

MERRITTON MATTERS

SUMMER 2018 • Volume 14, Issue 2 • www.merrittonmatters.ca

PHOTO BY SUSAN FLUELLON



A Stroll Through Centennial Park - See page 8 for more pictures.



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MERRITTON CANDIDATES FOR CITY COUNCIL DEBATE

October 2 at 7:00 p.m., Merritton Community Centre, 7 Park Ave
Join us for an opportunity to hear directly from this ward's candidates!

MERRITTON MATTERS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is a volunteer effort by a small group of people who are determined to keep the spirit of the Merritton community alive through providing information to our readers about the past, present and future of our neighbourhood. Begun in 2001 as the Merritton Community Group, we are now part of the Merritton Lions Club.

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We are very appreciative of writers who add to our community content. If you have suggestions for articles please email these to merrittonmatters1@gmail.com or mail them to 3 Capri Circle, St. Catharines L2T 3X4. Articles in this issue without a byline are by the editor.

Merritton Matters is available at businesses in this community and at the public library. The newsletter is no longer distributed to homes in the area, but if you would like to have home delivery or wish to pick up extra copies, please call Sheila at 905-227-8988.

DO YOU WANT YOUR BUSINESS AD IN THE NEWSLETTER?

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DO YOU KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOURS?

Did you know Prynce Nesbitt? Prynce was born in Merritton, lived on Oakdale Avenue and died at the age of 64. According to the St. Catharines Museum online chat feature 'Know Your Neighbour', his unusual name came from a dog his mother once owned and loved. He was a successful musician, painter, historian and astrologer as well as the organist at the church a few doors down from his house, St. James Anglican. I went to his house every week for piano lessons although I certainly wasn't his most successful student as it was more fear of a very large and imposing man lumbering around a scary, painting-cluttered house that made me practice. Several of my elementary and high school classmates also took lessons and unfortunately my lessons usually followed people who actually made music like Brian Farrell and Paul Lobsinger. To see the art of Prynce Nesbitt and to read more, go to <https://stcatharinesmuseumblog.com/2016/06/01/know-your-neighbours-prynce-nesbitt/comment-page-1/#comment-624>.

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John Dundas

In the last issue, we featured a copy of the North-West Rebellion containing a signature dated Merritton, October 1885 and asked if anyone knew John Dundas' story. Mike Johnson took up the challenge to research this topic and his research will be featured in the next issue.



MERRITTON KIDS REUNION

Join fellow Merritton kids (and any wanna-be) at Branch 138 on September 1. Enjoy the music of the Party Rock band from 2 – 6 p.m. 'Proud to Have Been a Merritton Kid' T-shirts can be ordered at the event.

HUMANITARIAN AWARD FOR JAMES RENNIE



James Rennie with Mayor Walter Sendzik, Regional Councillor Tim Rigby and Regional Chair Alan Caslin

Congratulations to retired mechanical engineer and Merritton High grad James Rennie who was awarded the 2018 T. Roy Adams Humanitarian Award for his volunteer work with the non-profit Tetra Society of Hamilton, Halton and Niagara. Jim's designs and construction skills have contributed to improving independent life for the disabled. With over 1500 hours of volunteer service, Jim has been involved in projects including cribs for parents in wheelchairs, bocce ball launchers, ramping systems, personalized trays for eating and working, camera mounts for wheelchairs and modified scooter seats.



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Merritton Threads

By Isabel Bachmann

Once in a while in my research I come across an unexpected Merritton connection. Sometimes it brings a discovery and sometimes it leads to a mystery. It has happened twice in the last six weeks, and true to form, one is a mystery and one a revelation.

Our mystery is a mention of the Hand Fireworks Company, found in a tiny scrap of newspaper in my Granny Astley's old photos. It is just a single line of text that mentioned that the first fireworks 'factory' of the William T. Hand Fireworks Company was in Merritton! I had never heard of William T. Hand before, but a little investigation taught me that not only did Mr. Hand establish a fireworks business locally but that it is still in business as the oldest firm of that kind in Canada!

Further poking showed me that the actual location was in doubt. I contacted the firm and my inquiry was fielded by the firm 'historian', D. John Witherspoon, who turned out to be the President and CEO. John didn't have more detail of the first location, but it might have been in Thorold, where Mr. Hand settled after emigrating from England via Newark, New Jersey. My little scrap of paper said it was in Merritton. As a 'mountain girl', I'd like to think it was on that fuzzy border section along the townline somewhere, a sort of no-man's/very man's area. I'd love to hear from anyone who knows the actual spot.

Our revelation is that a Merritton-born girl became the first in Canada to enter the field of 'Industrial Nursing'. Now we call it Occupational Health Services, but when M. Olive Bradley entered the field, it was a new and innovative program to help workers stay healthy at work and at home, and to assist their families as well.

