

Weston Eagle



WESTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY - WHS

1901 Weston Road, Unit F

Weston ON M9N 3P1

Phone: 416-249-6663

email: westonhistoricalsociety@rogers.com



September - October 2015

Welcome back! As we 'fall' back into our Fall routines, it is a busy time for everyone! The summer flew by in the blink of an eye and I don't know about you but I love the Fall season – cooler with beautiful colours on the trees.



As always, please don't hesitate to pass along information or news that you think others might want to know. And **please ensure we have your email address** so we can send the newsletter out – it will help us save money and the environment! I can be reached at either 416-241-5801 or by email at squibbs@on.aibn.com.

With best regards,
Suri Weinberg-Linsky
WHS Newsletter Editor

President's Remarks

I am looking forward to this year. I predict it will be a good year for all.

The month of September has been busy for the WHS! On September 13th, the walkers who were recreating Etienne Brule's travels down the Humber 400 years ago, passed through Weston on their way to Riverside Drive and the mouth of the Humber where a grand reception was ready to receive them. Etienne Brule was a French explorer who came to Canada with Champlain.

Saturday, September the 19th, was the Weston Historical Society walk - "Hurricane Hazel Revisited". Seventy-seven walkers plus volunteers showed up in Little Avenue Park to enjoy the walk, led by Cherri Hurst, assisted by Roy Murray of "Friends of Raymore Park", walking beside and then across the river to Raymore Park, down to the river's edge and then up the hill to the little pioneer church on the corner of Kingdom and Scarlett Road. There they took refuge from the rain and were able to tour the fully restored historic building.

Saturday, September 26 there will be a Symposium at the Old mill "The Toronto Carrying Place: A Shared Legacy and this theme will compliment our first program – speaker Glenn Turner who has written a book on the Carrying Place Trail, part of which was incorporated into Weston Road in the heart of Weston.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the Village of Humber Heights at 7:30, Wednesday October 7, 2015 - so stay well and come out to enjoy the evening!

Mary Louise Ashbourne
President

UPDATES ON EVENTS:

This month marks the **400th anniversary of the expedition of Etienne Brule and his Wendat (Huron) friends** as they journeyed from Orillia down the Toronto Carrying Place to Lake Ontario, making Brule the first European to travel in our area. Weston helped to mark this event from September 11th – 13th when the expedition was re-enacted by a team consisting of two people from Brule's hometown in France, representatives from our First Nations and Francophone communities, and others interested in this event in our history.

On Sunday September 13, the team passed through Weston/Mt Dennis. We were on hand to greet them as they stopped at Weston Lions Park for a half hour rest. They arrived about 1pm and our team of 'Young Paddlers' - children who have participated in our paddle decorating events escorted the hikers as they came into Cruickshank Park. After their rest, they journeyed on to Swansea. Archivist Martin Proctor helped with the historical aspects of our community and shared his knowledge with those gathered.

Photos courtesy of 12 Division CPLC



On **Saturday, September 19th** the **Weston Historical Society's Annual Fall Walk** started at Little Avenue Memorial Park. Dubbed "**Hurricane Hazel Revisited**" it was meant to be a different look on the famous storm centering on Weston's involvement and the consequences. With 77 people, plus volunteers in tow, tour leaders Cherri Hurst and Roy Murray, explained to the crowd how it was not really a hurricane that hit Weston on October 15, 1954, but actually an *extra-tropical cyclone* that formed out of the remnants of Hurricane Hazel. With pictures and a new brochure on hand and details being added by the leaders the group followed the Humber River south, past the arena and Lion's Park, the former sewage plant and across Raymore Bridge - all the areas that were affected by the flooding.

Roy Murray then proceeded to lead the crowd down to the river to show where the houses once stood, pointing out trees and bushes that were perhaps in home owners backyards, on Raymore Drive. Then it started to pour. Some said it was a fitting end to such a tour but all were glad to take shelter in the former St. Mathias church at Kingdom and Scarlett Road. Not unlike other wet and bedraggled people on the night of October 15th in 1954, they were more than pleased to have a place to dry off in, get a cup of coffee and just relax.

