

Updated mural to be unveiled in Athens this month

By SALLY SMID

Athens has long been known as “the home of the murals” but over time some have been retired and others have fallen into disrepair.

In recent months there has been a new vision for the rejuvenation of murals in Athens which many hope will include a comprehensive plan that has the possibilities of revitalizing the community as well.

Since the upkeep of painted murals has proven to be too challenging, Athens Council has approved a new plan to place a digitized heritage photomural onto large panels that will be installed onto a wall in the village, as part of a Canada 150 initiative. The theme of the new mural which is to be

installed on the west wall of the Fresh Market is the life of Joshua Bates who many consider to be a founding father of Farmersville. This mural is currently inside a storage building, having been designed and painted on an interior wall when the facility was then used as an outdoor market.

In 2001, owners Richard and Karen Cook, asked if the Athens Christian School could paint a mural on the market wall. Local artist Tony Endhoven researched the life of Bates and came up with a detailed design which was placed onto the wall and then painted by ACS students. Designer Brian Phillips has advised that this mural is the only one that has a proper high definition quality photo to

be enlarged to a suitable size for such a mural. The Bates Mural is being planned for “unveiling” on Sunday, Oct. 22 at 1 pm and will be followed by a reception and presentation at 1:30 by Dr. Glenn Lockwood who is the author of the Joshua Bates book and many other larger volumes of local history. Hopefully some of the creators of the original mural can also be present. There are other possibilities for further murals and interpretive signage through grants and donations. The Harvest Cafe mural has been retired and the paint over is being paid for by a recent Canada 150 grant in preparation for another photomural project

“It continues to be a long and arduous journey,” says organizer Sally



(L-R): Athens Heritage Society chair Kathryn Hudson, Council advisor Les Coutlee and member Bruce Demitroff look over the design for the new Joshua Bates mural. Photo: Sally Smid

Smid of the Athens Heritage Society, “but it is also exciting to consider that this kind of extensive project could integrate the Museum,

murals, interpretive signs and more into a heritage walking tour which would celebrate our local history and create a significant attraction that could help better support economic development as well!” It is hoped that

a separate committee can be formed in this regard.

Suggestions, comments, volunteers and donations would be very much appreciated. It is already evident that community pride and spirit are being sparked!

Canada Day 2018 ... Will it fly?

TO THE MURAL

The Township of Rideau Lakes has supported the North Crosby Recreation/Parks/Events Committee in its administration and implementation of the Canada Day Event previously held at the Lions Beach in Sand Lake Park and recently at Rideau Vista Public School, both locations being physically within Rideau Lakes for over 15 years.

Coordinator of the Canada Day Event Cathy Davison, a volunteer on the North Crosby Recreation/Parks/Events Committee has handed in her resignation of this event. “I feel it is time, after 22 years, we need new energy” she stated at a preliminary organizational meeting held

this week in Chantry at the Township Municipal Offices.

Originally started by a group of interested individuals through the Chamber of Commerce over 20 years ago, the realization that insurance was a major factor in keeping this event going, Rideau Lakes stepped forward and under the umbrella of its Community and Leisure Services Department offered to support the event. The Village of Westport also offered their support for events happening within the Village and together the Canada Day Event grew into the success it is today.

Councillor Bob Lavoie has suggested we need to bring all interest-

ed parties together to create a new volunteer body that will take on the organization of this event. “We need some new people, some creative ideas” he stated and suggested “we approach all the groups, clubs and organizations within the area to get involved”.

CAO Mike Dwyer threw out some innovative suggestions “Let’s try VIP seating for the fireworks or maybe even valet parking.”

Guy Davison said in the past donations collected after the fireworks helped to cover almost 50% of their cost. Cathy offered her support in applying for the Canadian Heritage Grant again for 2018 noting that this usually brings

in \$2,500 toward the overall \$20,000 expenses it costs to run the event.

Sue Dunfield, Manager of Community and Leisure Services offered to coordinate a meeting of interested volunteers.

To keep Canada Day 2018 alive and vibrant, an open meeting for any and all interested folks is being planned for Thursday, October 12, at 7:00 pm at the North Crosby Community Centre 875 8th Concession, Westport.

If you are interested to lend a hand and can’t make the meeting please contact Sue Dunfield at Rideau Lakes 1-800-928-2250 ext. 238 or email her at susan@twprideaulakes.on.ca



LANSDOWNE HORSE FESTIVAL
A CANADA 150 CELEBRATION
EQUINE EXTRAVAGANZA

Sat October 14, 10am - 4pm
Lansdowne Fairgrounds
1186 Prince St, Lansdowne

- Focus on different breeds of horses
- Demonstrations, displays, wagon rides, parade of breeds
- Presentation by the Ontario Mounted Special Service Unit
- Children’s Activities
- Vendors • Food • Fun

Free Admission • Rain or Shine

Join us...
Celebrate Canada 150
Fun, Food and Horses!

Brockville Artists’ Studio Annual Show & Sale



Celebrating Canada’s 150th

Reception
Fri. Nov. 3:
5-9 pm

Sat. Nov. 4 &
Sun. Nov. 5:
10 am - 5 pm

Brockville Memorial Civic Centre

Free Admission • Fully Accessible
Free Parking • Families welcome

27 talented local artists display some of their newest original artwork

Pre-Christmas Sale in the month of October!

Dave's Wood Shop presents wooden chests, toy boxes, doll beds, games, bird feeders and houses, etc.

Over 200 hand-made items.

Call 613-923-5713
or see the items at
424 Old River Road,
Mallorytown.

By chance or appointment.


Athens District Family Health Team

Flu Clinic & Health Fair

Tuesday November 7
9:00 am – 12:00 pm
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Thursday November 30
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Mark the Dates on your calendar now!



If you are unable to attend on these dates simply call (613) 924-2623 and book an appointment to get your Flu shot, once flu vaccine received

Clinic is only for patients of Athens District Family Health Team.

All patients must present their Health Cards