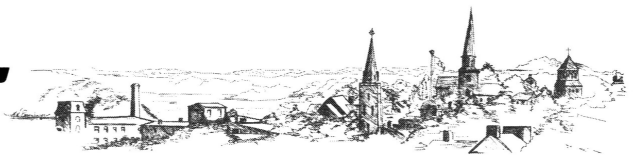


Winter  
2010

*It's people  
that make  
communities  
what they are.*

# Hespeler Happenings



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER  
Published by The Company of Neighbours

## Downtown Updates

by Lary Turner

At this time we are experiencing an unusual streak of Indian Summer like weather, but we realize that it can't last. Unfortunately the cold will soon set in and the snow will fly. That at least should put us in the Christmas spirit! The restoration of the old **Hespeler Hotel** is continuing. The new owners have completed repointing the stonework on the front facade and the installation of historic looking new windows. Meanwhile down at the corner, the exterior makeover of **Ernie's Roadhouse** has been completed and it gives the historic building a whole new look. We like it! The **Millpond Records & Books** store, 4 Queen St. West, is open for that special gift for the reader on your list. If you haven't had the opportunity to check out their store, put it on the top of your holiday list! The **Hespeler Denture Clinic** is set to open at 48 Queen St. East Unit 5C. The business will be offering full and partial denture services. For more information please call Alex at 519-224-3418.



Hespeler has gained a new music studio with the recent opening of Queen Street Music School. Calling all future musicians! Former "Beyond The Clef" music instructor, Richard Labbe has opened **Queen Street Music School**

at Queen and Rooshill. The school is registering now for limited groups and private music lessons beginning in January. Some openings available now. What a great gift! Keyboard, Piano, Guitar, Violin or Drums. Queen Street Music is the only authorized Yamaha Canada Music school in Waterloo Region offering fun, age appropriate, structured music courses for all ages, beginning at age 3. Learn to play your favorite music: Rock, Metal, Classical, Country ... Located at 318 Queen Street West, Cambridge with parking on Rooshill (driveway). Comfortable, structured and fun atmosphere providing emphasis on creativity and the key elements of music. Email for information and/or registration at queenstreetmusic@gmail.com or call 519-249-1446. *Creating Music For Tomorrow.*



## Hespeler Santa Claus Parade

Don't miss Hespeler's very own **Santa Claus Parade** Saturday December 4<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon. This year marks the 31<sup>st</sup> annual parade and as always Santa will be greeting the children at the Scout House in Forbes Park following the parade. Santa will hand out goodie bags to all the children who have not been naughty!

## St. Luke's Place

### 2010 Tree of Memories Appeal

St. Luke's Place Foundation has kicked off its **Tree of Memories Campaign** with the goal of raising \$60,000 to replace the aging **Tunstall Personal Emergency Response System**. The new Tunstall System will allow the tenant to wear a pendant which links directly with the RN on duty. When the pendant alarm button is pressed a call is immediately placed to the emergency response phone at the nursing station, and repeats the room number five times. The tenant is then able to talk directly with the RN or if the tenant cannot communicate the RN knows the location of the person needing assistance. Please help share the spirit of the season by donating generously to this appeal. You can give the gift of "peace of mind" to many seniors now and in the years to come!

### Ted Wake Lounge Christmas Dinner

The Cambridge Recreation Centres are hosting a **traditional turkey dinner** for those fifty years of age and up. The dinner will be held Tuesday December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010 from 12:30 to 3:30 pm at the Hespeler Legion Hall, 26 Schofield St. Cost is \$20 for members and \$22 for non-members. Entertainment is by highly accomplished musician, performer and entertainment icon Adam Timoon. Reserve your spot for this exciting event at any of the Cambridge Senior Centres. The deadline for reservations is December

14<sup>th</sup>.

### Hespeler Library

The Hespeler Library will accept registrations for the Winter Programs beginning Monday January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 12:00. Family Storytime goes Tuesdays from 6:30 to 7:00 pm. Join us for songs, stories, crafts and much more. All ages welcome! (no program Dec. 21, 28, & Jan. 4) For more info call 519-658-4412.

### Christmas In Cambridge 2010 Festival of Events

#### *Music & Lights in the Village -*

Experience the charm of Hespeler Village through Christmas choral music, play and an old fashioned living tree lighting ceremony. Friday Nov. 26 from 5:30 to 9:00 pm, downtown Hespeler Village.

