

THE PORT REPORTER

VOL.1 NO. 10

A PUBLICATION OF
PROUD PORT DALHOUSIE



'Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning'. WINSTON CHURCHILL

The withdrawal of the application to build a huge tower in the midst of a designated heritage district is not the end of the issue. Most people in Port see the need for appropriate development in its commercial core. It has been Proud Port Dalhousie's stance right from the beginning of the process that it was in favour of appropriate development. However there are significant issues that have to be addressed to achieve that goal – improved parking and traffic flow leading the list. Carol Elliot of Scrap Shack highlighted the problem for shop owners:

"No matter what happens down here, if they put up development or not, what we need is parking. Nothing is going to work without parking." Quote–St. Catharines Standard, Oct.28, 2005

A looming issue is the review of the Official Plan which is underway at City Hall. We must encourage City Hall to engage community residents in a full consultation process. Change works best when there are more people that are both well-informed about what's going on, and involved, resulting in a situation in which better ideas are going to come to the forefront.

The commercial core is as much the concern of the area residents as it is that of the large property owners. We

have witnessed how these property owners have been indifferent to the concerns of the residents by strongly endorsing the tower project against the wishes of over 80% of the residents and several business tenants, as well as perpetuating the myth that Port was an area in decline. We have seen the ongoing focus of the owners on tourist trade, leaving the needs of the surrounding community largely unmet. The owners have not consulted effectively with the surrounding community, resulting in the frustrated residents banding together and mobilizing others to protect their treasured quality of life.

The uncertainty about fuel availability makes it imperative that any new plan encourage the creation of services and shopping that meet the needs of local residents as well as the shopping and dining to meet the needs of visitors. A proper consultation process that involves both parties at the same table is needed to reduce the 'behind closed doors' demeanour that pervaded the tower proposal. Such a process is also needed to heal the wounds created by that application.

Experience shows that the

'big quick fix' does not solve the problems the city is facing. The planning process offers greater hope for a long lasting solution.

There are ways to improve Port. But it involves a lot of work at the edges as well as in the commercial core: increasing heritage markings to attract more visitors, enforcing and strengthening parking regulations, identifying parking solutions, making sure policing is highly visible and adequate – taking care of those details that make an area, which is basically wonderful, an even greater place to live, raise families as well as a great area in which to retire.

What is equally important for us, the residents, is to remain involved, contributing time and energy to this process. It is essential that we not abdicate our responsibilities as residents and leave the future of our community to our business 'leaders' and our elected representatives. We must participate in looking after the revitalization of the core although one of our local councillors did work extremely hard and he is to be congratulated for listening to his community.

Visit www.saveport.ca for regular updates.

Do the ends ever justify the means? Nope. When did we forget how to do community development? Just because a few politicians and business people think something is good for the community does not mean they have the right to ram it down the community's throat. The events of the past two weeks have provided a useful lesson in the school of public opinion.

If the city and business leaders had shown some flexibility, allowed for creativity and a willingness to entertain a different point of view, then we might have avoided the mess.

Consultation is a process whereby you have to listen, otherwise it looks like another 'back-door' deal to the community. Listening, if it's genuine on both sides, results in acceptable compromise.

From where I sit, the official planning process will need to include a lot of active listening.



THE PORT
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The Port Reporter

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Port's Historic Cemeteries

Inside the gates of Port Dalhousie's two historic cemeteries can be found many remarkable connections to the village's long ago past. In St. Andrew's Cemetery (at the end of Johnston Street) and St. John's Cemetery (on Main Street), one can find the gravestones of many of the village's early residents; these reveal much historical information and, as one would expect in a lake port, many references to sailors, captains, and loss by drowning or ship accidents.

St. Andrew's Cemetery was established in 1849 on land donated to the Presbyterian Church by Port's prominent 19th century landowner, Nathan Pawling (whose final resting place is found here too). Evidence suggests, however, that this location was used as a graveyard earlier than this, at least dating back to the 1830s. A very interesting government map of the village in 1839 notes "burial ground" at the

present location of St. Andrew's cemetery.

In 1841, the Read family donated land on what is now Main Street for the Anglican graveyard, St. John's Cemetery. Both these cemeteries hearken back to a time when it was common practice for churches to have separate burial grounds for their own adherents. (Where Port residents of other denominations took their deceased is unclear.) Some gravestones in St. John's and St. Andrew's pre-date the establishment of these cemeteries, having been moved there from burial grounds on family farms.

The oldest gravestones in the cemeteries are the slim panels of soft white marble or gray limestone, the most popular stones for grave markers in pioneer settlements because they were the easiest to carve with hand tools. The white marble slab markers are the most common gravestone in historic cemeteries throughout Ontario.

These stones often feature elaborate decorations, and those in Port's cemeteries display carved symbols that were well-known and recognized in the 19th century, depicting deep sorrow, lasting love, and enduring faith: weeping willows, clasped hands, links of a chain, flowers, and hands pointing heavenward. Many headstones as well have poetic and poignant inscriptions, telling of love and loss in this life, and proclaiming faith in the peace and joy of the next. Some of the later monuments are the taller obelisks (popular from the 1860s to about 1920) which often feature representations of draped urns and open Bibles. By the 1880s, more durable stones like granite were used, especially by prosperous families.

Since many of those who were buried in St. Andrew's were natives of Scotland, carved thistles appear on many gravestones there. In

In both cemeteries, there are many gravestones of lake captains and mariners, reflecting Port's Great Lake heritage; a number of these display carved anchors and ships in full sail. The headstone of Capt. Thomas Fagan, (a native of Strangford, Co.Down, Ireland who died in 1858 and is buried in St. John's) reads:

"The Lord himself will keep
His people safe from harm,
Will hold the helm and guide the ship
With his almighty arm."

In St. Andrew's Cemetery one can find the large and imposing gravestone which marks the resting place of Alexander Muir, the Scottish-born mariner and shipyard owner who died in 1910 and who had such a prominent place in village life throughout the second half of the 19th century. His headstone overlooks Twelve Mile Creek, the location of the early Welland Canals, and the site where Muir Drydocks operated for nearly a century.

In both cemeteries some of the inscriptions are very poignant and call to mind hard realities of 19th century port life, with references to drownings and accidents on ships: a 26-year-old "who met a premature death by the falling of the boom" on a ship; another who "drowned at Port Dalhousie;" a 14-year-old "who was killed on board the barge Ark." There too are reminders of the high incidence of child mortality and death in childbirth which were ever-present facts of 19th century life everywhere. The gravestone erected to the memory of towman William Carter's family in St. Andrew's cemetery, for example, lists his six children who died aged from only a few days to a few months, and his wife, whose young age at her death suggests she may have died in childbirth.

Nineteenth century cemeteries were designed to be restful, peaceful places amid great natural beauty, for the repose of both the dead and the living, and

a quiet spot for contemplation. (St. Andrew's has a lovely setting and may be the most peaceful spot in Port, while St. John's, once set in farmland outside village boundaries, is now surrounded by suburban sprawl, on an increasingly busy Main Street.) They were designed also to be places of historical record. Sadly, in Port's historic cemeteries many of the older gravestones have been badly damaged by erosion caused by weathering and pollution. Acid rain is particularly destructive to old marble and limestone slabs, causing their edges to soften and inscriptions to fade. Many stones that were clearly legible for over a century have become unreadable in the last twenty years because of acid rain, and lichens, algae, frost action and vandalism are also threats to old gravestones.

