



Happy Birthday Barbara!

Like wine and cheese, some people only get better with age!

This is definitely the case with Barbara Larson, one of the original donors of Benares Historic House, who turned 90 on January 27th. Barbara is the third child of Beverly and Annie Sayers née Harris. She spent her youth in Clarkson often at Benares visiting her grandparents and later her Aunt Naomi. Along the way she has lived in many places and has travelled to even more, but her heart always brings her back home to Clarkson. Happy Birthday Barbara and we hope that this year brings you much health, happiness and love!



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Traditional Afternoon Tea at Bradley Museum!

Enjoy a tour of Bradley House followed by a traditional afternoon tea with tasty treats in the award-winning Log Cabin.

Pre-registration required.

Teas will be held 2:30 to 4:30pm on Sunday afternoons, March 28, April 18, May 16, and June 20th.

Cost is \$16.43 per participant.

To register on line please go to www.mississauga.ca/connect2rec or call 905-615-4100.



Maple Magic
A Taste of History

Join Us at the Bradley Museum to tap a tree, tour the sap line, visit our maple gift shop, and create crafts in the Log Cabin.

Pancakes with real maple syrup and horse & wagon ride also available (additional cost). March 13 to 21. Weekdays 12-4pm, Weekends 10am-4pm. Only \$16.25 (+tax) per family

Friends Update

Fred Durdan, Chair, Friends of the Museums

Winter is upon us. With the holiday season behind us it is time to reflect on the past year and look ahead to the busy, upcoming spring.

What a wonderful surrounding to reflect in: our Museums grounds at Benares and Bradley - as you walk through a light layer of freshly fallen snow among the barns and out buildings, often smelling smoke from the Bradley House hearth as a Sunday afternoon program is being conducted.

The Friends of the Museums and Museum Staff were pleased to welcome a large number of Friends and volunteers to our recognition evening on November 25, as we wanted to take the opportunity to thank all those associated with Museum activities throughout the year. The Museums could not be as successful as they are without the efforts of Friends and volunteers.

A great day with Santa was presented in the Log Cabin at Bradley Museum highlighting the Museums Home for the Holidays. Through the assistance of Kristy Elik of the Clarkson Corners newspaper we were able to take photographs with Santa for many of the young ones who came with parents.

As we move into the new year the Starlight and Candlelight Gala on February 19 is shaping up as a grand event under Chairperson Joyce Delves. This is our major fundraising effort for the year. There are a large number of silent auction items available, so we solicit your support in participating in the Gala.

As recorded elsewhere, planning for Maple Magic is well underway, with the usual large crowds anticipated. Behind the scenes, we have been working on the completion of the renovation of the Benares Summer Kitchen, as well as working with City staff and the Streetsville Historical Society on the refurbishment of the Leslie Log House at the Pinchin Farm property on Mississauga Road. Hopefully by the end of the year this building will be in use for seasonal programs and housing the Streetsville Historical Society's archival collection. 2010 is starting off to be a very busy year!

Also for all those interested, don't miss the Friends of the Museums Annual General Meeting at 7pm on April 29 at Chartwell Baptist Church in Clarkson. Event is free and all are welcome. See www.museumsofmississauga.com for more information.

Mississauga Friendship Association

Mississauga Friendship Association is a group dedicated to fostering and promoting Mississauga's sister city relationship with Kariya City, Japan. Formed in 1993, the MFA has hosted over 10 cultural exchanges involving more than 150 delegates. The Museums of Mississauga are one of their top destinations for visits as we often work with the group to promote our twinning with Japan through exhibits and related activities. The MFA is always looking for new members; it is a great way to learn more about Japanese culture. A general interest meeting will be held on February 23 from 6 to 8:30 pm in Committee Room A, Civic Centre. The AGM will be held in the same location on April 20. For more information about the MFA please visit www.mississauga-fa.ca/ or call 905-615-4860 x 2109.

Welcome Lee Ann!

