

Birthday party — Ball's Mill owner Paul Rapati looks forward to celebrating the mill's 150th birthday tomorrow.

Photo by Mike Hamilton

## Happy 150th for Ball's Mill

By Mike Hamilton

In a summer filled with anniversaries and celebrations, here's another — Baltimore's Ball's Mill will celebrate it's 150th birthday tommorow.

Located on Harwood Road just west of Highway 45, the mill will be open from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. with the official ceremony taking place at 1 p.m. — rain or shine.

Mill owner Paul Rapati is calling it Open Mill Day.

"It's going to be an informal celebration," says Rapati. "People will be able to walk through the mill on their own or I'll be happy to show them around."

Antique cars, bagpipes, refreshments and a surprise birthday cake will make up a few of the festivities planned. "I don't want to ruin the surprise but wait until you see this cake," says Rapati. "It's going to be great."

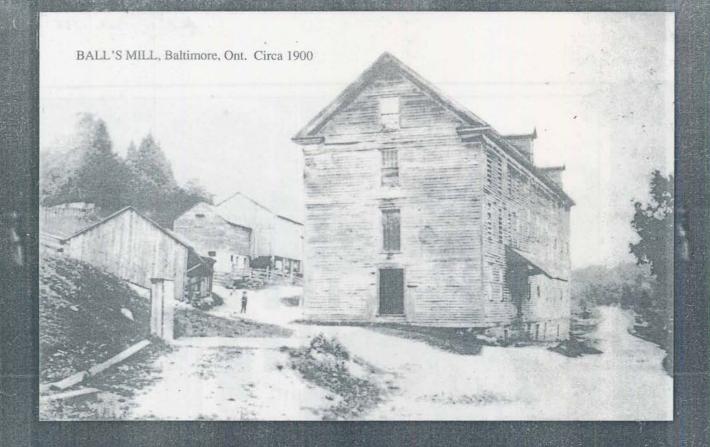
Rapati has invited Jack Ball, grandson of the late John Ball, one of the flour mill's original owners; Northumberland MP Christine Stewart; MPP Joan Fawcett and county warden Joan Chalovich.

Anyone named McDougall, after the Mill's first owner William G. McDougall is also welcome. "I'll be wearing an authentic McDougall tie, and I hope anyone named McDougall will come," Rapati says.

Rapati is hoping someone from the Alderville Reserve will attend the celebrations to bless the mill. "I think it's really important to have a blessing," says Rapati. "At one time this mill was probably an intrusion to the natives living here. To me, having the building blessed will mean a sort of acceptance from the native community. I've sent them an invitation. I really hope they come."

Parking will be available along Harwood Road and in nearby parking areas and local Scouts will be on hand to direct traffic. Washroom facilities will also be available.

To get to Ball's Mill, drive north on Highway 45 into the town of Baltimore and turn west on Harwood Road. The Mill is located 100 metres down the road.



## HAMILTON TOWNSHIP

## HISTORIC BALL'S MILL 1842

The center part of the mill was first built as a carding and saw mill by Lambert Stevens. Additions were made by William G. McDougall in 1846, and this water powered mill was turned into a merchant flour mill.

It was operated as a flour and saw Mill by three generations of the Ball family: John from 1884 to 1913; his son, Fred from 1913 to 1941; and grandson Jack, from 1941 to 1971.

NOTE:

A photo copy of the picture from a calendar given out at Ball's Mill (circa 1920) to Frank Macklin appears in Volume 8, Page

At the bottom of the picture is printed:

BALL'S PASERY FLOUR

BRINGS JOY ON BAKING DAY

The Title of the picture is:
" THE PIES THAT MOTHER MADE"