Fortunately, the Ontario Genealogy Society prepared lists of the names, dates, and some inscriptions on the gravestones in St. John's in 1981 and St. Andrew's in 1989. These are available in the Special Collections room at the St. Catharines public library.

Since erosion of the old gravestones by pollution continues, however, it would be a good idea to photograph all of them as soon as possible, and to record all their inscriptions in full before these valuable links to our past vanish completely, and the messages that they carry from their time to ours are lost forever. Wherever possible, these old gravestones in Port's historic cemeteries should be restored and preserved, so that they continue to provide a valuable historical record and important links with our past.

Nancy Cameron, Historian



LEST
WE
FORGET



Sadly forgotten/broken gravestones piled in a corner with no relatives/friends to advocate for restoration!

Editor's Note: Three years ago I edited and published 'Growing Together', a 150 year compilation of the history of St. Andrews Church in Port Dalhousie. Nancy Cameron was one of the contributors to that collection of church history. The above pictures came from that book. In addition to the joys of being able to contribute in some small way, the following comment from the book notes my sadness.

.... sadness came about through my visits to the St. Andrew's Cemetery. The condition of the gravestones, with many gone or broken as a result of the ravages of time and/or vandals, made me realize that we are rapidly losing the community's heritage. Instead of honouring the contributions of our founding 'families', we seem to want to forget about their existence. It was through the efforts of the men and women resting there and in the cemeteries of the Anglican and Catholic Churches, that Port came to life. I believe that we need to honour these pioneers and build upon their efforts.

At the very least, their resting places should not go unmarked.'

OPINIONS

BROCK UNIVERSITY CITIZENS OPINION POLL ON THE PROPOSED TOWER DEVELOPMENT IN PORT DALHOUSIE

The opinion poll conducted on behalf of PROUD Port Dalhousie, a volunteer community group, by the Brock MBA Business Consulting Service confirmed the vast majority of St. Catharines residents are opposed to the proposed condo tower development in Port Dalhousie. Brock researchers contacted 200 residents by telephone in each of the City's 6 electoral wards, or 1200 total. Results vary by individual ward but, in each case, a significant majority are opposed. Overall results are considered accurate 99 times out of 100 and results for each ward 19 times out of 20. "Our own surveys, research and the June 28th Public Meeting already showed overwhelming opposition to this project but, we wanted to commission a study by an independent organization in the hope that our figures would be validated beyond any reasonable doubt." stated PROUD President Dr. David Bergen.

The following were the results by ward, showing the percentage who are opposed to the proposed condo tower development:

Merritton (Councillors Sheila Morra and Jennifer Stevens)
-68.0% opposed.

St. Andrew's (Councillors Cam Donevan and Joseph Kushner)
- 69.0% opposed.

St. George's (Councillors Peter Secord and Greg Washuta)
- 81.5% opposed.

St. Patrick's (Councillors Carol Disher and Charles Gervais)
- 83.0% opposed.

Grantham (Councillors Brian Dorsey and Dawn Dodge)
- 75.5% opposed.

Port Dalhousie (Councillors Susan Erskine and Bruce Williamson)
- 82.5% opposed.

"It is now official", added Dr. Bergen, "...the people of St. Catharines have said **NO TOWER IN PORT DALHOUSIE.**" The Brock survey confirms that St. Catharines residents understand the development proposal is incompatible with Port Dalhousie's unique heritage. It is feared that this massive development, and

particularly a tower that is the height of a 33-storey building and almost twice as high as Niagara Falls, would overwhelm the heritage character of Port Dalhousie. It would also overwhelm the limited space of the harbour and beach area and the already-strained traffic and parking capacity.

For more information on this opinion poll, please contact:

Dr. David Bergen
President
PROUD Port Dalhousie
905-934-8598

Morris, an 82 year-old man, went to the doctor to get a physical. A few days later the doctor saw Morris walking down the street with a gorgeous young woman on his arm.

A couple of days later the doctor spoke to Morris and said, "You're really doing great, aren't you?"

Morris replied, "Just doing what you said, Doc: 'Get a hot mamma and be cheerful.'"

The doctor said, "I didn't say that. I said, 'You've got a heart murmur. Be careful!'"

Childrens Letters to God

Dear God Are you really invisible or is that just a trick?

Lucy

Dear God I want to be just like my Daddy when I get big but not with so much hair all over. Sam

Dear God I keep waiting for Spring but it never come yet, Dont forget. Mark

Dear God Instead of letting people die and haveing to make new ones, qhy don 't you just keep the ones you got now? Jane

Dear God You don 't have to worry about me. I always look both ways. Dean

Dear God I went to this wedding and they kissed right there in church. Is that OK?

Neil

Dear God Thank you for my baby brother but what I asked for was a puppy. Joyce

Dear God I bet it is very hard for you to love all of everybody in the whole world.

There are only 4 people in our family and I can never do it.

Nan

Dear God Please send Dennis Clark to a different camp this year. Peter

---Heady Times for Port Dalhousie---

by Deborah Kehler

The mid and late seventies were heady times for Port Dalhousie. Funds were trickling in from all three levels of government. Port Dalhousie had escaped the fate of "urban renewal" that plagued cities and towns across North America. Relatively little housing and commercial stock had been destroyed in the name of progress during mid-20th century to make room for new housing tracks. New plans of subdivision, occupying what was then the former Cole strawberry and vegetable farm, were in their infancy. This was infilling in the most positive sense.

The Ontario Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program, the Neighbourhood Improvement Program (NIP, the genesis of the name of the Nipper, the old Community Newsletter), brought much-needed funds into the community, enabling people with low or fixed incomes, to

undertake renovations of their homes. The restoration of Dalhousie House was part of this process. An unanticipated benefit of this exercise was the community development process that Port Dalhousie was undergoing. Longtime local residents such as Jim Rennie, Charlie Summers, Gloria Rooney, and many others welcomed more recent residents in the revitalization of a community, which was in desperate need of help. Dalhousie House was one of the beneficiaries of this process, undergoing at least a basic degree of restoration. During the next decade, other projects followed the preservation of the Port Library, the restoration of Carousel, and recognition of the need to preserve what remained of our canal structures. These activities were identified and carried forward by volunteers that used their passions and their skills to do what they could to cherish and preserve their community.

During the past twenty months, Port Dalhousie has been the centre of a vigorous, and on occasion, acrimonious debate about its future. The prospect of having the downtown core of Port develop into an intensively-developed, high-end business district, dominated by a 328 foot condo tower on the edge of Lakeside Park, evoked a series of responses across the community of Port Dalhousie and throughout the city of St. Catharines that has been both surprising and instructive. Some residents who in the past demonstrated an awareness of what constitutes appropriate and sympathetic development have embraced this prospect with a high level of enthusiasm. Others, who have grown up in environments in which tall buildings, such as the TD Centre in Toronto, designed by Mies van der Rohe, were

common, have directed their energies in attempting to preserve that which is of great and irreplaceable value in Port. This issue has touched many of us at our cores and has caused residents to reflect on what really is important to them about the community in which they live.

The downtown of Port Dalhousie reflects a mixture of eras ranging from the 1840s to the 1950s. It is a living example of both a canal village and a "bar" town, as some of our political leaders have suggested. It is incumbent on us to use what we have experienced and what we have learned during the past twenty months, to work together toward creating an environment that reflects our history and incorporates a compatible view of the future.

