

Municipality of Port Hope Civic Awards 2009

Outstanding Citizen

The Outstanding Citizen Award is to recognize an individual who has made an outstanding, long term volunteer contribution to our community. There is no doubt that **Mary Hope Cappler** fits that mold.

As long as 50 years ago, Mary volunteered her time to Port Hope's youth as a minor baseball coach, inspiring countless both boys and girls to work hard and play hard but most importantly, to have fun. A devoted volunteer with the Port Hope Figure Skating Club, Mary has sewn costumes, coached and judged for many years. She has volunteered as a national and international judge in Canada and across Europe for the last 53 years.

Mary was a member of the former Port Hope Hospital Auxiliary, participating in countless events over the years to support the hospital. She remains a dedicated member and active elder with St. Paul's Presbyterian Church where she assists in organizing events and fundraisers and visiting shut-ins. Community Care Northumberland benefits weekly from Mary's visits to the nursing home, where she spends time with residents and participates in their health awareness teams and weekly blood pressure monitoring clinics.

A talented knitter, Mary has made hundreds of pairs of mittens for sale in support of the Red Cross and the Capitol Arts Centre. She still attends and assists with the regular blood donor clinics at the Lion's Centre and contributes to the success of the Capitol Arts Centre working as an usher, envelope stuffer and any other duty required.

The Ruth Clarke Centre is a regular beneficiary of Mary's kindness and dedication. She is an active member of the centre and assists with many events and activities, including the annual pancake breakfast and serving turkey dinner to Christmas day to members who would have otherwise spent Christmas alone.

Mary is an active member of the Port Hope Lawn Bowling club, and her gift for gardening keeps the grounds beautiful for all members and visitors to enjoy.

Having recently celebrated her 90th birthday Mary remains a dedicated volunteer, neighbour, friend, and ambassador for Port Hope. Her consistently positive attitude, ever-present smile and willingness to lend a hand are a clear indication that helping others is truly the key to longevity.

Outstanding Youth

This year's recipient of the award for Outstanding Youth is a remarkable individual in many ways. In 2006, **Zac Andrus** with the help of his 7th grade teacher contacted the Accessibility Advisory Committee asking if he could participate in the annual Access Awareness Week in our local schools. The Committee eagerly welcomed him and Zac went from school to school, delivering a powerful presentation that told the story of how he lives with his disability and about his goal of one day having an accessible swing in one of the parks in Port Hope. And this was only the beginning.

He had already started fundraising for the accessible swing and the Accessibility Advisory Committee offered to help. Zac's mother Carla joined the Committee and he was made an honorary member because at 13, he was too young to be a voting member. Fundraising continued and as word of Zac's Dream spread across the community, the dream grew from one swing to an entire accessible playground designed so that all children could play together. After a presentation to Council, Zac met with municipal staff and professional playground designers to lay out the plans. The cost would be \$130,000.

Family and friends rallied and Zac's Dream Team was formed. Through countless events and sales supported wholeheartedly by the residents of our community, Zac raised more than \$30,000. With contributions from local service clubs, businesses and Municipal Council, the goal was reached and it was clear that Zac's Dream would come true.

In September 2009, Zac's passion caught the attention of Lieutenant Governor David Onley who was inspired by his dedication and commitment to this ambitious project and asked to be invited to the grand opening of the playground. On November 28th, 2009, the community gathered with Zac's friends, family and dignitaries to see Zac's Dream come true at the official opening of the playground, named in his honour, in Memorial Park.

Zac has inspired an entire community and demonstrated to children of all ages that anything is possible. He shared his vision with strangers and inspired them to work together as neighbours. He has not only built a better playground but strengthened our community.

Achievement

Zac's Dream Team was instrumental in fund-raising, promoting community awareness, planning and working with Municipal administration to support the building of Port Hope's first fully accessibility playground in Memorial Park. In support of Zac Andrus and his dream of a playground where children of all abilities can play together, the Dream Team raised more than \$30,000 - one quarter of the total cost of the new playground. Zac's Dream Team members are: Brian and Carla Andrus, Nancy Andrus, Dave Andrus, Chris Andrus, Rachel Andrus, Cassandra Andrus, Geoff Douglas, Dale Andrus, Shirley Andrus and Cathy Andrus.

Athletics

Jeremy Coughler is a 9th grade student at Port Hope High School and an award-winning track and field athlete. In 2009, Jeremy won the 1,600 metre provincial championship that qualified him to represent the Great lakes region (Ontario & 8 U.S. States) at the North American Track & Field Games in Hershey Pennsylvania where he won bronze. Jeremy is the Minor Track Association provincial champion in the 1,500 metre race and won the gold at the Youth International Meet in the 3,000 metre race held at York University. He placed 2nd in the Kawartha and COSSA cross country championship and 2nd in the McQuaid cross-county meet in Rochester, New York.

