

## NEWSLETTER

LOCATED IN BRESAYLOR • SASKATCHEWAN • CANADA

(306) 895-4813 • MAILING - PO Box 33, Paynton, SK, S0M-2J0

2016

OPEN JULY &amp; AUGUST • SUNDAY &amp; WEDNESDAY - FRIDAY • 1-4 pm

&amp; BY REQUEST WHEN POSSIBLE - MAY to OCTOBER

Dear Supporters of Bresaylor Heritage.....

My apologies for this edition of the Newsletter being late. The delay is my fault despite having Maggie Webb at hand as co-editor and helping in so many ways. She laid it out by "cutting and pasting" on computer, unlike what I would have done, the old way with scissors and glue (remember?). Also, she made the quilt tickets, finished up a few other items and tried to hurry me along I swear, but....Well, here we are...

I've never been quite the same since the brainstorming session we had last July 26. There just seemed to be so little momentum for continuing the Museum in any way close to how it has been so far. On the other hand changes are inevitable, and hopefully will mean the best kind of survival of the history going forward. Whether it continues with real artifacts or becomes entirely virtual, if there is to evolve from this present entity a worthy outcome, it must be done with care and dedication, no less than that which transitioned from Joe's Museum to incorporating as the Bresaylor Heritage Museum. Oh, and doing the history book as well. Eventually it must look quite different from what it does now but it also must, respectfully, honour the history. And perhaps play a

small role in a new awareness of real Truth and Reconciliation.

Your many suggestions, listed herein, offer thoughtful ideas of what some changes might be. You are to be commended for taking the time to send them to us. Thank you so much.

Now, as to plans for this season, we will be continuing the long process of going through the Museum Collection, deciding what can go elsewhere, and what must stay. Also, more recording information about artifacts in the collection, and exploring video as display.

Two main events to which everyone is welcome to take part: The ArchaeoCaravan on July 7 with Clay Oven baking and the annual Pot Luck Supper and Quilt raffle, July 24. We look forward to seeing you there.

Finally, we will miss our from-the-beginning Board member, the late Ross Currie. On behalf of the remaining Board of Directors - who are Marie Ferguson, Marion McDougall, Margaret Currie, Helena Caplette, Don Ferguson, Margaret Webb and Vicki Dutton - I am yours, Sincerely, Velma Foster

## 2015 EARLY BIRD HALF-THE-POT DRAW WINNER-JEAN STEWART \$78



With the passing of **Ross Currie** this past January we lost another of our original Museum Board of Directors. Ross has been with us from the beginning, both as a board member and a member of the Bresaylor history book committee. Ross also helped oversee the care of the Bresaylor Cemetery, assisting with location of burial plots. He helped frame and install the marker of names located at the Cemetery entrance.

As many will know Ross was a fine fiddle player and continued to play at various events and at senior facilities with the Valleyview Fiddlers and with the Yellowhead Ramblers; also, at many Bresaylor events. He was joined by his brother Lyle to entertain the 2014 Pot Luck supper goers. Ross was a Councillor and then Reeve of the R.M. of Paynton, and continued to assist on various committees, especially the Fire Board, advising on the care of the firefighting equipment. (Check out a tribute to Ross on Facebook by Ellery Russell, Fire Chief of the Paynton Fire Department). His mechanical and musical skills will be missed, as will his mischievous sense of humour. He was an all round helpful guy at most anything.

H. Ross Currie was laid to rest in the Bresaylor Cemetery in a private family service, alongside his grandparents, Thomas and Annie Currie. Ross is survived by his wife Margaret, and children: Clint, Robin, and Rosemary and their families. *A Celebration of Life Memorial for Ross will be held on June 30 at 7:00 pm in the gym, Paynton, SK. Those attending are invited to join others in a musical evening.*

## POT LUCK SUPPER AND RAFFLES JULY 26, 2015



For the third year in a row, the winner of the quilt "Bright Songs" was present at the draw. This year's winner was Joyce Weston (Maidstone). Consolation prizes: \$20 Gift Certificates went to Jean Ammeter (Headingly, MB) and Marla Ramsay (Saskatoon). \$10 Gift Certificates went to Lois Pike (Waseca) and Shannon Vassberg (Camrose). Ten complementary

tickets were drawn to enter next year's quilt raffle. Tickets went to Nadine Hewko, Ron Hanson, Cheryl Dennis, Glenn Oliver, Robert Clipperton, F. Don Light, Yvonne Cote, Charline Rhinehart, Sonja Margerison, and Ryan Webb.

## THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE RAFFLES

Last season's Word-Search Puzzle created by Margaret Currie was drawn from 10 puzzle solvers. Kay Ness (North Battleford) was the winner. Last year's quote "A bird doesn't sing because it has an answer. It sings because it has a song" was a bit tougher to solve because of a typo—an extra space in "because." My apologies! vf



Charlene picks some winners!

## BRESAYLOR MUSEUM FUTURE ...

Velma Foster

In the last Newsletter (2015) we asked for your comments regarding the future of the Bresaylor Museum, more specifically, the future of the Bresaylor Museum in the hamlet of Bresaylor. This leading up to the Brainstorming session held July 26. Thank you so much to all for your interest and for taking the time to consider this important matter. Here are some of your comments, edited to avoid repetition....

• first, encouraging words from fellow museum folk: **Spirit River & District Museum, Peace River Country** - "Dear People of the Museum, We are another museum who are trying to keep their doors open. Keep up the good work," **George & Evelyn Lewchuk**.

• **Merrill Taylor** (David Taylor descendant) - "I'm not fully aware of many of the issues but would like to be informed or what can I help with?"

• **Lyle and Joan Currie**: "...artifacts (and possibly a building?) should be moved to either Fort Battleford or Cut Knife's museum. Both places were part of Bresaylor's story and Cut Knife has a very active museum committee...."

• **Doreen Williams** (James Bremner descendant) - "I would be saddened to see the closure of the Bresaylor Museum. Having said that, I feel there would be better opportunities for more people to learn about Bresaylor if there was a display at a larger and more accessible museum. The Battleford museum would be my choice."

• **John and Sharon Inkster** - "suggest a building in Paynton or working with the WDM. I have no idea what it would cost or what is involved but moving the building to the Museum Village that they have at that location, or getting a building on that site."

• **Helena Pike**: "...Is the problem financial?..." • **Theresa Weber**: ... "Would more donations help?" • **Lois E. Sayers** - "Is there any way to get a grant from the provincial gov't. and also a Metis assoc.? I greatly appreciate all of the volunteers and think of you all and the hard work that you do!"

• **Naden Hewko** - "It is such an interesting museum. It would be nice to keep it in Bresaylor. But you need the interest and help of people who are able to keep it repaired and provide financial support." "I also am disappointed that the Federal Government's Parks Canada decided NOT to designate the Bresaylor Settlement a National Historic Event. I have read the documents you submitted and they were very well done, excellent information."

• **Shirley Kopp** (Swain/Bremner descendant) - "I'd like to commend all of you who keep the museum going... I was also sorry to hear the decision of Parks Canada. The interactive voyageur & fur trade programming sounded like a great idea of Vinessa's. I can see...moving the museum & house to another bigger centre however I hope that is unnecessary."

• **Margaret Murray** - "Dear Velma...Hope someone will come forward to replace you. The Museum should remain in Bresaylor if possible...Best of luck,"

• **Joanne (Dobie) DiSaverio** - "This is a very important issue for me. I would love to see Bresaylor Museum remain in existence. Bresaylor was the home of my Dad (Douglas Dobie) and his family... I understand the circumstances of this issue...keep the Bresaylor Museum in Bresaylor if possible. If not, since the buildings which hold the artifacts need repair, can these artifacts be housed at a new location, a place that represents the area of Bresaylor, and then have the repairs done to the museum building then turn that building into a historical type building/office idea, or tourist stop... My heart is in that place you call home, I wish I was in a position to come and help and I dream someday I can take in my Dad's home. For now for me that is not possible. I only hope it will still be there in a few years to come. With all my heart, Joanne DiDaverio (Dobie).

• **Grace Woodcock** - "I hope the people...keep the Museum in Bresaylor where it belongs" "Sorry I'm too old (98) and too far away but wish you the best in keeping the museum in Bresaylor where it belongs! Good Luck"

• **Greg Haryett (Sayers)** - "The best option for the museum is to have the Federal Government to have it declared a historical site. However, if this is not an option then I believe it should be moved to Battleford (Fort) and have a monument put up at the present site of the Bresaylor Museum."