Visit www.saveport.ca
for archived
Port Reporter Editions



1995 USA
Commemorative
Stamp

Harriet
Tubman



© Parks Canada / 1998
The St. Catharines BME Church

ST. CATHARINES

A CHANGE IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LEADERSHIP IS NEEDED

There's little evidence that our current leaders and economic development staff understand the fundamentals of great waterfronts: Great waterfronts are built around parks and public spaces as well as tourist attractions – and that the water itself is always the greatest attraction.

The best waterfronts open up access to the water for ordinary folks, not just condo owners, paying restaurant patrons or hotel guests. Our city's political leadership has, in the past, understood that fact. They helped to create large, signature open spaces as the core where people could play games, stroll, or bring a picnic lunch and spend long Sunday afternoons. As a result – St. Catharines and Niagara Region residents have been drawn to the waterfront in greater numbers. Great waterfronts are also lively neighborhoods in which to work and live. They blend seamlessly into the communities of which they are part. The distinctive qualities that draw tourists to those communities -- especially history, quaintness and authenticity -- draw the residents to the waterfront as well, especially in the off-seasons.

The worst developments make little use of the scenery for anyone but the inhabitants of luxury high rises and are viewed as playgrounds for the wealthy. They pack tiny, heartless public spaces between tall buildings that bear no relation to the community's character and architecture. They appear as islands within a community with little to connect them with the richness of the surrounding neighbourhood. They look like Toronto, with its cluster of bleak, imposing condo towers surrounded by parking lots and poor excuses for green space.

Our current economic development leadership seems to be focussed solely on the needs of business to make money without an understanding of the other important element in the equation – the people and neighbourhoods. Glossy buildings and packed density may work in large urban centres where tradition, long-term residency and neighbourhood identity are lacking, but they don't play well in smaller, diverse yet cohesive communities. Good economic development leadership is visible and creating ongoing dialogue with the residents of areas under consideration for change. The 'invisible' leadership of the City's current economic development department is not serving our political leaders well and it is time for a new direction.

Harriet Tubman

C. 1820-1913; African American freedom slave, conductor. B. Maryland.

Tubman's birth year has never been verified — estimates range from 1816 to 1823. Born into slavery, she was a victim of brutality at an early age. Once, while just a child she refused to wipe mud from a British officer's boots and was slashed across the face with a sword, and at age 13 received a fractured skull while defending a fellow slave from a cruel master.

At the age of 25, she married John Tubman, a free African American. Five years later, fearing she would be sold South, she made her escape.

Her Escape to Freedom in Canada

Harriet Tubman was the greatest single conductor in the history of the Underground Railroad, earning the nickname "Moses" for her heroic exploits in leading slaves to the "Promised Land." Returning nineteen times to the dangerous South, Tubman led more than 300 slaves to freedom, including her own aged parents. For her long hard work, Harriet Tubman received a medal from Queen Victoria of England, who was also a sympathizer.

(various internet sources)

BUILDING THE CHURCH

The British Methodist Episcopal Church, Salem Chapel of St. Catharines stands on the corner of Geneva and North Streets in an area of the city formerly referred to as Coloured Town. This area of St. Catharines is where many refugee slaves arriving into Canada from the United States settled. The Black community of the area formed a Methodist Society of the American Methodist Episcopal Church in 1838. In 1840, the congregation purchased a plot of land on the corner of Geneva and North Streets in order to build a church.

St. Catharines' Black community paid 5 pounds to two leading white local abolitionists, William Hamilton Merritt and Oliver Phelps, to purchase the land. The original church was constructed by the community using crude logs from the surrounding forests, but it was later destroyed. Construction on a new church began in October 1851 with financial support from the St. Paul Street Methodist Church, the white Methodist congregation of St. Catharines. The new church was completed in 1855, and a dedication ceremony, conducted by the Reverend Dr. Payne of Cincinnati, was held on November 15th.

collections.ic.gc.ca/underground/St.%Catharines/BMEmiddle.html

ST. CATHARINES: AN IMPORTANT STOP ON THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

**St. Catharines British Methodist Episcopal Church (Salem Chapel)
National Historic Site 92 Geneva Street**

The following excerpts are from a meeting of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada in 1999.

"St. Catharines BME Church (Salem Chapel) is typical of the auditory-hall design of UGRR-related churches. The substantial size and interior elaboration of the church speak to the importance of the church in the UGRR era and to the church's role as a centre for religious, cultural and political activity."

"Through its association with famed UGRR conductor Harriet Tubman, Salem Chapel was an important locus of abolitionist activity in Canada. The history associated with Salem Chapel is particularly significant in terms of the UGRR and the abolitionist movement. The meaning of Harriet Tubman in Canadian black history and the international battle for the abolition of slavery is legendary. Moreover, her presence attracted other important figures like John Brown and Frederick Douglass to St. Catharines, helping to make both the town and Salem Chapel central players in the UGRR."

SALEM CHAPEL, B.M.E. CHURCH TO CELEBRATE ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY 1855 - 2005

Sunday Oct. 23rd **PRAYER BREAKFAST** 9:00 am

Sunday Oct. 30th 2:00 pm **LOCAL FAMILY HISTORY** 92 Geneva St. 905-682-0993

Thursday, Nov. 3rd 7:30 pm **CHURCH HISTORY LECTURE** St. Catharines Public Library 54 Church St. 905-688-6103

Saturday November 5th 7:00 pm **CELEBRATION CONCERT** Fairview Mennonite Brethren Church 455 Geneva Street
Tickets \$10 905-984-6769

Sunday, November 6th 2 pm **HARRIET TUBMAN TRIBUTE SERVICE** Salem Church 92 Geneva St. 905-682-0993

**A DONATION OF A NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEM IN SUPPORT OF LOCAL COMMUNITY CARE
WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.**

William Hamilton Merritt: More Than A Canal Builder

Canadian soldier, merchant, Mayor of St. Catharines.

As a young Canadian soldier Merritt often posed as an American to trick the U.S. into divulging information. He was eventually captured at Lundy's Lane and never fought again.

In 1840 W. H. Merritt and Oliver Phelps, by then prominent members of St. Catharines society, sold to members of the Black community the land on which the British Methodist Episcopal Church (Salem Chapel) now stands "...in consideration of the sum of five pounds of lawful money of the aforesaid province..." Shortly thereafter, he also played an instrumental role in the establishment of the Zion Church by the Baptist Society of St. Catharines.

An active sympathizer, Merritt actively fought for the rights of Black freedom seekers. In the 1850s, along with fellow abolitionists Harriet Tubman and Elias Adams, W.H. Merritt formed the interracial Refugee Slaves' Friends Society. This group helped bring escaped slaves to Canada and helped them adjust to their new homeland.



Nov. 6 Remembrance Service 9:30 a.m. and walk to Cenotaph for community service

Sunday- November 13 Morning worship at 10:30 a.m. Tri-Church Fun--3 - 5 p.m.- Vollyball Games 5-6:30 p.m.-Potluck Supper at Star of the Sea (each person/family brings a potluck item and place settings) All invited

"VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for 'THE OUT OF THE COLD PROGRAM'! St. Andrews will be hosting 3 suppers at First United Church-King Street). 2005 Dates: November 23 and December 28

Tuesday evening study group- "The Complete Idiot's Guide to the Bible"
CHURCH OFFICE: 905-935-1168

MONDAYS: 2nd & 4th: Course on Miracles WEDNESDAYS: 1st & 3rd: Healing & Meditation Group

Christmas Eve Service: 7 p.m. - family, inter-generational service

Dec. 31st- New Year's Eve Brief Communion Service @ 6p.m.

