

What's Happening

A Message to Our Donors & Partners

A significant part of our work at the Brant Historical Society is to create memorable experiences for our members, donors and community that deepen their understanding of the important work we do. Our three museums are uniquely positioned to make a difference in the lives of Brantford, Brant County, Six Nations and New Credit, with our collection and programs that illustrate this area's varied history, and protects it for future generations.

With your generous and on-going support, we are able to continue our vital vision to be the destination for the history and heritage of our community. The BHS is looking to the future and the long-term sustainability of the museums. Support from individuals, corporations and various levels of government will continue to play a major role in ensuring the museum's ongoing success and significance.

With the support of our community, we will continue to collect, preserve, and share our valuable history!

Events

September 16 "Brant's Ford Heritage Walk"

At noon we will be having our Brant's Ford Walking Tour. Learn about the earliest development of this area prior to 1812 as a primer to all the happenings during the War of 1812 period, which is the theme of the Doors Open Brant Event on Saturday September 22. The tour will begin at Brant's Crossing Park (behind Casino Brantford, 40 Icomm Drive, Brantford) and will last approximately 60 – 75 minutes. Parking is available at the parkade. Admission is by donation. Pre-registration is requested. Please call 519-752-2483 or email information@brantmuseums.ca to register.



peoples from Six Nations and other native nations. He will also look at the impact of the 3 years the 1812 war had on the area. The event will start at 7:30pm at the Brant Museum and Archives. Admission is by donation to this event.

September 19 - "Settlement of the Grand River Valley in 1811 and the impact of the War of 1812" will be our speaker series event. At a new time for this month and this month only, Speaker Rick Hill of the Six Nations Legacy Consortium, will be coming in to discuss the settlement of the Grand River Valley in this area, which was largely native



September 22 - Doors Open

Brant will be holding their yearly event. Join us as well take a look at various locations, such as the Brant Museum and Archives, Burford Pioneer Cemetery and Walking Tour, Canadian Military Heritage Museum, Chiefswood National

Historical Site, D'Aubigny Creek Park, Mohawk Chapel, Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Six Nations Genealogy and Heritage Trail at the Tourism Centre, Six Nations Haldimand Proclamation Memorial and Battle of Malcom's Mills re-enactment by Norfolk Militia in Lions Park. The sites will be open from 10am to 4pm. Admission is by donation.

October 5 - Ghosts and Goblins

Get ready for a spooky time at Myrtleville House. Create a bat, a mummy, and a witch craft. Enjoy pumpkin cookies and learn all about goblins! For children ages 4 – 11.

Pre-registration is required. The cost is \$30 per child with extended hours available. For more information please **contact Lisa** at 519-752-3216 or by email at lisa.anderson@brantmuseums.ca



October 13 - Harvest Fest at Myrtleville House Help us celebrate Myrtleville's demisemiseptcentennial (175) by taking part in a family day event. There will be crafts, demonstrations and lots of harvest themed activities. There might even be a ghost or two. The event will start at 1pm to 4pm with activities scheduled throughout the day at Myrtleville House Museum, 34 Myrtleville Drive. Admission is by donation to this event.

October 18 - "War of 1812: Highlighting Native Nations"

Book presentation and signing by Zig Misiak. The event will start at 1:30pm at the Brant Museum and Archives. Admission is by donation to this event.

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October 26 - Ghostly Walk. This will be a timed event from 7-8:30pm. More details to come, watch the Events page on our website at www.brantmuseums.ca

November 15 - "Brantford's 54th Field Artillery Battery, 100 Years of Service to Canada" will be this month's speaker series presented by Hon Col Ed Pancoe. Learn about the history of this local Regiment and remember soldiers long past. The event will start at 1:30pm at the Brant Museum and Archives. Admission is by donation to this event.



November 16 - Vikings. Come discover Vikings at the Myrtleville Museum. Learn Viking language, create a Viking artifact, and a Viking boat. Beware of Beowulf. For children ages 4 – 11. Pre-registration is required. The cost is \$30 per child with extended hours available. For more information please **contact Lisa** at 519-752-3216 or by email at lisa.anderson@brantmuseums.ca

Volunteers Needed

The Brant Historical Society has many interesting volunteer opportunities available. Presently we are looking for people interested in **helping collect and transcribe oral histories** currently being collected. For more information on interview volunteer or transcribing volunteer opportunities please **contact Kerry Fast** at kerry.fast@brantmuseums.ca. We are also looking for volunteers to **help with special events and school programming**. Training is available for all positions.

If you are interested please call us at 519-752-2483 or email us at information@brantmuseums.ca

Do you have a story, memory, or historical document that you want to share? We want to hear from you! Fill out the form at our website www.brantmuseums.ca to share your story with us, and become an integral player in preserving the history and heritage of Brantford and Brant County, because your history matters!

Happy 175th Anniversary Myrtleville House!

On November 22, 1836 Allen Good and his family; wife Eliza, daughter Anne, and sons John and Charles, left Cork, Ireland for Canada. They first moved to Montreal but by 1837 they decided to relocate to Brantford, where Allen had purchased 108 acres of land. His family, now including a new daughter, Charlotte, made the difficult journey to Upper Canada. Allen began drawing up contracts for their new family home which detailed a two-story, nine room house with seven fireplaces and no cellar. Myrtleville house was designed after a home in Ireland with the same name. It had been owned by a Thomas Daunt, a partner to Eliza Good's Father, Mr. Carroll. The original house got its name from the green myrtle shrubs which grew all around it. As a child Eliza spent many holidays at this house and no doubt wanted to bring a little piece of Ireland to her new home in Brantford. The Canadian Myrtleville house was given the same name and built in the same Georgian style with stucco siding, which was well out of fashion by this point.

The property was passed down through the generations and in 1903 it was handed down to William Good, the grandson of Allen. In 1913 William began construction of the second house on the property, next door to the original homestead. This house was equipped with all the modern conveniences of the time; including a coal furnace; stationary washtubs, bathroom upstairs, hot and cold water in the kitchen, laundry, and bath. The first house stayed in use as the summer home for family visitors and farm hands. When William took over operations of the farm he started to make improvements such as the addition of an orchard. In 1921 William was elected to Parliament for four years. In 1925 he retired from politics and returned to Myrtleville. He was ready to go back to the family legacy of farming. However, he maintained his position as President of the Cooperative Union of Canada which he started in 1921, as well as being on the Board of United Farmer's Cooperative of Ontario. William purchased and built up a herd of purebred Holstein-Friesians and began what was to become to be a dairy farm.

Many of the artifacts in the museum have found their way back to Myrtleville from previous family members. Original pieces from Eliza Good such as the big four poster bed in the master bedroom, her Collard piano now located in the parlour, and the dollhouse they gave to their daughter Anne still remains in the house. Likewise, William Good's handmade camera still remains in the library along with shelves and shelves of books that the Good family enjoyed.

Once upon a time Myrtleville was a place of learning and gathering for the Good family; now Myrtleville has come to encompass a broader family; that of Brant County. It is a place of family and community, a place of gathering for everyone.

Visit "175 Years of Myrtleville: A Story of Family, Community and Nation" on display now at Myrtleville House Museum until November 2012.