



## EYHS

PRESIDENT PAT'S MESSSAGE

Greetings to all our East York Historical Society Members. We are still enjoying a great Spring time weather and I do hope your

Mother's Day was well spent with your loved ones as I did mine.

#### Happy Victoria Day wishes to you and your loved ones.

A special reminder that Doors Open Toronto at Todmorden Mills Heritage Site and Arts Centre will be held on Saturday, May 25 & Sunday, May 26, 2024 from 10am 5pm both days.

Volunteers are needed to help with East York Historical Society Archive Display tables.

Can you help, please call EYHS Secretary Justin Van Dette at 416-697-5832. Thank you!

East York Historical Society extends a Welcome to our new Member: **Mrs. Angela Kennedy...see page 14** East York Observer Dec 2015

https://torontoobserver.ca/digitalpaper/pdfs/eastyork/Observer\_EastYork\_121115.pdf

Maureen Lindsay

#### **Angela Kennedy (TCDSB)**

New memberships are welcome all through the year. NB: East York Historical Society Board does not Sell, Share or Source your name or personal information to anyone.



Many thanks to our March 26, 2024 Presenters
Messrs Sandy Drysdale & Phil Spencer on topic:
"A Glimpse Inside the Model Railroad Club of Toronto"
Excellent Display and Presentation.

Also many thanks to both of you for waiting on me until after I drove out of the TPL parking lot that night. Noted!

East York Historical Society Welcomes our May 28, 2024 Presenter Lianne Harris on topic: "Bad Advertising from the Past" ...page 3

**Special Feature in Memory** of our beloved and dedicated Founder & past President East York Historical Society Mr. John Stirling Ridout (1980-2003)..pages 12 - 14

7 pm	Doors Open. Meet & Greet Light Refreshments Served				
7 <sup>30</sup> pm	President Pat's Welcome & Remarks				
7 <sup>45</sup> pm	Presenter Lianne Harris				
8 <sup>50</sup> pm	EYHS Meeting Wrap-Up				

East York Canada Day Festival: Get Involved
Get ready for the 68th Annual East York Canada Day
Festival! This year is extra special as it
includes East York's centennial celebration.
Visit eycdc.ca/get-involed to get involved as a
volunteer, sponsor, vendor or parade participant.
Canada Day Committee Maureen Ballentine & Colleen
Peacock presents for 5 minutes at our
May 28, evening general meeting briefly on Canada
Day/East York 100 celebration July 1, 2024.

April 16, 2024 evening of, I visited with Mrs. Louise Redway and learned of the passing of her eldest daughter Kim Redway (Feb/Mar.2024).

Then on April 21, 2024 daughter Andrea Redway passed away. Please keep Mrs. Redway (widow of the late Alan Redway and the mother of their 2 children) in our thoughts and prayers...page 8

ANDREA REDWAY MEMORIAL:

Visitation at Humphrey's on Friday evening,
24th May, 2024 from 5pm-8pm

Leaside United (822 Millwood & McRae)

Saturday morning at 11:00AM-

East York Historical Society sends our deepest condolences to the family, friends and staff of Councillor Jaye Robinson who passed away on the night of Thursday,16th May, 2024...page 17

Do you have a story you would like to share/published within East York Inklings Newsletter of East York Historical Society? Please call or e-mail me...I would love to hear from you. PB.

https://www.blogto.com/city/2024/04/what-market-space-toronto-honest-eds-will-look-like/ https://www.blogto.com/travel/2024/04/go-train-expansion/

Thank you for listening and remember, "Keep on keeping on, doing your best best"

**PBarnett** 





Pancheta Barnett

President East York Historical Society

Editor, Author/Writer & Publisher of East York Inklings Newsletter of East York Historical Society since Jan. 2014.

 $\underline{\text{http://www.eastyorkhistoricalsociety.com/}}$ 

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

Twitter: @EYHistoricalSoc

East York Historical Society remembers East York Township 100th 1924 - 2024















Phil Spencer
Volunteer President
& Board Chair
Toronto Railway
Museum

#### THANK YOU!!



EAST YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY TUESDAY EVENING MARCH 26, 2024 7PM MEETING PRESENTERS

## Phil Spencer & Sandy Drysdale MODEL RAILROAD CLUB OF TORONTO MEMBERS

On Topic: A Glimpse Inside the Model Railroad Club of Toronto



Sandy Drysdale Model Railroad Club of Toronto Member since 1977



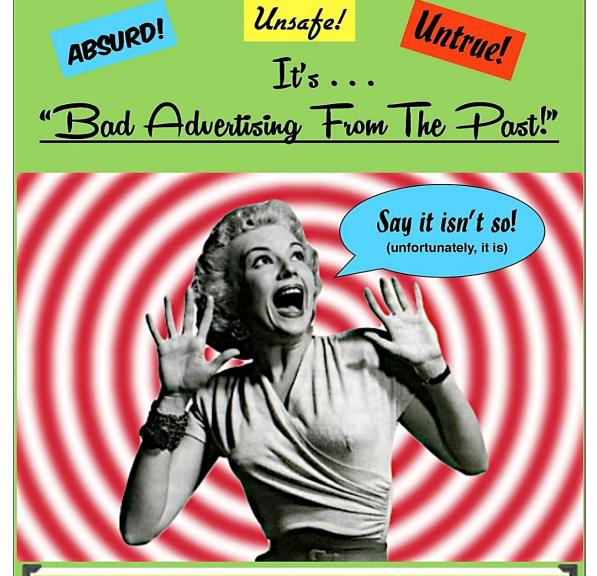
EAST YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY WELCOMES TUESDAY EVENING

## MAY 28, 2024 7PM MEETING PRESENTER Lianne Harris

On Topic: Bad Advertising From The Past

#### Lianne Harris

was a former Social Studies / History Specialist with the Toronto District School Board, and curriculum advisor for Upper Canada College, having taught over 100,000 teachers and students (usually in authentic period clothing). She has been involved in various initiatives such as the Freedman Bank Records for the Smithsonian Institute in Washington and with entrepreneurial artists and business startups in India. In 2003, she was selected by W.O.M.A.D. as one of Toronto's Women of Influence and in 2009 was invited to be a contributing author of the Canadian best-seller business/self-help book, 'The Power of Women United'. Appearing on TV and being interviewed on the radio many times, she is always happy to have a live audience.



