

Vol. 6– June 2016

# HEIRS

Harrow Early Immigrant Research Society

*newsletter*



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Community Centre (Arena Bldg.)



***Inside this issue...***  
***Summertime,***  
***Summertime...***

## Newsletter News!

### Welcome to the June newsletter

#### Wow, that was a fast 6 months!

Seems like we just had our snowshovels in hand, now we have weeds to worry about.

I'm not a weather forecaster, but let's just all agree that this will be one of the greatest summers ever. If it rains, our gardens will benefit. If it's too hot, then to those folks who planted trees a long time ago, that allow us to now take refuge under - **job well done!**

**Here's to you and your family's summer - and all things genealogy!**

## Next Meeting

When: Thursday **September 22nd**, 1:30 PM

Where: Harrow-Colchester Arena Community Centre

*On the 1st day of Autumn, Robert and Deb Honor of Amherstburg, UEL descendants and active in several historical groups in Essex County, will speak to HEIRS members about the "Bellevue House".*

*They will update us on efforts to save this palatial home built by Robert Reynolds along the Detroit River near Amherstburg between 1816-1819. It was designed by Robert's sister Catherine Reynolds.*

*Catherine was an important landscape artist from that time, providing an invaluable record of early 19th-century life in Upper Canada. Bellevue was the largest home in Upper Canada at that time.*

*The building has been very controversial with decades of ill repair, since being declared an historic site.*

*The property is now up for sale & may be headed for oblivion. Its beautiful location makes it a prime realty site for condominium development.*



**The "Friends of Bellevue" hope a local movement to save the home may result in some government-sponsored initiatives.**

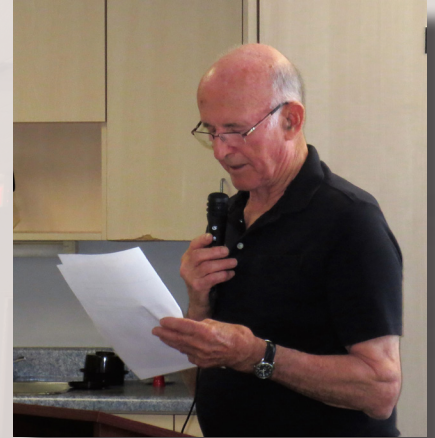
**Join us in September to hear much more on this story and how you can help support the efforts to save this historic building!**



The May meeting of HEIRS, our last before summer, was held on May 26, and featured the annual election of Directors.

**Three Directors up for re-election were all unopposed and acclaimed as Directors again.**

President Richard Herniman (shown below) gave a short speech on our activities over the past year, and thanked individuals who had assisted us. He also mentioned that HEIRS will have a summer student once again and be open weekdays throughout the summer.



John and Ann Brush provided a delicious table of goodies, featuring strawberries, whipped cream and angel food cake, brownies and other treats to be enjoyed, and they certainly were!

*Our September speaker will be Robert and Debbie Honor, speaking on the endangered and historic BelleVue House in Amherstburg.*

**Have a great summer.**



## Summer Hours

Funding for our annual 'summer student' position at the HEIRS Resource Centre was recently approved.

### Expected summer hours:

9AM-12PM 1-4PM

Monday to Friday

Our student will assist visitors with their research, answer phone queries, organize and update our files, as well as scan documents for our collection.

**Take advantage of the extended hours this summer at the Resource Centre!**





**RIBS AND RAGTIME**  
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT  
**STRAIGHT AHEAD**  
FROM DETROIT, MICHIGAN

**TICKETS \$50**

**4PM-8PM**  
SATURDAY JUNE 4, 2016

AMHERSTBURG  
FREEDOM MUSEUM

519-736-5433 | 277 KING ST., AMHERSTBURG | WWW.AMHERSTBURGFREEDOM.ORG



**On Friday, June 10th** the J.R. Park Homestead will hold a Time Travel Morning, as all elementary students will have a PA Day and not be in school. A program of hands-on, entertaining and educational experiences is planned. Youngsters of all ages, including parents and grandparents, are invited to experience various old-pioneer activities, have an old-fashioned snack and actually make a souvenir to take home. **Cost is \$15 per person for this interesting event. Register online at [erca.org/jrph](http://erca.org/jrph).**

**On Saturday, July 2th**, from 10 AM to 1 PM, HEIRS will again host its sidewalk barbecue in front of Sanford & Son on Main Street in Harrow.

HEIRS directors and members will be selling hot dogs and burgers, as well as cold soft drinks and water to satisfy appetites and raise funds for the day-to-day operations at the HEIRS research facility.



