Heritage Colchester

A non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the historical past of Colchester Centre
http://www.heritagecolchester.ca Facebook: Heritage Colchester 195 Bagot St., Colchester, ON

Walking Tours of the Schoolhouse and Area Begin!

By Randy Cyr

Thanks to the concerted efforts of H. C. "Jane's Walk" committee (Anne Beneteau, Sandra McKee, and Anne Marontate), a historic tour was generated. The Spring 2023 Essex County and Windsor "Jane's Walk" included the Schoolhouse and the Christ Church, Anglican property- some of the most historic surroundings in our community.

Despite the early start time and rain, the interest was remarkable. Vintage photos of the Colchester Reef lighthouse, a survey dating to the 1700's of "the oldest planned community in Upper Canada west of Niagara", the ruins of the original Christ Church and the early community all reflected a glimpse of a past, gone and not forgotten. The highlight of course being the schoolhouse!



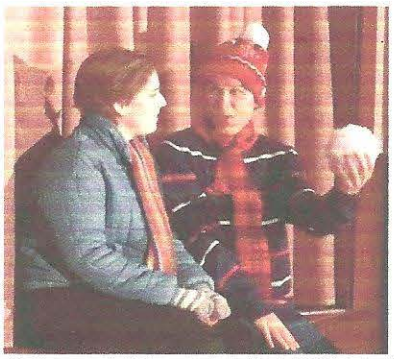


Sandra McKee tells of the Chapel during "Jane's Walk"

The tour was so well received that it was decided to offer it again at the monthly Country Markets. Summer attendance and interest have proven the idea to be a great one!

In late September a local chapter of Ontario Questers requested a group tour. It was well attended by these like-minded individuals, HEIRS, local media and Reverend Elise Chambers, rector of Christ Church. All proof positive that we have a great story to share and an even greater cause to pursue.

A more complete tour narrative (as written more fully by author, Randy Cyr) and pictures of the April Jane's Walk in Historic Colchester can be found on the Huron Church News website on page 5 of the October edition.



"Inspired Acting Lab" actors perform

U of Windsor Theatre Troupe Performs "Almost Maine"

-in cooperation with Heritage Colchester and Christ Church

By: Anne Beneteau

In July, eight performances of "Almost, Maine", by John Cariani, were held at Christ Church, Anglican, in Colchester. Five University of Windsor actors, part of The Inspired Acting Lab under the direction of Associate Professor Lionel Walsh, participated in this year's live theatre performances.

Following the performances there was a time of "talk back" which allowed the audience to ask questions, get to know the actors better, and enjoy ice cream!

Everyone felt it was a huge success!

Carol Quick and Cindy McPhedran took on the bulk of the responsibility for organizing the fabulous event. They coordinated the church, university and Heritage Colchester, prepared the program, contacted advertisors, took ticket sales, and organized volunteers.

Along with box office sales, the program also raised money through advertising sponsors. After all expenses, the theatre productions raised nearly $3700 to go toward Colchester Schoolhouse restoration efforts.

Thank you so much Carol and Cindy, along with your committee, for your commitment to the project and a job well done!



Cindy McPhedran and Carol Quick greet the audience and hand out programs

Upcoming Events:

December:

9 & 10- 2:00

Live Theatre, "Christmas in the Country"

H.C., in cooperation with the Uof W and Christ Church

***See back page for details**