We may squirm and chuckle as we explore these eye-popping, headshaking, bad advertments from the past. Though easy to dismiss by today's standards as laughable, it is an important barometer to gauge what social values were important at the time and by comparison, judge what future generations will think of us! Join Lianne Harris for this enlightening 1-hour presentation.

### 2024 AGNES MACPHAIL AWARD WINNER

#### SUSAN SCANDIFFIO

Susan was nominated for the award by East York Foundation

http://www.eastyorkhistoricalsociety.com/ey-100th--agnes-macphail.html





https://www.toronto.ca/news/community-champion-susan-scandiffio-wins-the-2024-agnes-macphail-award/



On Sunday, March 24, 2024,
Community Champ Susan Scandiffio
was presented with the 2024 Agnes
Macphail Award (by Mayor Olivia
Chow) in recognition of her
longstanding commitment to
community leadership and passion for
mobilizing support for vulnerable
residents in East York. You can read
more about Susan here.

Doing good, and delivering impact, Scandiffio's volunteer work has had a positive influence on a wide range of issues affecting local residents. Notably, she was instrumental in establishing the Thorncliffe Food Collaborative, which serves more

than 2,000 individuals in Thorncliffe Park and Flemingdon Park. As part of this work, Scandiffio collected food and toiletry donations on her own doorstep and rallied substantial community and corporate support.

Scandiffio is a champion for women's needs, working on initiatives such as the Fill a Purse for a Sister Campaign that donates purses with personal necessities to domestic violence shelters, women's shelters, rape crisis centers and social services that support women.

A passionate advocate for children, Scandiffio worked as a city liaison for the Remembering Georgia Walsh charitable organization to support a fundraising campaign that raised more than \$1 million to renovate a local children's playground. She also helped to collect more than \$400,000 in toys and in-kind support for the Leaside Community Toy Drive, which provides Christmas gifts to more than 6,000 children in the Thorncliffe Park and Flemingdon Park neighbourhoods. Click links above for full story.

#### Fast York 100th Happy Anniversary, East York!!



This year's award ceremony also celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Borough of East York, which was incorporated on January 1, 1924, before amalgamation with the City of Toronto in 1998. A preview of the special web exhibit by Toronto Archives to commemorate the milestone was shared at the event. The web exhibit can be accessed in the coming weeks on the Toronto Archives webpage.

More information on the Agnes Macphail Award and a full profile of the 2024 Award recipient is available on the <u>City of Toronto's</u>: <u>Awards webpage</u>.

Photo Left is East York 100th cake cutting Peter Tabuns MP, Lorna Krawchuk, Councilor Paula Fletcher, East York Historical Society President Pat Barnett, Mayor Oliva Chow and Councilor Brad Bradford. The event was held at East York Civic Ctre concurrent with the 2024 Agnes Macphail Award March 24, 2024

## MAPPY 100th BESSBOROUGH SCHOOL!





Above: Page 12 of LHPS 2024 Spring Newsletter, EYHS Pres. PBarnett & LHPS member Ted DeWelles.

Below, The Toronto Star Nov 12, 1943 article p. 8 recognizes the outstanding graduates who were awarded the HH Horsfall Shield.

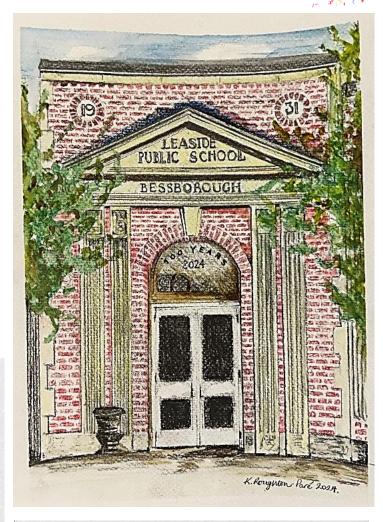
# BESSBOROUGH PUPILS ARE GIVEN DIPLOMAS

Leaside, Nov. 12—Diplomas were presented to 42 graduates and awards were made to three of the leading pupils when the annual commencement exercises were held last night in the Bessborough public school.

The H. H. Horsfall shield for the in the entrance highest standing year examinations of last awarded to Nancy Wilkinson, presentation being made to David chairman of the Brown, The Wilkinson genschool board. eral proficiency shield was presented by ex-Mayor G. H. Wilkinson Third award was to Joan Baker. the Home and School proficiency medal, won by June Davidson and presented by Mrs. H. V. Shaw, president.

Inspector H. A. Halbert made the presentation of diplomas. The valedictory address was given by Donald Stoll, a representative of the graduating class.

Another feature of the commencement exercises was a public speaking contest sponsored by the Leaside Lions club, in which seven students competed. The prizes were awarded the winners at the conclusion of the contest by G. A. Mason, Lions president.