St. Andrews Community Gym & Hall Need Help! The heating systems finally wore out and have to be replaced. They are borrowing the money to replace the old boilers with furnaces and are community fundraising to repay the loan.

Christmas Poinsettia(s)! (To help pay for the replacement of the heating systems) Call Dick Slade (934- 1229) or Colborne Collins (934-3772) to place your order. Prices range from \$3.50 to \$27

WHAT'S UP?

ANGELFEST - A FESTIVAL FOR EVERYONE!

A seasonal celebration of Glittering Lights, Relaxed Shopping and Special Events!

November 16, 2005 - January 22, 2006

FOOD AND WINE
ARTS AND CULTURE
MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT
ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES
LIGHTING AND DECORATIONS!

Angel Glow Christmas lighting in downtown areas and along the route from Stoney Creek to Port Dalhousie!

WELLAND

November 6

Welland Projects Association
905-732-1515

Toys For Tots Community Concert

WELLAND

November 13

Seniors Special Events - Drama 50+ Presentation Rose City Seniors Activity Centre 905-732-9777

Thorold's 12th Annual Christmas Arts & Craft Show

Sat Nov 19, 2005 - Sun Nov 20, 2005
10:00am - 4:00pm

Details:

Come out and experience Thorold's 12th Annual Arts & Crafts Show Saturday, November 19 and Sunday, November 20, 2005 at Thorold Secondary School, located at the corner of St. David's Road and Ormond Street in Thorold.

Admission is \$2.00 with all proceeds to benefit Thorold Secondary School.

For more information please contact Cathy Henderson at (905) 227-7248 or e-mail:

cathy.henderson@sympatico.ca.

THOROLD Annual Santa Claus Parade Saturday, Nov. 26 Time: 2:00 pm

ST.CATHARINES Santa Claus Parade Sunday, November 27th

The Santa Claus Parade starts at 2:30p.m. Parade route: William St. to St. Paul St. to James St. to King St. to the

Market Square. Come to the Market Square following the parade as there will also be apple cider and activities for the family. In partnership with Community Care, please bring a food donation. For info. call 905-688-5601 ext 1503 or email dgarrington@stcatharines.ca

On-Going October-March

The St. Catharines Skating Club, a pleasure skating club for adults with live band music, meets at Ridley College Sports Complex, 8 to 10 PM, Wed.and Sat. nights from late October until early March. Visitors are welcome. Call 905-682-0869 to arrange visits and for membership information.

WELLAND Santa Claus Parade December 3 905-732-1515

The Grimsby Santa Claus Parade Saturday, Dec. 3, 2005 at 5:15 PM Starts at Town Hall-ends at Town Clock

November 4th, 2005 to Monday, January 2nd, 2006 23rd Annual Winter Festival of Lights

Friday, December 2nd, 2005 15th Annual Victorian Candlelight Stroll

Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON : 6:30 pm

Saturday, December 3rd, 2005 Port Colborne's Annual Lighted Christmas Parade Time: 6:30 pm

Saturday December 10th, 2005 Niagara-on-the-Lake Santa Claus Parade 11:00 AM

Saturday and Sunday, December 10-11, A Garrison Christmas at Fort George Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON

Celebrate Christmas 19th century style Make decorations - enjoy glass/cider



www.tdhmediaproductions.ca

PORT IMAGES

by Andy Cienik



'LAST DELIVERY'
Port's McMahon Dairy 1836-1868
25 1/2" x 15 1/2"



13"x18"



13"x 8 1/2"
'THE OUTER LIGHTHOUSE'
(Black & White Prints)

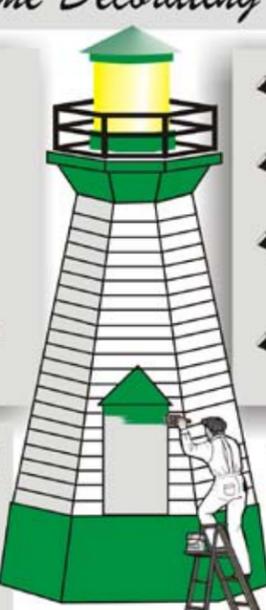
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Drywall installation
Cracks and gouges repaired



- ✓ **Light Carpentry**
We repair steps, porches, etc.
- ✓ **Masonry and Chimney Repairs**
Sidewalks, steps, patios, chimneys
- ✓ **Roofing and Roof Repairs**
Asphalt and aluminum shingles, complete re-roofing and repairs
- ✓ **Pool Closings**
In-ground and above ground pools closed and winterized

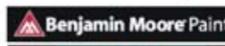
3 YEAR WARRANTY ON ALL PAINT WORK

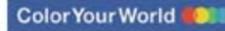
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"Tiny Dancer"

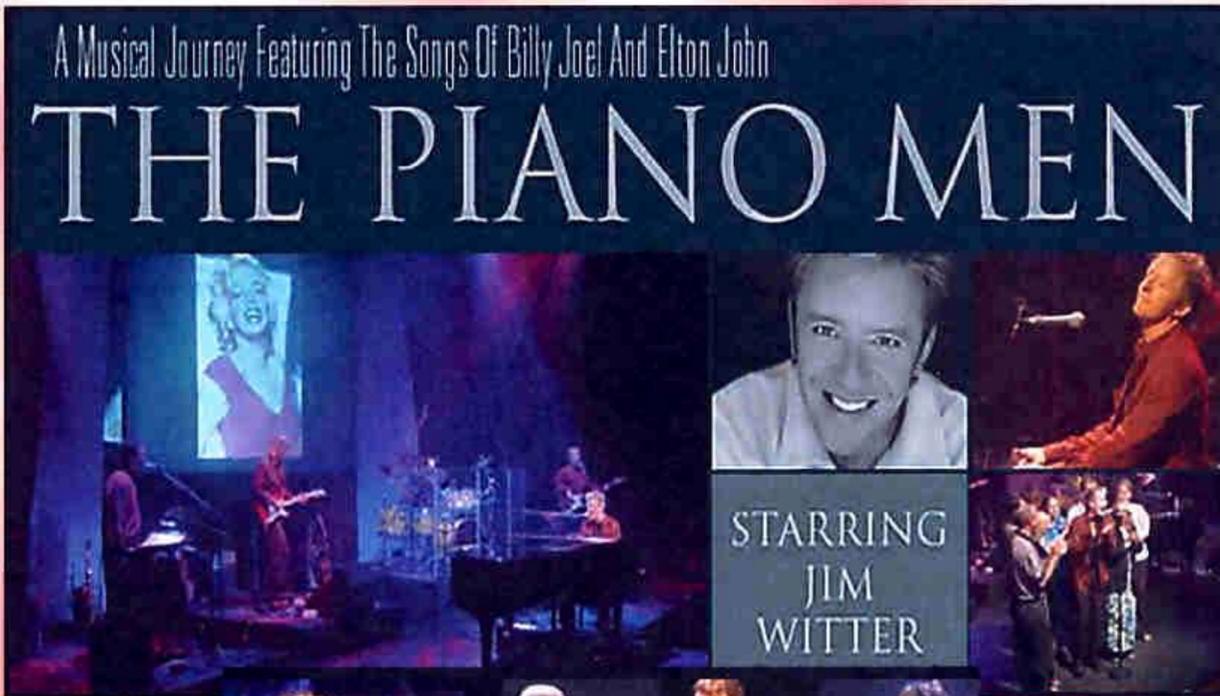
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"Rocket Man"

"Piano Man"



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REMEMBER OUR MARCH EDITION:

'Communities are like snowflakes. Each flake is fragile but look what they can do when they stick together!