You will see a new face around the Museums in 2010. Lee Anne Dorcich has replaced Isabel Palferro as Museums Administrative Coordinator for the duration of Isabel's maternity leave. Lee Anne has worked in Recreation and Parks since 1995 holding various administrative positions.



museum news

MUSEUMS OF MISSISSAUGA



SHEDDING LIGHT ON THE PAST

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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Friends of the Museums of Mississauga Board of Directors: Wendy Davies; Gerry Dallas; Jenny Dale; Joyce Delves; Fred Durdan; Anne Fabierkiewicz; Alice Fahey; Don Harrington; John Pegram; Becky Ryder; John Van Camp; June MacPherson; Mary Ann Stokke; Dana Bryant-Giguere.

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Collections & Exhibits

Something More About Carrie...

By Stephanie Meeuwse, Collections & Exhibit Coordinator

In the last issue of the Museums News I wrote about Carrie Furze, a domestic servant who worked at Benares during World War I. Thanks to Tom Drew-Smith, we were able to use his information to find out even more about Carrie and how she came to Canada.

Alexandra Benedikt, a long-time Museums interpreter and author, agreed to do some further research on Carrie to try to answer some of the questions that had not been addressed by Tom's information. We wanted to know when Carrie immigrated here, and when exactly did she start working for the Harrises. Through Alexandra's research we learned that Carrie and her brother Ernest both came to Canada as part of the British Home Children movement.

Alexandra writes 'According to the Library and Archives of Canada, "between 1869 and the late 1930s, over 100,000 juvenile migrants were sent to Canada from Great Britain during the child immigration movement. Motivated by social and economic forces, churches and philanthropic organizations sent orphaned, abandoned and pauper children to Canada ... where families welcomed them as a source of cheap farm labour and domestic help." According to The British Home Children website, the children, ages 4 to 15, "worked as indentured farm labourers and domestic servants until they were 18 years old." The British Child Care organizations claimed they were providing the children with a better life in Canada. Critics disagree: "they had other ignoble and pecuniary motives. They rid themselves of an unwanted segment of their society and profited when they sold these children to Canadian farmers." The Library and Archives of Canada agrees that "many of the children were poorly treated and abused," however, "others experienced a better life here [in Canada] than if they had remained in the urban slums of England." Unfortunately, most siblings were separated upon reaching Canada—and never saw each other again. Carrie and Ernest defied the odds, though. The siblings remained in contact.'

Carrie came to Canada in 1903 spending twelve days at sea on the Kensington before arriving in Quebec. She was one of 133 children traveling with Dr. Thomas Barnardo's party. Alexandra states that "according to her travel documents, she [Carrie] was destined for Peterborough, Ontario". In a letter from Martine King, Archive and Administration Manager for Barnado's Family History Service, Carrie's first placement was with Mrs. Parlane, The Hermitage, Collingwood on 20 May, 1903. She was sent to help Mrs. Parlane's mother, Mrs. Thacker who lived at 64 Gloucester Street in Toronto, on 30 November, 1907.

As Carrie was over 15 when she came to Canada, there are no other records of her placement; she was considered old enough to make her own arrangements. 'Carrie isn't listed on the 1911 Canada Census, so we don't know when she came to work at Benares. However, according to her brother's attestation papers, she was a domestic servant for the Harris Family as early as 13 June 1916.'

Ernest had actually come to Canada in 1902, at the age of 13. He arrived in Portland, Maine on 6 April 1902; one of 199 children travelling with Dr. Thomas Barnardo's party. In Alexandra's research she learned that 'according to his [Ernest] travel documents, he was destined for Ontario. Ernest eventually settled in Assiniboia East, Saskatchewan where he worked as a "Home Boy" for the Skyes Family. In 1911, he was employed as a servant for the Firth Family. He also worked as a drayman (a driver of a flat-bed wagon, used for transporting goods). Ernest enlisted in the Army 13 June 1916 at age 28. He was part of the Canadian Infantry (Saskatchewan Regiment), 5th Battalion. He died 9 April 1917 at the battle of Vimy Ridge. He is buried at Nine Elms Military Cemetery in Pas de Calais, France.'