#### Celebrate Herbert Horsfall on August 22nd?



I nominate Herbert Henry Horsfall, British-born Canadian, January 27, 1880 – August 22, 1955. Son Douglas Horsfall – (CWCC Ltd).

On February 11, 1911, Herbert Horsfall, Roderick Parke,
Emil Wallberg, Frederick J. Bell and Alfred Bicknell established
Canada Wire and Cable and successfully obtained a contract to
supply hydro wire for 14 municipalities, including Toronto. Walberg
had independently purchased approximately 16 acres of land in November 1912
in Leaside to meet the space requirements for the factory and 100 homes for the
employees.

Before the plant could open, WW1 had broken out! The plant was renamed the Leaside Munitions Factory and became the largest and fastest producer of shells in North America.

Normal production of wire and house building resumed when the war ended in 1918.

No other businesses or house builders came to Leaside. The bankrupt Canadian Northern Rail with its rail yards and Canada Wire were the only occupants of the town.

Each of the Town's two Mayors, Randolph McRae and Robert Phipps Ormsby, racked up high debt with no progress of a town. So, Horsfall and Wallberg and their company decided to undertake the Leaside affairs. Leaside's water supply, hydro, road maintenance, public school and 68 C.W.C. homes were taken over directly by the company.

In 1919, Horsfall became directly involved in town affairs by becoming a Councillor whose voice and advice graced various committees for the next four years.

When Railway Mayor Ormsby resigned in 1923, Horsfall replaced him as mayor for the next six years. By running the town like a business, Leaside began to grow.

Horsfall sat on many committees and by the late 1920s had established a new area of 160 homes off Bayview Ave., between Millwood and Parkhurst and south to Bessborough Drive. Leaside Publicity News Paper ads helped to fill the industrial area with quality enterprises. By 1930, the area was becoming so populated that the town would cancel the airport to build a new industrial area from Wicksteed to Eglinton.

The East York Leaside Bridge, which opened in 1927, would allow the Toronto Bus Service and cars to pass through Leaside to Yonge St.

A small shopping area on Millwood close to the Canada Wire Homes was created, and part of Bayview between Millwood and Fleming Cres. became a shopping area for the new homes. Bessborough School was now able to accommodate all students.

The Volunteer Fire Department expanded and was now partially paid.

Money was set aside for a town park. The town became home to the Great Gatineau Power Station site, large enough to service Toronto and Leaside. Horsfall provided land for the North Toronto Sewage Disposal site for Toronto and Leaside. With the sudden death of Wallberg on March 30, 1929, Horsfall resigned as Mayor to replace the president of Canada Wire Cable from 1929 to 1944. Upon his resignation in Feb., 1944, he was asked to accept the title of chairman of the board so he could continue to be associated with the company in an advisory capacity. Because of ongoing ill health, in 1949 Horsfall terminated his association with the company as director and chairman. Today, Leaside is flourishing because of Mr. Horsfall's leadership and commitment. He was definitely a doer.



Originally written and published in Leaside Life April 2021

Pancheta Barnett is the President of East York Historical Society.

https://leasidelife.com/celebrate-herbert-horsfall-on-august-23rd/

## HERBERT HORSFALL

"Leaside Mayor Man of Many Interests 1923 - 1930"

The Toronto Daily Star article published Sat. Nov. 22, 1930



#### LEADING CITIZEN

Herbert Horsfall, mayor of Leaside since 1923, whose work in the little industrial town to the northeast of Toronto has been of inestimable value in its development.



## LEASIDE MAYOR MAN OF MANY INTERESTS

Born in Sheffield, England, Spent Early Years in Montreal

Mayor of Leaside since 1923, and town councillor for four years previous. Herbert Horsfall is a man of many interests.

Born in Sheffield, England, on Jan. 27, 1880, he came to Canada at an early age and received his primary education in Montreal public schools, later attending McGill University.

Mr. Horsfall started business with the Dominion Wire Co. He worked up to the position of general superintendent of the Lachine firm in 1905. He remained in this position for five years and then moved to Toronto to assume the duties of managing the Canada Wire and Cable Co. During the war he was works manager of the Leaside Munitions Co., Following the armistice he became president and managing director of that firm, a position which he now holds.

Mr. Horsfall is a member of the Engineering Institute of Canada. His clubs are: National Yacht Club, Mississauga Golf and Country, Granite and Engineers.

The mayor of Leaside resides at 126 Forest Hill Rd. He was married to Lena J. Rilance in 1902 and has two sons.

He has decided not to run for office again this year.



#### Our Condolences to Mrs. Louise Redway

(Widow of the Late Hon. Alan Redway)

#### on the Passing of Their Daughters KIM & ANDREA REDWAY



Photo center: Andrea Redway. Family Photos L and R of Andrea, feature: Andrea and her husband Michael, and their two children, daughter Sydney and son Thomson.

Visitation: Fri, May 24, 2024 5pm - 8pm Location: Humphrey Funeral Home Address: 1403 Bayview Ave, East York, On M4G3A8

Get Directions: View Map | Text | Email



#### ANDREA REDWAY

#### Service

Saturday, May 25, 2024 11:00am Location: Leaside United Church Address: 822 Millwood Road, Toronto, On Get Directions: View Map | Text | Email









Photo Above: Andrea's parents, the now late Hon. Alan Redway and Mrs. Lousie Redway who is alive and in our thoughts and prayers. Photo Right: Andrea aged 9 yrs at her father Alan Redway's office.

