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Newsletter of East York Historica ociety

ELISHA EDWARD EDMUNDS

# EYHS Celebrates Black History Honours Canadian Join us for our Zoom Virtual Platform with TELEPHONE ACCESS Transferry 26, 2021 @ 7PM

Tuesday, January 26, 2021 @ 7PM SPEAKER: ROSEMARY SADLIER TOPIC: AN OVERVIEW OF BLACK HISTORY & THE IMPORTANCE OF DIVERSITY





A Great & Warm Seasons Greetings to every East York Historical Society Member (Readers, Friends & Loyal Supporters) It is my true hope that all is well with you and the

ones you care about today. A HAPPY, HEALTHY & HOPEFUL NEW YEAR WISHES TO EVERYONE!

Well, can we imagine its the year 2021 and so far so good we are keeping in the best of health.

It has been ten months (March 13, 2020-) since we started to experience what will be a lifetime of memories to talk about our loses and gains. Let us be reminded that we are not alone with our daily struggles, laughter and hope. Maybe life as we once knew then will not be the same but we can keep in mind, this too shall pass. Let us "keep on keeping on, doing our best best." Pancheta Barnett

As your hard working President I have only one intention and that is to continue to serve this East York Historical Society alongside its Mission (see back page) to keep it flourishing.

Many thanks to our East York Historical Society Executive Board of Directors for a job well done in 2020. We understand how difficult this has been for our members not able to attend meetings in person and so on. We must not lose hope.

The best we can do is work with the times & go Virtual Zoom platform via compliment of a shared opportunity through our kind member and President of East York Garden Club> Ms. Diane Dyson and her Board. We will continue to accept this kindness until further notice/development from TPL in 2021.

Thank you East York Garden Club. "We work together for the common good not just for ourselves but that of our future children." Pancheta Barnett.

Many thanks to those of you who have taken the time to send me greeting cards, e-cards, telephone & texts thoughts of care. This is very much appreciated by me. It is also a delight to see and talk with some of us in a distance. Please let us continue to pick up the phone and make that care call. Its not business as usual.

## A Warm Welcome to our East York Historical Society new members... please turn to page 5

East York Historical Society friendly reminder to our members to please renew your membership if you have not done so since 2019 or prior; the Society now accepts e-transfer or by crown mail. Please see membership form at the back of this East York Inklings Newsletter of East York Historical Society. East York Historical Society Members membership also helps to keep our Society in good health.

A REMINDER: MEMBERS WHO HAD RENEWED THEIR EYHS MEMBERSHIP IN 2020 YOU DO NOT HAVE TO RENEW (make no payment) IN 2021.

**President's Pat's EYHS Member Spotlight is Mr. Paul Plouffe.** See Page 11.

**East York Historical Society 40th AGM** and General evening meeting was a great success with a good membership turn out (30) and an amazing presenter Ms. Diana Bishop on Topic:

**"LIVING UP TO A LEGEND"** well received. On behalf of East York Historical Society we thank you Diana!

#### Our next scheduled General Meeting EAST YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY CELEBRATE "BLACK HISTORY CANADA" will be held on the evening of Tuesday, January 26, 2021

Host Zoom Virtual. Members will receive further details with Zoom link...and telephone access for your use only closer to our meeting date. Please keep this date posted on your calendars.**Pg.6** Our Presenter for the evening will be

MRS. ROSEMARY SADLIER on Topic:

## AN OVERVIEW OF BLACK HISTORY & THE IMPORTANCE OF DIVERSITY.

East York President's Special Feature and Cover photo of the late East Yorker, Canadian **MR. ELISHA EDWARD EDMUNDS.** President's request of photos, maps and article from private archival collection credit J. Doucette

#### Trust you had time to attend this year's amazing East York

**Levee** Virtual host Zoom with our Mayor Tory, Councillor Fletcher & Councillor Bradford, Former Mayors of East York Hon. Alan Redway & Hon. Michael Prue...; a different format but great turn out 100 in attendance.