Martha 'Olive' Bradley was born in Merritton in 1880, to Abraham and Jane Bradley, the fourth child of 4 daughters and six sons. Though she is identified as Martha in the early census records, we know that she used the name Olive when she graduated from the Toronto General Hospital Training School for Nurses in 1907. After schooling, Olive applied for work at Plymouth Cordage in Welland, a branch office of the main plant built in 1906, where the company supplied rope and in particular binder twine for the farmers of the Prairies. Olive Bradley lived in a company house, along with her parents and younger siblings who all followed her to Welland. Plymouth Cordage was a conscientious employer, providing homes for their employees as well as a kindergarten/day care, a recreational centre with pool and billiards, bowling alley, library and sewing classes. Summer sports and agricultural fairs were held regularly.

Miss Bradley travelled to Plymouth Massachusetts to learn the 'ropes' from the plant nurse there and returned to establish the same comprehensive service in Welland.

She was on duty 24 hours a day in case of emergency and held daily medical clinics at the factory while spending her afternoons visiting the employees' families, assisting with health care and advising on nutrition and health for all the families.

By the time of Olive's retirement in 1940, the idea of having a Health and Safety officer on hand had become an industrial norm. M. Olive Bradley laid the foundation for the others to follow.

Merritton had a number of Bradley families in residence in Olive's young days. I'd love to hear from anyone related to or otherwise associated with the Abraham and Jane Bradley family.

For more information about these two subjects, visit The Hand Legacy at www.handsfireworks.com/thehandslegacy.

You can read a little about the work of Olive Bradley, in her own words: <https://archive.org/details/thecanadianurse07anonuoft/pages/346,347>.



William Hand



Martha Bradley

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Lefty Vision

By Tom Barwell



In 1965 we purchased our first Merritton home on Park Ave. For some reason as kids we seldom ventured into this part of town, preferring the Chestnut Street area instead. Here there were many large families, the Griffins, Savoies and the Scotts just to name a few. Our house was #88 and the Savoies, #90. If this sounds ominous, it wasn't. They turned out to be the best neighbours anyone could have. In fact, on our first day after we had moved in, Denis came over and welcomed us as new friends.

Their home was always a beehive of activity. They were led by the tandem of Omar (Lefty) and his lovely Irish wife Edith. Their pet names for each other were the French Poodle (Lefty) and the Irish Setter (Edith).

On one particular morning the activity significantly increased. Lefty was on the move. For the next couple of days his car was in and out of the driveway constantly, especially in the early mornings. He waved a few times but it was obvious he was on a mission. I could always tell because he would get an intense look on his face. We were a little concerned and hoped it wasn't a serious problem. Then suddenly things calmed down.

I was sitting out in the backyard a few days later enjoying a wobbly pop when I heard a whirring noise and noticed Lefty's TV aerial constantly turning and stopping time and time again. A real mystery. What could be going on? The next Saturday afternoon, all was revealed.

That morning Lefty gave me a shout. He asked me if I wanted to watch a ball game with him. No ordinary game, but the one where Denny McLain of Detroit Tiger fame was going for his 30th win of the season. I gladly accepted. But, Lefty being Lefty, I took my own beer as he drank a witch's brew called Dow Ale. I think he kept that brand on the market as I knew of no one else who drank it. So that afternoon, my twelve pack in hand, I bid my wife farewell, and ventured over.

All excited, Lefty welcomed me in. Downstairs we went and the reason for all the activity was revealed and it was an amazing sight. Settling into an old easy chair I took it all in. On the wall in front of me was at least five TV sets. On garbage days Lefty had gone out and, while touring the neighbourhood, had picked up an assortment of old TV's that people had discarded, making sure that they all had clickers. If they didn't work he took out the tubes and went to Main's drug store where there was a tube testing machine. In this regard Mr. Main was way ahead of his time. Any offending tube was discarded and a new one was purchased on the spot. When he got the TV's working, they were mounted on the wall. There was a maze of wires in the back and I thought I

spotted a spark or two where some were joined.

Beside Lefty was a small cooler, a large plate of cheese and crackers and numerous clickers along with a rotor control. With a proud and contented look on his face, he showed me his amazing system. Each TV had a number on it which corresponded with the matching clicker. In this way he controlled the volume. When activating the rotor control, the stations slowly changed until he arrived at the chosen one. Some sets turned to snow or showed ghostly images as they changed and slowly the ball game came into view. He proudly demonstrated the whole system to me then, settling in, we watched the ball game and drank the beer.

Occasionally Edith would peek downstairs, look at us and roll her eyes.

It was a good ballgame and Denny did win his 30th. History was made and not in just the ballgame, but in the way we watched it. Staggering home I heard that familiar whirring sound and had a thought. Merritton never realized, but at one time they had their own television network called "The Lefty Vision TV Network".