#### Obituary

In Ottawa, Ontario after living courageously with lung cancer for nine years. Cherished by her loving husband and soulmate, Michael, beloved children, Thomson and Sydney, mother Louise (nee Harvey), and quiet, faithful companion, McLuhan ("Lu"). Predeceased by her father, the Honourable Alan Redway (d. 2024), and her sister Kim (d. 2024). Mourned by father-in-law, Paul Cayley, sister-in-law, Paula Cayley, and brotherin-law, Greg Fitch.

Andrea completed her Honours degree in Economics at Western (1990) and graduated from Dalhousie law school (1993). She was called to the bar in Ontario and California and practised with Blake Cassels Graydon, a large Toronto law firm.

From 1997 to 2000, she lived in China, establishing there one of the first Canadian law firm offices.

From 2001 to 2015, Andrea worked with the Canadian Bar Association, including as its Director, International Initiatives. In this role, she recruited select Canadian

lawyers and judges to work with partners volunteer, Andrea was most proud of her in Asia and Africa to strengthen and reform local justice systems.

Andrea worked as a tireless advocate for The family would like to thank Andrea's patient-centered medicine, research, early screening and faster adoption of emergent therapies including with Lung Cancer Canada, the Canadian Cancer Survivors' Network and the Ottawa Hospital. She received great solace through co-founding the Ottawa region lung cancer survivors' group. In addition, Andrea served as a patient representative on the board of the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research, and every moment. as a board member for the non-profit RETpositive, funding medical research for RET-driven cancers. In 2023, Andrea coauthored for publication in a medical journal, a case study detailing how her genetic profile correlated with the effectiveness of her immunotherapy.

Starting in 2018, Andrea co-led a neighbourhood group that sponsored the immigration of a family of five from Africa.

While we are proud of her work as a cancer patient advocate and community two remarkable children. It is in them that she found her greatest joy.

lifelong Leaside friends, as well as her chosen Lindsay, China, Ottawa and Cobourg families, for supporting her with loving kindness throughout her illness.

Andrea long outlived her original prognosis due to the expertise of dozens of researchers and caregivers, internationally and across the Ottawa healthcare ecosystem. We thank them for

If desired, charitable contributions would be gratefully received by Lung Cancer Canada to see Andrea's page **CLICK** HERE. Alternatively, reach out to support someone who is living with cancer.

A fundraiser celebrating Andrea's life will be held in June in Ottawa.

"A heart is not judged by how much you love, but by how much you are loved by others"

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz

https://www.mackeys.ca/memorials/a ndrea-redway/5412683/



## Canada Day July 1, 2017 The OBSERVER



The East York Canada Day parade starts at Dieppe Park at 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 1, 2017. PHOTO: Submitted

Another year, another Canada Day celebration. But in East York, this year marks the anniversary of not one, but two birthdays.

While Canada celebrates its 150th year, East York is celebrating 60 years of, well, celebrating.

The Canada day parade and event has been taking place since 1957.

"This event holds so many memories for East Yorkers," said Ward 31 councillor Janet Davis. "For 60 years, families have come to Stan Wadlow Park on July 1 to enjoy the tastes, the sounds, the fireworks, and to celebrate Canada day together. It's a strong part of our East York history."

This year, there are a number of familyfriendly events and activities taking place all day.

The day begins at 10 a.m. with the parade which starts at Dieppe Park at 455 Cosburn Ave. and will feature former East York mayors Michael Prue and Alan Redway. The parade will wind its way through East York, eventually ending at Stan Wadlow Park.

Games, bingo, and live music and entertainment by bands including the Jenny James Band, East York

Barbershoppers, and hip hop dance group, STOMP, will all be a part of the celebration during the day with the event ending with a fireworks display at 10 p.m.



#### CANADA DAY IN YEARS GONE BY: 9

The Toronto Star June 30 1983 page 31 East York Canada Day Parade Announcement

#### **East York**

In East York, the Canada Day parade is expected to cause relatively minor traffic snarls between 9 a.m. and noon.

The procession will snake its way east on Millwood Rd. at Hanna Rd., across the Leaside Bridge, south on Donlands Ave., east on Memorial Park Ave. to Dieppe Park, north on Greenwood Ave., east on Cosburn Ave., south on Coxwell Ave., east on Sammon Ave., north on Woodbine Ave., turning east on Ventnor Ave to finish in Cedarvale Park.

The borough is making ready with hot-air balloons, bands and fireworks to entertain Canada

Day revellers. 🕺





#### MONDAY JULY 1ST, 2024

#### Interested?

Visit us at: eycdc.ca or sign up at: volunteersignup.org/RMDXK

\*Volunteers must reside in the GTA, all fields must be completed

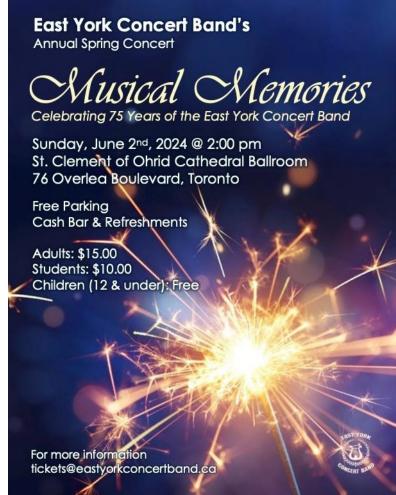
#### WE NEED HELP WITH:

- Arts & Crafts
- Obstacle course
- Rock Wall
- Fish Pond

\*community service hours and reference letters will provided upon request

# EAST YORK CANADA DAY FESTIVITIES VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!







ST. LUKE'S CHURCH

#### Spring sale

SAT. June 8th - 8:30am-3:00pm 904 COXWELL AVE. (RAIN DATE June 15)

Pancake breakfast from 9 - 10:30 BBQ 11am - 2:30 pm (with vegetarian option)

**Over 25 Varied Vendors** Church Bake Table, Attic **Treasures** 



Wine Raffles & 50/50 Draw

ALL WELCOME!







