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BBQ Rack of Lamb/with Mustard

Prep time 10 minutes | Cook time 35-45 minutes

You'll Need:

- 2 racks of lamb (6-8 ribs each)
- 1/3 cup Dijon mustard (or sweet Onion/Honey mustard)
- 1 shallot, finely chopped
- 2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 2 tsp. white wine
- 5-6 sage leaves, finely chopped
- 1 tsp. fresh thyme
- 1 1/2 tsp. sea salt
- 1 tsp. black pepper

To Create:

- ➔ Trim ribs of all visible fat. Combine ingredients and mix well. Place lamb in a large glass baking dish. Spread mixture over lamb, carefully cover with plastic wrap and place into refrigerator for 6-8 hours.
- ➔ Preheat grill. Place lamb on grill over medium-high heat. Sear for a couple of minutes each side, reduce heat or move off of direct heat and continue grilling until the internal temperature reaches 140 to 150 degrees F, or about 15 minutes per side. Once cooked, remove from heat and let rest for about 5 minutes before carving.



Rhubarb shortcake

Serves 6

You'll Need:

- 350 g Rhubarb, cut into 5 cm lengths
- 1/2 cup Sugar
- 1/4 cup Water
- 125 g Butter, softened
- 1/2 cup Icing sugar
- 1 Egg, lightly beaten
- 1 cup Flour
- 1/4 cup Corn flour
- 1 tsp Baking powder

To Create:

- ➔ Place rhubarb in a saucepan with sugar and water, cover and place over low heat. Boil gently until the rhubarb is soft, but still holds its shape, about 8 minutes for thin stalks. Leave to cool.
- ➔ Preheat oven to 350F
- ➔ Place butter and icing sugar in a bowl and beat using an electric mixer, (or by hand, using a wooden spoon) until light and fluffy. Add the egg and beat well.
- ➔ Sift flour, corn flour and baking powder over butter mixture and fold in. Place dough on a lightly floured counter and roll into a ball. Press 1/2 of the dough into the base of a lightly buttered shallow enamel pie dish. The dough is quite sticky, so flour your hands to press dough, or use the back of a metal spoon.
- ➔ Spoon cooled rhubarb over the base, leaving most of the juices behind. Break remaining dough into small pieces and place on top, then gently press it down. The pieces of dough will spread together during baking.
- ➔ Place in the oven for 25-30 minutes, or until shortcake is golden. Serve warm or cold with ice cream or whipped cream.

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SCROLLING THROUGH LIFE IN PRESCOTT

By Joan Rupert-Barkley

Everyone has a story to tell and the Friends of the Prescott Library have been capturing some of these stories from the residents of Prescott.

The Friends of the Prescott Library is a small group of individuals whose main goal is to promote the library as well to help the library financially. The committee decided to apply for a grant through Canada's 150 because they knew this was their opportunity to do something special to highlight Prescott. Peter Green, chairman of the committee, admitted that at first when they applied for the grant, the committee was a little unsure about what they wanted the project to look like, but as time went by their idea evolved.

"The main goal of this project is to give people in Prescott pride in their community and to give them knowledge about their community from a different perspective. This perspective is from fellow residents and not from academic research, but from day to day stories about day to day life," commented Green.

The group originally got their idea from a historical scrapbook that was created in 1984 for the 200th anniversary of Prescott. They decided to build on this idea, but in a more modern fashion and that is how the electronic Fort Town Memories Project came about.

The money from the provincial grant was used to purchase three laptop computers that had the capacity to do video as well as audio. Grant money was also spent on a story-telling workshop, as well as a computer workshop.

The committee advertised in local newspapers that they were looking for stories and they were overwhelmed with the number of people who replied. The stories range from 200 – 1000 words. Although their goal is to collect at least 150 stories, they will accept more.

Stories were submitted in the form of hand-written hard copies, typed copies and members of the committee also recorded

some of the stories. There have also been poems and music submitted.

The electronic book will have sound clips from the stories that were recorded. These sound clips will run approximately 2 minutes long and readers will be able to access these clips by pressing an icon in the story.

One of the members of the committee, Katherine Belrose, has been recording some of these stories. Belrose commented that some of the recordings have a strong focus on childhood memories and a lot of emotional feelings came through on tape.

"We have captured a few silent moments or a few moments of tears on the tapes as well," remarked Belrose.

All the stories collected are reviewed with the storyteller, and a waiver is signed before the story or audio clip is put into the book.

The committee hopes to have the majority of material collected by the end of March. At that time they will edit and categorize the stories, videos and music into the electronic book.

This exhibit would likely be setup in the library and allow readers to browse through the stories and audio clips. Although this exhibit would take place on Canada Day, submissions will still be accepted until the end of the year.

The committee would like to see more stories, music or poems from the younger generation.

"It's a book about Prescott and should be told through the eyes of all ages," said Green.



Top: Katherine Belrose listens to one of the audio clips on the laptop computer at the library in Prescott. This clip will be included in the electronic book that the Friends of the Library are putting together with the help of a Canada 150 grant.

Bottom: Peter Green reads one of the stories for the Fort Town Memories Project.

For more information on the Fort Town Memories Project contact Katherine Belrose at kbelrose@gmail.com or Peter Green at chantagrie@bell.net. LH

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Prescott Library is located at 360 Dibble St W. 613-925-4340. The Library was formed in 1895 and without volunteers and funding from the town, could not offer the traditional Library services, events programs, and community services. In today's technology age, individuals don't realize or they take for granted how vital libraries still are in our local towns and communities. As we are all aware with school closures happening in some areas we shouldn't take for granted libraries, as they could be next. Support and help any way you can to make sure this treasured resource stays in place for future generations.