The Port Hope Senior Flyers are proud winners of the Ontario Baseball Association's Senior "C" championship, representing the Municipality of Port Hope this year in Orillia, Ontario. The members of the team are: Bruce Alldred, Greg Bailey, Cory Baker, John Alexander Clark, Ryan Davis, Derek Dennee, Brad Dowler, Brandon Duck, Wesley Eriksson, Craig Francoeur, Paul Garrard, Bret Jiggins, Marc MacDonald, Robert McNab, Mike McNaught, Kyle Moloney, Brad Pickering, Jake Tuominen, Mike Walker, Adam Wallace, Tyler Welch, Ian Green

The Trinity College School Senior Varsity Football Team had the honour of winning the Conference of Independent School Athletic Associations Championship in November 2009. This is the team's first championship in 12 years and the first time that TCS has swept Villanova College, St. Andrew's College and Upper Canada College. Team members are: Derek Allen, Keegan Irwin, Patrick Kelley, Matt Richard, Jack Davis, Ade Ojo, Charlie Osbourne, Connor Picco, Cam Pollard, Drew Rider, Chris Robertson, Matt Smeaton, Phil St. Martin, Alex Stocks, Innie Udoeyop, Matt Villeneuve, Orest Volovyk, Jack Widmer, Enoch Wong, Jamie Adams, Rohan Amin, Nik Arbour, Spencer Banfield, Peter Byers, Patrick Byrski, Mike Candlish, Austin Carmichael,

Charlie Casper, Roberto Cortina, Kevin Courtney, Ben Crase, Derek Cross, Cole Cryderman, Jack Curtis, Adam D'Alewyn, Robbie Fitzpatrick, Shawn Foley, Jake Gardner, Mckenzie George, Dalton Grassinger, Tevin Guthrie, Cam Harbar, JJ Joyal, Zain Kauser, Ian Keiper, Dariyan Khastar, James Menzies

Community Service

Felicity Corelli has been a long-time member of the Municipality of Port Hope Accessibility Advisory Committee and a major contributor to the Committee's new Accessibility section on the municipal website. She has also worked on the annual Accessibility Awareness Week in our local schools.

Jennie Ryan has served on the Accessibility Advisory Committee for several years currently serving as Treasurer and on the Communications subcommittee. She also participates in the annual Accessibility Awareness Committee in Port Hope schools.

Peter Hunt has been a member of the Accessibility Advisory Committee since its inception. He currently serves as Chair of the Buildings Subcommittee where he works tirelessly persuading building owners to create accessibly environments in the public and private buildings with a success rate of almost 100%.

Renee Macdonald served for several years on the Accessibility Advisory Committee and since 2003, has shared her knowledge of hidden disabilities with the students of Port Hope's schools through her involvement with the Accessibility Awareness Week schools program.

The **Guiders of Girl Guides of Canada** provide weekly programs, activities, and participation in special events for young girls to develop skills, increase their confidence and self esteem and learn leadership skills to last them throughout their lives. These Guiders have volunteered their time and energy to making a difference in the lives of girls in our communities.

Kirsti Halinen - 15 years of service

Lindsey Nywening - 9 years of service

Stacey Hyatt - 9 years of service

Lisa Moore - 6 years of service

Melissa Holmes - 6 years of service

John Bennett has been associated with the Port Hope Archives as Treasurer of the Board for the past five years. In that time, he has been instrumental as

an organizer of the annual fundraising yard sale and representing the Archives at Heritage Day and the Port Hope Fall Fair.

John Boughen was a major contributor to the Port Hope Official Plan process, highlighting Port Hope's agricultural industry. He has been a member of Northumberland Federation of Agriculture for more than 10 years. Mr. Boughen supported the establishment of the Agricultural Advisory Committee and has served four terms. Unofficial keeper of our agricultural history, he is a tireless advocate for farmers and the industry.

Alysha Coughler is a Grade 12 student at Port Hope High School, active in her school community. She currently holds the position of Social Action Minister in the school's student government as well as coaching swim team, active on the basketball team and participating in several school clubs and initiatives. Outside of school, Alysha's works with Keystone House, Camp Quin-mo-lac, the Port Hope Green Fair, Port Hope Fall Fair, Welcome United Church and Girl Guides of Canada. She has received numerous awards and recognition for her achievements and community involvement.

