

# Society Newsletter

## The Village of Elizabethtown



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Tim Austin

**Vice President**  
Stephen Austin

**Secretary**  
Joan Ashby Parrott

**Treasurer**  
Mary Brown

**Directors**  
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Helen Anne Haskill

Preserving the past for  
future generations

We're on the Internet

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Elizabethtown is a small community located in the Municipality of Port Hope at the intersection of County Rd. 9 and County Rd. 65. The village was established in the period of 1830 to 1840 by pioneer Francis Tamblyn, who arrived from Cornwall England in 1830.

A post office was established in 1853, the first postmaster John McMurtry named the village after his wife Elizabeth. The post office remained in business until 1953, when rural mail delivery began. McMurtry owned a grist mill, a distillery and a hotel. The grist mill operated with an open flume, a 16 foot high water wheel with open buckets and operated for over 100 years. A turbine was later installed and the grinding wheel replaced. In 1926 Cecil Mercer bought the mill and along with his two sons operated the mill until Cecil's death in 1952. The old mill was dismantled in 1962 by Roly Scott who used the old timbers and lumber to build a house near Bethany. There was also a saw mill, distillery and brick yard located a short distance downstream on the Ganaraska River from the original mill.

In the late 1850's the village had three taverns, a shoemaker and a grocer.

The first schoolhouse was built of wood in 1850 and burned to the ground in 1866. A stone structure (the only one built from stone in the County) was built to replace the old wooden structure. In 1958 this building was destroyed by fire and the children were then bused to nearby Osaca and Beach Hill Schools until the North Hope School in Garden Hill was built.

The first church built was a Wesleyan Methodist. A second church (present day) was built in 1856. It is believed that both church yards were cemeteries but because there are no gravestones it is unknown how many were buried there.

Elizabethtown was originally established as a stopover village at the intersection of Kendall Road and Decker Hall Road. Very little of the original Elizabethtown is left and very little history has been recorded.



David Charles Monteith

Jan 12, 1938– Oct 2, 2020

David was a life time member of our society. He enjoyed being with his family and pets. His life time passions were travelling, family, sporting events and farming.

"A wise person knows that there is something to be learned from everyone" (unknown)



# President's Report

Welcome to this edition of the Port Hope and District Historical Society Newsletter. Your Executive Committee would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

This past year has seen very little activity at our Museum. The Covid-19 threat managed to put a hold on most of our yearly functions.

Our major fund raiser, the three day yard sale, had to be cancelled which caused a major loss in revenue used in maintaining and repairing Dorothy's House Museum. The annual Monarch Tag and Release could not be held as in past years but we did manage to release 486 Monarchs in various locations throughout the Municipality. We eagerly await word of some of the tagged Monarchs being discovered in Mexico and Texas.

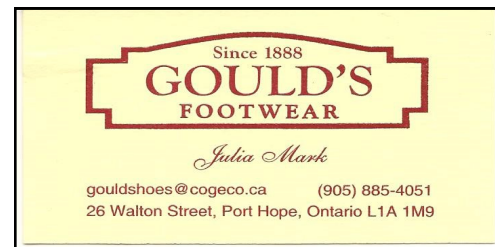
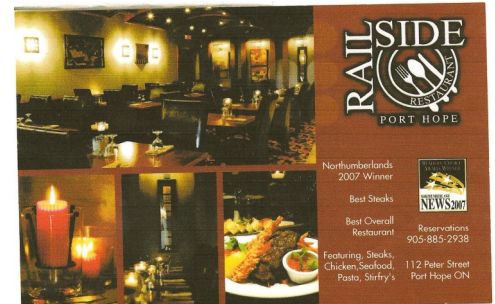
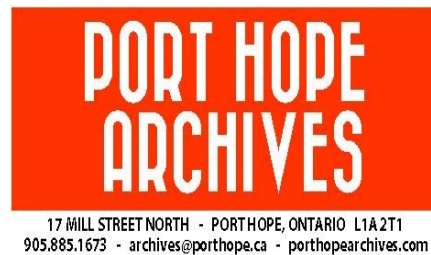
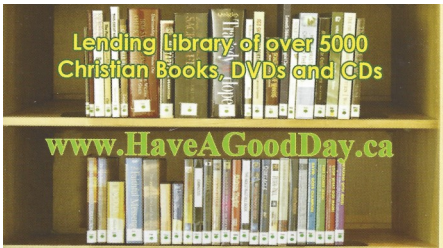
The Municipality cancelled the Fall Fair therefore we were unable to have our annual exhibit.