REGISTER

YOUR WHEELS



HUNDREDS OF CLASSICS.

HOD RODS. MUSCLE CARS.

RACE CARS & BIKES



LIVE BANDS AND DJ

BEVERAGE GARDEN

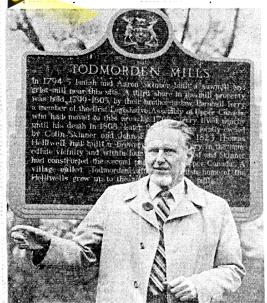
GLAMOUR PIN-UP CONTEST

KIDS ACTIVITIES

AWARD CEREMONY

**REST IN SHOW** 

#### PRESIDENT PAT'S SPOTLIGHT ON FOUNDER AND PAST EYHS PRESIDENT JOHN S. RIDOUT



True East Yorker: John Ridout, president of the East York Historical Society and East York fan, stands at one of the borough's historical sites. Todmorden Mills. on Pottery Rd.

#### **JOHN STIRLING** RIDOUT

The Toronto Star article published Sunday, November 6, 1983 p. 3 features Founder and President of East York Historical Society, John S. Ridout at Todmorden Mills Plaque on Pottery Rd. The article recognizes the achievement of the Society's first plaque, The Taylor Family plaque. We regularly remember and are grateful for the heartfelt service and dedication of Mr. Ridout who served as President from 1980 – 2003. Read the article to learn about the Ridout family's roots and contribution to East York.



## East York's sleepy and the residents love it just like that

By John Brehl Toronto Star

Miss Toronto is an East York girl!

news item.

A fellow who works down-town says he's afraid to drive through East York because "I

through East York because "I fall asleep."
In 1965, when former MP Bob McGregor died, obituaries said that in 26 years in Parliament he made only one speech. That was to thank party leaders for wishing him a happy birthday. "If some of you fellows talked a lot less, you'd be here a lot longer," he told other MPs. McGregor was, of course, a native of East York and its MP.

MP.
When Leaside and East York merged, some called it "Least York." It's the smallest component of Metro, though bigger than Peterborough, for instance, and has about as many people of Private Edward Leand people as Prince Edward Island people as Prince Edward Island or Grenada. It just seems smaller. It has the highest percentage of senior citizens in Metro. It's the only "borough" in Canada, now that all its Metro partners have embraced the title of "city". East Yorkers said leave us the way we are. The way it is, some say, is a sleepy village.

#### No bus tours here

Aldermen in Scarborough and North York recently organized bus tours to show off the marvellous things their cities have, like shopping plazas. Nobody is running sight-seeing tours in East York.

Still there are people who

tours in East York.
Still, there are people who live there and love it. One is John Ridout, an Ontario Hydro engineer and president of the East York Historical Society.
Another is this reporter.
Ridout has heard the jibes. "Well, what's wrong with being a 'sleepy' place?" he says, remarking on "the commercial wastelands in places like Scar-

wastelands in places like Scar-

borough."

But East York is starting to

express its heritage.
A couple of weeks ago the his-A couple of weeks ago the historical society put up its first plaque, to mark the Taylor family cemetery next to Don Mills United Church at O'Connor Dr. and Pape Ave.

The Taylor family owned all the land thereabouts at one

time. The church more than a century ago was a Methodist outpost served by a saddlebags preacher who rode circuit on horseback. After all, it must be 10 kilometres (6 miles) or so from the old village of York.

Ridout, incidentally, has strong ties to York. His great-grandfather, Thomas George Ridout, was a brother of John Ridout, a law student who died at 18 in 1818, the loser in Toronto's last duel. There's a Ridout St. in Toronto's High Park area. A distinguished first cousin is A distinguished first cousin is composer Godfrey Ridout.

near St. Clair Ave. E. and O'Connor Dr. He wears long sideburns, sort of mutton chops, and chin whiskers.

At any rate, the society put up its first plaque and plans another in December, to mark the site of William Lea's home called Leaside, at Millwood and Leaside, at Millwood and Laird, near the Leaside arena. Lea, a justice of the peace, held court in his octagonal house, perhaps the first eight-sided residence in Ontario. Built in 1854, it burned down in 1913.

1854, it burned down in 1913.

Next year the society will dedicate the 143-year-old Taylor house, at 20 Beechwood Cres., East York's longest-standing home. John Taylor, his wife and seven children came to Upper Canada in 1821. The family operated three paper mills and a brick mill in the Don Valley.

#### Dizzy pace

Three plaques in two years

Three plaques in two years may seem a pretty dizzy pace.
East York already had two historic sites dedicated by the province: Todmorden Mills, on Pottery Road, where a mill was first built in 1794, and the place where the Leaside airport used to be, at Eglinton Ave. E. and Laird Dr.

A former manifestation of

A former manifestation of the historical society put to-gether Todmorden Mills as the borough's centennial project in 1967. The present society was only constituted in 1980. That's why it is just starting to dash around marking things

Next year Ontario is marking what it says is its 200th year, Toronto its 150th, and East York its 60th as an incorporated municipality.