THE FRIENDSHIP OF JAMES WALSH AND SITTING BULL

By Russ Disotell



Left: (Walsh) Walsh in his uniform as Yukon Commissioner; Sitting Bull ((Lakota: Thathánka íyotake) 1831-1890

James Morrow Walsh's life spanned the gamut, from obscure small town beginnings to national prominence and front page notoriety in the continent's newspapers. Any one of his accomplishments were worthy of note, whether his role in the founding of the North West Mounted Police, his appointment as Commissioner for the Yukon Territories, during the Yukon Gold Rush, or his successful business career later in life. Yet, he will forever be remembered as friend to Lakota Sioux Chief Sitting Bull and the sobriquet of "Sitting Bull's Boss", which would ironically cut short his NWMP career.

Born in Prescott, Ontario, on May 22, 1840, in his youth he restlessly moved from job to job. He did have an aptitude for military matters. He attended officer courses available to militia members and served during the Fenian Crisis. He had received a commission in the Red River Expeditionary Force, but subsequently turned it down to accommodate his wedding to Mary Elizabeth Mowat on April 19, 1870.

May 1873 saw Walsh offered a commission as a Superintendent in the newly minted North West Mounted Police. Walsh's efforts and skills were recognized, and in 1875 he was sent to what is now Saskatchewan to

establish Fort Walsh in the Cypress Hills as a response to the Cypress Hills Massacre (1873). American rum runners and bison hunters had killed 20 members of the local Assiniboine. It was here he would encounter Sitting Bull (Lakota: Thathánka íyotake)

In May 1877, Sitting Bull and nearly 5,000 Sioux crossed the border into Canada. After the June 25th 1876 Battle of the Little Big Horn, and the decimation of Custer and the 7th Cavalry, Sitting Bull and his people had fled before the relentless pursuit of the U.S. Cavalry. The constant travel and lack of food led to the decision to cross "the medicine line" into Canada.

Walsh with four Mounties and two native interpreters rode unarmed into the Sioux encampment to talk with Sitting Bull. This bold act impressed Sitting Bull, as did Walsh's promise to enforce the law with no concern for the colour of a man's skin. The Lakota chief later said that he felt a change that day, that he had entered a new world with white men different from those he had met before.

The Sioux settled near Wood Mountain, a distance from Fort Walsh, and Walsh ended up spending a great deal of his time there. He and Sitting Bull developed a mutual respect and friendship. Walsh was firm but

fair in his dealings with the Lakota. In the four years, the Sioux remained in Canada, there was never a shot fired between them and the Mounties.

American newspapers, curious about the fate of the notorious Lakota chief, sent reporters to Wood Mountain. Their stories dubbed Walsh, "Sitting Bull's boss", a nickname Walsh quite enjoyed. However, his newfound notoriety and advocacy for the Sioux soon caused problems. The Canadian government, concerned the Sioux might cause trouble with local tribes, wanted them to return to the U.S. Sitting Bull and his followers, initially happy with their new home, were in no hurry to leave. Ottawa saw the friendship between Walsh and Sitting Bull as an impediment.

In June 1880, Walsh was transferred to Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan, to separate him from Sitting Bull and the Sioux. Sitting Bull couldn't believe his friend was gone and walked to Fort Walsh to confirm his departure. Without Walsh's advocacy and the dwindling of the bison herds the remaining small band of Sioux returned to Montana in July of 1881.

Walsh's career with the NWMP was over. The government was furious with what they saw as his insubordination and interference. He was pressured to leave the force in 1883, after ten years of service. In 1884 he bought the property at 207 King St. E. in Brockville. The impressive home was named Indian Cliff after the western bluff of Wood Mountain. After a successful career with the Dominion Coal Company in Winnipeg, Walsh retired here in 1895. In 1897 he left retirement to become the Commissioner of the Yukon Territory during the height of the gold rush. Walsh died at Indian Cliff on July 25, 1905, and is buried at the Old Protestant Cemetery, west of Brockville. His funeral was one of the largest in Brockville history.

In an interesting footnote, Sitting Bull had given Walsh his war bonnet, worn at Little Big Horn, as a sign of their friendship. Walsh gave the bonnet to Cornelius Van Horne of the CPR and it now resides at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, as a remembrance of this historic friendship. [LH](#)



Jean Brassington appears dwarfed as she stands by the immense Vimy Memorial.

VIMY RIDGE OAK TREE LEGACY

By Sally Smid

The Battle of Vimy Ridge took place from April 9th - 12th in 1917. Canadian regiments saw action together in a distinctly Canadian triumph, helping create a stronger sense of national identity and raising Canada's international status that helped earn Canada a separate signature on the Treaty of Versailles, which ended WWI. This year marks the 150th anniversary of Canada's Confederation as well as the 100th anniversary of the Vimy Battle.

There is a story that happened following that famous battle when many of the surviving soldiers began to realize the significance of what they had just participated in. One of them was Leslie Miller, a fruit farmer from Milliken, Ontario, a signaler with the Canadian Expeditionary Force. He wanted to have a souvenir from the war-torn Ridge. He found a half-buried European oak tree and gathered up a handful of its acorns.