We hope this newsletter finds everyone healthy and we look forward to seeing you at our 2021 events.

Please remain safe during this pandemic. We are hopeful that all will return to being somewhat normal in 2021.

Tim Austin,  
President

**PHDHS is pleased to have the support of the following business members**



**“It is the province of knowledge to speak, and it is the privilege of wisdom to listen”  
(Oliver Wendell Holmes)**



2020 - Monarch Butterfly Tag and Release



Helen Anne Haskill's Property Aug 21, 2020



Helen Anne Haskill's Property Aug 21, 2020



Port Hope Union Cemetery Aug 21, 2020



Lake St. Port Hope August 22, 2020



Tagging Monarchs Aug 24, 2020



Dorothy's House Museum Aug 25, 2020



Dorothy's House Museum Aug 25, 2020



Dorothy's House Museum Aug 25, 2020



Peter Huffman Trail Aug 25, 2020



Peter Huffman Trail Aug 25,2020



Hope St. S. at Lake St. Sept 13, 2020



Hope St. S. at Lake St. Sept 13, 2020

"The two most powerful warriors are patience and time" (Leo Tolstoy)



**PORT HOPE DEDICATES MONARCH WAYSTATION IN MEMORY OF ROD PARROTT**

On October 6, 2020, Port Hope Town Council passed a motion to create a Monarch Waystation dedicated to the late PHDHS Board Member Rod Parrott, to be located on a section of the Peter Hufman Trail that leads to the A.K. Sculthorpe Marsh parking area off Lake Street.

Rod is remembered for his local activism and contributions to many areas of life in Port Hope and beyond, and for his passion in studying, rearing and conserving insects – particularly butterflies. Rod and Joan Parrott were instrumental in developing the annual “Monarch Butterfly Tag and Release” event at Dorothy’s House Museum in Garden Hill.

On October 28<sup>th</sup>, PHDHS secretary Joan Parrott, with friends and supporters, gathered at the large plaque erected on the Waterfront Trail in Rod’s memory to dedicate the Monarch Waystation. Port Hope Mayor Bob Sanderson, with Parks, Recreation & Culture Director Jim McCormack, addressed the crowd, and reminded us of Rod’s volunteerism and dedication to conserving and protecting nature and wildlife in Port Hope and noted that Rod is a worthy recipient for such recognition.

Joan Parrott was presented with a framed copy of the Monarch Waystation “CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION”, signed by Dr. Orley “Chip” Taylor, Director of Monarch Watch, University of Kansas, U.S.A. This is registered Monarch Waystation #31162.

**Events Calendar 2021**

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**Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 7 p.m.**  
**AGM Meeting will be held at the**  
**Ganaraska Conservation Authority**  
**Meeting Room, 2216 Hwy 28 North,**  
**Port Hope, ON.**

**Fri, Sat. Sun, June 25,26,27, 2021**  
**Three-day Fundraiser Yard Sale at**  
**Dorothy’s House Museum, Garden**  
**Hill, ON from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

**July & August 2021**  
**Dorothy’s House Museum OPENS**  
**for summer months. Saturdays and**  
**Sundays from July 3rd to August**  
**28th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**Saturday August 28, 2021**  
**12th Annual Monarch Butterfly Tag**  
**& Release at Dorothy’s House**  
**Museum, 3632 Ganaraska Road,**  
**Garden Hill, ON time to be**  
**announced.**

**September Fri. 17, Sat. 18. Sun. 19,**  
**2021**  
**Port Hope Fall Fair. PHDHS will**  
**have a display at the Fair**

**Contact Information**

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**Membership Rates**  
**Single \$15.00**  
**Couple \$25.00**  
**Business \$40.00**  
**Lifetime \$75.00**

**“However bad life may seem, there is always something you can do, and succeed at (Stephen Hawking)**