EVERYONE PITCHED IN! PORT AND THE CITY ARE RICHER PLACES TODAY BECAUSE OF THAT EFFORT. THE UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT OF THE GREATER COMMUNITY OF ST. CATHARINES GIVES MUCH HOPE FOR A REGENERATION OF OUR CITY. WE ALL NEED TO CONTINUE TO STICK TOGETHER TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

LEST WE FORGET



THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT PREPARED BUT YOU CAN BE

In the last issue, I wrote about how the change of season effects our health in regards to colds and respiratory infections. To continue I would like to give you a few ideas on how to protect yourselves from the flu this winter and even be ready for the dreaded avian flu. On Tuesday as I was walking out the door to go bowling I heard the newscaster on CNN say with what I thought was a hint of glee in her voice, "With the current strain of bird flu not many people are getting it yet. What needs to begin to get that changed?" Maybe it was a slip of the tongue or maybe I heard it wrong. She went on to say we don't have enough vaccines we don't have a plan. Well the USA government is going to give billions of dollars to certain drug companies to research vaccines and start pumping out millions of doses. So if you want to make some money I have a few share tips for you. They are twenty years too late and it will take them another 10 years to produce the required stockpiles. Anyhow you know when it comes to natural disasters you are on your own for at least a week or two and that's if you don't get quarantined into some hell hole that would certainly help to spread the infection. Did you know it takes up to 6 months to develop a vaccine to any new influenza virus and even so the new virus can mutate into newer, vaccine-proof forms faster than it takes to get the new vaccine into production. Also the early

versions of any vaccines are unlikely to protect against the specific strain of virus that would likely cause a pandemic.

What can you do to prepare and protect you and your family? Did you know there are many plants with strong anti viral properties?

Let's not remind the governments of this fact, because we don't want those to be stockpiled.

An herbal tincture that has strong anti-bacterial and anti-viral properties is Una de Gato or Cats Claw. I prefer to use the tincture and there is a company called Traditional Healers that makes a standardized extract from the Cats Claw, which is specific for colds and flu.

Garlic in the form of deodorized capsules or tablets at a dose of two a day could be used as a preventative and at a higher dose rate if the flu is contracted.

There is a homeopathic remedy called Oscilloccinum, which is reputed, to act as a possible preventative and one dose every two weeks can be taken throughout the winter months.

Now if you can find some elderberry wine you might enjoy the winter and gain some benefit against the flu. It has been found that elderberries contain three compounds, which have antiviral properties. You can buy elderberry extract in capsule form or in the liquid form. It would

be a good idea to buy a bottle for each member of the family and store in the kitchen

cupboard just in case.

Fish oil capsules or straight fish oil may boost the immune system and in the form of cod liver oil you will get some Vit D to help keep you healthy.

It is recommended you check with a qualified health care practitioner before taking any of the above preparations to check on your condition and to make sure there are no drug interactions with any medications you may be taking.

Geoff Szymanski, ND

TIPS TO HELP AVOID PARKING TICKETS

Did You Know...?

...that **ONLY** the person who is issued a valid Disabled Permit may use it to park in a Disabled Space (as

a driver or passenger).

...the Set Fine for unauthorized **Parking in a Disabled Space is \$300.00**

...that the Set Fine for **Parking in a Fire Route is \$75.00.** Fire Routes are not only for Fire trucks, but for all designated Emergency Vehicles such as Ambulances and Police.

... that the Set Fine for **Parking on a Front Lawn is \$100.00.**

...Leaving **Oversized Vehicles and unhooked Trailers** on St. Catharines roadways will cost a **\$75.00 Set Fine.**

... Parking too close to a Fire Hydrant or a Driveway, parking on a Boulevard, Facing the Wrong Way or leaving a vehicle on the road way for more than twelve hours at a time without moving it, **are all violations of the City's By-laws** carrying a Set Fine of \$20.00

...stopping or parking on or partly over a Sidewalk is a **\$40.00 Set Fine.**

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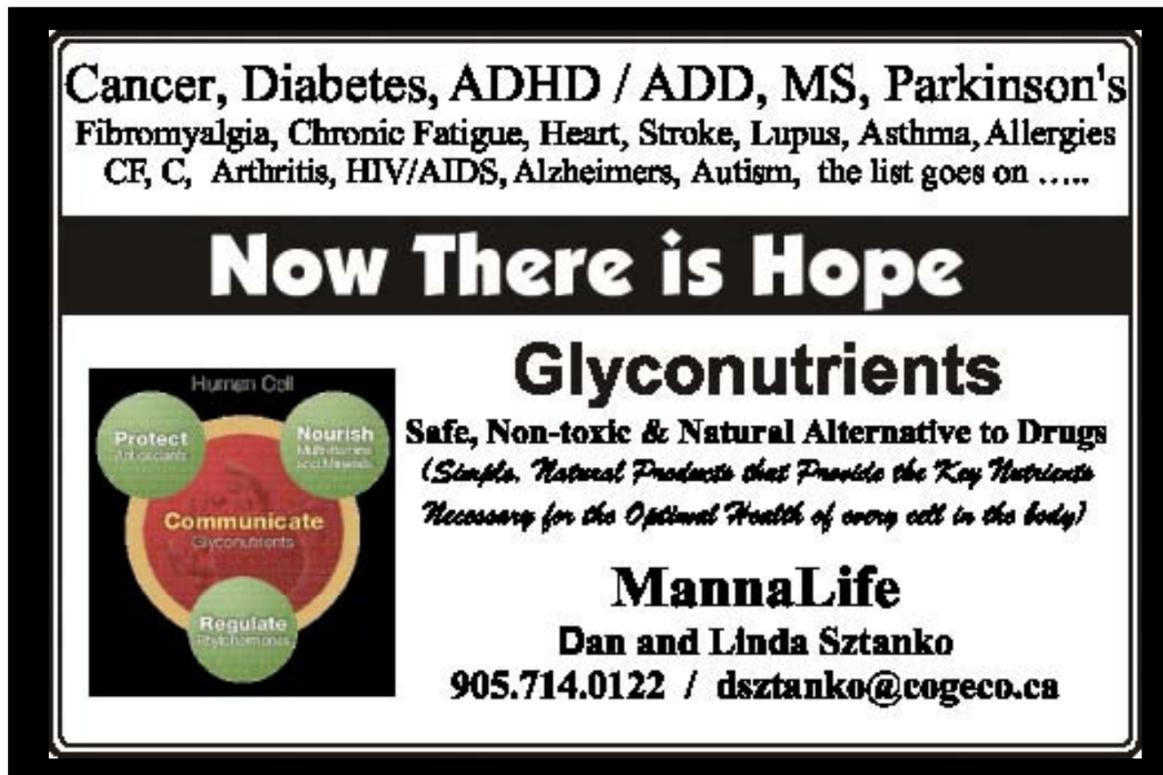
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Deadline for posting of community events and advertising for the next issue is Novt.21st. Call Ian (646-9305).

The Port Reporter will occasionally distribute brochures to help offset our costs. To submit requests for rates-please call Bruce (646-1264)/Ian (646-9305).