When he returned to Canada, he planted them on his farm, which he named Vimy Oaks Farm. Today, only nine of the original oaks survive, in what is now a church parking lot in Scarborough. But on the Vimy Ridge

site, not a single original oak survived. The Vimy Oaks Legacy Project in Toronto decided to do something about that, in time for Vimy's 100th anniversary. In January of 2015, professional arborists took cuttings from the crowns of Miller's oak trees and grafted them onto hardy Canadian oak root stock. The saplings were then grown by an accelerated process, producing 100 young trees which will be planted at the Canadian National Vimy Memorial in France.

Another 100 trees were grown with the intention of having them planted in 100 towns in Canada. The first to be planted, will be in Smiths Falls in July, as a pilot project initiated by Blake Seward, the teacher who developed the Canada wide "Lest We Forget" high school course.

Jean Brassington of the Athens Garden Club read about this project and also applied for a Vimy tree. Athens met all of the required guidelines and a tree has been reserved for the village which will only involve the cost of transporting it. The Memory Garden beside the Township Hall, honoring Athens' fallen WWI soldiers was decided to be an unsuitable

location, but Memorial Park beside the cenotaph has been determined to be more suitable. A fitting commemorative celebration for the planting ceremony will hopefully take place as part of Athens Heritage Society's Canada 150 event in October.

Jean visited the Vimy Memorial and toured the World War I cemeteries and battlefields of northern France and Belgium seven years ago, "It was a life-changing experience," she explains. "I believe it's important to remember the sacrifice of those thousands. It begins at home, in each community which raised those patriotic men who left their homes and families and marched away along our Main Street in uniform to do their duty!"

The 100th Anniversary of Vimy Ridge is being recognized with a variety of speakers and displays in the area. Local carver Tony Endhoven will have his Vimy carving on display at the Coach House in Mallorytown. The noted carver says he decided to honor the Vimy battle in a carving since it was quite an important event for Canada.

The Athens Museum will also be providing a presentation by war expert Rich Lees on April 9th at 2:00 p.m., at the Joshua Bates Center. There will also be a Vimy display included at the Athens Museum this year as well. It is especially important to note that the eleven fallen WWI servicemen listed on the Athens cenotaph include Roscoe DeWolfe who was killed in action and whose name appears on the Vimy Memorial. The Athens Vimy oak tree will be planted next to that cenotaph.

Those Vimy soldiers were certainly right in sensing that they had been a part of a very significant Battle that is still remembered and honored 100 years later! [LH](#)



Award winning carver, Tony Endhoven, holds his carving honoring the Battle of Vimy Ridge.

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William Parish is seen at the center of ADHS Alumni's 50th anniversary of the school's Student Parliament. The first Prime Minister, Bruce Stone, is seen on his left and the present Prime Minister at that time, Antje Baumann Earl on his right.

CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF THE ADHS STUDENT PARLIAMENT

By Sally Smid

Athens District High School may be small, but it is distinguished in many big ways, apart from having graduated many famed alumni, perhaps little known prominence is that ADHS has the oldest continuous Student Parliament in Canada! This year the school celebrates the 70th year of their Parliament, along with a large homecoming event in June.

The teacher that initiated the idea of a Student Parliament was William Parish, who went on to be a school administrator and has many fond memories of Athens. Parish wrote a letter to former ADHS Prime Minister Evelyn Saunders 20 years ago in preparation for the Parliament's 50th anniversary. In it he explained about his decision in instituting such a plan of student government. "I wanted students to learn through direct practical experience about how our Canadian Parliamentary system and politics work by forming political parties and having students make real choices," explained Parish. He also felt that it would help students to be more involved and accountable in the operation of student affairs. He noted: "The fact that the ADHS Student Parliament has continued successfully for so many years is a tribute to past students, teachers, and principals who have worked to maintain it and it also says a lot about all of the people in the school's community." He attended the 50th anniversary, but now in his 90s, he is not able to attend the upcoming celebration.

Parish was a history teacher 70 years ago, when he took his students to Ottawa to sit in on a session of Parliament and to meet with a few members of Parliament including John Diefenbaker. After the trip students returned with enthusiasm about creating a constitution

that would form a student parliament in which the members of the "House of Commons" would be elected by the students. Executive decisions would be carried out through a "Cabinet" which would have authority over all extra-curricular activities and student activities. It originally met in the cafeteria until the new gymnasium was built.

Mr. D. C. Crowe was also instrumental in launching the Parliament. A speech that he delivered in 1954 indicated his pleasure with its success after 3 years. "Our Parliament has grown from an experiment to the best run, most powerful, democratic and widely known student government in Ontario!" he proclaimed. It's interesting to note that the ADHS parliament system was later recognized in an article in Maclean's Magazine.

ADHS' Parliament still consists of two parties, the Blue and the Gold. The school has held regular parliamentary sessions since 1947, meeting on the last Wednesday of the month and the individual parties have regular planning meetings. Zach Tedford is the current Prime Minister. When asked about how the ADHS Parliament might compare to the one in Ottawa he responded, "Ours is quieter." A visit to a session would reveal that it also seems much more orderly in many ways, with decisions being made in a speedy and efficient manner. Students also seem in



From left, ADHS Student Parliament Prime Minister Zach Tedford and Speaker of the House Nicholas Brunshaw, holding the ceremonial mace, pose together following a recent session of Parliament.

agreement that most student "ministers" feel the pressure when they report in parliamentary sessions and strive to be accountable and follow through with promised tasks knowing they will be confronted at parliamentary sessions. Leaders of both the party in power and opposition are elected by a majority vote. There are about a dozen ministries with specific mandates including athletics, staff-student relations, publicity and finance. The school's civic classes help provide preparation for student parliament and underclassmen gain an understanding of its operation from their attendance in the gallery. There is also a staff adviser that helps in organizing elections and assists the Speaker of the House.