Omar (Lefty) Savoie played baseball as well as creatively finding a way to enjoy watching it on TV. He is second from the right in the front row.

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A Stroll Through Centennial Park

Pictures by Susan Fluellon

Watch for more Centennial Park info in the Fall edition of Merritton Matters.

For more information on the Totem Pole, go to www.stcatharines.ca/en/playin/centennial-gardens-totem-pole.asp

MERRITTON

•Unearthing a Community's Roots•

Merritton: Unearthing a Community's Roots celebrates the vibrant history of the former Town of Merritton, now a neighbourhood within St. Catharines. These historic photos of Merritton reveal its expansion from a small hamlet to a community-minded and ever-growing town. This community's progress throughout the years has been inspired by the warm-hearted spirit of its citizens: those who have called Merritton their home know that "no matter how far they may wander... no matter how high up the ladder of success they climb... there is still no place like home." — Hugh I. Mann, former owner of Malin's Drug Store, from the book Merritton Centennial 1834-1974.

We hope you enjoy this exhibit's visit to the old home town.

Centennial Gardens was awarded in 1967 to commemorate Canada's 100th anniversary. Historic plaques representing Canada's provinces and territories were once installed on this wall, but the original plaques disappeared years ago leaving empty spaces. Centennial Gardens has significant links to Merritton and is the site of two early Welland Canals. Completed in 1829, the First Canal is a waterway that connected Lake Ontario at Port Dalhousie to Lake Erie through the Twelve Mile Creek. At the south end of the park, beneath Weisbohr Crispent, are the remains of one of the stone locks from the Second Welland Canal. It was made of a series of 40 wooden locks that filled and emptied with water, allowing ships to climb the escarpment.

Merritton: Unearthing a Community's Roots is presented by the City of St. Catharines Recreation and Community Services department, Programs and Cultural Services division. Staff from the cultural services office and the St. Catharines Museum and Welland Canal Centre have developed the exhibit from photos found in the St. Catharines Museum Archives and the St. Catharines Museum Standard Collection. This is the second public art exhibit to be presented at this site.

For more information on the photographs in this exhibit please scan the QR code or visit the City's website.

www.stcatharines.ca/merritton

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I'm 20 years old, born and raised in St. Catharines to a hard working single mother. I'm a proud graduate of both Ferndale and Sir Winston and most recently Niagara College. I love Merritton and everything it has provided for me and I care deeply about my City. All my life I've been hearing about Merritton politics because of my "Uncle" Bill Wiley and his passion for our Ward.

I entered this years race without hesitation to bring that same passion and energy to the residents of Merritton and to City Council. Also, to bring youthful and progressive views to help better our community. I humbly ask for everybody's vote for 3 reasons:

1

I will be the loudest and strongest voice for Merritton and all residents in the Ward. I will champion all issues that are brought to my attention and ensure that Merritton issues heard, respected and acted upon.

2

I will continue Jennie Stevens' fight to clean up Centennial Gardens and also to clean up our Queenston and downtown neighbourhoods. I want to promote a safe, vibrant and prosperous downtown core.

3

The Youth, like myself, are the future and must have better representation. I want to invest in young people to ensure they have the necessary economic conditions to the Youth who prefer live and work in St. Catharines.

I look forward to meeting everybody over the coming months! Thank you!

HAYDEN FOR MERRITTON

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Fraser Loveman - He Kept the Music Playing

By Gary "Scoop" Sawatsky

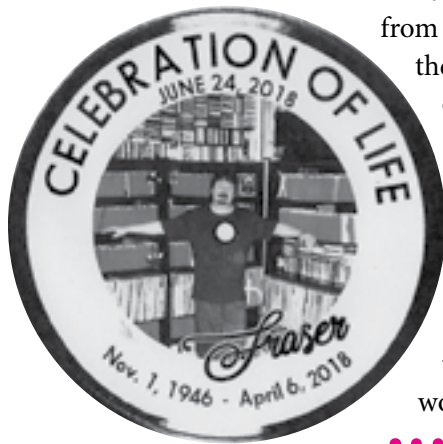
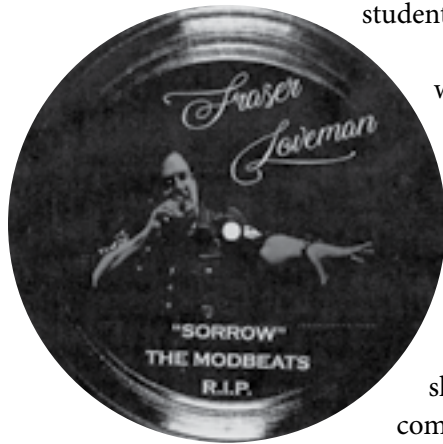
Family, friends and the curious attended a Celebration of Life for former Merritton High student and local rockstar Fraser Loveman at the CAW Building on June 24th.