From a few anonymous recipients of the annual 2020 East York Christmas dinner wishes me to pass on a Special Thank you to Councillor Paula Fletcher and MRS. KAM BABULAL & her team for the smooth and great service; the delicious warm dinner so nicely packaged ready to eat at home on December 25, 2020. East York Historical Society Life member Mrs. Eleanor Darke recipient of the 2020 (4th Year) East York Historical Society Appreciation Certificate Award note of thanks...page 7

East York Historical Society Special Tributes to Mr. Gary Webb-Proctor passing: page 7

Many thanks to our TPL staff for keeping EYHS updated as to what's going on pertaining to our safe return 'tba' to our regular meeting place in S. Walter Stewart Library. Please stay tuned. TPL. S. Walter Stewart Library staff just sent me this photo of a plant ANTHURIUM the Society gave them as thank you gift Christmas 2019. It is striving beautifully today. I thought I should share it with everyone. I hope it bring a smile to your face as it does mine.

Thank you for listening and hope to see and hear everyone at our upcoming evening general meeting East York Historical Society "Celebrates Black History Canada". Thank you.

In ongoing Service for East York Historical Society Pat

P. Barnett

Pancheta Barnett President East York Historical Society e-mail: eyhs@eastyork.org http://www.eastyorkhistory.ca

https://www.facebook.com/groups /144715709718

Twitter:@EYHistoricalSoc 416-801-6274



## "East York Historical Society Special Feature Honours East York Great Elisha Edward Edmunds"



Featured Article –requested by President Pancheta Pat Barnett from Joanne Doucette in recognition of East York Historical Society Celebration of Black History Canada

By Joanne Doucette ELISHA EDWARD EDMUNDS (1816-1903) SON ARTHUR (Artie) EDMUNDS Only this photo of Elisha Edmunds which his family has seen, but is not widely known publicly. The other photo is remarkable as this must be one of the few Black Military Medalists of World War One.



Elisha Edward Edmunds (1816-1903) had a small garden in East York, and the family lived there at least some of the time. The garden supplied the large

Edmunds family with food, but it appears it was also a market garden.

The family's property fronted on the south side of Cosburn Avenue and today Banfield Avenue runs through it.

The Edmunds likely leased the property from the McKays, but don't have any evidence of it.

You can see from these photos other small plots of land that became the basis for the street grid in that area of East York.

Elisha Edmunds was born in 1816 in Richmond, Virginia. He was born free and grew up as a free man of color there. In 1832 he came to Canada. He married Cora Ann and they had nine children. Son Elvin A. Edmunds had on a son Arthur (Artie) Edmunds who went on to become famous as a body builder and athlete. Another son, George, was famous for different reasons. In 1880, he was arrested but found not guilty on a rape charge. Another son, John F. Edmunds, was also a barber. (Elisha Edmunds boarded for some time with Luella Price who built an apartment building, still standing, at 6 Redwood Avenue.) Another grandson won the Military Medal overseas.

Elisha Edmunds told his story to the Globe in 1892:

"Don't want your neck shaved? All right, sir. I was a boy in Richmond, Virginia, but never was a slave. I suffered nothing, except from the laws, and we left to get rid of them. No, sir, no man would ever trample on me. I have only to die once, and it was well we got out of the place. My brother travelled around northward until he reached Rochester and Oswego, then he heard of this place, Little York, and he came over. He wrote that he had found a place where we would get a fair show, and my brother and I sailed from Richmond for New York on June 18, [18]32. We left New York and traveled along over the country and on the North River until we reached Oswego. Then we sailed for Toronto, but a heavy storm came up and we were driven back to Youngstown. We sailed again from Niagara and were caught in another squall and driven back to Port Dalhousie. Then the coasting laws [immigration laws] wouldn't let the captain carry us across to York, so we had to sail in another boat, and it was not until July 11 that we got here. A man could go around the world in that time now. I started then as an apprentice [barber] to my brother. It was 60 years ago, so I ought to know my business pretty well." Globe, Feb. 24, 1892 -Credit Research files of Joanne Doucette contribution to Black History Canada EYHS

# MILITARY MEDALIST HURT.

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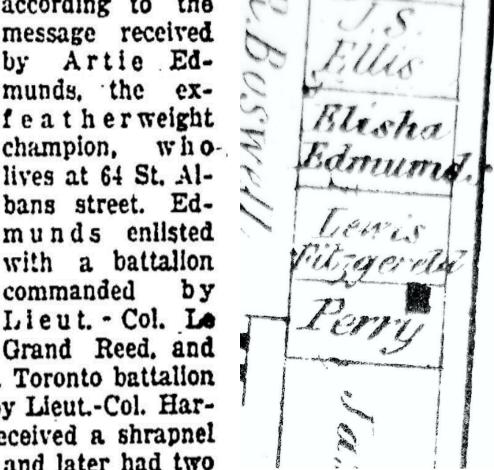
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a battallon



commanded by Lieut. - Col. Le Grand Reed, and Pte. Edmunds. was drafted into a Toronto battalion now commanded by Lieut.-Col. Harbottle. Once he received a shrapnel wound in the side and later had two fingers shot off. At Lens he killed fifteen Germans and won the Milltary Medal.