For 70 years the ADHS Parliament has been an effective way of bringing civics classes to life as well as preparing students for their future roles as Canadian citizens. **LH**

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Athens District High School Homecoming, including the 70th anniversary of Parliament, will take place June 10th weekend and will include an open house, golf, displays and more. You can register on line at <http://www.adhs2017.weebly.com/> or purchase tickets for \$20 at the Athens Municipal Office. Visit the ADHS Homecoming 2017 Facebook page.



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J.W. Lackie & Sons Farm Supplies Celebrates 90 Years in Business

Written By Tanya Hammond



Owner, Jeff Lackie outside his store

At a time when family farms are disappearing, and many local dairy producers have long since retired, it is surprising that the very business that supplies such farms is still going strong. J.W. Lackie & Sons Farm Supplies, located in the quaint village of Lansdowne (16 King St W.) "has had to adapt to an ever-changing market to survive," according to Jeff Lackie, the 3rd generation owner, who is proud to be celebrating the business's 90th year.

Originally, Jeff's Grandfather, John W Lackie purchased what was known as the Copeland Mill in 1927 and began milling feed for area farmers. The addition of mobile units in 1958 allowed the business to take their service on the road providing convenient on-farm

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milling services. Robert, Jeff's Father, was the second generation to take over, shortly after the present day building at 16 King Street West was constructed, leaving the old mill as a warehouse.

The family business has overcome some challenges, including a fire in 1982, which destroyed the old mill and left it beyond repair. Jeff and his Uncle Ralph ran the business together from 1996 to 2014 when Jeff took the helm. Continuing to expand the farm, pet, garden and home supplies available, Jeff included the addition of wood pellets and propane tanks. The ability to respond to customer demands, adapt accordingly, while providing quality and personal service has clearly spanned all three generations.

Jeff credits working with other small feed dealers, such as Baker's in Forfar, and Dixie & Egan in Addison, as making it possible to share delivery costs and supplies to his customers. Jeff is committed to serving his customers and his community both as a business owner, who regularly supports local events, such as Lansdowne Fair, Lyndhurst Turkey Fair, and Rockport Rocks, as well as serving as councillor for the Township of Leeds and The 1000 Islands. **LH**

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Original owners, Patricia & John Lackie circa 1968, visited by sales rep.



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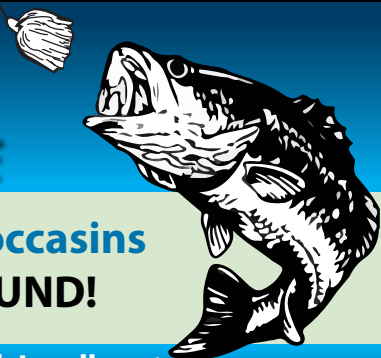
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*Dr. James Raffan
and his wife Gail Simmons*



*L-R: Leeds and Thousand Islands
Mayor Joe Baptista, fellow
performer Will MacPhail, Dr. James
Raffan and his wife Gail Simmons.*

A SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

With Dr. James Raffan and Friends

By Tanya Hammond

Seeley's Bay started their celebrations this year with a special storyfest, "Canada One Five Oh Em Gee," on January 15th featuring Dr. James Raffan, who "in 2015 was named by Canadian Geographic Magazine as one of Canada's Greatest Contemporary Explorers." James, a longtime resident of the area, is known, not only for his reputation as being a famous explorer and author, but also for his work as a geographer and a professor at Queens. Perhaps what people around here know him best for is his community involvement and willingness to share his talents in story and song.

Thus, it was no surprise that a good crowd turned out to hear James and to show their support for the event, which also doubled as a fundraiser for the ongoing community revitalization work of the Seeley's Bay Area Residents Association. Some who attended were even sporting outfits their ancestors may have worn 150 years ago.

However, the focus of the afternoon was clearly on James and those who shared the stage with him including his talented wife Gail Simmons, our own Mayor, Joe Baptista (Township of Leeds and Thousand Islands), and fellow performer, Will MacPhail. The four entertained the crowd with songs once

considered alternative national anthems including Something to Sing About (by Oscar Brand), Four Strong Winds (by Ian Tyson), and North West Passage (by Stan Rogers).

James fueled the Canadian pride that seemed to be swelling from within each of us, by taking some time to remind the audience about interesting Canadian facts. I expect the teacher in him must impart some knowledge to his listeners, although mixing it with just the right amount of humour to keep everyone listening intently.

With great enthusiasm, James entertained us with a story revived from an old French folktale about a canoe in flight. He referred to the canoe throughout the day with the same love and respect he clearly has for his country. James recounted his proudest moment when the Canada One was launched in the Thames in London for the Queens 60th celebration. In keeping with the strong canoe influence, he showed us an awe-inspiring trailer shot by filmmaker Goh Iromoto, commissioned by Ontario Tourism for promoting the "Canadian Canoe Culture" campaign.