Silent Bob McGregor was the first deputy reeve. A story goes that he got into politics when the local school board, unable to get a quorum together, saw young Bob hoeing his market garden and swore him in as a trustee. He and John Diefenbaker were at Plains Rd. school together as boys.

Tucker, municipal clerk, remembers a councillor she called the Medicouncilor she called the Medi-cine Man. He made up cure-alls and sold them at fairs. He worried whether civic employ-ees took too much time off work and would stand in front of the office at noon hour, watch in hand, "timing us as we returned from lunch" returned from lunch.

Ridout's favorite, though, is the late Mayor True Davidson. "She put East York on the map.

Everyone knew her.
"Once she researched a paper for the Bootmakers, Toronto's society of Sherlock Holmes enthusiasts, which proved concluwas a woman."

A lot of things go on in East York. You'd be surprised.

#### Announcement METROPOLITAN TORONTO LIBRARY BOARD



The Metropolitan Toronto Library Board announces the election of its new Chairman, John S. Ridout, P. Eng. Mr. Ridout has been a member of the Library Board since 1970 and served as Chairman of its Finance Committee since

Active in community work, Mr. Ridout has been Chairman of the East York Library Board, the East York Historical and Arts Board and of Yorklea Children's Lodges. He is a former alderman in East York and has been very active in the Anglican Church of Canada, particularly with Anglican Houses and national committees including the Task Force on Churches and Corporate Responsibility.

Mr. Ridout is manager of program planning and services in the system planning division of Ontario Hydro.

The Metropolitan Toronto Library Board, one of the 14 regional library boards in Ontario, is autonomous and responsible to the Metropolitan Toronto Council. It is the only regional board that operates its own library the Metropolitan Toronto Library - and in addition, shares with the other regional library boards the responsibility to encourage cooperation and co-ordination throughout its region and to provide back-up services for the libraries within its re-

#### PRESIDENT PAT'S SPOTLIGHT ON FOUNDER AND FORMER EYHS PRESIDENT JOHN S. RIDOUT

## It's 'get tough' time at library

By Christie Blatchford Toronto Star

Metro's troubled reference library, plagued by theft, vandalism and loitering panhandlers who some-times defecate in the hallways of the \$30 million building, isn't going to take it any more.

Twice in the past month, frustrated staffers have pressed charges against people caught in the act of stealing library material - the first time such charges have been laid.

As part of a new "get tough" poli-cy, library officials are proposing an anti-nuisance bylaw that would make prosecutions easier.

"I think we have to get tough," John Ridout, vice-chairman of the Metro Library Board, said in an interview. "Nothing else has work-

The bylaw, which would take away the onus of prosecution from staffers, goes before the board next month, and would affect only the Yonge St. reference library.

#### Police reluctant

Now, either police or individual staff members must press charges, and Ridout says police are often reluctant in cases where damage is minor.

"But even if there's not a lot of money involved, it's still very frus-trating, both for the user and the staffer, to find half a dozen pages missing from a book," Ridout said.

In two cases now before the courts, senior security staff had to appear before a justice of the peace to lay charges formally.

In one case, they say a man was caught carrying 20 pages torn out

from an expensive film book. In the other, a man allegedly ripped out 35 per cent. pages from a \$10 science book.

#### Gutter barons

But vandalism and theft to books and magazines — \$250,000 worth last year — are just part of the problem, library spokesman Margaret Chartrand said yesterday.

"Gutter barons," as staffers call the 30 to 40 vagrants who regularly use the library as a shelter from the weather, have been known to urinate in the potted plants, defecate in the aisles between book stacks, and expose themselves when asked for identification.

Chartrand said things are so bad that the "favorite chairs" of the pan-handlers "are sprayed with disinfectant and deloused every night.

She said police from Metro's near by 52 Division are called in "about 10 times a week" to remove troublemakers or break up fights.

Chartrand said that in the old College St. building, staffers expected to find "pages torn out of Playboy magazine." But vandals now damage or steal "anything they can get their hands on.

Film books, car manuals, schematics for electrical appliances, sections of encyclopedias, pages of telephone books, music scores they'll take anything," she said.

Chartrand and other library officials place most of the blame for the problems on simple mathematics since the library opened its doors more than three years ago, the number of people using it jumped by 400

Average daily attendance ranges from 3,000 on a slow day to about 10,000 on Saturdays.

As well, the new building is dramatically different in design many books that once had to be signed for are now available on open shelves, and the library is filled with quiet corners where vandals are unseen.

#### A people place

Ironically, the building that was designed as a "people place" by renowned architect Raymond Moriyama seems to have succeeded too well.

And library staffers are hoping the proposed bylaw — which has already been criticized by Alderman Ying Hope, a board member, as being too harsh — will be approved to allevi-

"We're not going to be kicking out people who fall asleep over a book or anything like that," one library official said yesterday.

"But we have to be able to do something with people who steal; or cause a disturbance, or use the library as a hostel, hospital or hotel. It's a public building, but it deserves to be treated with some respect.'

Left Column article Board The Toronto Star Feb 7 1978 p. 28 Announcement John S. Ridout as Chair of Metropolitan Toronto Library. Top article The Toronto Star April 16 1981 p. 14 It's 'get tough' time at library, interviews JS Ridout who was then Vice-Chair of Toronto Metropolitan Library.