#### 2020 City of Toronto map





1878 Map from the County Atlas project

# **East York Historical Society Members'** Comments

Re: EYHS 40th AGM & General Meeting 24th Nov. 2020

Ron Chamberlain TEXT Nov. 24. 2020 @ c. 9 pm Thank You... Excellent AGM & Meeting. Absolutely went beyond what I expected. So rewarding & interesting/educational.

Wed, Nov 25 at 11:21 AM Good morning Pancheta, Good meeting of the EYHS last evening. Really enjoyed listening to Diana Bishop too. Have been asked if I can do an

article on her for Leaside Life -Lorna Krawchuk

On Wednesday, November 25, 2020, 5:59:22 PM EST, Kathleen Horiszny Hi Pat:

Yesterday evening was very nice. And I really enjoyed the guest speaker Diana Bishop's presentation. Thank you and the others in setting up this meeting.

#### **Regards**, Kay Horiszny

Helen Juhola Telephone Message:

EYHS 40<sup>th</sup> AGM and General Meeting Nov. 24, 2020 I will not attend another meeting on Zoom Virtual with telephone access It does not feel real, like the presenter was talking to out of space but other than that thank you for the meeting".

Good Morning Pancheta,

The AGM meeting on November 24, was fantastic, I was very entertained.

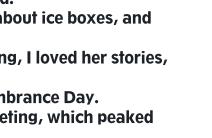
I enjoyed the social at the beginning of the meeting, listening to stories about ice boxes, and the horses delivering milk in East York.

The speaker you chose Diana Bishop, was so well delivered and engaging, I loved her stories, and would like to read her book.

As Billy Bishop's granddaughter, it was the perfect reflection for Remembrance Day. My neighbour, Ron and I were discussing how much we enjoyed the meeting, which peaked interest from other neighbours.

I will pass on your information to them, as they are interested in participating in your meeting as the are well worth the time. I will look forward to your meeting in January, as reflection on **Black History.** 

Thank you Joanne Valliere





"Living Up to a Legend" November 24, 2020 Speaker

Sun, Nov 29 at 8:19 AM





## **BLACK HISTORY CANADA CELEBRATION SPEAKER**



Rosemary Sadlier OOnt (Order of Ontario) is a social justice advocate, researcher, writer,

consultant, and international speaker on Black History, anti-racism and women's issues. She is the past President, serving for 22 years as the unpaid leader of the Ontario Black History Society - being the driving force of the secured commemoration of February as Black History Month at all levels of government; she secured August 1st as Emancipation Day municipally in 1995 and provincially in 2008 with a national declaration pending. She saw to the creation of the national day for the Hon. Lincoln Alexander. She is the Royal Commonwealth Society Equality Lead for the Americas and the Caribbean and has given deputations

to the UN Rapporteur on Race Relations, the Federal and Provincial Governments and on consultative work with the Royal Ontario Museum, CMHR, The Ward heritage interpretative group, the Bi-National Study of the Underground Railroad and heritage conferences. Previously she served on the final selection committee of the national Mathieu Da Costa Challenge for Canadian Heritage and is a past member of the Canada Post Stamp Advisory Committee. An educator, she has developed or contributed to African Canadian curriculum, resources, national exhibits and she was an appointed member of the College of Early Childhood Educators. She was among the first Canadians designated a Global Defender of Human Rights (CTF & Robert Kennedy Center). An author, Sadlier has written 7 books on African Canadian history. Sadlier is dedicated to social justice and using the frame of Black History, seeks to educate and empower others.

I have received the beautiful award from the East York Historical Society. Sorry it took so long to acknowledge it but Canada Post had put it at a door that I rarely use so I didn't find it immediately. It has been given pride of place in the office.





I was deeply touched that the Society felt me worthy of this award, especially considering the calibre of its previous recipients. It has given me real satisfaction to see the growth

of the East York Historical Society over the years and to see its successes. Thank you again.