The man being celebrated drew people from every area of the region. I spoke with fans and some of his former fellow performers from Port Elgin, London Ontario, Windsor, the GTA, a large contingent from Hamilton and beyond, who came to the city just for this event. The person that traveled the furthest distance, an American artist known as LGB from a city called Warner Robins in Georgia USA, was very typical of many who turned out for this get together. She had never personally met Fraser Loveman, knew of him through his incredible musical history Facebook page that had approximately 1700 followers. Through messages online which he took time personally to answer, she had promised at some point to travel north for a visit with her friend and felt compelled to keep that promise even if it couldn't be done during his lifetime.

The room at the CAW building was decorated with a display of various items from his musical and theatre career from posters to wardrobe and his personal artwork. Many gathered to view seldom seen video of Fraser's days with the Modbeats which played on a near continuous basis and of course, music, music, music in the background could be heard through the constant guest chatter. A microphone was set up and guests were encouraged to share stories and memories.

The common thread that was apparent throughout all the stories was "respect". The respect people had for him and the respect he had for others. Family members handed out coasters depicting Fraser, a commemorative gift to guests in attendance - sure to be a local collector's item.

I want to personally send kudos out to the organizers for making arrangements and delivering the food leftovers to the local Salvation Army, a gesture greatly appreciated by that charity I'm told. It was commented to the organizers on more than one occasion that the event was something Fraser would have approved, and I would most certainly think that to be the case. He was a man who loved to keep the music playing!



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MERRITTON WARD ELECTION ISSUE

St. Catharines General Hospital Redevelopment?

In the summer of 2014, I confidently placed a picture of the soon to be redeveloped St. Catharines General Hospital on the cover of our election issue. The new replacement hospital had been open for a year as of that March. In the spring of 2013, the Niagara Health System website promised that the ‘residents and businesses in the Queenston area of St. Catharines can look forward to a new vibe in their neighbourhood.’ A Niagara Falls developer Panoramic Properties Inc. - Butera Group had purchased the property with the purpose of changing it into residences. Some of the historic features of the old hospital were to be incorporated into the design. Then NHS Interim President and CEO Sue Matthews said that, “The NHS made a pledge early on that we would not let the St. Catharines General or Ontario Street site go dark.”

A public information session meeting was held on May 27, 2014, hosted by the City of St. Catharines and the Butera Group to provide the Queenston Street community with plans for utilizing the shell of the former General Hospital site. The meeting at Connaught Public School was well attended with over 100 people interested in the nature of the proposal of residential apartments and an indoor recreational fitness facility. The agent for the owner indicated at that meeting that they would make formal application for site plan approval from the City and undertake a number of studies, such as traffic, parking and servicing, to assess how the proposal will function on the site as well as be integrated within the community in a manner that improves the streetscape along Queenston Street. Also announced at the time was a reconstruction of Queenston Street scheduled for 2015. The construction project actually began in May of 2017 and continued into the fall.

Then we heard that new owners - Queenston Oakdale Limited of Ancaster – had acquired the building in December 2016 and they planned to tear the building down in order to build a multi-residential development such as a townhouse community. As far as we know, no further action has been taken on this development. The St. Catharines General Hospital has gone dark.



Thomas A. Richardson

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MERRITTON CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

BURLEIGH HILL AREA CONSTRUCTION

In the last issue of Merritton Matters, we let you know about the public consultations for the Burleigh Hill construction work (Project Number: P13-019-01) which includes Burleigh Hill Drive from Glendale to Warkdale Drive, Glengarry from Glendale Avenue to Glenhurst Circle and Warkdale Drive from Glendale Avenue to Rockdale Avenue. This project is a collaboration between the City of St. Catharines and the Niagara Region, and includes:

- Constructing a sanitary sewer on Burleigh Hill Drive and Warkdale Drive;
- Replacing an existing cast iron watermain on Burleigh Hill Drive;
- Reconstructing Burleigh Hill Drive from Glendale Avenue to Warkdale Drive including wider lanes for vehicle and bicycle shared use, a northbound left turn lane onto Warkdale Drive, and a raised traffic median and crosswalk at Warkdale Drive;
- Intersection improvements at Burleigh Hill Drive and Glendale Drive including new crosswalks and improved traffic signals;
- Replacing the existing sidewalk with new sidewalk and crossings on Burleigh Hill Drive;
- Installing new sidewalks on Warkdale Drive in front of Sainte-Marguerite-Bourgeoys; and
- Installing new sidewalk on Glengarry Road from Glendale Avenue to Glendale Terrace apartment building.

Check out this link for more information: www.stcatharines.ca/BurleighHillWarkdale

2018 RESURFACING ON ROCKWOOD

Rockwood Avenue will be resurfaced this summer between Woodrow St. and Pic Leeson Park and between Thornton and Hartzel Road by Rankin Construction Inc.

