Spring/Summer 2025

Heritage Colchester

A non-profit organization dedicated to perserving the historical past of Colchester Centre
http://heritagecolchester.org **Heritage Colchester** **195 Bagot St., Colchester, Ontario**

SWIFT Count at the Schoolhouse!

The Count down is **ON**. Join us for a fun filled evening to count the Swifts - bring a lawnchair, paper, pen, camera - **EVERYONE WELCOME!!**

Tour the Schoolhouse before the count 8:00-8:30pm



May 21
May 25
May 29
May 30
June 2nd

UPCOMING EVENTS

- CHIMNEY SWIFT COUNT - MAY 21, 25, 29, 30 & JUNE 2
- COLCHESTER VILLAGE COUNTRY MARKETS - JUNE 21 JULY 19 AUGUST 16 SEPTEMBER 20
- SUMMER THEATRE - SALT WATER MOON JULY 3 - 6 JULY 10 - 13

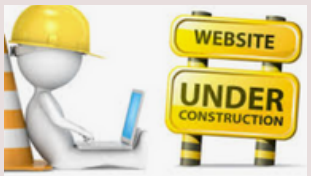
FURTHER DETAILS IN NEWSLETTER

Schoolhouse Building Update

Executive members met with members of the Town of Essex in April to discuss collaborative next steps for preserving and restoring our Schoolhouse.
Two main goals (with sub-goals) were set, one being immediate and the other in the future:

1. Immediate Preservation/Stabilizing of the Schoolhouse (a historical site):
   - A date in May will be set for a Joint Site Inspection.
   - A list will be published of priorities with estimated costs to stabilize the Schoolhouse building
   - Heritage Colchester will seek financial support to put towards stabilization
   - Heritage Colchester will mobilize area Councillors to advocate on our behalf

2. Future Restoration of the Schoolhouse:
   - Heritage Colchester will seek an estimate from Engineer and Architect to begin work toward PHASE 2 drawings of our future restored Schoolhouse
   - Heritage Colchester will begin seeking grants to cover the cost of restoration drawings



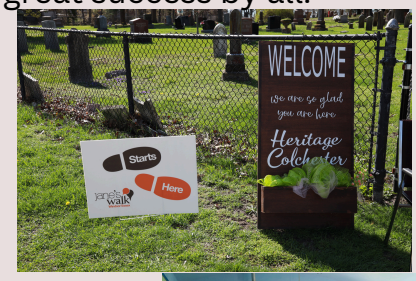
PLEASE NOTE:
OUR WEBSITE IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

STAY TUNED

3rd Annual Jane's Walk

Citizen-led Conversations

It was a sold out crowd at this year's Jane's Walk festival. This year, attendees needed to register on-line for our historic and interactive walk. Making returning appearances were Reverend Pollard, the Lighthouse keepers wife, Mrs. John Knapp and Mr. James Bell, School Superintendent and Inspector. The tour was led by Miss Mildred Fotheringham, teacher for Class of 1928. Sandra McKee provided historic facts at our stops at the Lighthouse, with the spirit of Mrs. Knapp and throughout the cemetary, Christ Church & Rectory. Everyone enjoyed meeting Rev. Pollard at the Chapel. The final lesson was given in the schoolhouse by Miss Fotheringham with special guest appearance of Mr. James Bell, who provided the school inspection. Class was dismissed with the ringing of the school bell. A great success by all.










Summer Markets Coming Soon!!!!!!!!!!!



Historic Walking Tours & Schoolhouse tours will take place throughout each of the markets. Times to be determined.

New vendors always welcome

Contact Susan for vendor information

colchestermarkets@gmail.com



Heritage Colchester recipients of the 2025 Town of Essex Community Heritage Preservation Award in recognition of our individual efforts to preserve and promote the cultural heritage of the Town.

Summer Theatre You Won't Want to Miss!

Salt-Water Moon by David French

For the fourth year, Heritage Colchester has partnered with the University of Windsor. This collaboration brings *Salt-Water Moon*, written by David French, to life through the Inspired Acting Lab, directed by Associate Professor Lionel Walsh. The play explores themes of love, loss and reconciliation in a small Newfoundland community. The Globe & Mail describes *Salt-Water Moon* as "a gem of a play, an old-fashioned love song that is affecting, funny, and evocative as a dream."



When: **July 3,4,5 7:00pm**
July 6 2:00pm
July 10,11,12 7:00pm
July 13 2:00pm

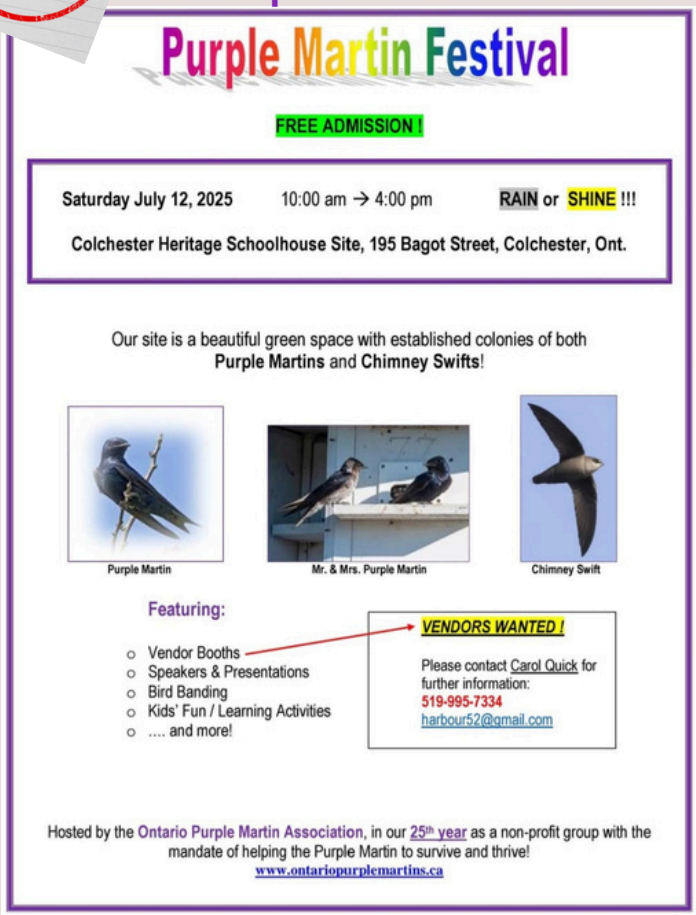
Where: **Christ Church**
190 Bagot Street
Colchester

Tickets: **$35.00 Adult**
$30.00 Seniors & Students

For tickets and information please contact
events.heritagecolchester@gmail.com
or 519-790-9022

SAVE THE DATE

Join our Friends!
Saturday, July 12, 2025
10am-4pm At The Schoolhouse



Andrew Fanta, Heritage Colchester Director, submits article to Harrow News profiling Elise Harding-Davis, African Canadian Heritage Consultant during Black History Month. Elise shared some of her experiences and family history. She directly assisted with establishing seven Black History Museums. Her tireless efforts and commitment make her an invaluable member of our community.

STAYCATION EXPO 2025 AT DEVONSHIRE MALL



Heritage Colchester participated in the Tourism Windsor Essex Pelee Island (TWEPI) Staycation Expo at Devonshire Mall on April 24 and 25th. With 60+ vendors to promote local attractions, events and businesses in Windsor Essex! Always a great time to promote our upcoming events and spread the word about our beautiful Schoolhouse and local historic area!