



Downtown News



Belleville Downtown Improvement Area Newsletter

November / December Issue 2009

3rd Generation Entrepreneur Continues Family Tradition

During the 1920's through to the early 60's, Jimmy Yeotes owned and operated Uptown Billiards at 316 Front Street. With 12 billiard tables, a shoe shine stand, hat cleaning and blocking service and hamburgers, (aka Yeotsie Burgers) there was plenty being offered to keep clients coming back. Word on the street is Jimmy sold his first million burgers before McDonalds even opened their doors!

As his father was winding down, Bill Yeotes was gearing up. With a Ryerson education in Business Administration and a couple of years as an insurance underwriter, Bill's natural progression was toward financial services. Bill chose the ever busy Century Place to house his offices, where he remained for approximately forty years. At 74

years, he now does some consulting work as well as help his daughter out as she continues the family tradition.

As Bill was winding down, daughter Marina Boretski was just getting geared up. Marina and her husband Tom purchased 300 Front Street around 2000, spent a couple years revamping the building and making it structurally sound and ready for future projects. Boretski Gallery opened in 2002 as an antique and collectibles gallery. Since that time Marina's entrepreneurial spirit has taken her into the world of fine vintage apparel and accessories where she has become especially known for her collection of unique hats.

With some art background from her Queen's University degree and skill as a

seamstress, Marina is able to get all her vintage pieces looking like new before they're placed on the shelves in her beautifully arranged boutique.



Making a Difference, One Day at a Time



James and Matt Cooke, celebrating his Stanley Cup win.

An elementary school teacher for thirty years, a husband for thirty-five, and a Belleville Club member for 27 years, James Frederick Hurst is a man who's in it for the long run.

James' maternal grandfather,

C.F. Wallbridge, was one of the founding fathers of the Belleville Club that was established in 1914 at 210 Pinnacle Street. Fred owned a groceteria called Wallbridge and Clarke. Also an early member was James' great aunt, Amy, who joined in 1918, though this wasn't widely known!

His father William, also a member, used to take James to the club as a boy to attend various events. They lived close by on Church Street, so they didn't have far to walk.

James became a member himself in 1982 and later a board member. In 1988-89 he was president and for the past ten years has acted as General Manager. A job James appears to take on with a great deal of care and consideration for those he's representing.

James has carried on a family tradition with his own children, who have helped him out with various events and still do when they can. Now that James' wife, Joanne, has retired from Quinte Health Care, she's a perfect candidate for taking on a few shifts here and there, but we won't spring it on her just yet.

Besides the few years away at college and university, the two years of teaching in Ottawa and Niagara Falls and the one year sabbatical backpacking around Europe, James has given his time and energy to the people of Belleville. He has taught the children of King George School, Parkdale School and Sir John A. MacDonald, raised three of his own, and continues to give back through his community involvement at a club that has a distinctive reputation for excellence and quality.

Thank you James for making our community a better place to live.

For questions or submissions regarding this newsletter please contact:
terri@rediscoverdowntown.ca



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To BDIA Service & Retail Businesses:

The BDIA executive and board committee members have given me the opportunity to produce the *Downtown News* every two months. The first three issues will be on a trial basis.

A newsletter is a great way of staying informed about what's happening around you and it's a great forum for letting others know what you're up to. I encourage everyone to use it.

In return for the newsletter, I will be hanging original paintings in the BDIA office at 318 Front Street. Please come in and have a look. There will also be a drop box there for any information you want to submit to the newsletter.

For the newsletter, I will be collecting interesting stories about businesses and people within the BDIA

area. If you have any suggestions or a story of your own, I'm interested in hearing what you have to say.

There is space available for announcements from the service and retail sectors. If there's anything you want announced, please let me know. There are also a few advertising spaces available at the bottom of each page. The income from these spaces will go toward having the newsletter printed and published. Space is limited and deadlines have to be adhered to. December 1st is the next deadline for the January/February issue.

I look forward to hearing your comments and getting your input.

Sincerely,
Terri Horricks

terri@rediscoverdowntown.ca



Downtown this Holiday Season

Watch for ...
live reindeer, Mrs. Claus,
hay rides, caroling
and more.