NEW CONDO BUILDING ON MERRITT STREET

An interior renovation project of an existing building at 405 Merritt Street is going through the Site Plan process. Merrittonians will recognize this address as the site of the former St. James Anglican Church which was built first in Port Dalhousie in 1841 and then moved to Merritton in 1871. The current owner is seeking Draft Plan of Standard



Condominium Approval. A public meeting for the Condominium approval was held on August 13th. The church building, renamed St. James Lofts, will be converted to loft condos.

MOFFATT STREET

The City of St. Catharines is planning to carry out the reconstruction of Moffatt Street from the south limit to the north limit. This will include a new road platform consisting of a new asphalt roadway, sidewalks, curbs, streetlighting, and drainage improvements. Construction could begin as early as spring of 2019 pending budget approval. In advance of the roadworks, the utility companies (Alectra, Bell and Cogeco) are working to move their infrastructure. The utility work is currently ongoing and anticipated to be completed by the end of the year. A Public Information Centre was held on July 10, 2018. Plans presented are available on the project web page at <http://www.stcatharines.ca/moffatt>.

While we're talking about updates to neighbourhoods, we're wondering what ever happened to the...

OAKDALE-MOFFAT AREA STUDY?

With the push for the second bridge to connect Moffatt Street to Oakdale, it makes us wonder what ever happened to the study in 2007/2008 paid for by property owners in the Oakdale-Moffatt area. The \$25,000 study was completed to expand the Community Improvement Program to an area bordering the first and second Welland canals and the Garden City Golf Course, the Trillium Rail line, the CN line and Highway 406. The report came after a public open house where residents were invited to give their input followed by another public workshop to confirm the general vision for the area. Finally, an open house was held to present a draft action plan. Parts of the plan included infilling on the small vacant and under-utilized lots on Oakdale Avenue, Phelps Street, Haight Street and Smythe Street, building soccer fields where there is space along the Merritt trail in order to increase traffic and adding interpretive signs along the trail to explain the canal's history. Questions about this study to City Hall staff has not yielded any information to date.



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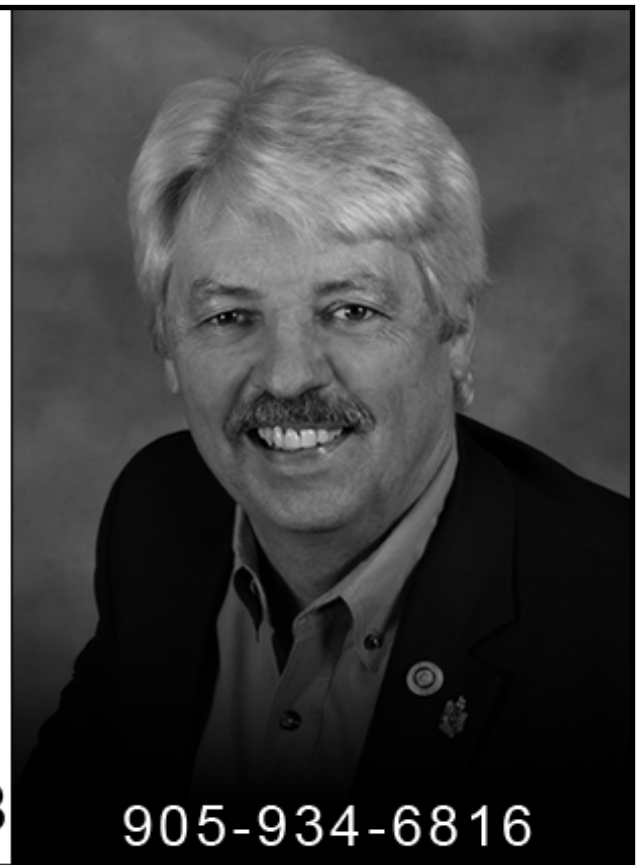
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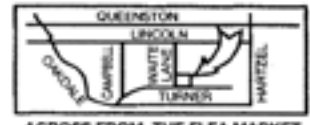
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MCCOY AND PETTIGREW FAMILY SEARCH

A person from Ohio is researching his family history. He is a descendent of the McCoy and Pettigrew families who lived in Merritton in the 1800s. If you know anything about these families and would like to share, we'd be happy to pass on the info. Contact the editor at MerrittonMatters1@gmail.com or mail to 3 Capri Circle, St. Catharines L2T 3X4.

LEGION BRANCH 138 MERRITTON ELECTION RESULTS

NEW EXECUTIVES ELECTED FOR 2018-2019

PRESIDENT Trish Gander

1ST VICE PRESIDENT Bob Weir

2ND VICE PRESIDENT Frankie Cowan

TREASURER Tom Locke

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR Lesley Seaborne

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS Mike Gander

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Colleen Bradshaw, Debbie Burch, Todd Burse, Patricia Dickinson, Evelyn Froats, Jim Froats, Kevin Froats, Mati Percival



VOTE

GREG MILLER for MERRITTON

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I'm a lifelong St. Catharines resident, raising my kids in the amazing community of Merritton. I want to ensure they have the opportunity to do the same.



