



CECILIA NASMITH Northumberland Today

From left, Barnum House Museum summer staffers Reid McDonald, Katie Litt and Phillip Holland are ready for tours and a varied program of special activities this summer — including the Sunday-afternoon teas when they will put the familiar teapot sign at the Grafton museum's roadside.

NORTHUMBERLAND TODAY
Barnum House is a trip back in time
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CECILIA NASMITH
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GRAFTON — A trip back in time to see how well-to-do early 19th-century entrepreneur lived is yours this summer at Barnum House Museum. Summer staffers Katie Litt, Phillip Holland and Reid McDonald stand ready to guide you through the Grafton mansion, from the downstairs music room to the upstairs ballroom, with all the wonder of the house's furnishings to intrigue and delight and the story of builder Eliakim Barnum provided during the tour. That in itself is quite a tale. The proceeds from his successful distillery, grist mill and tavern allowed him, in 1819, to build the grand home that is now owned and operated by the Ontario Heritage Trust as one of Ontario's finest examples of neoclassical architecture. Litt, Holland and McDonald also are looking forward to the summer programming, such as the Sunday Loyalist Tea Parties

— a reference to Barnum's American antecedents — that run from 1 to 4 p.m. Tea will be served in the garden, weather permitting, and Holland promises such goodies as scones and cucumber sandwiches made fresh. The \$5 per person includes a museum tour. Litt provided a list of summer events for all ages.

- Kids' Days, July 24 and Aug. 14 from 1 to 4 p.m., offer a slate of heritage fun-in-the-sum activities, such as an archaeological game, artifact identification, potato-sack racing, butter making, quill writing, gingerbread decorating and old-fashioned dress-up and photography. Registration is \$7 per child, free for adults.
- Mark Stacey instructs a lesson in ballroom dancing July 31, with two sessions: 12:30 to 2 p.m. and 2:30 to 4 p.m. Stacey will focus on the waltz, which originated in Barnum's time, and beverages will be provided. Space is limited, and registration is \$10 per couple.
- Lathes and Old Lace on

Aug. 7 from 1 to 4 p.m. has skilled craftsman Murray Lincoln demonstrating old-fashioned bobbin lace making and wood-working lathes. He will also give a brief lecture about the significance of these crafts in the 19th century. Registration is \$7 per person. While the teas are offered on a drop-in basis, McDonald said, pre-registrations are requested for the other programming. Like the teas, however, admission includes a museum tour (in the case of the ballroom-dancing tutorial, guests are asked to arrive 15 to 20 minutes early for this purpose). The museum is also open Wednesdays to Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. until Sept. 5 for visits and tours. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children up to age 16 (free for children under the age of four). To register for any activity, or for further information, call 905-349-2656. cnasmith@northumberlandtoday.com

ELECTION 2010: Deputy mayor eyes mayoralty

McDonald wants to replace Finley

VALERIE MACDONALD
 Northumberland Today

ALNWICK/HALDIMAND — After serving Alnwick / Haldimand Township for 19 years as a councillor and deputy mayor, Dalton McDonald has filed papers to run for mayor in the Oct. 25 municipal election. McDonald says he hadn't expected to do so until long-time Mayor Bill Finley announced he was leaving municipal politics. "I never had any aspirations to be mayor..." he says. "I thought I'd be giving up before him."



VALERIE MACDONALD
 Northumberland Today

Dalton McDonald wants to move up to mayor of Alnwick / Haldimand after 19 years on council.

While he and Finley didn't agree on everything, a compromise could always be reached around the council table, McDonald says. Like Finley, McDonald agrees that there is too much government imposed on municipalities from upper tiers. Places to Grow legislation on top of the Oak Ridges Moraine Act has limited growth on almost 60% of the township's land area. Without an increasing in taxation due to growth, "who is going to help us with our financial responsibilities?" McDonald asks. "Growth is how you survive." The township's natural features include water (Water Source Protection Act) and land bases that the provincial government is protecting for all Ontarians but not helping municipalities like his to "shoulder" the costs of meeting these new legislative requirements. "I don't know what they expect us to do," McDonald says. He also notes that while the county council in Northumberland is responsible for the betterment of all member municipalities, the rural-based municipalities are not getting proper attention and

but McDonald, who is located near a potential site, says he "personally doesn't have a problem" with them. As a former member on the doctor recruitment committee for this area, McDonald wants to ensure the committee's work continues because of doctor retirements in the offing. He also supports, financially both hospitals in the county, because health care is vital. "I'll give it my best shot," he says. Among the projects of which he believes the township has benefitted during the past term is the Shelter Valley Road upgrade, construction of the Centreton Library and locating a new firehall location within Roseneath. The latter two are part of the commitment to help township villages and towns survive, McDonald says. Married to Heather for 39 years, McDonald has four grown children. He and Heather have farmed and currently operate Dalton McDonald Motors next door to the farm, and have done so since 1988. In addition to the McDonalds, the business employs two other people. Art Jeninga and Rosemarie Robins have also filed their nomination papers for the mayor's position in Alnwick/Haldimand. Watch for their profile interviews and those of other municipal candidates in upcoming issues of Northumberland. Read about more candidates under "Elections 2010" on the blue subject bar at www.northumberlandtoday.com. vmacdonald@northumberlandtoday.com

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