**We hope all our members & friends stop in to enjoy an outdoor lunch, while showing their support for the HEIRS activities.**

The annual “Explore the Shore” event will again be held, this summer on July 23-24th. This will be the 7th time this self-guided tour of places along Lake Erie has been held, and over 30 local businesses are taking part.



Take a leisurely tour of the old Heritage Road along the lake, & enjoy local food, art, gift shops, restaurants specials, wine tasting, vineyard & orchard tours, activities for kids and more!

Windsor Community Museum opened in 1958 & has now realized they are lacking in memorabilia representing the 1960s. They have put out a call for anyone who might have such items to represent this era, to allow their own artifacts to be scanned or photographed for the collection. They would then be returned to the owners, not retained by the museum. Any stories that would help bring this era to life are also being sought. **If you can help, please call the museum at 519-253-1812 or email [wmuseum@citywindsor.ca](mailto:wmuseum@citywindsor.ca).** They hope to collect them by August for display to run through 2017. **What do you have from the 60's? Souvenirs of local businesses, local maps & stories about Essex County, home movies, artifacts, photos of social events, would be welcomed.**

## ***Reminder...***

***HEIRS can convert your media to CDs & DVDs for you...***

*If you need audio cassettes moved to CD, or even transferring VHS videotapes onto DVD format, we offer the service, right here at HEIRS.*

*Family reunions, early family gatherings, weddings... VHS tapes are subject to aging & damage. Tapes also become dry, crack or break easily. If tension in the cassette is damaged saving the material on it is not easy.*

***Consider having these one-of-a-kind treasures duplicated or updated before an unfortunate event brings regrets.***

## ***The John Quick Genealogy DVD***

***- now available at HEIRS***

This DVD was donated through the generosity of Dr. Stuart Quick, Patricia Taylor Smith and Dorothy LaMarsh Zak.

A 44 year project, the DVD includes 1,018 pages and 785 photographs in the genealogy section.

**The historical section has 198 pages and illustrations.  
All proceeds from the sale of the DVD will be donated to HEIRS.**

The cost of the DVD or Thumb Drive is \$30.00 (postage & shipping included). It can also be picked up at the HEIRS Resource Centre for just \$25.00.

**Payment is due at the time of ordering.**

**Contact HEIRS at 519-738-3700 or email [hheritage@bellnet.ca](mailto:hheritage@bellnet.ca).**

**Resource Centre hours are Tuesday & Thursday, 10AM to 3PM.**



### Wednesday, July 13th

*The Leamington Mersea Historical Society & HEIRS will again team up for a summer bus tour on Wednesday, July 13th, with our own Chris Carter as tour guide.*



*The trolley bus will leave the parking lot of the Kingsville District High School at 9 AM and travel through Essex County to explore its “hidden gems”, returning to Kingsville by 1 PM.*

*Chris has planned a tour of the county to include the vanished communities of Salem, Broadwell’s Corners, Bulgetown, Inman, Young Ireland, Olinda, Elmwood, Blytheswood, Oakland, Maple Grove, Roslyn, Strangefield, Windfall, Goldsmith, Union, and Albertville.*

***Major stop: Agricultural Museum on Highway 77 near Comber.***

**Tickets just \$25 per person** (by cash or cheque payable to):  
**Leamington Mersea Historical Society**

*Call Paul at 519-326-1691 or email [pbunnettjones@cogeco.ca](mailto:pbunnettjones@cogeco.ca).*

**The trolley is always a fun-filled way to explore our county.  
 This tour event is open to all.**



# The Amherstburg Echo.

THE OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE COUNTY

Vol. XXX No. 12

AMHERSTBURG, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 1904.

Weekly No. 2474

100 ACRES FOR SALE.

THE SOVEREIGN BANK OF CANADA.

BRIDGE & ARCHITECTURE

PROGRESSIVE SCHOOLS.

BURK BROS.



It is not necessary to advertise for the purchase of land, unless you wish to sell it. For further particulars and prices, see  
FALLS BROS., Agts.  
Amherstburg.

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT.  
Savings Bank Department.

HARROW BRANCH. AMHERSTBURG BRANCH.  
C. A. BISHOPMAN, Manager. M. L. LANE, Manager.

LIME FOR SALE  
IN  
CARLOAD LOTS.  
**Summer... 1916**

**June 2** The Oddfellows hope to move into their new lodge about the end of June. The dedication has not been arranged yet. Final financial payments have been arranged through A. Agla.