I wrote to the Barnado's Family History Service in England to find out further information on both Carrie and her brother. We were provided with a few new details but because we are not family, we were not able to access the confidential records concerning them.

Thanks again to Tom Drew-Smith, Barnado's Family History Service and Alexandra Benedikt for this information on Carrie, one of our Benares servants.

Ernest Furze's admission photograph, 1895



Pte Ernest Furze, 1916

Up-coming Exhibits

D-constructed: A Student's Survey of the World around Them opened on January 21 at the Anchorage, Bradley Museum. This display will run until June 13 featuring works of art by grade 11 students from Stephen Lewis Secondary School. The student's photographs feature images of themselves, Mississauga landscapes and youth culture, all with a little twist. Thanks to Amie Tolton, Head of The Arts, and Martha Woods, Principal, at this school for partnering with us on this fascinating exhibition.

What's New In Old Stuff: Recent Donations will be on display adjacent to the Great Hall at the Mississauga Civic Centre until April 19. This is part of a recent initiative to refurbish the display cases located near the Council escalators. When City Council is meeting, the display can be accessed from the Great Hall entrance. At other times, enter through the glass doors across from the Art Gallery of Mississauga. Another part of this project is the creation of 25 historic images that will be hung in the Councillor's Offices and as well as changing Museum exhibits in two display cases in the Council Reception area on the 3rd floor. The Museums are thrilled to highlight recent donations as our first display at the Civic Centre, as it allows us to acknowledge the history and generosity of the citizens of Mississauga.

The View Around Here: 150 years of Paintings, Drawings and Photographs of Benares Historic House is now on display at Benares Visitor Centre until April 26. This display features many paintings, drawings and photographs of one of Mississauga's most beautiful homes. Artists include Captain Harris, the home's second owner, Fred Livesay, a renowned writer and founder of the Canadian Press, and Harris family friends like artists Caroline Farncomb and Barbara Roe Hicklin. Modern works are also displayed.

Outreach Exhibits - The Museums continues developing outreach exhibits at local libraries across Mississauga. Watch for displays at Central, Courtney Park, Churchill Meadows, Malton, Erin Meadows, Lorne Park, Meadowvale, and Streetsville libraries this year.



Benares, 1862 by Captain James Harris



Learning how to make maple syrup

Maple Programs

By Fiona Ryder, Museums Education & Programming Supervisor

Spring always comes early to Bradley Museum! Each year starting March 1 all of our maple trees are tapped, and our staff are ready to start our busiest and most popular programming of the year: Maple Magic! We run right through to the end of March. In March, even as the last snows of winter fall, you can see a change in the texture of the snow – light and fluffy – a “sugar snow” The frigid nights and warming days make for the best sap runs.

During Maple Magic we tell the story of the first harvest of the year; the journey of maple tree sap as it is processed into syrup (and sugar) We examine how Early Settlers and First Nations people processed syrup, and compare and contrast this with today's activities.

Our programs are 90 minutes in length and include an interactive tour of the sapline and site, a craft activity and candy making. Our Museum Interpreters definitely bring the program to life. They are dressed in traditional red plaid and lead a fun, active and relevant program.

We welcome all types of pre-booked groups during this period, from kindergartners through Adult Education. We are visited by school groups and organized children's and adult groups. All thoroughly enjoy their visit. Group size varies a lot as well. We have had smaller groups and then groups in the 90 + range!

Just before a group arrives you can just hear the plink plink of sap dripping into the buckets and smell the wood smoke from the fires burning both in the house hearth and outside in the fire pit.

Our staff are ready to meet the busses as they arrive. The group is greeted with a lively introduction, and then divided into smaller groups ensuring that each person has a good individual experience. The site comes to life with a lot of voices and laughter as the sap line tours begin. The highlight of the outdoor tour is the fire pit (and maybe some days this because it is the warmest stop on the outdoor tour!) Here 3 Cauldrons hang filled with maple sap in various states as it is processed towards syrup or sugar.