Below, The Toronto Star article May 9 1959 p.8 Recall of Jarvis-Ridout Duel...Read on for some Ridout family roots in Muddy York

#### Recall of Jarvis-Ridout Duel Still Sparks Lively Debate



PRESIDENT PAT'S SPOTLIGHT ON FOUNDER AND FORMER EYHS PRESIDENT JOHN S. RIDOUT

Article Left: The Toronto Star Dec 12 1970, p. 74 Decision reserved on East York seat (Ridout vot<mark>ed in)</mark>
Art<mark>icl</mark>e Right: The Toronto Star Jan. 8, 1971, p.23 Court denies plea to oust Alderman John S. Ridout

## Decision reserved on East York seat

Mr. Justice Donald Keith reserved judgment yesterday on former East York councillor Royden Brigham's claim he was improperly denied a vacated council seat.

Brigham claims he should have been chosen to fill the council seat vacated by Alderman James McConaghy who retired. Instead, council voted in John Ridout.

Brigham claims that council split 4-4 between himself and Ridout at a pre-meeting caucus. Mayor True Davidson, he said, should then have cast her vote at the formal meeting which followed and the tie would have been broken. But when the formal meeting was called, the vote went for Ridout.

Brigham claims a caucus

which went four votes for him, two for Ridout and one each for two others—should then be considered binding.

Alermen Jack Irwin and Norman Maughan said they thought the first vote was a formal one but Mayor Davidson and the other councillors said they didn't think it had any official weight.

## Court denies plea to oust alderman criticizes loser

An Ontario Supreme Court judge today dismissed an application to remove Alderman John S. Ridout from East York Council and severely criticized a not her alderman for breaching the "confidence" of a closed session of council.

Ridout was appointed in October to fill a vacancy left by retiring Alderman James McConaghy last A u g u s t. Lawyer Royden Brigham challenged the appointment on the grounds that a majority of council had voted in caucus to name himself to the position.

Mr. Justice Donald Keith said that "those attending (the caucus) are not bound by what they may have expressed in caucus or by any consensus that may have become apparent."

#### FRESHMAN TOLD

He chastized "freshman" Alderman Jack Reid Irwin for telling Brigham afterwards what went on during the closed session.

"I regard it as unfortunate that caucus meetings, which are a well-recognized and legitimate method of securing and exchanging views on subjects that are sufficiently delicate... may have been put in jeopardy in East York," he said.

"Caucus meetings...can only be effective if members scrupulously respect their nature and hold the views expressed by those attending in the strictest confidence."

Mr. Justice Keith said Brigham's action was directly the result of "the failure of one alderman (Irwin) to recognize this fundamental requirement."

#### NO MEETING

He ruled that there was no meeting of council in progress when the names of six candidates were discussed.

During testimony, however, Irwin and Alderman Norman Maughan claimed the caucus had been a formal meeting with a chairman, formal nominations and a formal vote.

On the first ballot, Brig-

ham received four votes. Ridout got two and Rev. Ken Maxted and Helen Effer one each. By a process of elimination only the names of Ridout and Brigham remained but because a greement wasn't reached it took Mayor True Davidson's tiebreaking vote in an open session of council later to elect Ridout.

#### **ONLY WITNESS**

Irwin was "the only witness who attempted to put a different complexion" on the events of the pre-council meeting," Mr. Justice Keith said, "and in my opinion because he has been influenced by Brigham, an aspirant to the office."

Brigham has been defeated three times in bids to unseat Mayor True Davidson.

Ridout, who has never held political office. is an engineer with Ontario Hydro and until his appointment as alderman, was chairman of the East York Library Board.

14



MARCH 26

MAY 28

SEPTEMBER 24

**AGM NOVEMBER 26** 



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## East York Historical Society Welcomes New Members!



Mrs. Angela Kennedy

#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

East York Historical Society acknowledges the land that S. Walter Stewart Library stands on today, the land upon which our meetings are held and the land we inhabit and are custodians of, is the traditional territory of many nations. These nations include the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabe ("Ah-nish-nabe"), the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee ("How-den-no-shownee") and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples.



## East York Historical Society RECYCLES!

Remember to Recycle your EYHS Newsletters by sharing them as invitations with the community, friends, and relatives or return them to EYHS meetings.



#### DOORS OPEN TORONTO at TODMORDEN MILLS



Saturday May 25 & Sunday May 26, 2024
East York Historical Society archives

will be on display both days from 10 am - 5 pm Hope to see you all there!



#### HOW MUCH DO WE KNOW ABOUT VICTORIA DAY?

## TORONTO STAR

SUNNY, HIGH 22C \* MONDAY, MAY 19, 2003 \* thestar.com OM

Toronto Star article *Victoria Day: Anatomy of a holiday* weekend published Mon. May 19, 2003 page 1 continued lower R with *Some disagree with Monarchy* 

## Victoria Day: Anatomy of a holiday weekend

#### Spare a thought for the monarch today Long weekend marks royal birthdays

NECO COCKBURN STAFF REPORTER

Garden work, cottage work, fireworks — or just an excuse for a big party — the long weekend in May can be many things. But it's likely that a reflection on our national heritage isn't one of them.

Perhaps it's time for a little refresher course. Just what are we celebrating this weekend?

#### **Lesson 1: History**

You can thank Queen Victoria for the holiday.

She reigned over Canada from 1837 to 1901, and her birthday was declared a holiday by the Legislature of the Province of Canada in 1845, according to the federal government's Canadian Heritage Web site.

But today, Victoria Day is also the official celebration of the birthday of the current Queen, said John Aimers, dominion chairman of the Monarchist League of Canada.

It happened like this:

★ After Confederation, Queen Victoria's birthday was celebrated each May 24 (or the next day, if the 24th was a Sunday).

➤ Please see Victoria, A14

➤ Fine holiday weather filled Toronto streets, B1.