James also announced Canada C3 (Coast to Coast to Coast), an epic 150-day journey by

ship led by the Students on Ice Foundation. The voyage will include fifteen ten-day segments, starting June 1st with a different group of Canadians on board for each segment celebrating Canada's diverse culture and immense coastline. James Raffan, the Adventurer, was the voice that most impacted me that day. As he spoke of his love for the North, where he has set out on exploration every year since 1977, I could see the beauty of his travels take shape in my mind. Looking into his eyes at that moment, is where I saw the story come to life. I could see that the spirit of the wolf lives in him and the North beckons him with the vast wilderness where he is free to explore, to breathe, and simply to be.

We are fortunate to have someone who feels the power of the North and what natural beauty our great nation, Canada has to offer, and to share his stories so vividly in photographs and voice. It was truly a privilege to experience a piece of Canada through the eyes of Dr. James Raffan, an Explorer with a flair for theatrical song and finesse for folklore. The day ended fittingly, with everyone proudly singing our national anthem, and I left with a desire to explore and discover the beauty that surrounds us right here at home! [LH](#)

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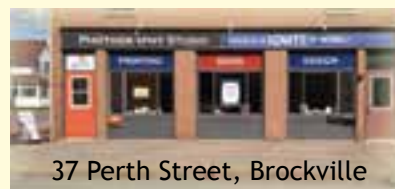
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BE THE LEADER!

By Shelli Warren

Be the Leader that people WANT to work with, rather than HAVE to work with, by being memorable for all the right reasons.

Follow these simple, yet impactful steps to make an impression on those you lead.

- ① The single most favorable word a person can hear is **their own name**. Use it often and learn how to pronounce it correctly.
- ② Nothing boosts a team member's morale quicker than to ask their **point of view**. Ask. Listen. Take note of their ideas and suggestions. Give credit where it is due.
- ③ Acknowledge people with **eye contact** and a simple **Thank You**, in the hallway and even when the results are not on target. Taking notice of their attempt, their frustration, and their effort with troubleshooting will speak volumes about your understanding of their challenges.
- ④ Catch them doing something great. Choosing to **acknowledge** even the most basic of expectations goes a long way to reinforce and encourage your team.
- ⑤ When VIP's visit, be sure to **give the opportunity** to your team to share their contribution. Their enthusiasm and genuine desire to achieve results will be a great reflection on their level of performance, and your ability to lead.
- ⑥ Ease people's nervousness by taking on the role of introductions. Be known for your ability to easily **introduce people** coupled with a well-known fact about the person's skill set, or recent accomplishment.

- ⑦ *Ask for feedback* about your performance from your team. Listen. **Say Thank You** and then loop back with them to Thank them again for their insight. Tell them how you're going to take action. By being consistently open to feedback you are teaching your team that they should be too.
- ⑧ *Key contributors find it easier to perform at high levels when they feel they have all the necessary information and boundaries within their role to make solid decisions. Give them what they want by giving them what they need to succeed.*

- ⑨ Great leaders are those who have a communication style that shows they are professional and approachable. They do this through **consistent touch points** with their teams. The inspect with what they expect and reinforce standards through accountability measures that their team sets and strives to achieve.
- ⑩ Periodically share a meal with your team. Deliberately **show up** ready to let them lead the conversation into the realm they find interesting that day. Sports, the price of gas, the latest movie, or family. It all sends a clear message that you are interested in them as people, not just what they can do for you and your workplace.

Shelli is a Business & Career Coach who works with ambitious business women throughout the 1000 Islands Region and beyond. She's also the host of the popular Success Series and the SheConnex inclusive community. Visit www.SheConnex.com for more info.



Shelli Warren of SheConnex



The Rothesay, near Prescott
Photo by: Christian Lloyd-Kohls



The Conestoga, near Cardinal
Photo by: Christian Lloyd-Kohls



The Weehawk, near Cardinal
Photo by: Christian Lloyd-Kohls

DIVING INTO THE PAST

By Lisa Crandall

Wreck diving may sound like an adventure for exotic locals and warm waters, but the waters of the St. Lawrence also offer multiple unique opportunities to explore Canada's history through drivable wrecks of a wide range of boats and ships. The waters between Brockville and Cardinal offer several easy to reach opportunities.

Near Cardinal THE CONESTOGA

It sank in 1922 as a result of a fire in the engine room while awaiting passage at Lock 28 at the Gallop Canal. After all the passengers and cargo were safely evacuated the freighter was flushed out of the lock, coming to rest about 75 feet (23 m) from the shoreline near Cardinal.

The wreck is lying at a depth of only 22–25 feet (6.7–7.6 m), with the top portion of the steeple engine protruding above the river. According to divers, the wooden portions of The Conestoga site are well preserved, however, the top portions of metal are badly ice-damaged and rusted, and are quickly deteriorating.

THE WEEHAWK

The Weehawk operated as a ferry along the New England coast for many years early in the 20th century. In the 1960s it was purchased and moved to the area by a local welder who intended to disassemble it and sell the metal as scrap. Circumstances prevented the welder from ever following through on this plan.

Eventually the abandoned Weehawk sank to the bottom of the canal. All that remains of the ship is half of its hull, which is tipped over onto its side, with part of its skeleton sticking out above the water.

It is located just west of Cardinal in the old lock on the Gallop canal, visible from the shore, only a short distance from The Conestoga.

Near Prescott THE ROTHESAY

A 19th Century wooden side wheeler. This vessel originally plied the waters of the St. John River in New Brunswick. She was later relocated to the St. Lawrence River, carrying passengers between Brockville and Montreal.