Eleanor Darke

# OAKVILLE

Just wanted to share this great article on black history in the Town of Oakville. It was published by TV Ontario and was posted December 1, 2020. -shared by JVD https://www.tvo.org/article/ontarians-



should-know-more-about-the-black-history-of-oakville



# SPEAKERS FOR THE DEAD

This is an NFB film released 20 years ago about the restoration of the Durham Road Cemetery

near **PRICEVILLE** Ontario that was

mentioned in the program from the Virtual Owen

Sound Emancipation Festival July 27, 2020. Those of you who have gone with us on bus trips to Grey County will remember Barry pointing it out to us as we explored the area near their home. **HIDDEN HISTORY** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2sGitCFI8Jc



#### ORONTO'S FIRST MODULAR HOUSING COMPLETE!

Toronto just got its first modular supportive housing building for the homeless





https://www.blogto.com/city/2020/12/toronto-modular-supportive-housing-units-forhomeless/?fbclid=IwAR0z6zT 0H7iMdtKbLdodCyPHCa2UKPGEsIts2ik6t-V2jTUNVmuqyql9Sq





#### TRIBUTES to Mr. Gary Webb-Proctor's passing Dec. 28, 2020

I started to read the Chronicle Magazine a year after its publication c. 2015 & introduced myself to Gary and since then have always sent Gary a copy of our East York Inklings Newsletter of East York Historical Society plus other special celebration invites. Many of our East Yorkers supported Gary's East York Chronicle and I am proud to say that the Society and a few of our members, including myself wrote (free) articles etc., in support of Gary in many ways as often as possible and as he requested. This is good news of the day showing how much we cared about Gary and his work as Founder, Publisher and Editor of the East York Chronicle.

The last of his interns interviewed by me was on January 28, 2020 the evening of EYHS Celebrates Black History Canada pertaining to our Topic...Carnegie.

Often times I would collect several copies of his monthly publications of the East York Chronicle for hand outs at EYHS meetings and for our outreach displays and archives.

The last time I received a query from Gary was last June 2020. He wanted to know if EYHS was going to do anything on Canada Day in which I gave him information lead about one of our directors who would be walking on the day along with a special edition copy of East York Inklings...I think this is one of the many many ways we gave to our local papers so they can keep on keeping on with their publications. A two-way friendship and for this we thank you Gary, for sharing your work with us and all of East York. In these later days and up to his passing Gary was working harder than ever to keep the East York Chronicle

alive. -EYHS President Pat



"Gary made a great contribution to East York with his publication of the East York Chronicle Magazine. Both Gary and the East York Chronicle will be sorely missed". Alan Redway, is a Canadian and retired

lawyer former politician. Wikipedia









In Honour of Gary Webb-Proctor and his contributions to the community, Councillor Paula Fletcher will present a Condolence Motion at the City Council meeting on February 2, 2021. The meeting can be watched virtually on Youtube starting at 9:30am. Link: https://www.youtube.c. om/c/TorontoCityCouncilLiv e/featured

Councillor Paula Fletcher

Gary Webb-Proctor was a good friend and a proud East Yorker who devoted his passion to ensuring residents were informed about the community we all love. His loss is significant as he was operating the last regular published newspaper for the former Borough. Thanks to his tireless work, many organizations, including the last York Historical Society, benefited from his coverage. Rest In Peace, Gary!!! Justin Van Dette, Secretary East York Historical Society

**Crosstown LRT UPDATE:** We continue to bring you the latest advances in construction of the Eglinton Crosstown Light Rail Transit (LRT) route, thanks to images that take you behind and over the construction barriers. This time, it's all about concrete and steel. Get up to speed by checking out the <u>Metrolinx Blog</u>.





In response to increasing COVID-19 cases, the Province declared a second provincial emergency and issued a province-wide stay-at-home order that came into effect on January 14th. This means you must stay at home and should only go out for essential reasons. <u>Read the Province's news release for more information</u>.

I know there is some confusion about what is "essential" and there is concern about enforcement.

The Province released a document on January 12th with further details about the shut down and the new measures.