One of our two indoor components is a tour of historic Bradley house and maple sugar candy making. A very yummy activity! The other indoor component is an age appropriate craft maple themed activity usually housed in the log cabin – it is a cozy stop preceding or following the sap line tour.

Teachers and group leaders are advised to book early to get the date and time of their choice. We run programs daytime, evening and weekends all month except for the nine days of March Break (March 9 through 21) when we hold our Maple Magic public event. To book a program or for more information please call us at 905-615-4860 and press “0”

Heritage Mississauga: Celebrating 50 Years

Matthew Wilkinson, Heritage Mississauga

2010 marks the 50th Anniversary of Heritage Mississauga. Founded on December 6th, 1960 as the Township of Toronto Historical Foundation, the organization has undergone a few changes in the past half-century, including several name changes (Mississauga Historical Foundation, Mississauga Heritage Foundation Inc., and our working name of Heritage Mississauga). Our organization has also had several “homes” – the Bradley House, offices at the Civic Centre, and our current home at The Grange. Regardless of the name and location, Heritage Mississauga continues to serve the heritage needs and interests of our ever-growing city. Join Heritage Mississauga throughout 2010 as we celebrate our 50th Anniversary and the rich heritage of our remarkable City.

February 2010 will see our annual Heritage Awards evening, taking place during Heritage Week on Thursday, February 18th, 2010. Join us at the Port Credit Legion as we once again celebrate and honour Mississauga's Heritage Heroes. Please contact Heritage Mississauga for more information or to reserve tickets for the awards evening. February will also see the return of the remarkable art show “Colourblind” by the African-Canadian Artist's Association to The Grange. This incredible art show, fresh from a showing in the fall at the Royal Ontario Museum, will run from February 22nd until March 5th. In the spring we will also be welcoming several student art exhibits into The Grange: Bronte College (March 8 – 26), Rick Hansen Secondary School (April 2 – 30) and for the third consecutive year Erindale Secondary School (May 3 – June 4). Additionally in April we will be hosting a heritage bus tour of Mississauga; and in May will be our Annual General Meeting. Please contact Heritage Mississauga for more details at www.heritagemississauga.com or 905-828-8411.

Richard Collins making some
tasty treats at Maple Magic



Kelly's Korner

Kelly Kubik, Museums Community
Program Supervisor

We have completed yet another successful year at the Museums, and again I am grateful for all the assistance we have from all the Friends of the Museums and volunteers we work with. In 2009 we broke attendance numbers at almost all our events. Home for the Holidays ended the year with yet another successful event, and we are looking forward to expanding each event even more in 2010.

February starts off with the Friends of the Museums 11th Annual Starlight and Candlelight Gala being held at the Bradley Museum on February 19. This one exclusive evening is organized by the Board of Directors of the Friends. Proceeds directly support the Museums Collections and Education Programs throughout the year.

March brings our ever popular Maple Magic at the Bradley Museum. Maple Magic runs March 13 – March 21, weekdays 12 – 4pm and weekends 10am – 4 pm. This year we are serving pancakes in the Log Cabin throughout the week – if you are able to help us flipping pancakes during the week we would love to have the additional help. If you know of a student looking for volunteer hours during the March Break please have them email me directly. Last year our amazing volunteers donated over 775 hours to make Maple Magic run smoothly. The more help we have, the more activities we can offer our guests. So if you can volunteer we would greatly appreciate the extra hands.

When looking for that special gift, please visit the Benares gift shop. The gift shop volunteers have selected some very unique items and are adding new items every few weeks.

Please make sure you check out our newly improved web site www.museumsofmississauga.com. Here you will find a complete listing of the Museum events, volunteer opportunities, and up-to-date news of what is happening at both Museum locations. Returning in 2010: our Tea Room at the Bradley Museum one Sunday per month starting in February – more information will be available on our web site soon so please check it out.

Right now there is snow on the ground, but we are in full swing planning our summer events, gardens, On the Verandah Summer Concert Series, and other happenings around our sites. So enjoy the winter and we all look forward to seeing you around the sites.