• **Vicki Dutton** - If Museum closed: Commemorative house at Fort Battleford for settlers who did not go to the fort for protection. Each room a piece of the history. If Museum closed: a heritage site...Walk through plaque(s) commemorating the story of the area. Interactive maps - signs at original homestead locations. Statue - Poundmaker, for protecting Bresaylor settlers. If Museum Open: Need annual budget, summer curator. Security...Budget with grants, donations, events. Annual fundraising event: Heritage Day inviting schools. Storytelling. Kids events. Round dance/Sundance/Powow - collaborate with Poundmaker. Tail gate sales. Admission. Local heritage tours.

• **Shirley Wishart** - "I regret that Parks Canada said no to designating the Bresaylor Settlement as a National Historic Event. What about National Historic Site designation?"

• **Barbara Greig** - "Please keep me up to date on the difficulties you are experiencing. You are in my prayers! Hugs, Barbara.

• **Others who commented briefly** - Glenys Oliver, Barbara Housen, Art and Mary Ann Jones, Sharron Walker, Azelia Tesolin, Gwen and Richard Zweifel, Katherine Finn, Peter St.John and Barbara Huck, Cathy Dryhorub, Louisa Schermerhorn, Emily Schellhorn, Clara Sulz and others.

### DONATIONS

To the Bresaylor Heritage Museum are tax deductible. A donation of \$10 or more entitles you to become a card-carrying supporter of Bresaylor Heritage and to receive the yearly newsletter!

The 2016 Earlybird-Half the Pot draw will take place July 7. A single \$1 ticket is enclosed with the newsletter. More can be entered at your request.

The theme of the 2016 Summer Quilt is "Fancy Felines" -Created by Marie Ferguson, Irene Larmour, (in photo), Faye Falcon, and Margaret Currie. (Regrets that Faye and Margaret were not there for the photo shoot.) The quilt draw will take place at the

Potluck Supper, July 24 at Bresaylor.

(\*A book of 5 tickets is enclosed and more can be entered at your request!)



### PAYNTON HISTORY BOOK

After three years of hard work, the Paynton History Book Committee is seeing light at the end of the tunnel! Our goal is to get the book to the printer this summer. That means that those of us on the committee need to get our writing finished in the next few months. It also means that our "story gathering" has almost come to an end. If you have anything you would like to contribute (stories, photos, news clippings, etc.), please do so by the end of June. We are very grateful to anyone who has helped in any way! The exact cost of the book is not yet known, but if you would like to pre-order, send a \$20 deposit per book or CD to: Box 330, Paynton, SK S0M 2J0. Send any submissions for the book to the same address or email to [payntonhistorybook@outlook.com](mailto:payntonhistorybook@outlook.com)

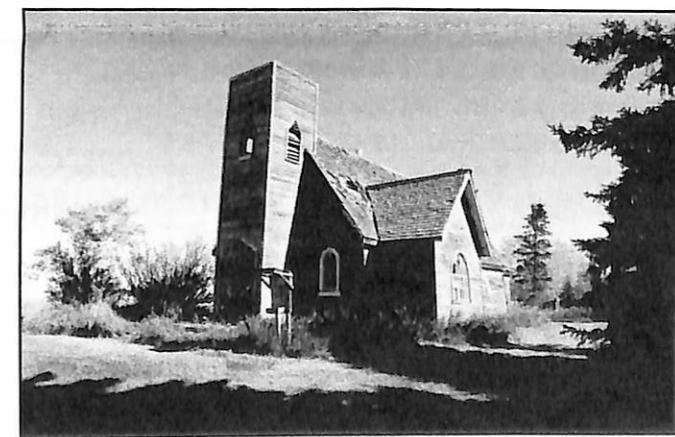
**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**2017 AUGUST LONG WEEKEND: Paynton History Book Launch!**



More information to follow at a later date. Get updates on Facebook, search ("Paynton History Book" page) **Or** go to the following website: [www.paytonsk.com](http://www.paytonsk.com)



With the Brainstorming session over, everyone gathers for the pot luck supper. Note St. Anne's church in the background.



St. Anne's Church, Bresaylor, SK

### The Cleophas Sayers Query

[A visit from Reg & Kay Wearley of Big Arm, Montana, USA]

Last year we received our first visit from Reg and Kay Wearley. Reg was looking for information about his great Grandfather, Cleophas Sayers, who had fled Canada after the Riel Rebellion. That visit was cut short by an emergency at home. Kay's brother was dying.