**CPR Holiday Train** – Thousands of lights make the Holiday Train a magical experience for all. Enjoy live entertainment and support the Cambridge Self Help Food Bank.

Wednesday December 1, 4:30 pm at Malcolm St. station across from GCI.

**Candyland** – Carousel rides, jumbo candy kebobs, live entertainment, donut bumpers, ice building blocks, gingerbread houses, sweet treats and Santa & Mrs. Claus! Saturday December 4, noon to 5 pm, Central Park, 615 King St. East, Preston.

**Candyland Carousel & Lights** – Ride the carousel and be dazzled by the lights! Fun for all ages! Sunday December 5<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>. Weekends - noon to 8 pm, weekdays - 4 to 8 pm, Central Park, Preston.

**Unsilent Night** – Music, art and architecture combine for an avant-garde experience. Bring your mp3 or portable CD player and join the moving symphony from City Hall through historic downtown Cambridge. While ambient music delights your ears, your eyes will be treated to light installations along the route. Monday December 20 7 pm, City Hall, 50 Dickson St.

**Family New Year's Eve Party** – Join family and friends to celebrate a new year. Family skating, costumed characters, video skating party, games and more. Friday December 31<sup>st</sup> 6 to 8 pm, Hespeler Arena, 640 Ellis Rd.

**Twelfth Night** – Experience an ancient mid-winter celebration recreated for our times. Festive treats, dancing, live music and wonderful costumes make for a memorable and unique experience. \$15 per ticket. Saturday January 8<sup>th</sup>, United Kingdom Club. 35 International Village Dr.

### Hespeler Legion Branch 272

The Hespeler Legion proudly presents a musical evening with the legendary blues performer **Chuck Jackson & The Allstars** (formerly of the Downchild Blues Band). Concert is Friday December 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm. Advance tickets \$10.00 each or \$15.00 at the door (if not sold out). Available at the Legion bar or contact 519-658-2842 for more information. Don't miss this great night of Blues Music! The New Year's Eve Party will be held December 31, please call for more information. The Legion's popular *Friday Night Dinners* are still packing them in. Upcoming menu includes: December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Meatloaf, mashed potatoes & veggies, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Pork roast, potato and veggies. All dinners are \$7.00 with dessert at \$2.00 extra and are served at 5:30 sharp.

### Weaver Street

by Lary Turner

*Note: This is another in a series concerning Hespeler's street names.*

Weaver Street is named for a very prominent family in Hespeler's history. **William Henry Weaver** was born in Waterloo Township on August 19<sup>th</sup>, 1849. At age 16, William had finished school and his parents were eager to see him started in some business that would provide a future for him. His father went to see his friend, Shubel Randall, to discuss taking young William on as an apprentice at the woolen mill just started by Mr. Randall, his brother George and their cousin Herbert Farr (Randall, Farr & Company). Shubel Randall contacted the mill manager, Mr. Charles Cliff, and asked him to take the young lad under his wing and teach him the textile business. After assurances that the boy was all right in every way, Mr. Cliff agreed to take him on as his apprentice. Fearing that the young lad



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would become lonely and homesick growing up in a boarding house, it was decided that William would live with the Cliff family. Thereby Mrs. Cliff could keep a better eye on him and Mr. Cliff could accelerate his learning of the textile business. William learned fast and extremely well and as the years went by, more and more of the day- to-day running of the big mill fell on his shoulders. By 1880 he had become the mill manager and retained that position for the next fifty years. His name became known as a first class manufacturer of textiles in every mill throughout Canada and the eastern United States. He married Sarah Ellen Hanthorne and built a large stone home at the top of the Schofield Street hill overlooking the mill. (It later became home to the R.C. Legion Hespeler Branch #272 before being destroyed by fire in December 1974). Active as well in municipal affairs, William Weaver served on the Hespeler Public School Board for thirty-two years. First elected in 1889 he became Chairman in 1903, a position he held for eighteen years. He also served as a member of both the Board of Trustees of the Galt Hospital and the Galt Collegiate Institute and the Board of Management of Hespeler's St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. He was involved in many other public boards and



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wholeheartedly supported many worthy causes in the community. He became one of Hespeler's finest citizens. Mr. Weaver retired when the mill was sold and passed away September 27<sup>th</sup>, 1929. He is buried in New Hope Cemetery.