In the fall of 1889, she collided with the tug Myra and sank at her present location. In 1901 members of the Royal Military College in Kingston blew up the wreck amid ships in a munitions exercise. The Rothesay was rediscovered in 1964.

Near Brockville THE ROBERT GASKIN

Launched in the late 19th century, this wood barque originally sported three masts. In 1889, she was down to two masts and being used as a floating base for efforts to salvage the railroad ferry Armstrong that had sunk.

The wreck sits a half mile downstream from the Brockville waterfront and river focal point, Block house Island and lies perpendicular to the current. A large anchor is located off the bow towards shore about 40 ft. and adds to the site.

MUSCALLONGE (MUSKIE)

A wooden tugboat from the early 20th century, Muskie, caught fire near Brockville while it was towing a barge from Toronto in 1936. The Captain deliberately ran the burning boat ashore. It broke in two and sank.

The wreck is located three miles east of Brockville, approximately 1 1/2 miles downriver from Block House Island.

This being the year that Canada celebrates its 150th year of confederation, it is a perfect excuse to explore the waterways that functioned as the original highways and byways, especially the St. Lawrence River, which opened up the interior for the early explorers and immigrants and served as the backbone of commerce.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Shipwrecks in Ontario are the property of the province. Removal of any material is illegal. As the saying goes "take only pictures, leave only bubbles."



*Left: Briscoe at Manitoba Car Show Note: Centered single headlight was distinctive to early models;
Below: 1912 Brockville Atlas*



BROCKVILLE'S AUTOMOBILE HEYDAY

By Russ Disotell

Brockville as Ontario's answer to Motor City, U.S.A.? Not quite, but at the beginning of the twentieth century Brockville was one of the communities trying to cash in on the start of North America's love affair with the automobile. It all started with a "buggy" company in Gananoque.

Between 1886 and 1892, the Gananoque Carriage Company had doubled production and were in need of an expanded factory to improve shipping facilities. At that time cities were allowed to provide financial incentives to attract businesses (this is no longer allowed) and Brockville City Council wasted little time in reaching out to the carriage company. A cash bonus of \$50,000 and property tax of \$500 was enough to facilitate the relocation. The new plant was built at a junction of the CPR and Grand Trunk rail lines near where the present day Legion Ball Park is.

The investment proved lucrative as the company flourished. In 1909 Canada Carriage Company was part of an amalgamation, led by J.B. Tudhope of Orillia. The new company was known as Canadian Factories Ltd. Following the acquisition, Brockville became a distribution point, leaving the factory facilities largely idle. However, the company's general manager T.J. Storey, soon rectified this.

In 1910, Tudhope reached an agreement with American auto manufacturer Everitt to build their "30" model in Orillia for the Canadian market. Soon Storey's Brockville plant was

turning out the Brockville 30 using parts supplied by the Orillia factory, turning out 80 automobiles in 1911. The model had 30 horsepower and sold for approximately \$1,500.

Based on this success, Storey decided to produce his own automobile. In mid 1911 the Brockville Atlas Auto Company was formed. The name Atlas was derived for the Atlas engines, sourced from Indianapolis, that were used in the car. Three different styles, touring, roadster and landaulet were produced. They ranged in price from \$1500 to \$2250. Initially the bodies were supplied by Canada Factories. One innovation the Atlas featured was an internal brake system, lined for protection from mud and water, which wouldn't appear consistently in other automobiles until the late 1920's. It also sported features such as electric start and electric lights, which believe it or not, weren't available on all autos of the time.

The Brockville Atlas enjoyed a modicum of popularity in what was becoming a crowded auto market. An advertisement in the February 27, 1914 edition of the Recorder & Times, proudly pointed out that Toronto's largest taxi fleet boasted ten Atlas autos. Indeed, two of three Brockville taxis were also Atlas. However, the relative high cost of the Atlas, combined with supply and labour problems from the outbreak of WW1, soon ended the Atlas. In total, a respectable 300 cars had been produced.

By the end of 1915, T.J. Storey and Canada Factories were producing a new automobile for the Canadian market, the Briscoe, in an arrangement with Briscoe Motor Corporation of Jackson, Michigan. One selling point was that it was more moderately priced than the Atlas. Benjamin Briscoe had begun working in the auto business as a partner of Jonathan Maxwell. Their company Maxwell-Briscoe, producing the Maxwell, which proved to be the beginnings of the Chrysler Corporation. Briscoe left to head up the new United States Motor Company in 1910. After two years, the company failed and Briscoe was off to France, specifically Billancourt, home of the already renowned Renault. Here he developed the innovative Briscoe engine, known as the "Half Million Dollar Engine".

Working in partnership with the Michigan headquarters, the Briscoe was more successful than the Atlas. In 1916 it sold for \$825. This made it much more affordable than the Atlas. It also enjoyed a reputation for fuel economy and power, although it should be noted production of a V8 model was discontinued because it was too powerful. Over the lifetime of the Briscoe Corporation approximately 53,000 cars were manufactured in the U.S. and 5,000 in Canada.