GARY WEBB-PROCTOR'S PASSING MONDAY, 28th DECEMBER, 2020 R.I.P. GARY WEBB-PROCTOR (1950- 2020) FOUNDER OF THE EAST YORK CHRONICLE MAGAZINE SINCE 2014

#### **East York Historical Society** Minutes of the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting Tuesday, November 24, 2020 @ 7:30 PM Zoom Video/Telephone Conference

Attendance: 30 members in attendance (virtually & by telephone)

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM with Pat Barnett, President of the East York Historical Society, presiding as Chair

Opening Remarks: Pat welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that she wished that we were meeting under different circumstances and in-person. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Annual General Meeting was being done online through a Zoom Video/Telephone Conference line. Pat noted that the online access was made possible thanks to the support of the East York Garden Club who were loaning their video line. Pat acknowledged and thanked the East York Garden Club and Diane Dyson, their President, who is also a member of the East York Historical Society.

Moment of Silence: Pat requested a moment of silence to sadly acknowledge the passing of four (4) members of the EYHS who passed away in 2020 - Bill Lewis, Hon. Norm Dyson, John Laraway and Hank Borden followed by Diane Dyson reading the Acknowledgement Text.

Pat Barnett passed the Chair onto Diane Dyson who would chair the voting on the various reports on the agenda and the Election of Officers

Approval of Minutes: MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES from the Previous Annual General Meeting on November 26, 2019 as noted on Page 14 of the November 2020 Inklings – moved by Ron Brown; seconded by Kay Horiszny – APPROVED

Annual Report: MOTION TO ACCEPT THE ANNUAL REPORT as noted on Page 15 of the November 2020 Inklings moved Paul Plouffe; seconded by Ron Chamberlain – APPROVED

Financial Report: MOTION TO ACCEPT THE FINANCIAL REPORT as noted on Page 13 of November 2020 Inklings – moved by Justin Van Dette; seconded by Ron Brown – APPROVED

Appointment of a Financial Reviewer: MOTION APPOINT LORNA KRAWCHUK AS THE FINANCIAL REVIEWER for 2021 - moved by Ron Chamberlain; seconded by Ron Brown - APPROVED

Election of Officers: Diane Dyson, acted as Chair of the Elections, and informed everyone that a slate had been presented to her and that these individuals would serve as the Board of Directors for 2020-2021. The individuals presented for the Board of Directors are as follows: (as noted on the AGM Agenda on Page 12 of the November 2020 Inklings)

President:	Pancheta (Pat) Barnett	
Vice President:	Ron Brown	
Four Directors at Large:	Chris Salmond	Chris Theofilogiannakos
	Ron Chamberlain	
The following individuals would be ap	pointed to the East Yor	k Historical Board of Directors:
Secretary:	Justin Van Dette	
Treasurer:	Val Dodge	
Past President:	Margaret McRae	
No further nominations were put forv	vard. MOTION TO RECE	IVE AND ELECT THE SLATE AS
PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL GENERA	L MEETING AS NOTED A	BOVE: Moved by Ron Brown; seconded by Ron
Chamberlain – APPROVED		

Adjournment: MOTION to ADJOURN the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the East York Historical Society at 7:38 PM - moved by Justin Van Dette; seconded by Ron Brown - APPROVED

# EYHS MEETING DATES FOR 2021 AND 2022

# TUESDAY EVENING 7PM MEETINGS 2021

EY S-

- January 26
- March 30
- May 25
- September 28
- November 30

## WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON 2 PM MEETNGS 2021

- February 17
- April 14
- October 20



# East York Historical Society Warmly Welcomes our Newest Members!

April 20

**TUESDAY EVENING** 

January 25

September 27

November 29

February 16

October 19

March 29

May 31

7PM MEETINGS 2022

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

2 PM MEETNGS 2022

Zia Choudhary Lucy Burke Dervish David Mitrovica Anthony Lewis



### FOLLOWERS

We recently surpassed 500 followers on our EYHS fb Page! Follow us on fb for history *made* and history-inthe-making, news and events! f https://www.facebook.com /groups/144715709718

#### East York Seniors Christmas Day Dinner goes ahead By: Justin Van Dette, Secretary, EYHS

Last month, the 38<sup>th</sup> annual East York Senior's Christmas Day Dinner, started by former East York Mayor Dave Johnson as the Mayor's Christmas Day Dinner, went ahead on December 25<sup>th</sup>. Sadly, there was no in-person gathering at the East York Community Centre because of the pandemic. Thanks to the organizational work of Councillor Paula Fletcher and convenor Kam Babulal who organized the logistics, the event went ahead.