Now, just recently, the Wearleys returned, and Reg had the same query: Why did Cleophas Sayers have to flee Canada in 1885? His older brother Henry did not?

Cleophas and Marie (Caplette) Sayers were part of the original Bresaylor Settlement. Their homestead was close to Bill and Helena Caplette's farm. Once again the Wearleys parked their motorhome in the Caplette yard, and Bill and Helena helped Reg carry out his research. That included a meeting with Don Light at Battleford and a visit to the Bresaylor Museum. When the Wearleys left for home, Reg seemed satisfied that he had found out as much of an explanation about his query as is possible at this time. He will write it up and send it to us - to be included in our next newsletter. And it will be included in Bresaylor history. That was his concern, that the full story or Cleophas Sayers be part of Bresaylor history. Can any story be more so?

## MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

-BRESAYLOR MUSEUM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: June 7, Museum Office, 8:00 pm

-Manitou Pioneers Museum "Chase the Ace" fundraiser, Every Wednesday at noon at Neilburg Community Hall. Lunch available for a nominal fee. Ticket sales from 11:00 am -12:30 pm. For more information contact Bob Walde 306-808-1839 or Dale Herbert (306) 983-4096.

## BOOK BOOKS BOOKS!

### BRESAYLOR BETWEEN The Battle and the North Saskatchewan Rivers

\*Our history book is available in book form (\$65) or CD (\$20)

\*Enquire about more books and other Gift Shop items.

New from Heartland Associates of Winnipeg  
**Exploring the Fur Trade Routes of North America**  
 The Third Edition  
 by Barbara Huck et al  
 Also, into its 2nd Edition: "In Search of Ancient Alberta" and many more - Check them out! [heartlandbooks.ca](http://heartlandbooks.ca)

**PIONEER FARE**

T	G	S	T	E	E	D	N	I	K	P	M	U	P
H	S	I	F	P	O	T	A	T	O	E	S	R	T
S	E	S	S	A	L	O	M	T	I	E	A	S	U
R	G	E	S	E	L	K	G	I	P	I	T	N	A
E	A	N	O	S	I	N	E	V	R	S	S	O	R
K	B	D	S	G	G	E	I	I	K	T	R	O	K
A	B	I	T	N	D	W	E	B	C	O	E	T	R
C	A	T	E	E	A	C	Y	R	O	R	T	A	E
T	C	F	U	R	H	E	D	A	N	R	T	K	U
I	G	A	S	I	B	A	H	B	N	A	U	S	A
U	O	W	C	D	O	R	U	L	A	C	B	A	S
R	F	K	R	N	E	A	O	H	B	E	E	S	M
F	E	T	I	B	B	A	R	R	D	D	R	T	A
N	G	N	I	D	D	U	P	M	U	L	P	H	J

FISH, MOLASSES, JAM, VENISON, PUMPKIN, PRAIRIE CHICKEN, BEETS, POTATOES, SAUERKRAUT, SUET, FRUITCAKE, PLUM PUDDING, SASKATOONS, CABBAGE, PICKLES, BUTTER, CARROTS, BANNOCK, RHUBARB, EGGS, RABBIT

Here is another word seek challenge from Margaret Currie. The names appear in the puzzle horizontally, vertically, diagonally, backward, forward. Circle the letters as you find each name. Then all of the leftover letters are needed to complete the quote. Vowels are given, and 2 consonants are given, with spaces for missing letters. Good luck!

" — E Y — E — , — A I — E — , F O — A — E — ,  
 B A — E — E — , A — O — E — — I —  
 — I — O U — . NOT THE 100 MILE DIET BUT THE HOME  
 QUARTER DIET."      Amy Jo Ehman: "Out of Old Saskatchewan Kitchens"

### The BRAINSTORMING SESSION, July 26, 2015

written by...Velma Foster

**PARTICIPANTS:** MAGGIE WEBB, DOROTHY SCHWARTZ, MAI HINDE, CHARLENE DOBIE, BILL DOBIE, SUSAN SCHACTER, NADINE PAROHL, HELENA CAPLETTE, BILL CAPLETTE, DON FERGUSON, ROSS CURRIE, MARIE FERGUSON, MARGARET CURRIE, MARION McDougall, DOREEN SAYERS, JANET (Sayers) LOVESTONE, JANET'S DAUGHTER CHERI, CANON STONEHOUSE, and VELMA FOSTER.

