of Mississauga!

SEPTEMBER

Reminders of Home Exhibition
September to January 7, 2011
Benares Historic House

Port Credit 175 Exhibition
September to December 30
Bradley Museum

Lecture Series "Italian Community at the Cookville Brickyard" by Michael Mascarin, with a special introduction by Councillor Nando Iannicca
September 14, 7 pm to 8 pm, FREE
Noel Ryan Auditorium,
Mississauga Central Library
Info: www.mississauga.ca/heritagefour

Doors Open Mississauga
September 18, 10 am to 4 pm, FREE
Info: www.mississauga.ca/doorsopen

Mississauga Fall Festival
September 18, 11 am to 4 pm
(Part of Doors Open Mississauga) FREE
Bradley Museum

Guided Tours of Benares Historic House
September 18, 10 am to 4 pm
(Part of Doors Open Mississauga) FREE

The City of Mississauga is celebrating Culture Days
September 24 to 26, FREE
Info: www.culturedays.ca

Cloverleaf 45th Annual Garden Tour in Port Credit
September 25, 10 am to 4 pm
Info: www.gardenontario.org/site.php/clover

Engage in the Past at the Museums of Mississauga during Culture Days!
September 26, 1 pm to 5 pm FREE
Bradley Museum & Benares Historic House

175th Anniversary Walking Tours of Historic Port Credit
September 25, 2 pm, FREE
Meet in front of Impressionable Gifts at 74 Lakeshore Road East
Info: www.portcredit175.ca

OCTOBER

The Amazing Race: Port Credit
October 2, 9 am to 12 pm
Info: www.portcredit175.ca

Haunted Port Credit: Spirit Walk and More
October 22, 7 pm
Info: www.heritagemississauga.com
or 905-828-8411

Tricks or Treats: Historic Halloween Fun
Oct. 24, 1 pm to 4 pm
Benares Historic House

175th Anniversary Walking Tours of Historic Port Credit
October 30, 2 pm, FREE
Meet in front of Impressionable Gifts at 74 Lakeshore Road East
Info: www.portcredit175.ca

NOVEMBER

Lecture Series "Women of Small Arms Ltd."
by Historian and Author, Alan Skeoch
November 9, 7 pm to 8 pm, FREE
Petrescue Hall, Cawthra Community Centre
Info: www.mississauga.ca/heritagefour

Live Theatre: "Where the Credit Ends... the Port Began"
November 11, 12, 13
Clarke Hall, 161 Lakeshore Road West
Info: www.portcredit175.ca or 647-221-0027

Veterans' Dinner and Big Band Dance
November 20
Port Credit Legion
Info: www.portcredit175.ca or 905-278-1705

DECEMBER

Home for the Holidays
December 12, 1 pm to 4 pm
Bradley Museum & Benares Historic House

Caroling in the Park
December 13, 7 pm to 8 pm, FREE
Port Credit Memorial Park
Info: www.portcredit175.ca

Unless noted, please call 905-615-4860 or visit our website at www.museumsofmississauga.com for more information.

Follow us: [Twitter.com/SaugaCulture](https://twitter.com/SaugaCulture) or find us on Facebook under 'Mississauga Culture'

Join Us!

Everyone needs friends and the Museums of Mississauga is looking for folks like you to assist us in reaching our goals.

Yes! I/We want to become Friends!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Individual \$10 Family \$30 I wish to make a donation in the amount of \$ _____

Please make cheques payable to the Friends of the Museums

Return with payment to:
P.O. Box 52560 1801 Lakeshore Rd. W. Unit 6, Mississauga L5J 4S6

GO GREEN SAVE PAPER



Would you like to help save trees and minimize the ecological footprint of this newsletter? Just e-mail us at museums.mississauga@mississauga.ca to let us know that you want to receive the Museum News and updates electronically!