Thanks to volunteers, over 300 meals were delivered to the front doors of local seniors and shut in residents.

The event would not have been possible without local donors and volunteers.

Kam Babulal, convenor and organizer of the East York Seniors Christmas Day Dinner.



# President Pat's Spotlight East York Historical Society Member East Yorker Mr. Paul Plouffe

Paul Stanley Plouffe on March 26, 1939 first child born to Dorothy Mae Plouffe (nee Burt) & Stanley Plouffe in Toronto East General Hospital (renamed Michael Garron Hospital) Today he stands 6' tall. Husband since April 8, 1961 to Joan Doucet at St. Brigid's Church. Joanne as she is known by friends originates from Allardville, New Brunswick. Both met in Oshawa at the Jubilee dance Hall in 1960.

The marriage produced three sons, three grandchildren two boys and a girl.

Paul, Joan & their family have traveled extensively in Canada and around the world to places such as: Vancouver BC. UK. Italy. France. Holland. Luxenberg. Belgium. Haiti. Venezuela. St. Kitts. St. Martin. Aruba, Bonaire & Caruso ABC Islands. Arizona. Florida. New Orleans, Puerto Rico, Nausau Bahamas. Trinidad & Tobago, St. Johns NFLD, Switzerland. Tijuana Mexico. Paul's education began at 6 1/2 v.o. Grade 1 at St.Brigids: Grades 2-6 Holy Cross; Moved to Welland, Ontario grades 6-7 Notre Dame; Grade 8 St. Dunstan (Pharmacy and Danforth) Grade 9 St. John Intermediate on Malvern Ave. a two room School House which was once a Church. Today the all-Girl Notre Dame School occupies that address.

At 16 y.o. Paul began operating machines at G & G Sheet Metal Co., owned by his uncle George Townsend and son George Jnr. G & G metal was situated in a Laneway (Horse Trail) between Leslie Street and Eastern Ave.

Paul's earliest memory at 4

was living on Virginia Av. His father was sent to the biggest training facility as Aero Engine Mechanic at Trenton, Ont. His 'mom was a stay at home mom' During WW2. the family lived in a trailer. Early 1945 the family and the trailer moved onto uncle Nelson Plouffe's property at 34 Dunkirk Avenue. Late 1945 father returned and moved the family to 205 Linsmore Cresc. Kiwanis Club use to hold the

Soap Box Derby Races blocking off Don Mills North from O'Connor.



Photo source IDoucette

A dream (his parents could not afford) when he was in grade 2 became a reality at the age of 32 when he bought himself an electric train and joined Scarborough Model Railroader.

Maybe our readers may know this - once upon a time there used to be a tiny village called 'Jonesville' boxed in North of O'Connor Drive & South of Eglinton Av. & West of Victoria Park Avenue. Also a wooden bridge known as the singing bridge situated north on Vic Pk. from Lawrence Ave about a block and a half crossing the CP rail-track. The only reason one would go fast over the bridge was to make it sing due to the metal treads over the wooden planks and to get to the North East Drive-in Theatre (aka The Passion Pit) at Sheppard Ave. Built 1947 - Dem. 1976. Watched as the Sunnybrook Plaza being built in the 1950's.

**Paul was employed** by TTC from 1969-1999 as an operator >Birchmount Garage Division.

Loves History. Hobbies: Lawnbowler Highland Creek Lawn Bowling Club 10 years to 2009

when it closed. Then bowled 'til 2015 at CPLBC. Build model ships, cars, planes & trains from kits. Involved in certified shooting sports. Maple Leaf Revolver Club & Scarborough Rifle Club now closed.

Favourite vegie Orange Turnip mashed with smidgen of brown sugar.

Oh one other thing: Joan used to belly dance at The Grange while Paul was the stage manager.

Paul became a member of East York Historical Society because he was born in East York and loves history. He misses EYHS meetings with its warm fellowship, presentations, getting and reading his newsletters. He looks forward to the day we return to it in person. In the mean time he is dedicated to continue his support to this grand Society in which ever way he can plus attend regular meetings. Like so many East Yorkers, Paul now resides in Scarborough.

Mr. Plouffe on behalf of East York Historical Society I thank

you for Sharing a part of this interesting journey of your good life with us. Thank you for being a member of EYHS. I wish you all the best today onward.