The various subsidiaries of Canada Factories Ltd. enjoyed an upsurge in business during WW1, despite the attendant difficulties. However, on October 27, 1918 the Brockville plant was destroyed by fire, with only four of the company's buildings surviving. Shortly thereafter the U.S. parent company went bankrupt. A newly minted enterprise emerged from the bankruptcy, renamed the car the Earl and continued production for two years. The surviving Brockville operation continued to manufacture parts for the Earl, before closing shop for good in 1921, ending Brockville's brief foray into the nascent world of auto manufacturing. [LH](#)

The John W. Murray (photo by OPP Museum)



Charlie Cliffe (obituary photo)



Building a classic Cliffe Craft (photo from Cliffe family collection as used in Thousand Islands Life)

CHARLIE CLIFFE

In Memory of the Father of Cliffe Craft

By Lorraine Payette

An era ended on February 10, 2017, when Gananoque lost Charlie Cliffe.

Charlie was always enamoured with boats. Not just splashing around in them, but the down and dirty process of building them from the ground up. Starting in the basement of his family's home in Wilstead, he moved on to a job with the Link Manufacturing Company in Gananoque in 1947 when he completed high school.

He started with surfacing board, producing excellent grade lumber for building fine boats. Cedar strip boats were the hot item of the day and he helped produce ribs and planking to make them a reality. For a top quality boat, the milling had to be within tight specs and he took pride in making sure all of his work attained perfection.

The work with the Link factory was the ultimate apprenticeship for Charlie who brought his knowledge home and applied it to his very own boat making business. Using moulds he had purchased from his employer, he joined forces with local woodworker and fishing guide Jack Gray, and they started making their own cedar strip boats.

But Charlie was an innovator. He couldn't be content making simple skiffs – he wanted to do more. He and Jack started developing new boats – more interesting boats. They built moulds, laid out design, became cutting edge. They worked on the lapstrake design, coming up with the "Commander" as well as other interesting models and were among the first to install stern drives. They had an entire network of dealerships extending from Toronto to Montreal, including Kingston, Brockville and the Rideau area.

Eventually, Charlie bought the Link factory and began manufacturing his boats right in Gananoque. He was now able to build bigger craft, and more of them. All of his craft were created the old-fashioned way. An idea in his mind was turned into a sketch, then final drawings before making 1:12 scale models of different designs. Once the idea was perfected, full sized moulds would be made, and the boats manufactured.

The same methods were used no matter what size of boat was being built. Each had to be perfect, or it couldn't be a Cliffe Craft.

Charlie had a good eye for people as well as boats, and made numerous wise

decisions in both business partners and employees. Whether they had backgrounds in engineering or other specialized skills, he was able to work with them to create better quality and more refined craft.

The 70's and 80's saw Cliffe Craft develop into more of a custom order company than one for the mass market. The 25-foot twin engine runabout was extremely popular, and customers ranged from discerning boaters looking for something roomy that could handle almost any conditions, to special clients like the OPP.

Among the patrol boats were the "Joseph E. Rogers" and the "John W. Murray". The former was a 35-foot vessel commissioned for use in Georgian Bay. It was the largest boat built by Cliffe Craft. The latter was a 24-foot boat named after the first permanent detective appointed to the OPP which patrolled the Thousand Islands during the 60's and 70's.

Charlie Cliffe will always be remembered for all he did for boats and boating. Some of his craft may be seen on display at the Thousand Island Boat Museum (125 Water St, Gananoque) in Gananoque. [LH](#)



Some "Friends of the Royal" pausing for a photo before going back to building the dream; Right: Artist's rendition of the Royal Theatre upon completion



THE ROYAL THEATRE

Breathing New Life into an Old Dream

By Lorraine Payette

Courtesy of the "Friends of the Royal", the old Delaney Bowl in Gananoque (75 King St E.) is undergoing a massive retrofit project. All group members are involved in the arts in some way, and all can see the vision – a dream of a full season of music and theatre at the Delaney, now the Royal Theatre, starting in May, 2017.

Perhaps the best kept secret in the world of Canadian performing arts, the theatre is taking shape and coming alive.

"It's going to be awesome, especially right on the main drag," said musician Aaron Ray of Joyride. "It's going to be really good for everyone in Gananoque, whether it's traditional live theatre or simply a stage for rent for anyone to use. Right now there's no market for it, but that's only because they don't know it's here. Once people find it, it will totally take off."

Built in 1930 by the Delaney family, it opened as a cinema in 1937 after struggles with the Great Depression. It ran successfully until 1960 when it was sold to become a bowling alley. As the conversions were made for that project, many of the trappings from the old theatre simply disappeared.

Times and interests keep changing, and it was sold once again to Kevin John Saylor and his partner, Frayne McCarthy, in 2013. Saylor is a Mohawk from the Kahnawake reservation near Montreal with a strong background in the arts. He founded and spent nearly 20 years as the artistic director of the Turtle Island Theatre Company. McCarthy volunteered at the company for 17 years.

After being locked out of their theatre in the fall of 2012 by the local band, they were crushed but not defeated. Instead, they went out to find another place where they could build their dream, and the Delaney was the perfect place to bring the Royal Theatre to life.

"Kevin has made up the most amazing drawings," said McCarthy. "They are our inspiration and our guide – what it will all look like when the work is finished."

Perhaps most astounding of all is that they are doing all of this with almost no money to work with. They have received funding from the foundation Indian Agricultural Program of Ontario (\$70,000 loan), the federal Aboriginal Business Canada, and the

Thousand Islands Community Development Corporation (\$15,000 grant) totalling about \$148,000, as well as a \$63,000 grant from The ADC. Other donations have come in from the general public and a "go fund me" page, as well as other sources such as a 25th anniversary reunion performance by the original Montreal cast of *Les Misérables*.