Past Gala guests





Fall & Winter in review



Earth Rangers Nicole Arrell and Ashley Feil enjoyed introducing Echo to the crowds at Fall Fair.



On November 11th an episode of *Murdoch Mysteries* was filmed at Benares.



Congratulations to Isabelle Palferro, Administrative Coordinator, on the birth of Leo Anthony on Dec. 7th.



Sofia Piza and Austin Lu enjoyed the Fall Fair and Doors Open on September 19 & 20.



Kelly Kubik, Community Programming Supervisor, led the Scremfest at Tricks & Treats Halloween Fun on October 25.



Barbara Larson, donor of Benares Historic House, with Collections staff, Stephanie Meeuwse and Tracy Oliveira, during her recent visit to Ontario



Santa & Mrs. Claus were back at Bradley Museum for Home for the Holidays in December



Madelaine Meeuwse and 740 other visitors enjoyed watching a pirate play at Benares during Halloween.



On Site and on Paper...

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

For those of you who continue to follow the progress and news of our Museum sites you should be aware that in the next year there will be number of important developments that will reward your interest. These developments are occurring in the very real on-site construction and development phase as well as the formative planning process stage that will continue to take place in the committee rooms of our city.

Firstly, the development of the Leslie Log House continues at a breakneck pace. This development has been vastly different from our previous Log Cabin re-build project on the Bradley site because in that endeavour the project relied on the good graces and generous pocket books of all those who support the Museums in our city. For the Leslie Log House project, Infrastructure Stimulus monies granted to the City have freed-up otherwise allocated budgetary money. This is what has accounted for the great number of infrastructure projects that you have seen spring-up in our city. The Leslie Log House is situated on Mississauga Road just north of Highway 403 at the site of the old Pinchin Farm and apple orchard.

By December of this year the Leslie Log House renovation will be completed. It will then become the repository for the Streetsville Historical Society who is in dire need of a new home and adequate space for their significant historical archive collection. The rest of the site offers us all a wonderful opportunity for historical and agricultural interpretation, and the foundation of the barn structure will remain as a ruin to explore.

Secondly, while our plans for a Collections and Storage Facility continue to evolve into a Feasibility Study, the Collections and Storage Sub-Committee has overseen the application of two grants that will allow us to proceed with short term storage needs in our existing museum sites. One cannot begin to thank properly all of the City and Museum Staff members who have dedicated countless hours to ensure that the proper paperwork has been set in place to ensure funding, legal requirements and endless other considerations that must be made when undertaking the progress and betterment of our Mississauga Museums.

Devotees of our Museums, please heed my advice and “buckle-up” as we are in for an exciting ride in the next twelve months.



Museum Musings

Annemarie Hagan, Museums Manager

2009 was an important year in the history of the Museums of Mississauga, a year that saw the seeds of change that set the stage for the Museums to grow and thrive over the coming decade.

In June, Mississauga City Council adopted Mississauga's first-ever Culture Master Plan. In October the Museums moved from Recreation and Parks to join the new Culture Division, Community Services, along with our colleagues in the Film Office, Heritage Planning, and Meadowvale Theatre. This change has already provided the Museums with the opportunity to get involved in some exciting new projects such as: the Mississauga Cultural Map, Bussell Cultural Centre Feasibility Study, Social Media Marketing Project, and the development of a Business Plan for the Culture Division.

We'll also wrap up some long-standing projects before spring arrives. These include the launch of the “Welcome to Benares” DVD, refurbishment of the Benares Summer Kitchen, Bradley House window replacement, re-launch of the Bradley Museum Tea Room, and installation of new exhibits at the Civic Centre. Work will also start soon on the Museums of Mississauga Collection Storage Facility Feasibility Study – a crucial step towards expanding our storage capacity as we look to the future of collecting, preserving and sharing the history of our growing City. And the Leslie Log House project, in partnership with the Streetsville Historical Society, will continue throughout the year, with completion planned for December 2010.