**June 9** Dominion Cannery have been in Harrow looking for a site for a cannery.

**June 16** Piano recital of Mrs. Madill's pupils at the store., Crowded, with standing room only.

C. N. Tofflemire died, born on a farm below Oxley in the year 1836, son of Charles and Salome Snider, and he was the grandson of Jacob Tofflemire. Deceased married Margaret Huffman; family of 12, 4 died young. Celebrated Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1910. A skilled wood carver, prominent Methodist, Class Leader and Supt. of the Sunday School at Oxley for 22 years.

**June 30** Loss by fire of the planing mill & lumber shed is a serious loss to the village. Firemen were not able to save the plant, but saved the Smith & Johnson houses adjacent to it. Other mill men have offered to work up all the order for Mr. Smith, and a new plant will be equipped with more modern machinery driven by electric power. The mill was

built 25 years ago, & bought by Mr. Smith from Mr. Zimmerman 8 years ago. Hose of fire equipment not heavy enough for this kind of fire.

**July 7** The Fourth of July holiday brought one of the largest crowds in the history of the resort. From early morning, automobiles carrying capacity loads began to arrive from the city & by noon the place was thronged. Hundreds of motors were parked along the lake road in every available spot, & it taxed the hospitality of the boarding houses to take care of all the applications for meals & lunches.

**July 14** John Knapp has recently been appointed keeper of the Colchester Light.

**July 21** The canning factory will be ready for use in August; masonry is finished, 40 feet of the 125 foot chimney is in place, and erection of the 10,000 gallon tank will take place this week.

**August 18** Eldah Harris has been appointed constable, due to some breaches of the peace.

**August 28** Charles Cornwall, first of the Harrow boys killed in Flanders, aged 24; had worked in Imperial Bank in Harrow, then in Woodstock & Galt. Had been in France only 4 weeks.



## “History As It Used to Was”

- by Ted Steele, HEIRS Director

We have all seen many of the old movies, especially musicals set in the early 1900s, of straw hats and white suits, sweethearts taking Sunday strolls, and enjoying a free band concert at the town park. A quiet evening, pleasant music and a chance to actually converse with someone special, with NO electronics - **seems too good to be possible, doesn't it? Not really!**

A bit of investigating shows that many of our local communities continue the tradition. I know that Kingsville, for the past few years, has offered concerts on the lawn next to the former Carnegie Library on a weekly basis, and plans to hold them again this summer.



Starting June 13, the Colchester Centre Harbour Park offers free concerts every Monday night at 7:30, & on Wednesday nights beginning June 8, the Essex Centre Heritage Garden offers their concert series, also beginning at 7:30 pm; both run through the summer. Leamington is especially active in this program, as they have a Friday night concert at the Marina, Saturday night on the beachfront at Seaclyff Park and Sunday afternoon at Robson Road Park. Local musicians perform, usually pop / folk music we all know, and



refreshments are usually available as well. A hot dog or two, while Dale Butler sings Johnny Cash or John Denver is not a bad afternoon!

My wife and I often make it a Summer Sunday by enjoying the afternoon concert (2-4 PM) in Leamington, followed by a fish and chip dinner at Wheatley Harbour, then off to Two Creeks Conservation Area on the edge of Wheatley. There, beginning at 6:30, we sit on the hillside near the band shell, and enjoy 2 hours of live music featuring British Invasion songs of the 60's, or good old rock and roll of the 50's & 60's, or Bluegrass, Country or Folk.

**As twilight descends & the day unwinds,  
I realize that enjoying ourselves  
has very little to do with money!**

Most of these events are totally free, although in a few instances they do “pass the hat”. Events are planned well, bug-free (almost completely!) and remind us of why summer nights are so pleasant.

Check with your own community to see what they offer & take advantage of it. The Wheatley concerts begin Sunday, June 5th. Go on the internet and check the Community Events section for your area. **You'll be glad you did!!**



## HEIRS Resource Centre

September to June (excluding December)

Tuesday & Thursday: 10AM - 3PM

Wednesday or for other appts. Call to confirm.

### Memberships

**\$25 CDN/US per person or couple: April 2015 to May 2016**

**Send cheque to: HEIRS PO Box 53, Harrow ON Canada N0R 1G0**

Please include phone, fax, email, website & names you are now researching.

Non-member user fee for HEIRS Research Library: \$5 / visit (+ photocopy costs).

### HEIRS Newsletter

Published 9 times per year, in conjunction with General Meetings held on the 4th Thursday of the month, from September through June (with the exception of December). **Receive full colour newsletters by email & save HEIRS the printing & mailing costs of B&W copies by regular post. Simply provide your email address to our office.**

### THANK YOU

Greg Harrison at The Computer Centre in Harrow provides HEIRS ongoing support for *all things technical* to keep our office running smoothly.



### Board of Directors

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