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MERRITTON VOTES!

The municipal election will happen on Monday, Oct. 22, 2018. Log into www.voterlookup.ca to confirm or update your information for the 2018 Municipal and School Board Election; add an elector name to an address; and change school support.

YOUR CHOICES

Check the city's website for the most current list of candidates for municipal positions. These council and school board terms of office will run from December 1, 2018 to November 14, 2022.

Mayor - One Mayor will be elected within the city. Choose from incumbent Walter Sendzik or challengers Tunde Soniregun, Richard Stephens or Johnny Tischler.

Regional Councillors - Six regional councillors will be chosen to represent the City of St. Catharines at large at the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

School Board Trustees - There are **four** different possibilities for trustees depending on your eligibility. Four trustees for the **English-language Public District School Board** are to be elected and this is your default choice unless you are qualified to vote for a separate or French board. One (1) **English-language Catholic District School Board** trustee will be elected from Merritton Ward combined with the City of Thorold for separate school board supporters.

Melinda Chartrand, the French Separate School Board Trustee, has been acclaimed as has Véronique Emery, the French Public School Board Trustee.

JENNIE AND JEFF


The very familiar names of two Merritton residents won't be on our Municipal election ballots. Jeff Burch, a former Merritton Ward Councillor was recently elected to be the MPP in the Welland riding. Jeff was elected first in 2006 and then re-elected in 2010 to represent our ward. While on council, he served as the city's budget committee chair and helped to bring the Meridian Centre through the approval process. The Welland riding includes Welland, Port Colborne, Thorold and part of south St. Catharines. And, of course, Jennie Stevens was also elected to the Ontario Legislature as an MPP and will represent St. Catharines residents on behalf of the NDP. Jennie had represented the ward of Merritton since 2003 and so naturally chose a Merritt Street pizzeria to bring together her supporters for the election night celebration. (One of St. Catharines' other candidates, Sandie Bellows, also held her election night gathering for supporters in Merritton, at the Stone Mill Inn.) Both Jeff and Jennie served us well in Merritton and we might say that they 'cut their teeth' working to support our community before moving to the provincial arena.

CITY COUNCILLORS

Voters in our community will pick two City Councillors to represent Merritton Ward. Check out the responses on the next page from candidates Kim Clifford, Diane Foster, David Haywood, Hayden Lawrence, Marta Liddiard, Lori Littleton, Greg Miller and Lesley Seaborne.

UP CLOSE WITH THE CITY COUNCILLOR CANDIDATES

We asked each of the candidates to provide us with a paragraph about their background and to also let us know why we should elect them.

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KIM CLIFFORD

Phone: 905.329.5503

Email: kimclifford4merritton@gmail.com

I am married to Ben Clifford and we have two beautiful boys, Ayden and Ty. When we were first married, we lived away from Merritton for four short years, but I was anxious to get back to my roots and raise my family within this community. Throughout my childhood, I was heavily involved in the MAA and know how important it is for a community to offer outlets for our youth to grow skills and find a passion. I have been an Educational Assistant for 21 years, helping children reach their potential. I spent my time as a mom dedicated to my boys and their interests. My boys were a part of the MAA, keeping me very busy meeting their schedules. I have always looked forward to having the time to be involved in my community and am running for Council so that I can help Merritton continue to be a great place to raise a family. I have a long history in Merritton. My great-grandparents immigrated to Merritton, moving onto Turner Crescent. Four generations have been raised in this home, establishing strong Merritton roots. My parents, Bill and Sandra Merpaw continue to live there. My family has been involved in the MAA, Lions Club and the Royal Canadian Legion. My grandfather, Thomas Merpaw was instrumental in establishing the Merritton Arena as well as the annual Wissahicken Hockey Exchange that continues to this day.

Merritton is a wonderful place to work and raise a family. I feel that we need to continue to attract entrepreneurs to provide jobs and services that keep families in our community. Merritton has so much to offer, from hiking trails and parks to restaurants, local watering holes, athletics and family activities. I am looking forward to representing Merritton and having the needs of our area met through Council. I would be a strong supporter of smart growth, looking at filling vacant spaces with businesses and the continued creation of single and multiple family subdivisions in our ward. I am hoping that I will be able to accelerate the process so that we can see development begin at the old hospital site on Queenston Street, as it has been vacant for over 5 years. My vision for the Merritton Ward is that it will continue to be a thriving community where businesses invest in our future and people are inclined to raise their families. I look forward to your consideration in October.