"We're working towards a live performance base," said McCarthy. "We've got some inspirational sketches created by Kevin, featuring an upper lounge that will also serve as a small piano lounge area on its own with its own stage. From the lounge, you'll be able to look down onto the main stage."

"We are open. Starting May, we've got acts booked on this new stage."

About 13 different performing groups are expected to come in throughout the summer producing plays, musicals and concerts.

"There's so much in the works, believe it or not," said McCarthy. "We really hope you come to the Royal many, many times this summer. This is the theatre you as a community are making happen." **LH**

Editor's Note: You can check out the progress and summer bookings on The Royal Theatre Facebook page @ <https://www.facebook.com/RoyalTheatreThousandIslands/> or visit their website @ www.royaltheatre.ca for information about the Royal Theatre. Call 613-382-5000 at the box office for ticket information.



Speaking of wine

By Russ Disotell

With 2,500 plus years of wine-making history it seems strange to have to alert people to the fact that there are some outstanding wines coming out of Greece. There always have been, but few until now, that made it to the LCBO's shelves. It also may be laid at the feet of Retsina, the aromatic, resinated wine that was the face of Greek wines in Ontario for decades. The pine scented, pine flavoured charmer was not a hit here, beyond the Greek community, and folks like me. (trust me, it is spectacular with Greek cuisine, cutting through the rich fatty flavours).

But if you are a seafood or fish lover listen up. Run, don't walk to the LCBO and snatch up a bottle or two of Santo Santorini Assyrtiko 2016 (CSPC# 459032, \$15.00) because it just might become your favourite white to accompany the ocean's bounty. Refreshing, crisp and aromatic, there is a lot to like about this pearl of the Aegean. Aromas of citrus, gooseberries, melon, green apple and pear dominate the complex, tantalizing nose. The palate is crisp, herbaceous and lively; the perfect combination for a summer aperitif or food pairing. Firm acidity is perfectly balanced with generous citrus, yellow plum, white grapefruit and honeydew fruit, with herbal undertones of dill, parsley and lemon grass. The finish is lengthy, complex and very refreshing.

Assyrtiko makes a fantastic summer sipping wine, but shines with food. Local freshwater catches such as bass, pike and perch match up very nicely. Seafood such as shrimp, mussels, calamari and especially oysters are perfect with the Chablis of Southern Europe.

Herb crusted lamb or pork is also in it's wheelhouse. Summer fare such as hummus, eggplant, olives and tomato and cucumber salads, with feta cheese also pair nicely.

Cabernet Franc is something of an Ontario specialty. One of the most consistent producers is Chateau Des Charmes, as witnessed by their Cabernet Franc 2015 (CSPC# 162602, \$14.95), which should be in everyone's summer wine selections. Consider Cabernet Franc as a lighter, livelier, more aromatic cousin of Cabernet Sauvignon. Blackberry, Cassis, plum, and lightly peppery underpinnings of oregano or tarragon dominate both the inviting, open nose and the complex palate. Fruit is nicely balanced by dusty tannins and food friendly acidity. The finish is lingering and bright.

Cab Franc is a versatile food wine, pairing with roast chicken, pork, veal, beef, lamb or sausage. It is also a wonderful match for cooked or stewed tomatoes because of its crisp nature. Keep this in mind for matching tomato-based barbecue sauces. Enjoy! **LH**

Russ Disotell enjoyed a twelve-year career with the LCBO. He spent the last four years as Product Advisor in Vintages purchasing where he was a member of the buying panel and endured the arduous task of tasting products every week! Since leaving the Board he has written columns and articles on wine, helped develop wine lists and conducted wine tastings. Russ has been writing for Living Here Magazine since it's inception in 2013 and we are grateful for his insights and recommendations to our readers on finding the perfect wine to go with food, friends and family!

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Adults \$5.00 • Seniors & Students \$4.00
Children 6-12 \$3.00 • Children 5 and Under Free

We gratefully acknowledge the support of The City of Brockville, Brockville Lions Club, 104.9 JR fm, The Brockville Recorder & Times, St. Lawrence News, snapd 1000 Islands, local businesses and community volunteers.



www.brockvillemulticulturalfestival.com



~ 9TH ANNUAL ~ CHALK THE WALK

*Sidewalk Chalk Art Festival
~ A Day of Family Fun! ~*

TOWN OF GANANOQUE

Saturday, May 27, 2017

*Meet Award-winning Children's Literature
Illustrator Wallace Edwards*

*Experience Amazing 3-D Chalk Art
by Guy Wales*

*Local Artist David Day Works his
"Sidewalk Magic"*

Meet Joe Campbell - The Bee Man!

Air Castle ~ Guest Vendors

Community BBQ & Snacks2Go

Not So Amateur Amateurs

Face Painting ~ Henna Tattoos

Miss D's Artsy Accessories

Dr. Orchestra's One-Man-Band

Live Music (1:00- 3:00)

*For info and to print
a registration form ahead
of time visit
www.chalkthewalk.ca*



*Working
together to
eliminate hunger
in South Grenville*

South Grenville Food Bank Dinner

Saturday, April 29, 2017

Doors open at 5pm

& Dinner at 6:30pm

St. Mark Parish, Prescott, ON

*licensed event
\$35 per person
or \$60 per couple*



All proceeds go to the South Grenville Food Bank