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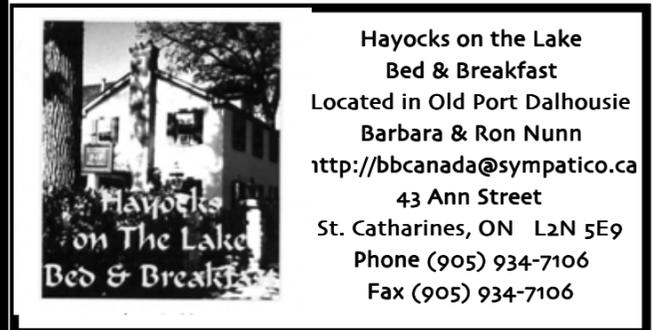
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WE LOVE PORT CONCERT-THE QUIZ

By Michael Reason

Well I guess we can now say that Port has been saved, at least for the time being, so the title of PROUD's fundraising concert on **Saturday November 19** has been changed to the all encompassing phrase - **WE LOVE PORT CONCERT**. I always knew that this concert was going to be a celebratory event and now I think it's going to be one of the most memorable evenings in the history of our area!! Nearly **250** people have already bought tickets for this unique event and the box office has only been open for 14 days!! That means but one thing - if you want to be a part of this very special evening you cannot afford to wait to purchase your tickets. There are **only 150 seats left** and at the rate they are being snapped up I predict that within another 10 days the only sound you will hear when trying to make a reservation is "SORRY, SOLD OUT".

The remedy to avoid disappointment is simple. Call now to order your tickets at **905 938 1179** or come in person to 15 Pawling Street, St. Catharines (which is off Bayview St. in Port Dalhousie) on Thursday or Friday between the hours of 4.00pm and 7.00pm and Saturday and Sunday between 1.00pm and 5.00pm. The box office accepts cash or cheques (made payable to PROUD Port Dalhousie). If you want to pay by credit card you can

do so online at www.saveport.ca.

Saturday Nov. 19 will be an evening to remember as we all take a trip back in time to the decade of the 1970's with a presentation of the acclaimed show "The Piano Men" featuring the remarkable talents of **Jim Witter** and his group. This amazing tribute to that wonderful decade is brought to life through the songs of **Elton John** and **Billy Joel** and a multi-media presentation of the images and world events of the time. With hors d'oeuvre's and cocktails at 7.00pm and the concert at 8.00pm you will be transported back 30 years as you relive the soundtrack of your lives.

To get everyone in the right frame of mind for this exceptional event that will raise funds for the ongoing work of **PROUD** I thought a little trivia quiz would be in order. So test your knowledge of the 70's music scene by trying out the quiz. Then lift up the phone, dial **905 938 1179** and order at least 2 tickets to **PROUD's** presentation of "The Piano Men" because this concert is definitely for sharing!

**MUSIC OF THE 70'S
(The Save Port Trivia Quiz)**

1. Elton John's self titled first album contained the classic hit "Your Song". What year was it released?

a) 1973 b) 1972 c) 1970

2. Billy Joel's debut album was released in 1971. What was the title? a) Piano Man b) Cold Spring Harbor c) Street Life Serenade

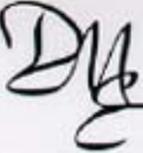
3. In 1975 the critically acclaimed album "Born to run" featured this singer/songwriter who has remained at the top for over 30 years. a) James Taylor b) Ozzy Osbourne c) Bruce Springsteen

4. One of the hit movies of the late 70's was Saturday Night Fever. What songs is played whilst John Travolta walks down the street in the opening credits? a) Jive Talkin' b) Night Fever c) Stayin' Alive

5. Which album by Carole King has now sold in excess of 15 million copies worldwide since it's release in 1971? a) Tapestry b) Writer c) Fantasy

6. This highly successful group was formed in Los Angeles in 1971 from musicians drawn from singer Linda Ronstadt's backing band. a) Earth, Wind and Fire b) Kool and the Gang c) The Eagles

7. In which year did the Swedish group ABBA have their UK and US hit "Waterloo"? a) 1973 b) 1974 c) 1970



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8. This singer/songwriter wrote advertising jingles and was accompanist for Bette Midler before hitting the charts with his own unique brand of songs in the early 70's

- a) Barry Manilow
- b) Isaac Hayes
- c) Don Mclean

9. Which of these 70's songs was not written by Billy Joel?

- a) New York State of Mind
- b) Piano Man
- c) Fire and Rain

10. Elton John has had a long and distinguished partnership with this British lyricist. Together they penned many chart topping hits of the 1970's.

- a) Bernie Taupin
- b) Tim Rice
- c) Richard Stilgoe

Well how many do you know, or think you know, the answer to? You can find out on page 11.

I hope this has in some small way revived memories of the great music that came out of the 70's decade. Music is the ultimate nostalgia trip and there will be no better way to immerse yourself in it than being at the WE LOVE PORT CONCERT on November 19. Call now before it's too late

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Safety is always an issue with investors. How safe is my money? Will my investments provide a safe and steady income as I move into my retirement years? Can I sleep at night, secure in the knowledge my investments are generating returns safely above the rate of inflation, that is, the escalating cost of everyday living?

Good questions – and for many conservative investors the easy answer is to plunk most of their investment dollars into fixed income investments. After all, these "safe haven" investments – government bonds, strip bonds, mortgage-backed securities, treasury bills, and the like – generally provide safety of principal, a regular and predictable income, and the potential to generate capital gains if interest rates decrease. And, while it is true that fixed income investments should form an important part of any well-balanced portfolio, you should approach them with a critical eye, just as you would any other investment. Let's look at bonds for example.

When you invest in bonds ...

- You purchase the bond for a specific amount of money and at a specific interest rate, and it will continue to pay interest until its maturity – which can be a term of anything from 30 days to 30 years. Generally, if you sell your bond before maturity, you will incur either a capital gain or a capital loss.
- Your bond pays interest either on a regular basis or as an accrued amount on its maturity date – at which time the face amount of the bond, referred to as the principal investment, is also returned. The amount of income paid by the bond is fixed when it is sold – and the bond will generate exactly the same amount of interest over its entire term.
- Like all fixed income securities, bonds are interest sensitive – as interest rates rise, the prices of outstanding bonds generally decline; if interest rates decline, the prices of outstanding bonds generally increase. For example, if you own a bond that pays 5% interest and interest rates decline to 4%, your bond will generally be worth more because it is yielding a higher interest rate than bonds currently being issued. But if you buy a bond paying 5% interest and interest rates rise to 6%, your bond will usually be worth somewhat less because new investors are getting a better yield
- For your information, bond yields on many federal government issued bonds peaked above 19% in 1981 and are currently around 4%, a 40-year low.