Paul Plouffe Permission to publish by: -East York Historical Society President Pancheta Pat Barnett Interviewed September 2020.



#### EAST YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY CONGRATULATES LEASIDE HERITAGE PRESERVATION SOCIETY FOUNDERS ON THEIR INCEPTION AS A NEW SOCIETY ON NOVEMBER 20, 2020. HERE BELOW PLEASE FIND A LETTER THE DAY LHPS WAS LAUNCHED ON DECEMBER 21, 2020.

# LEASIDE

#### ANN BROWN FOUNDER-CHAIRMAN LEASIDE HERITAGE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Introducing the *Leaside Heritage Preservation Society*: New Non-Profit Organization is Launched with Singular Focus on Preserving Leaside's Storied History FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Toronto, December 21, 2020 - The preservation of the rich history of Toronto's storied Leaside neighbourhood will be the focus of the newly formed Leaside Heritage Preservation Society (LHPS), officially announced today. The non-profit organization recently founded in November, 2020 has been incorporated by, and is a member of, the Ontario

Historical Society.

"The only thing missing in the remarkable history of our Leaside neighbourhood has been a coordinated effort to memorialize and preserve that history," said LHPS Board Chairman, Ann Brown. "Every one of us on the Board is focused on taking steps to preserve and promote the historical contributions of Leaside, for the enjoyment and education of the community today and for future generations."

In 1851, William Lea bought land just south of his father's farm, and began constructing a large, octagonal brick house, which he named "Leaside". Some 60-plus years later, the Town of Leaside was incorporated in 1913. More than a century of historic events has unfolded since then, and of course, more will surely come. Today, as ongoing change and innovation continues to transform Leaside, the LHPS will serve to ensure that the community's impressive history and legacy is both remembered and celebrated.

Brown introduced the eight other founding members of the LHPS Board, all of whom are dedicated and longstanding Leaside residents. They are:

Jennifer Avveduto	John Lea <sup>1</sup>
Ted DeWelles	Catherina Parr
Jennifer Hanley	Patrick Rocca VICE CHAIR
Kennis Kim TREASURER	Susan Par SECRETARY

The Board confirmed the first step in its mission is to invite all Leaside residents to consider supporting the LHPS by acquiring an annual membership. Details of the membership and its benefits are/will be outlined at *leasideheritage.ca*.

Funds raised will support the preservation and celebration of Leaside's history in a variety of ways, including:

Publishing information about Leaside's past, including brochures, posters, pamphlets and newsletters.

Originating and sponsoring events, exhibitions, displays, lectures, etc. that showcase Leaside's history. Developing educational materials that highlight aspects of Leaside's past and presenting this material to schools, community groups, etc.

Encouraging the preservation of Leaside's historical and heritage architecture through advocacy initiatives. Encouraging the preservation of Leaside's natural beauty and environmental legacy through advocacy initiatives.

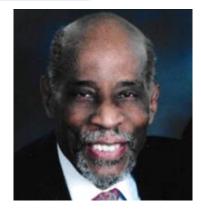
Identifying, collecting and storing (eventually in a Leaside-based museum created specifically for this purpose) documents, photographs, artifacts and other material that illustrate and define Leaside's history. Developing and maintaining various social media platforms devoted to Leaside's history and heritage. "As the Member of Parliament for Don Valley West, I welcome the establishment of the Leaside Heritage Preservation Society, which I hope will become an important partner in ensuring Leaside's rich history is preserved and shared," said Robert Oliphant, M.P., Don Valley West. "Leaside is fortunate to have community leaders willing to engage to make our community stronger and more vibrant. I look forward to collaborating with them on important new projects." About Leaside Heritage Preservation Society The Leaside Heritage Preservation Society is a nonprofit organization singularly focused on preserving and celebrating the history of Leaside, one of Canada's oldest and most storied neighbourhoods. The LHPS was founded in November, 2020 and is incorporated by, and is a member of, the Ontario Historical Society. Ann Brown is Chair of the LHPS. More information can be found online.