# Some disagree with monarchy

#### ➤ Victoria From A1

Queen Victoria died in 1901, and the federal government established a Victoria Day holiday each year on May 24 (or the next day, if the 24th was a Sunday). In 1952 it was changed to the Monday before May 25.

★ The birthday of Queen Elizabeth II was officially celebrated on Victoria Day starting in 1953 and has been Canada's permanent official day to mark the Queen's birthday since 1957.

#### Lesson 2: Geography

The British don't have a day off today. So why don't they celebrate Victoria Day?

Like Canadians, the Brits mark the Queen's birthday, but not in May. Queen Elizabeth II's birthday is actually in April, but the public celebration isn't until June. The festivities are held off for a couple of months, waiting for better weather.

Other countries in the Commonwealth also mark the occasion on different days. Most of Australia celebrates in June, while Western Australia waits until September. And New Zealand celebrates in June.

Maybe the different birthdays lead to more presents.

But don't feel too sorry for the British. They celebrate two bank holidays this May — that's two possible long weekends.

#### **Lesson 3: Politics**

Not everyone agrees with today's celebration.

People within the Republican movement — who want the Queen removed as Canada's head of state—are among them.

They don't necessarily want to get rid of the day off, but don't want the monarchy imposed on Canadians, said lawyer Charles Roach, who speaks today at an event held by the Citizens for a Canadian Republic.

Roach and others will instead recognize the 1837 Patriot's Rebellion. They will gather at 10 a.m. at the statue of William Lyon Mackenzie behind Queen's Park. The Toronto Daily Star Portrait Series Queen Victoria & the Prince of Wales article published August 17, 1900





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## TRENDING NOW



#### Jaye Robinson

was a fourth-generation Torontonian; her great-grandfather, John R. ("Black Jack") Robinson, was editor of the Toronto Telegram.

#### JAYE ROBINSON

(1962/1963 — May 16, 2024) died aged 61 years was a Canadian politician who served as a member of the Toronto City Council from 2010 to 2024. She was the chair of the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) from 2018 to 2022. Robinson represented Ward 15 Don Valley West. She died in office on May 16, 2024.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jaye R

https://nationalpost.com/news/toronto /jaye-robinson-toronto-city-councillorhas-died

Robinson was the director of special events for the City of Toronto. It says that in that role, she helped introduce popular programs such as Summerlicious, Winterlicious, and Nuit Blanche.



Photo Left, L > R: Hon. Alan Redway, Jaye Robinson after her presentation & Pat Barnett EYHS President at J.S. Ridout Auditorium of TPL> S. Walter Stewart Branch



L to R...Hon. A. Redway; R. Oliphant MP; L. Krawchuk; C. Beange; J. Beange; D. Beange; Councillor J. Robinson and EYHS President P. Barnett Unveiling Ceremony for Edna Beange Lane. Well over 100 people in attendance on June 25, 2019 EDNA BEANGE LANE NAMING featured in EY INKLINGS NOVEMBER 2019 PAGE 11

**NEW LOCAL RIDING** INFORMATION FOR MPP MARY-MARGARET **McMAHON** 

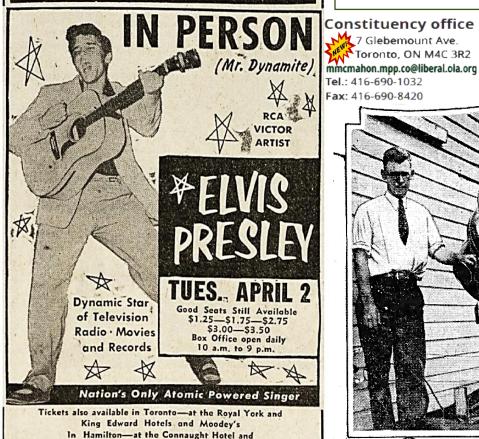
Solar Eclipse Wed Aug. **31, 1932** Toronto Star article published day before event Tue Aug. 30, 1932. Image featured is #3 of Image #1 and #2

Justin & Hailey Bieber expecting first child



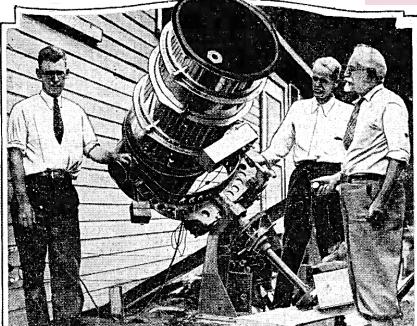
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#### ABOUT EAST YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY MISSION

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 East York Historical Society are generally held on the last Tuesday of January, March, May, September and AGM November at the TPL S. Walter Stewart Branch in the John S. Ridout Auditorium (170 Memorial Park Avenue and Durant Avenue) at 7:00 pm and include an illustrated presentation on a subject.

Pat Barnett is the Author, Editor, Writer & Publisher of East York Inklings Newsletter of East York Historical Society since Jan. 2014

#### INTERESTED IN **EAST YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY**, CONTACT US



#### Pancheta (Pat) Barnett President, East York Historical Society

Ron Brown, Vice President Val Dodge, Treasurer
Justin Van Dette, Secretary
Rhonda McKenzie, Director Joanne Valliere, Director
<a href="https://www.eastyorkhistoricalsociety.com">www.eastyorkhistoricalsociety.com</a>

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EAST YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY DOES NOT SHARE, SELL OR SOURCE YOUR INFORMATION

## HELP PRESERVE AND STRENGTHEN THE HISTORY OF EAST YORK BY BECOMING A MEMBER OF EAST YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY TODAY

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