



CANADA DAY IN MEMORIAL PEACE PARK

This year the museum will be joining the free celebration in Memorial Peace Park for July 1st.

There will be a chance to dress up in costumes, play with games, and heritage crafts.

There will also be a touchable artifact booth and exhibit on photography on display under our tents.

There will be instant Polaroid cameras on hand to have your picture taken with as well!

This event will run from 10am – 3pm.



PAINTING PARTY!

Not all of our artifacts can be stored at the museum. Currently, some oversized items are stored in a shipping container that needs to be moved. Before this container move takes place, the city has asked the museum if they would undertake painting the container.

This is where we need your help! We are organizing a “Painting Party” on Saturday, July 4th at 9am. Paint, brushes and other equipment will be supplied; all we need are extra hands to get the job done.

Please contact us at mrmuseum@gmail.com if you are able to assist, or call Allison at 604-463-5311

MUSIC ON THE WHARF

Over-looking the beautiful Fraser River, the “Music on the Wharf” concert series has something for everyone in the family.

It started with a local band offering to play a one-time concert and has become one of the Maple Ridge Historical Society’s most popular annual events.

Please bring your own lawn chair. All concerts are at the Port Haney Wharf and began at 7:30pm (with exception of August 24th which starts at 7pm).

This year’s concert schedule is as follows.

July 13: John Pippus

July 27: Mozayic

August 10: 5 on a String

August 24: Reid Jamieson


PRESS RUN 16,400 SEPTEMBER 7, 1983

The Gazette

32 PAGES
Inserts 28 Pages

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Sunflower grows beserk!



Jennifer Wahoski, 11, holds up the head of "Flora Dora", an enormous sunflower which popped up voluntarily in the driveway of her grandmother, Mrs. Emily Light Martin. The specimen, which could be a world record, measured more than 32 inches across the head, had 26 inch leaves, a 14 inch stem and weighed in at 7,965 grams. Family, neighbours and friends have enjoyed the growth of the beast, with some suggesting it is a 'space plant', while others suggested using it as a sun shade. Mrs. Martin plans to enter her prize in the Guinness Book of World Records, as the previous record measured a paltry 30 inches.

Photo by Al Price

GIANT SUNFLOWER

Did you know that Maple Ridge holds a World Record?

We do, and it is for a giant sunflower that volunteered at the edge of Emily Martin's driveway in 1983. The head measured 82 cm across – the largest ever recorded.

We have been trying to find a photograph for some years with no luck. We knew of the newspaper articles but the copy that was microfilmed in both papers had so much bleed-through of colour from the other side that they were unusable.

Last week we received a collection of papers and memorabilia from an estate and included were perfect copies of both articles.

GETI FEST

September 19, 10am to 2pm

This year we will forgo our second History Goes To Market event in favour of joining the GETI fest celebration. Their theme this year is "Our Heritage" so it seemed a natural for us. There will be more information available nearer to the event.

GETI [Golden Ears Transition Initiative] is a grass-roots volunteer-driven organization working to find local solutions to global problems like peak oil, climate change, environmental degradation, and food security. They work for positive change in our communities and our environment and they agree with us that our history is an important element of our understanding.



VOLUNTEER DAPHNE CLOWES

One of our staunch and long-term volunteers passed away on March 28, 2015. Daphne started volunteering even before Val took the curator job in 1993.

She liked to work behind the scenes and was a valuable asset for her ability to read old hand-writing which mystified the rest of us.

Daphne was also one of the first to join the Gazette Newspaper Index Project and worked away at it for many years. It is still an ongoing project nearly 20 years later.

As her arthritis worsened, she was forced to give up the hours of hand-writing but she went through her life's collections and donated a number of items to the museum including an extensive collection of paper dolls that are wonderful exhibit items.

NEW WEBSITE

Last fall museum staff started the process of re-designing the website to allow the public greater interaction with our collection. Through the help of BC based Unimaxx Networks and Maple Ridge Historical Society member, Andrea Lister, we worked to transfer parts of our old website, into a new modern and more functional template, while adding completely new sections.

Currently the Maple Ridge Museum has 7,000 artifacts, nearly 15,000 photographs and 200 archival collections. The physical spaces of our buildings display less than 5% of our overall collection. Needless to say, there are many objects that do not get to see the light of day.

Our goal with the "Out of the Box Artifacts" page is to tell the story of each individual item highlighted, providing photographs and of an up-close look at the objects.

The shortlist of objects that make up our first list is subjective, based on curator's choices and those (we think) that have some of the best stories. The museum will be adding to this this page, and plans to focus on a few different artifacts each month. Over the summer, to buttress the artifacts page will be an archival equivalent where will we highlight significant documents that speak to the history of Maple Ridge.

Take a moment to view our new website at mapleridgemuseum.org *aw*



THE AGE OF HANEY HOUSE

The city has hired Vancouver architect and building preservation expert Don Luxton to write maintenance plans for Haney House and the brickyard building like the one done a few years ago for the heritage church. Don is a thorough researcher and inspires it in others so our editor, Fred Braches, and museum director Val Patenaude set off on a quest to get "just the facts" about Thomas Haney's purchase of the Wickwire estate and the subsequent construction of his house.

Based on available information, it had been determined that Haney House was built in 1878, two years after Thomas's arrival. However, once we started to dig, contradictory facts kept popping up like mushrooms.

First was a crown grant document regarding the land in question. James Wickwire died in 1872 and the Haney land [Lot 398] was part of his estate. In June of 1879, we have lot 398 consisting of 145 acres bestowed by Crown grant on William Justus Howison and William Clarkson who were executors of the estate. In August of 1879, the lot was sold to Thomas Haney.

What this meant was that Haney house was unlikely to have been built in 1878. However, we next had to deal with the report about Mrs. Haney being a witness to the slide in the memoir of James Sinclair, our first teacher. We pieced together a plausible scenario that included a log cabin that was supposedly built first – either before the Haney's took possession or shortly after – so that Mrs. Haney could witness the slide of 1880 from "her back porch" as reported by Sinclair. Haney house has no back porch and if it ever did have a small one, the river would not have been seen from it.

Finally we found what were looking for in the *British Columbian* of 31 October 1883.

Mr. Thomas Haney, one of the pioneers, has during the past year erected a commodious dwelling house, which adds very materially to the importance of Port Haney. Mr. Haney is engaged in the butcher business and is doing well. Mr. D. Callaghan is also building a house which is now almost ready for occupation.

The family and community legend that Haney house was constructed in 1878 appears to be based on the mistaken impression that it was Ann's father, Dan Callaghan Sr. who helped Thomas build the house but who died in June of 1878.

Instead, it was his son, Dan Jr, along with friend and frequent building partner Sam Edge who helped later. From the 1883 article, it is clear that Dan Callaghan was building himself a house at the same time.



Haney home with dairy/summer kitchen addition at the back ca. 1920.

DEWDNEY-ALOUETTE



Visit the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society's diorama in the museum.

On the last Sunday of every month, members of the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society are present to "talk trains" and operate the Diorama. Model Railroaders are welcome on the Tuesday and Thursday evenings before the last Sunday of the month.

Info: Dick Sutcliffe at 604-467-4301 or E-Mail: ras1@uniserve.com