Fixed Income Investments

• With yields for bonds and other fixed income securities at historic lows, it can be difficult to achieve your financial goals. When the return on an investment does not outpace the rate of inflation (the rate of price increases) you can't make money no matter how much you invest. (Continued on Page 10)

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Anne Braithwaite, BBA, is a Port Dalhousie resident and is a consultant with Investors Group Financial Services Inc. in St. Catharines. She can be reached at 905-682-7292 ext. 056 or via email at:

anne.braithwaite@investorsgroup.com

Anne Braithwaite, BBA

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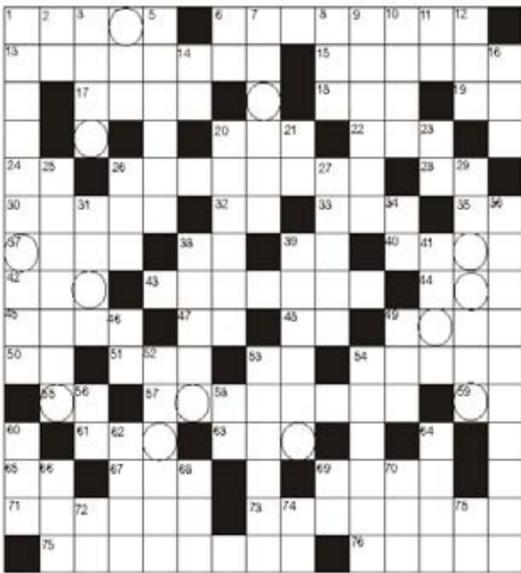
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THE PORT PUZZLE

(thanks to Gordo Bergsma)

Solve the puzzle, then rearrange the letters in the circles to form the name of a former Port Dalhousie landmark.



ACROSS

1. Element elements
6. Concrete dock with a lighthouse
13. Beginning of quip (3 wds.)
15. Houston or Edmonton
17. Sheep's mom
18. Building addition
19. City route (abb.)
20. Her
22. Fortune teller's asset
24. ___ this is it!
26. Port Dalhousie for some
28. Reputation enhancement (abb.)
30. Newspaper
32. Off and On to a computer geek
33. Psychedelic drug
35. To be ___ not to be
37. Slaps
38. Legion ___ 350 (abb.)
39. New continental currency (abb.)
40. Prosecutor's actions?
42. Self
43. Part 2 of quip
44. 60's war zone (abb.)
45. Orange covering
47. Where it's ___
48. Oscar ___ is Renta
49. Palindromic name
50. M-O connector
51. Possess
53. Example, for example
54. Ordinary
55. Yes to Pedro
57. Loveable
59. Stomach muscle
61. Weather (abb.)
63. Short laugh
65. Ace ___ Spades
67. Gas guzzler (abb.)
69. Old London hooskew
71. Wrinkled fruit
73. End of quip (2 wds.)
75. Painter of particular genre
76. Teds to some

DOWN

1. Ambiance
2. Partner of 66 down
3. Follow orders
4. Call to mother cat
5. Halloween collection
6. UFO inhabitant
7. Earn a blessing
8. Little piggy
9. Stackers
10. Woos
11. Wide shoe size
12. Transportation systems (abb.)
14. This ___ it!
16. Home for the bacon
20. Elan
21. Darwin's theory (abb.)
23. Pecker pickers initials
25. Onsets
26. Comment from a snake
27. Side step
29. Capital of Italia
31. School or jacket
34. Dentist's Degree
35. Spas at 29 Down
38. Cattle ID
39. Hold close to one's heart
41. ___ Karenina
45. ___ unto others
49. Notlager
52. Food server
53. Tehran resident
54. Flexible
56. Hospital unit (abb.)
58. Exclamation
60. Man with a beat
62. Moon goddess
64. Colour of some music
66. Partner of 2 down
68. Guess
69. Company with ideas?
70. ___ la la
72. Not down
74. ___ Catharines
75. Don't stop!

And that's why you should also consider other investment options

• By balancing your portfolio through the addition of equity investments (stocks) you increase the potential for better returns. Mutual funds that invest in equities can be a good choice – providing needed diversification and more steady returns than an individual investor buying a few stocks is likely to achieve.

• Fixed income mutual funds can also be a good idea. For example, a bond mutual fund invests in many individual bonds – helping to smooth out performance and providing greater diversification and liquidity. The bond fund manager can provide value in adjusting the holdings of the fund in anticipation of interest rate moves as well as in fundamental research on the credit quality of bond offerings in the marketplace.

Diversification and portfolio balance through the correct mix of asset classes for your particular situation are the keys to successfully reaching your short- and long-term financial goals. Talk to your financial advisor about how to keep your financial life safe and in perfect balance.

"Retirement Income Strategies for Owner-Managers" Seminar

Speaker: Jack Courtney, B.A., LL.B
 Tuesday, November 8th, 2005 at 7:00 pm
 White Oaks Conference Centre
 RSVP 905-682-7292 ext 056

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An interesting view of the 'Upper Henley' course.

(OCT. 2005)



Port Dalhousie Seniors Centre

Contact Information

Port Dalhousie Senior Citizens Centre
 19 Brock Street 905-646-8000

Monday

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. ... Bingo
 12:00 noon - 4:00 p.m. . Quilting

Tuesday

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 ... Crafts and Social Time

Wednesday

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Euchre

Saturday

(1st Saturday of each month)
 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.... Euchre

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TECH SUPPORT HUMOUR

- **Tech Support:** "What version of Windows do you have installed?"
- **Customer:** "... Double glazed"

PUNS FOR THOSE WHO ENJOY LANGUAGE - OR SEVERE DISTORTIONS THEREOF
 The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
 Santa's helpers are subordinate clauses.
 A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two tired.
 What's the definition of a will?? (It's a dead giveaway.)

PROUD PORT DALHOUSIE MESSAGE

Late Wednesday night PDVC sent an email to the St. Catharines Planning Department stating that they were withdrawing their proposal. On Thursday morning the email was opened and word of this began to spread. To date there has been no clarification for the reasons behind the decision.

It is so strange: one second so many of us were wrestling with this massive proposal and all of its momentum, and in the next second it was simply gone.

Often we don't really know what really happened behind the scenes. This time we really don't know what really happened. It is clear to me, however, that without the participation of all of those opposed to this proposal, that if we had all acquiesced quietly, feeling that the average citizen is of no account in these matters, then the project would still be alive and well and heading down the tracks at full speed. We should all be grateful to every other person that worked together against what often felt like overwhelming odds, to help bring an ill-advised project to a stop.

PROUD is not against development, if it is appropriate for our community. The assembly of land continues to exist, and we hope that, if and when another proposal goes forward, that it is created in collaboration with the community, leading to a project that is supported by the residents as well as the developer.

David Bergen
President, Proud Port Dalhousie

The Squeeze...

The local bar was so sure that its bartender was the strongest man around that they offered a standing \$1000 bet The bartender would squeeze a lemon until all the juice ran into a glass, and hand the lemon to a patron. Anyone who could squeeze one more drop of juice out would win the money. Many people had tried over time - weightlifters, longshoremen, etc. but nobody could do it.

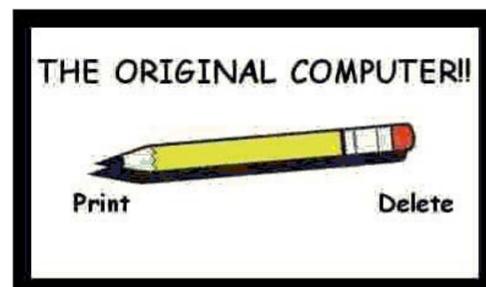
One day a scrawny little man came in wearing thick glasses and a polyester suit, and said in a tiny, squeaky voice, "I'd like to try the bet."

After the laughter had died down, the bartender said okay, grabbed a lemon, and squeezed away. He then handed the wrinkled remains of the rind to the little man.

But the crowd's laughter turned to total silence as the man clenched his fist around the lemon and six more drops of juice fell into the glass.

As the crowd cheered, the bartender paid him the \$1000, and asked the little man, "What do you do for a living? Are you a lumberjack, a weight lifter, or what?"

The man replied, "I work for Revenue Canada."