I chaired the meeting, and started by giving reasons why the Museum should remain in Bresaylor, i.e. the importance of place:

- 1) Bresaylor, the hamlet, lies at the centre of the area covered by the original Bresaylor Settlement, whose area extended from what became Delmas to approximately what became Paynton, and from the North Saskatchewan River to the Battle River.
- 2) Bresaylor, the hamlet, named after the original settlement, came into being as a whistle-stop after the coming of the railway (1905-6); representing the new wave of settlers who arrived after the turn of the century.
- 3) Joe Sayers Jr. started his museum in Bresaylor, and that's where the museum continues as the Bresaylor Heritage Museum Association Inc. The museum buildings (and the church) are as old as the hamlet.

#### ROUND THE TABLE:

- Newsletter response forms were circulated and read. Included were suggestions listed by Vicki Dutton who could not attend the meeting.
- Then, round the table for comments, here summarized from memory:
  - 1) MAGGIE WEBB - need to go virtual, importance of recording information about artifacts.
  - 2) DOROTHY SCHWARTZ (from the Maidstone Museum) - hope Museum can remain, Maidstone interested in some items which came to Bresaylor before Maidstone museum opened.
  - 3) MAI HINDE (Maidstone Museum) - reiterated Dorothy's comments.
  - 4) CHARLENE DOBIE - University history departments have young potential employees.
  - 5) BILL DOBIE - better signage. Feasibility study of buildings needed.
  - 6) SUSAN SCHACTER - First discovered museum last summer. Interested in museum remaining here. Likes virtual, facebook et al.
  - 7) NADINE PAROHL - Virtual museum idea important, museum remains here if possible. Truth & Reconciliation issues important now.
  - 8) HELENA CAPLETTE - undecided.
  - 9) BILL CAPLETTE - Keep Special day and Pot Luck supper.
  - 10) DON FERGUSON - buildings unsafe.
  - 11) ROSS CURRIE - no interested younger people to help keep museum;
  - 12) MARIE FERGUSON - not realistic to maintain.....
  - 13) MARGARET CURRIE - difficulty attracting

curator. Questionable feasibility.

- 14) MARION McDougall - uncertain?
- 15) DOREEN SAYERS (Joe Sayers daughter-in-law) likes virtual museum idea. Place important - Hopes it can stay here.
- 16) JANET (Sayers) LOVESTONE (Joe Sayers Jr. granddaughter) - interest in Metis history - likes keeping museum here,



Doreen Sayers, Janet (Sayers) Lovestone, & Ron Falcon

17) JANET'S DAUGHTER (CHERI) - in Native studies, interested in family Metis connections. Young family present with her.

18) CANON STONEHOUSE - recent first visit to Museum; Canon English homesteaded here, started as minister here; church is special - architect designed, not typical Rev. Lloyd \$200. church packages.

• It should be noted that the meeting did not get started on time, so there was little room left for follow-up discussion.

People were arriving for the supper. In any case, time is needed to consider the points raised in the discussion, and, nothing can be decided quickly.

#### • GOING ON FROM HERE

*So far, since last July -*

Well, we haven't moved much closer to answering the big questions: What will the collection consist of? What building will house the museum? Will we have a museum building? Or something to mark the spot? Or...

1] Of first importance this year is editing our collection. This is a job that must be done regardless of our future plans. We will keep only the most relevant items, and give them our full attention in future plans.

2] We will continue to photograph and record information about artifacts.

3] We are planning to work with Ellery Russell when we can coordinate our times (she's a very busy person). Ellery will do special photo recording of museum artifacts. Also, some subject themes, perhaps video displays and subjects.

4] Two main activities are planned for this season.

\*The SK Archaeological Society's traveling ArchaeoCaravan will be here on **Thursday, July 7**, for a day of activities. Families welcome! For more information about the caravan, go to <http://www.saskarchsoc.ca/tag/archaeocaravan/> That afternoon, *Mariann Taubensee* will take charge of the Clay Oven. (Watch for posters.)

\*\*The annual Pot Luck Supper and Quilt raffle, **July 24**.