Visit us at <u>https://www.leasideheritage.ca</u> Visit us on Facebook at:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/17105312891160 32/ or at

https://www.facebook.com/leasideheritage/ Visit us on Instagram at

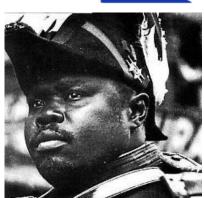
https://www.instagram.com/leaside heritage/ For more Information, contact: Ann Brown, Chair, LHPS at http://www.leasideheritage.ca



# MARCUS GARVEY Jr. III

Professor, Engineer, Physicist & Mathematician b. Sep. 17, 1930 -Dec. 8, 2020 died age 90 years Son of Political Activist and Pan-African Leader Marcus Mosiah Garvey Sr.

https://www.palmswestfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Marcu s-Garvey/ http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Marcus\_Garvey\_Jr dies\_in\_Florida?profile=0



#### CHARLEY FRANK PRIDE



COUNTRY WESTERN

b. Mar. 18, 1934 -Dec. 12, 2020 died age 86 yrs American, Country Music Hall of Fame Legend, Singersongwriter, Guitarist & Professional **Baseball Player** https://www.youtube.com/w atch?v=3nj\_WSTFOG8

MARCUS MOSIAH GARVEY Sr. Political Activist, Pan-African Leader Founder of UNIA in 1914 b. August 17, 1887 – June 10, 1940 <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marcus\_Garves</u>



Leaside had a tiny shelter Jan2021-Removed after few days male occupied -homeless shelter, Laird Drive east side looking south Photo Credit JHartley

https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/mobile-shelters-homelessness-covid19-1.5777158 https://www.blogto.com/search/?offset=0&ordering=relevancy&q=khaleel%20seivwright https://www.instagram.com/torontotinyshelters/?hl=en

# Gallery for All Seasons

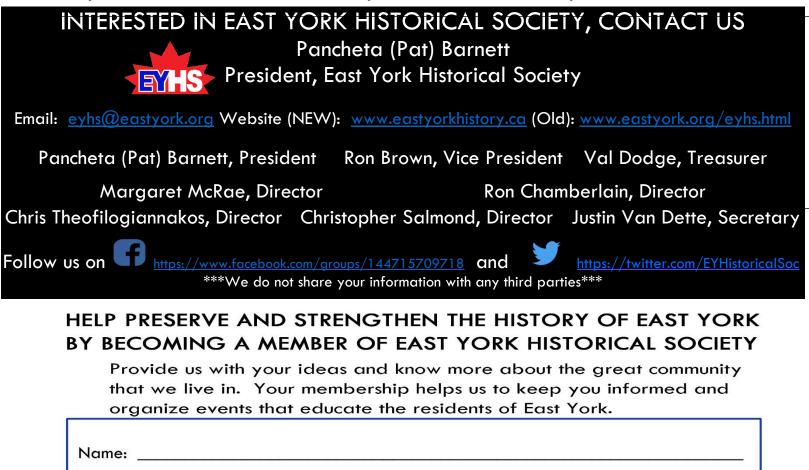


Who's Who? And what did or do they do? Albert Wiggan, Stanley Grizzle, Jan Matzeliger, Cpt. John Brown, Herb Carnegie, Desmond Cole, Dr. John Henrik Clarke, Pancheta Barnett, Dr. Carol Barnes, George Washington Carver, Portia White, Dr. Amos Wilson, Jane Elliott, Julius Malema, Akala, Rhonda Barnett, Vincent Lai, Dr. Llaila Afrika, Dr. Charles R. Drew, Michael Bradley, Dr. Frances Cress Welsing, Steady, Lucie & Thornton Blackburn, Joanne Doucette, Robyn Maynard, Dr. Ivan G. Van Sertima, Dane Callway, Bess Price & Every Lynched, Slain & Maimed Melanin Family, Children & Community

# ABOUT EAST YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY MISSION

The East York Historical Society was formed in 1980 and incorporated in 1981 as a non-profit corporation affiliated with the Ontario Historical Society to bring together people interested in the diverse heritage of East York, to research, retain, preserve and present historical data pertaining to the region.

Meetings of the East York Historical Society are generally held on the last Tuesday of January, March, May, September and November at the S. Walter Stewart Library (northwest corner of Memorial Park and Durant Avenues) at 7:00 pm and include an illustrated presentation on a subject.



Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_

New members and guests are always welcome. The fees for 2021 are: Single -\$15 Family -\$20 Student -\$7 Organization -\$50 Donations -\$

E-transfers accepted, bring cash to our next meeting, or mail us a cheque payable to: "East York Historical Society", 107 Cambridge Avenue, Toronto, ON, M4K 2L7

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