DIANE FOSTER

Phone: 905.325.4031

Email: nandiane@outlook.com

I will work hard to make St. Catharines a more

livable city, creating a better tomorrow, today. Although I am not a politician, I have been a strong advocate for inclusivity and diversity. As a member of the Accessibility Advisory Committee for nearly 10 years, I have addressed City Council on numerous occasions and I understand how important it is to represent people who are seeking to make our city more accessible to all. I believe in putting people first, and am committed to getting results.

I have excellent leadership skills, and will devote myself to representing the people of Merritton, by understanding the needs of the community. I plan to be available to familiarize myself with, and discuss issues of concerns with residents of Merritton. My commitment to you is to work with you to create a better tomorrow, today.

DAVID HAYWOOD

Phone: 905.324.0123

Email: davehaywood@merritton.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/dave4merritton

Twitter: @dave4merritton

I have been Merritton's representative on St. Catharines City Council for the past 4 years and I am seeking re-election this coming October. Personally, my wife Kerry and I were born and raised in the Merritton area. Professionally, I am a Correctional Officer at the Niagara Detention Centre and she is a teacher at a school within the Merritton community. We have three children - Morgan (8 years old), Gracie (5 years old), and Hudson (3 years old). During the past 4 years I have been very active as Merritton's representative. For example, I was Chair of the City of St. Catharines' Environmental Sustainability Pillar - overseeing the St. Catharines' Green Committee, Clean City Committee, and Urban Forest Advisory Committee. Additionally, I was a Commissioner on the St. Catharines Transit Commission and I was a member of the Ad Hoc Budget Committee. I also sat on the Fire Master Plan Review Committee and the Cultural Funding Review Committee. Notable initiatives that I led or helped lead while on city council include: spearheading a city-wide 5-year park renewal plan; establishing a 2-year Centennial Gardens Restoration Grant Program and an annual Community Garden Grant Program. I was successful in getting full funding restored to the St. Catharines Green and Clean City Committees. Moreover, I played an important role in the creation of a full regional transit plan - including the proposed merging of St. Catharines, Welland, and Niagara Falls transit systems. I was a member on the Merritton Volunteer Firefighters Memorial Plaque Committee and

a major contributor in the fundraising and creation of the Merritton Bill Wiley Memorial Parkette. Additionally, I was the first member of city council to foresee the current affordable housing crisis and I advocated against turning apartments units within Merritton into condominiums. Lastly, I led the charge on city council to change city policies to prevent improper redevelopment and infilling within established neighbourhoods and I supported the city's annual free tree give-a-way program to increase the city's tree canopy and urban forest.

If re-elected, I will continue the fight to preserve and enhance city parks and green spaces within our community- including working with the Niagara Regional Native Centre on the restoration of Centennial Garden's Totem Pole. I will seek to renew my role as a member on the St. Catharines Budget Committee and continue its commitment to keep tax increases near inflation. I will fight for more affordable housing including supporting the proposed establishment of an Affordable Housing Grant Program. Most importantly, I will work with the new owners of the old General Hospital site to ensure the site is redeveloped in a way that compliments the surrounding neighbourhood and business community. Merritton needs an experienced voice on St. Catharines City Council and I will be that voice! Please follow my campaign as it unfolds on Facebook at: @dave4merritton and @merrittonontario; or on Twitter at: @dave4merritton. Email me your thoughts or vision for Merritton during the next 4 years at: davehaywood@merritton.com.

HAYDEN LAWRENCE

Phone: 905.931.2683

Email: haydenformerritton@gmail.com

I'm 20 years old, born and raised in St. Catharines to a hard-working single mother. I'm a proud graduate of both Ferndale and Sir Winston and most recently Niagara College. I love Merritton and everything it has provided for me and I care deeply about my City. All of my life I've been hearing about Merritton politics because of my "Uncle" Bill Wiley and his passion for our Ward. I entered this year's race without hesitation to bring that same passion and energy to the residents of Merritton and to City Council. Also, to bring youthful and progressive views to help better our community. I humbly ask for everybody's vote for 3 reasons:

1. I will be the loudest and strongest voice for Merritton and all residents in the Ward. I will champion all issues that are brought to my attention and ensure that Merritton issues heard, respected and acted upon.

2. I will continue Jennie Stevens' fight to clean up Centennial Gardens and also to clean up our Queenston and downtown neighbourhoods. I want to promote a safe, vibrant and prosperous downtown core.

3. Youth, like myself, are the future and must have better representation. I want to invest in young people to ensure they have the necessary economic conditions to the Youth who prefer live and work in St. Catharines.

I look forward to meeting everybody over the coming months!