Reported by Cherri Hurst

Weston Farmers' Market:

Heading into the final months of the Market, it will officially close on Saturday, October 31st. The Market will remain on John Street for the season and look for the new Pedestrian Bridge to be finished at some point during the fall months to link both sides of the street again. At the same time, a new mural will be unveiled for the bridge. For more information, contact the Weston Village BIA at 417-249-0691.

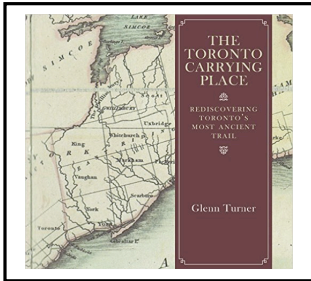
UPCOMING EVENTS:

For the foreseeable future, all our WHS meetings will be held at the Village of Humber Heights at 7:30pm unless otherwise noted.

WHS Regular Meetings:

WHS General Meeting – Wednesday, October 7th, 2015 **Guest speaker: Glenn Turner**

Our speaker will be discussing a topic near to the heart of Weston and one of the reasons why we exist: **The Carrying Place Trail**. This is what he wrote to us: “My book, *The Toronto Carrying Place*, is an attempt to rediscover the trail – to retrace its route and its influence on our times, and to find whatever evidence may be left of it today. For three days I walked the Carrying Place, in the footsteps of First Nations and early European visitors, looking for reminders of the dramatic events and extraordinary people associated with the trail.” Glenn will have his book for sale, so if interested please bring cash -- \$30 per book!



Annual WHS Hymn Sing – Wednesday, December 2nd at Weston Park Baptist Church, 1871 Weston Rd.

Join us for our yearly kick-off to the Christmas season! With heavenly voices and heavenly treats afterwards, this is one of our favourite events every year. Save the date!

Other meetings & events for October through December :

Humber River Hospital meeting - Monday, October 5, 2015, Weston Collegiate Institute at 7pm

As reported in Councillor Nunziata's e-blasts, at the end of July, Humber River Hospital (HRH) filed a Notice of Application to the Ontario Superior Court of Justice against the City of Toronto to declare that the City of Toronto holds no rights over the approximately 1.25 acres of land sold by the former Town of Weston to HRH for "hospital purposes." Please come out to express your concerns and learn more.

John Street Redevelopment Project – Wednesday, October 7, 2015, Weston Collegiate Institute at 7pm

A Community Consultation Meeting has been scheduled to further update the community on the plans for the redevelopment on John Street including 33 King Street and 2 Elsmere Avenue and the Weston Community Cultural Hub (Artscape). In addition to the Applicant, representatives from City Planning will be in attendance to answer questions and obtain your feedback on the proposal, which will be included in their final report to Etobicoke York Community Council later this year.

Community Visioning Workshop: The Artscape Weston Hub – Thursday, October 15, 2015, York West Active Living Centre, 1901 Weston Rd. at 7-9 pm

The Artscape Weston Hub will bring a new hub for art, culture and community in Weston. The project includes 8,600 sq ft of indoor creative programming space, 26 affordable live/work spaces for artists and their families, and a 12,400 sq ft outdoor space for community gatherings and the Weston Farmers Market. Artscape is holding this visioning workshop so that the community can help shape the vision for the Weston Hub by letting them

know what you would like to see there. For more information, visit www.artscapeweston.ca

Just a reminder ... Margaret Breen, our Membership Secretary, has asked that if you have not renewed your annual membership, that you please come see her or send in by mail. Alternatively, you can drop it off at Squibbs or to our office at 1901 Weston Road, Unit F.



WHS Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Yearly Household Membership Fee: \$20 paid _____

Do you wish to be contacted before meetings? Yes _____ No _____

Do you prefer by phone or email? Yes _____ No _____

For more information, if you have questions, or want to be on our Board,
please call 416-249-6663 or 416-241-5801 or email squibbs@on.aibn.com