

Leamington and Mersea Historical Society recognizes heritage contributions

BY BILL GAY

Key people and projects were recognized last Friday by the Leamington and Mersea Historical Society at an awards ceremony held at the Rhine Danube in Leamington.

The Heritage First Families award went to the Conover family.

The Society's award for restoration or preservation was presented to Blytheswood General Store.

The Royal Bank Historic Contribution award was posthumously given to the late Peter and Helen Epp.

Heritage and historic certificates of merit went to the Ralph Foster family for his discovery of oil and gas in the area as early as 1825.

The late William Hilborn was recognized for being the first horticulturalist to grow flowers in a greenhouse from 1889 to 1896.

Leamington Councillor Don Nicholson was singled out for a lifetime achievement award for serving the area in a variety of organizations.

Roger Roney, who now co-chairs the group restoring the historic Michigan Central Railway Station in Leamington, was honoured

for many years of activity in key historical projects.

Joyce Minhinnick won recognition for her active role in the work of the Historical Society.

The Heritage or Historic Contribution (living) awards went to both Albert Hoekstra and the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 84, which will celebrate its

80th anniversary in December.

The Leamington and Mersea Historical Society was founded in 1979 to foster, maintain, restore and display artifacts relevant to the local area. Their museum at Albuna is open from 1:30 to 4:30, Saturday and Sunday, from March to the first weekend in December.



Mayor John Adams, left, congratulates Royal Canadian Legion Branch 84 President John Garton. The Branch is celebrating its 80th anniversary in December.

Trails and walkways fundraiser cancelled

The Essex Trails and Walkways second annual fundraiser dinner scheduled for Sept. 30 has been cancelled.

Ward 3 Councillor Bill Caixeiro, who sits on the committee, said slow ticket sales prompted the cancellation. An award presentation originally scheduled during the event has been re-scheduled for the Oct. 2 town council meeting at 7 p.m.

Trillium Grant workshop

The Town of Lakeshore, in partnership with the Ontario Trillium Foundation, will offer a Trillium Grant workshop on Thursday, Oct. 5 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Comber Community Centre.

Non-profit groups and service clubs in the surrounding areas are invited to RSVP before Oct. 3 by contacting Terri-Ann Hurst at 728-2700, ext. 271.



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