LORI LITTLETON

Phone: 905.988.0170

Email: votelittleton@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/votelittleton2018

Twitter: @votelittleton18

I am a 14-year resident of Merritton, where I live with my husband and three children and spend countless hours jogging. A former newspaper reporter, I covered municipal councils and understand how to help citizens get things done. I am now self-employed in the financial services industry and as a freelance writer. I feel strongly about contributing to my community and currently sit on the Mayor's Working Group about the rental housing bylaw, am Treasurer/Registrar for the 4th St. Catharines Scouts (Merritton) and, for the past 1 ½ years, parent council president at École Élémentaire L'Héritage. I have also served as a judge (2017) and interview committee member (2015) for the Niagara Entrepreneur of the Year Awards, on the École Élémentaire Ste. Marguerite Bourgeoys parent council and was a two-season coach with the Port Weller Soccer League.

I will bring a valuable balance to council. I possess a social conscience and desire to help people and have good financial sense to know the importance of a city living within its means. I am independent -- with no ties to outside organizations that often try to influence municipal decision-making.

We need smart development. We must ensure the former hospital site is developed, that infilling respects our established neighbourhoods and we continue to work on affordable housing initiatives. I will work tirelessly so Merritton gets its fair share of city investment in our parks, playgrounds and redevelopment projects. My strong leadership and exceptional communications skills will bring a sense of cohesiveness to Merritton and council. Through my 2Day2Way Communications Pledge, I will respond to every email or call from you within 48 hours. And for those who wish to receive regular updates from me personally, I will email you

to let you know what's going on at council, particularly issues affecting Merritton, so you can be informed and voice your opinion.

MARTA LIDDIARD

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/martabaczynskaliddiard

Instagram: liddiard4merritton

Twitter: @Marta4Merritton

My name is Marta Liddiard and I want to be your representative in city council. I arrived in Canada from Poland in 1988 and quickly fell in love with my new home country. I have lived in St. Catharines since 2000 and moved into the Merritton ward in 2009 when we bought a lovely old home on Queenston street. A house we have since learned everyone refers to as the gladiolus house. Seems everyone used to buy their flowers there!

Running for council for the first time in 2014 was an eye opener to say the least. I have learned quite a bit since my first foray into local politics! I want you to know that as your representative I will not back down from any challenge. Whether it's a dispute between neighbours or dealing with problems that have not seen resolution since the last election, such as the rotting former General Hospital site in our own ward. The debacle in Port Dalhousie. The old GM plant on Ontario street, or simply dealing with the infighting on council itself. You want someone fighting for you and your interests that is tenacious and not willing to settle for second best. I am that person and I hope you will vote Marta for Merritton on Election Day.

GREG MILLER

Phone: 905.931.3622

Email: greg@millerformerritton.com

Website: www.millerformerritton.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/millerformerritton

I am excited about the opportunity to work together with my neighbours in Merritton to keep the heart in the community and build a better St. Catharines. I have lived in St. Catharines my entire life. My wife and I chose to raise our young children in Merritton because we know it is the best place for families. I have been a board member for St. Catharines CYO Rebels basketball, NEXTNiagara young professionals' network, A Better Niagara, the Rotary Club of St. Catharines and have been a long-time volunteer with the Sir Winston Churchill basketball program. Professionally, I work in politics and communications.

Together we can maintain important

traditions like the Merritton Labour Day parade, the fireworks and our strong community spirit. Politically, let's focus on improving Centennial Gardens, bringing a splash pad to Merritton, supporting our excellent firefighters and making life affordable for all residents. I'm committed to working hard, making the tough decisions, having the courage of my convictions in the face of pressure from special interests and being focused on residents instead of reelection. Together I know that we can keep the heart in Merritton and turn St. Catharines into a champion of public services, fairness and affordability.

LESLEY SEABORNE

Phone: 289.228.4728

Email: seaborne4merritton@gmail.com

Website: www.Lesleyseaborne.ca

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Seaborne4Merritton

Representing Merritton Ward would mean the world to me.

Aside from having grown up in St. Catharines and moved to Merritton in 1985, I have been a passionate volunteer and active contributing member of the community for years. I have spoken with, and listened to Merritton Community Members and their concerns for the past 8 years and I know that I have all the skills necessary to get the long outstanding issues of this community resolved. As your new councillor, I promise to be a Champion for the community I love, by providing the time, passion and expertise required to see the needs of our Ward fulfilled. It's OUR Time to Be Heard at City Council!

What I bring to the position.

1. I've been a Law Clerk for over 20 years with a focus on Municipal Law and related areas. I've developed a strong and positive relationship with City Staff and Council members, which is critical to getting our priorities resolved.
2. I've been a community volunteer for more than 30 years for organizations like the Merritton Legion - Branch 138 (Membership Chair), Merritton Lions, St. Catharines Outdoor Aquatic Task Force Committee, St. Catharines Museum Advisory Committee and the Dragon Boat/Canoe Club, which has provided me with an amazing network of like-minded community supporters eager to see Merritton advance.
3. Most importantly, I'm a resident of Merritton and employed in this city, so I'm impacted by the very same issues and concerns as my neighbours and all residents of Ward One, each and every day.

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