Of course, all of this is on top of our day-to-day programming, collections, interpretive, administrative and facility operation work, so it's clearly going to be a busy time! However, with the combination of our dedicated, hard-working and creative volunteers, Friends of the Museums, Museums of Mississauga Advisory Committee, full and part-time Museums' staff and our supporters in the community, we know it is going to be another good year at the Museums!

Archives Closure

The Region of Peel Archives will be closed from March 1, 2010 to the Fall of 2011. They have received Infrastructure Stimulus funding to upgrade exhibition and storage space at the Peel Heritage Complex. This work will affect the Reading Room as the entire site will be considered a construction zone. Staff will continue to help customers on a priority basis. For more information please see www.peelheritagecomplex.org

What's Happening at the Museums of Mississauga!

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

February 2010

Exhibit -D-constructed: A Student's Survey of the World around Them runs until June 13 at Bradley Museum

Exhibit- The View around Here: Images of Benares Historic House runs until April 25 at Benares Visitor Centre

Family Day at the Museums of Mississauga - Feb.15, 1pm -5pm at both sites Admission: \$6.50 for Family Day Pass

Heritage Awards Feb. 18, Port Credit Legion
Info: www.heritagemississauga.com or 905-828-8411.

Starlight & Candlelight 11th Annual Gala Feb. 19, Bradley Museum SOLD OUT

Exhibit- Colourblind - Feb. 22 to March 5 at The Grange, Mississauga Heritage Info: www.heritagemississauga.com or 905-828-8411.

Mississauga Friendship Association General Interest Mtg. Feb. 23, 6 to 8:30pm Info: 905-615-4860 x 2109

March 2010

Exhibit: Bronte College Student Art Show - March 8 to March 26 at The Grange, Mississauga Heritage Info: www.heritagemississauga.com or 905-828-8411.

Lecture Series: Aboriginal Challenges & Métis History by Joe Paquette, Métis Elder - March 9, 7pm -9pm, FREE South Common Library Visit www.mississauga.ca/heritagefour Or call 905-615-3500x3660

Maple Magic at Bradley Museum - March 13 to 21, Weekdays 12pm-4pm, Weekends 10am-4pm Admission \$16.25 (+tax)

April 2010

Exhibit: Rick Hansen Student Art Show - April 2 to 30 at The Grange, Mississauga Heritage Info: www.heritagemississauga.com or 905-828-8411.

Lecture Series: Irish Settlement in the County Peel by Aidan Manning - April 13, 7pm -9pm, FREE Cooksville Library, 3024 Hurontario Street, Suite 212 Visit www.mississauga.ca/heritagefour Or call 905-615-3500x3660

Mississauga Friendship Association AGM - April 20, 6-8:30pm Info: 905-615-4860 x 2109

Friends of the Museums of Mississauga AGM - April 29, 7pm- 9pm, FREE- All are welcome! Chartwell Baptist Church, Clarkson

Go Green: Save Paper

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



Museum Hours

Guided Tours for Drop-In Visitors

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

Admission to both Museums: Adults \$5.24; Students \$3.33; Children \$2.00; Family \$13 (+tax)

Exhibits in the Anchorage at Bradley Museum and Benares Visitor Centre: Free,
Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm

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

905-615-4860 FAX: 905-615-4861

www.museumsofmississauga.com

joinus!

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 \$_____

Return with payment to:

P.O. Box 52560
1801 Lakeshore Rd. W. Unit 6,
Mississauga L5J 4S6

Please make cheques payable
to the Friends of the Museums



museums
OF MISSISSAUGA



MISSISSAUGA
Leading today for tomorrow

Benares Historic House was donated to and restored by the Ontario Heritage Foundation by the descendants of Captain James Harris – Geoffrey Harris Sayers, Dora Sayers Caro, and Barbara Sayers Larson. Bradley House was preserved, restored, and first operated by the Mississauga Heritage Foundation. The Museums are now owned and operated by Recreation and Parks, Community Services, City of Mississauga. The Museums are grateful to the Ontario Ministry of Culture for operating funding under the Community Museums Operating Grant Program.