• [We have talented people close by who we hope to engage part time to help us realize the museum we hope for, and/or the virtual museum we hope to explore. Ellery Russell (photographer, sculptor, Fire Chief et al) and Mariann Taubensee (painter, sculptor,

*Jill-of-all trades et al) both make their homes in Paynton. In addition to being productive artists, they are full community participants. They have always supported activities at Bresaylor, and now we hope they can continue to spare us some of their creative energy to help in our transition to wherever we are going. Check out some of their creations on the web.]*



Ross and Mariann  
in conversation

### OTHER WORDS, NEWS, LETTERS, VISITS.....

We are fortunate to have so many supporters send their suggestions about the museum's future. As usual we also received words of a more general nature, and include some of them here...

There were many expressions of sadness regarding the lost of **Vinessa Currie-Foster**. It seems the twin boys, **Jack and Ben**, and baby **Anastasia** are being well cared for by their father **Les Foster**, and family members and friends. • Others of our supporters suffered their own losses this past year. The family of **Naden Hewko**, of Macklin, lost their eldest daughter, **Shirley**, in September. Our thoughts are with the families of this tragedy.

• **Joan Currie**'s aunt **Marguerite Geddes** passed away in her 102nd year in April, a life to celebrate; someone whom it would have been nice to have chatted with. • **Mildred (Taylor) Roberts** wrote about old Bresaylor connections brought to mind by mention in past newsletters, e.g: her cousin, Merrill Taylor. Mildred's email address is <me.roberts@rogers.com> and she welcomes hearing from anyone who wants to get in touch with her. • **Mel Sundin**, descendant of one of the Taylor (Herbert) families of the original Bresaylor Settlement, who left for the U.S. in the 1890s, still keeps in touch with us. He writes, "I'm still, on occasion, trying to track **Taylors, McDonalds, Fergusons, Browns, Inksters, Spences** and others." If interested in or connected to any of these families, Mel welcomes your contacting him to compare and/or exchange information. His address is 6728 Richardson Circle, Fairview, PA, 16415-1661, U.S.A.; his phone number is (814) 474-3566; his email <suncom321@gmail.com>. • **Shirley Wishart** attended the Centre for Rupert's Land Studies Colloquium, held in Edmonton in May, 2014, acknowledging the 200th anniversary of Fort Edmonton. Her brother, Vern, (whose books, "What Lies Behind the Picture?" and "Kisiskatchewan: Tracing My Grandmother's Foot Steps" were mentioned in earlier newsletters) gave the keynote address, "Fort, Flett and Family: A Journey into our Family Roots at Fort Edmonton, by Vernon R. Wishart and Shirley A Wishart." You can google the title and get the document. • **Grace Woodcock**, at 98, writes, "I'm doing o.k., a lot of knitting and crochet. A lot of people need help. I

taught one lady watercolor. She's 96, so on the back of one painting she put "Painted by 96 taught by 98". • **Noreen Bullerwell** of Cut Knife turns 95 this June. She lives in her own home. After visiting **Lucille Bullerwell** at the CutKnife Museum archive, we went for tea with Noreen and **Bonnie Ramsay**, Lucille's mother-in-law and sister-in-law, both I've known for a long time, and it was nice to visit with them again.

• **Lois Sayers** always writes an appreciative letter for the work of the museum board. Her letter of this past season touched on the subject of **RECONCILIATION**. Here she puts forward some very poignant thoughts: Recalling that the sisters of her husband, the late **Bert Sayers**, "enjoyed trips to the Thunderchild Residential School which was on the road to Battleford... The Sisters were kind to them".... "This memory came to mind when I was watching the news report on Reconciliation - it is not only the children that were in the Residential Schools that suffered (and they did, beyond our imagination). So also did all of the Native and Metis families. Bert brought himself above all of that - was a successful business man, had a beautiful home and family. He built five homes during our married life. This shows me that we don't have to play the hand that life deals us. Get a new deck and move on."

So do we all need to move on to *Truth & Reconciliation*.

We appreciate our volunteers! Here are ways you can be involved in your community museum:  
 -assist with grounds maintenance- mowing, trimming, planting, weeding  
 -painting  
 -building maintenance  
 -attending museum events



### OBITUARIES

•  
**James Robert Gregg**  
OBITUARIES

June 20, 1951 - October 2, 2015

•  
**Hugh Alvin Desmarais**  
 d. November 21, 2015 @ 76 yrs.

•  
**Harry Ross Currie**  
 November 27, 1936 - January 21, 2016

•  
**Mary Ann Frieda (Brian) Sayers**  
 d. April 4, 2016 @ 70 yrs.

•  
**Ruth (Young) Woodworth**  
 d. April 10, 2016 @ 95 yrs.