Find updates on
what's happening at
www.rediscoverdowntown.ca



This advertising space in the *Downtown News* is available for future issues that will be published every two months. If you're interested in advertising space, please contact Terri Horricks at the number below or the BDIA office at 613-968-2242.

Single Ad Space = \$35 members \$45 non-members
Layout work is free of charge and all proceeds go into future
Downtown Projects.

Please contact Terri Horricks at **613-921-2791**
or *terri@rediscoverdowntown.ca*

Business and Art Walk Together

A minimum of 45 businesses gave their support to the 3rd annual **Art Walk** that took place from September 10th to the 12th. Businesses provided space to approximately 49 artists. Three art groups were also part of the walk, with several members in each group.

From 3:00 until 8:00 pm on September 10th, artists were available at many locations to discuss their work.

This collaboration has been a great opportunity for business owners to welcome visitors, citizens, and patrons into their spaces, in an easy and relaxed manner.

Shown here are photos taken by Mary Gaudet, who participated in the walk on the 10th. More of Mary's photos can be seen at www.rediscoverdowntown.ca.



Shown here is artist, Linda Barber, demonstrating in front of Richard Davis.



Poul Thrane discusses techniques and style with guests at Barratt's Office Pro.



Photo by Terri Horricks

Street Tales

Corby, Caldwell, Greenley Block
258 Front Street



Pen & Ink by Terri Horricks

Early history suggests that Abraham Stimers purchased the land at 258 Front Street in 1824. The original two-storey structure was believed to have been built between 1824 and 1830.

The building resold three times by 1891. A stone third storey was added by one owner between 1883 and 1886. When Joseph Caldwell purchased it, he added a new facade. It became known as the New Caldwell Block. The building has changed hands many times since.

Present day owners, William and Ruth Greenley, purchased the building in 1982 and ran a successful bookstore for the next twenty-six years. The bookstore business was taken over in 2007 by the store's manager of 13 years, Tammy Grieve.

To this day, the tops of old archways and window frames, that were once part of Corby's bakery, can be seen protruding from the basement floor. In 1983, 258 Front Street, was designated historical by the City.



Photo by student, Joshua London

Single advertising spaces are available.

Members = \$35
Non-members = \$45

Please contact
terri@rediscoverdowntown.ca

Special Effects Decorating Opening in November



Opening Nov 1st at 300 Front Street

Owner Sheryl Delorme comments, "We are very excited to be opening downtown and working closely with Boretski's Gallery."

Special Effects has been operating as a service business for quite some time. Many of their clients were requesting a personal shopping service to help them create just the right look. Sheryl and her husband

saw this as an opportunity to create a unique design store that would showcase an eclectic array of home decor items, quality furnishings and decorating services in one location.

They have worked hard to establish a unique decorating experience, and are confident that their clients and new customers will enjoy all that the new location will offer.

New Downtown Businesses in 2009

Roc Bottoms

Clothing and Accessories
307 Front Street
and

The Frontline

Unique Accessories And Clothing
307 Front Street
2 businesses, 1 location

Runway Bridal & Red Barn Floral Design

397 Front Street

Pho Viet

Vietnamese Restaurant
30 Dundas Street East

The Fiddleguy Place

316 Front Street

Boxxed Glass

381 Front Street



Awards in 2009

Berrylicious

1st place Earl & Angelo's
2nd place LAuberge de France
3rd place Dinkels/Paulo's

Al Kelleher

Community Spirit Award
Rose Mary Rashotte

Business Owner Award

The 10th OX Studio
Glenn T. Mifsud

Building Owner Award

390-392 Front St.
Ed Young and Dave MacDonald

Barratt's Office Pro Winner of Artwalk Raffle

Eden Oterholm

Belleville Idol Winner

Erica Holgate

If you know of any upcoming events or have information on changes happening to existing or new businesses, please let us know so we can publish the information in the January issue of *Downtown News*. Please contact: terri@rediscoverdowntown.ca



Photo by student, Joshua London

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