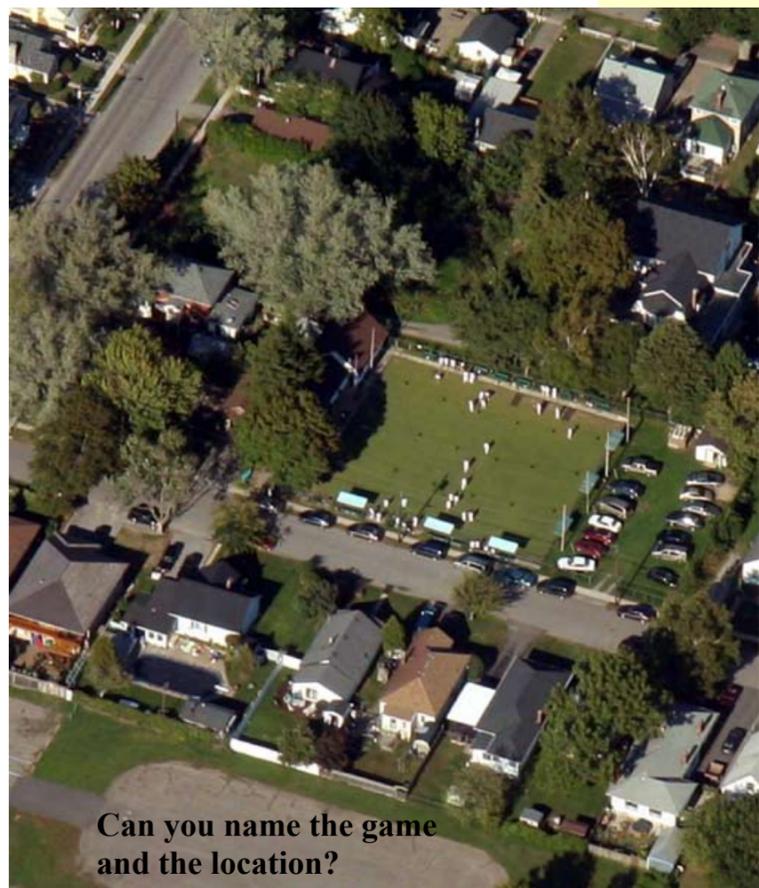


ANSWERS TO SAVE PORT TRIVIA QUIZ (Page 9)

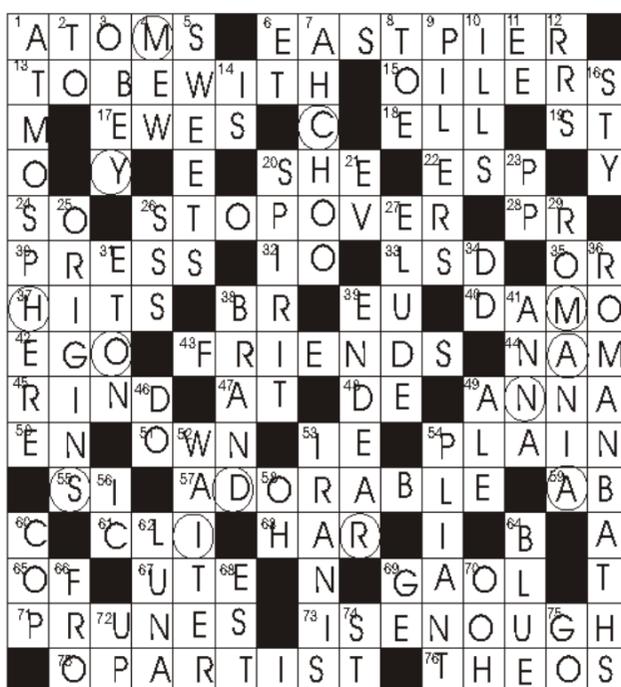
1. c) 1970
2. b) cold Spring Harbor
3. c) Bruce Springsteen
4. c) Stayin' Alive
5. a) Tapestry
6. c) The Eagles
7. b) 1974
8. a) Barry Manilow
9. c) Fire and Rain (James Taylor)
10. a) Bernie Taupin



Paws, the new lion on the Lakeside Park Carousel was hand-carved and painted by the Friends of the Carousel. Paws is the replacement for the lion which has been missing for the last thirty years! Leo, the other lion on the Carousel is a hand-carved Charles Looff original.



Can you name the game and the location?



MCMAHONS DAIRY

SCHOOL EXCUSE NOTES 2

Please excuse Lisa for being absent. She was sick and I had her shot.

Dear School: Please excuse John being absent on Jan. 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, and also 33.

Please excuse Gloria from Jim today. She is administrating.

Please excuse Roland from P.E. for a few days. Yesterday he fell out of a tree and misplaced his hip.

Chris will not be in school cus he has an acre in his side.

Please excuse Pedro from being absent yesterday. He had (diahre) (dyrea) (direathe) - the runs. [words in ()'s were crossed out.

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scrawley@northerncustoms.com Niagara Falls, New York 14304

Subject: Oh Canada – Oh so true! (An Internet Download)

Margaret started the day early having set her alarm clock (MADE IN JAPAN) for 6am. While her coffeepot (MADE IN CHINA) was perking, she shaved her legs with her electric razor (MADE IN HONG KONG). She put on a blouse (MADE IN SRI LANKA), designer jeans (MADE IN SINGAPORE) and tennis shoes (MADE IN KOREA). After cooking her breakfast in her new electric skillet (MADE IN INDIA) she sat down with her calculator (MADE IN MEXICO) to see how much she could spend today. After setting her watch (MADE IN TAIWAN) to the radio (MADE IN INDIA) she got in her car (MADE IN GERMANY) and continued her search for a good paying CANADIAN JOB. At the end of yet another discouraging and fruitless day, Margaret decided to relax for a while. She put on her slippers (MADE IN BRAZIL) poured herself a glass of wine (MADE IN FRANCE) and turned on her TV (MADE IN INDONESIA), and then wondered why she can't find a good paying job in CANADA....

Keep this circulating while most of us are shopping at Walmart (where almost nothing is made in CANADA)

Subject: good ole days

Grandpa was always going on about the good old days, and the lower cost of living, in particular.

"When I was a kid, my mom could send me to the store, and I'd get a salami, two pints of milk, 6 oranges, 2 loaves o' bread, a magazine, and some new blue jeans... all for a dollar!!"

Then Grandpa said sadly, "You can't DO that anymore..... they got those darn video cameras everywhere you look."

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Michael Keys on Keyboard	Nov 12
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Chuck Jackson from Dounchild Blues Band	Dec 10

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Hemitone	Nov 04	Chris Anton	Nov 19
Betty Ford	Nov 05	Betty Ford	Nov 25
Helium	Nov 11	Nearly Neil	Nov 26
		Hemitone	Dec 02

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- Primavera**
Tomato based: Cheese, broccoli, zucchini, cauliflower and fresh tomatoes, Brick & Mozzarella.
- Con Carne**
Vegetarians Beware: Meatballs, Hot Sausage, bacon & Genoa salami, topped with Assagio, Brick & Mozzarella
- Francesca**
Tomato Based: Swirled with Pesto, House Cheeses, fresh tomatoes, Brick, Mozzarella and Bocini cheese, topped with Basil. She's a beauty.
- Beaubelo**
Garlic Oil Based: Chicken, roasted red peppers, rosemary, Assagio, brick & mozzarella cheese. Beaulissimo.
- Mexican**
Tomato based: Seasoned ground beef, tomatoes, onions, hot peppers, Brick & Mozzarella.

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