**Lester Everett Weaver** was born December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1872 to William and Sarah. He received his early education at Hespeler Public School and Galt Collegiate Institute. He followed his father into the textile business and after spending sufficient time in the various mill departments to learn their workings, he attended technical school in England and Germany. Returning from Europe, he rejoined the woolen mill now owned by the R. Forbes Co. and supervised their extensive building program. He also became responsible for the maintenance of the

plant. Under his direction all the huge brick buildings at Hespeler and the plant he managed at Orillia were constructed. He helped engineer and supervise the major changes from water power to steam power and later to electrical power. He was responsible for the installation of all new machinery as it arrived and the re-arrangement of all machinery as new buildings were completed. He also had supervision over the woollens end of the business. Lester married Yda Louise Milligan and built a large stone home on the hill between Weaver Street and Winston Blvd. overlooking the mill. This home was heated by an underground steam line from the woollen mill boilers. He was known to have a prodigious memory for detail of every sort and had accurate information on many subjects in the wider field of general knowledge. As his father before him, Lester became active in public affairs and gave over fifty years of outstanding service to the town where he was born. He served as Councillor from 1905 to 1910, Reeve from 1911 to 1915, Mayor from 1916 to 1920 and again from 1930 to 1931. Mr. Weaver was also Chairman of the Hespeler Hydro Commission for twenty years, Chairman of the building committees of the Hespeler Town Hall and St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, and



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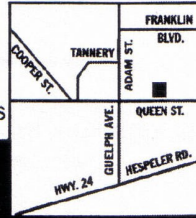
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was a member of the Board of Directors of the Freeport Sanatorium. Lester E. Weaver died in Toronto on October 22, 1960 and is buried in New Hope Cemetery in the family plot.

## The Cold Saturday Mornings

by James Hillis

Kirk Maltby retires, Tim Brent makes the Maple Leafs, remembering Paul Woods, Kenny Ellacott and Red Laurence, the hockey heroes of Hespeler. When we are young we are all the future of the NHL, or so we thought. But at twelve years old, we don't know any better and on those Saturday winter mornings in 1969 I like every other lad in Hespeler had a date with destiny. Rolling out of bed at 6 am and planting my butt on the oversized heating grates in the floor, I drank my hot chocolate and slowly got my equipment on, pulling the "Dolson Construction" sweater over my head and getting ready for my Dad to finish his coffee and drive me to the Arena for 7. On to the ice we poured, Frank Mahovlich's, all of us, oh those were the better times, our Fathers sitting in the stands drinking their coffee's spiked with whatever somebody had left over from the night before. We played the game with no worries, there was no screaming at the coaches to "play my kid more", no yelling at the

referees by our parents (in all likelihood the refs were out drinking at the Queens Hotel with our Dads). We just played for fun and for each other.

There was no fancy Tim Hortons commercial for us in the future, we played and then went home and played some more, just this time on the streets. Somehow memories of those cold winter mornings just cheer me up, because while I wasn't a great hockey player, to have just been a part of those moments is what is special. And no matter how hard they try, the new arena in town just doesn't have the same feel and attitude to me, no ghosts of former Shamrocks or Hespeler MicMacs wandering the halls, no steel mesh around the rink, and no smell of French Fries will ever beat the old arena. Call it what you will, I call it "Unforgettable".



Dear Readers, 2010 will soon be a memory and a new year will begin. This year marks the 14<sup>th</sup> year that the *Hespeler Happenings* has been bringing you news and activities with a unique Hespeler perspective. On

behalf of the Executive, the Board of Directors and all the volunteers at *The Company of Neighbours*, please allow me to wish you and yours a very special Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year!



## Hespeler

## Happenings

### Community Newsletter

is published four times a year by *The Company of Neighbours*. It is available at Zehr's, Food Basics, Hespeler Library, W. G. Johnson Centre, many businesses and the *Hespeler Heritage Centre, 11 Tannery St. East*. Deadline for submissions for the next issue is Friday February 11, 2011. Submissions are welcome, but articles should not exceed 500 words. Ad rates are available upon request, please contact editor Lary Turner at 519-658-9290 or email [lary\\_turner@msn.com](mailto:lary_turner@msn.com). *Hespeler Happenings* is a newsletter devoted to the promotion of information and activities, in and around the Village of Hespeler, for the greater good of the people of our community.