Charlotte Gadon is a Grade 12 student at Port Hope High School. She holds a leadership role in her student government and is a member of the Equity and Diversity Club. She participates in numerous charitable initiatives at school including the Gulu Walk/Read-a-thon, Students Helping Seniors and the 30-hour Fast for Funds and has received several awards and recognition for her academic and leadership achievements.

David Houston is a long-time dedicated member of the Rotary Club of Northumberland Sunrise, acting as Rotary Foundation Char and The Youth Exchange Chair. David has been a member of the Port Hope & District Horticultural Society since 2001 serving on the executive for 7 of those years. He has refereed minor hockey, helped build the baseball park in Gardenhill and currently serves on the Municipality's Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. Dave has helped fundraise for Big Sisters and Big Brothers since 1998, volunteers at the Port Hope Public Library and has organized dinners for residents of Greenwood Towers.

Tim Taylor is a 7-year volunteer with the Port Hope Public Library Friends of the Library group. He makes monthly deliveries of more than 150 books to 10 different locations including nursing homes, retirement home and to house-bound patrons, always taking a few extra moments to visit with patrons along the way. Tim's efforts extend the library and its services far beyond the walls of the buildings and provide an invaluable service to our community.

Zoe Begopoulos is a grade 12 student at Port Hope High School where she is an active participant in school life, serving in two Minister positions with the student government and participating in countless school clubs and events such as the Terry Fox Run, Environment Club, Equity and Diversity, and the 30-Hour Fast for Funds. Zoe plays baseball, basketball, volleyball and Frisbee. She volunteers with Project Porchlight, the Northumberland Hills Hospital Youth Cares Committee, Port Hope's Character Committee and Youth Committee, and currently serves as Student Councillor on Port Hope Municipal Council.

Girl Guides of Canada will celebrate its 100th Anniversary this year. Across Port Hope, Guiders past and present have dedicated their time and effort to empowering young girls to become confident, resourceful and courageous, and to make a difference in the world. These women have made a tremendous contribution to the Port Hope community are being recognized in celebration of the 100th Anniversary.

Janet Richardson has been a volunteer with Rebound Child & Youth Services Northumberland since 2004, working with the Youth Justice Committee program, which provides a diversion from the criminal justice system for youth in conflict with the law. She also volunteers with the CHOICES life skills program and attends regular training sessions to further develop her skills and knowledge to provide the best possible service to the children and youth she serves.

Louise Balaam has volunteered with Rebound Child & Youth Services since 2005, working with the Youth Justice Committee program and the CHOICES life skills program which provides guidance for youth in decision making, conflict resolution, anger management and goal setting.

Sara Toyama is a member of the Northumberland Hills Hospital Youth Cares Committee, a group of high school students who focus on fundraising to purchase priority medical equipment for the hospital. The 2008/2009 committee planned the first ever Search Party - a scavenger hunt for health and raised \$3,000 for the hospital.

Alan Walsh has 25 continuous years of volunteer dedication coaching Port Hope's Pee Wee hockey teams, working tirelessly not only to teach young children the rules and skills of the game, but to instill in them the values of teamwork, self esteem, sportsmanship and citizenship. While some of his teams have excelled to achieve top honours in the league, each one of the players has benefitted from his commitment and dedication. Al has coached between 1,500 and 2,000 games during his time to say nothing of the practice time he has put in.

Elemer Bogay has served several years as a volunteer soccer coach and referee for Port Hope Minor Soccer association. He has worked on the St. Mark's Church fundraising project and organized dinners for the Port Hope & District Health Care Group. Elemer also led the sponsorship of a Vietnamese family in their move to Port Hope and is a long time volunteer and leader of the Hungarian Association of Canada.

Sue West has volunteered on the Port Hope Public Library Board since 2005. She worked as committee secretary organizing and planning the renowned Port Hope Annual House Tour from 2005 until 2007 and was involved in the highly successful *Doors Open Port Hope* event in 2008.

The Municipality of Port Hope's Accessibility Advisory Committee hosts an annual Access Awareness Week in our local schools during which people living with disabilities speak to the students, answer questions, and provide first-hand insight into their lives.

- **Behishta Mushtaq** has participated in the program since 2006, traveling from her home in Whitby. She is deaf and speaks to students through an American Sign Language interpreter describing how she copes each day with school, work and daily life, always with a positive attitude and good humour.
- **Cheryl Blodgett** is blind and has participated in the Access Awareness week since 2004. With her guide dog Anisha, Cheryl candidly tells the story of her blindness and willingly answers any and all questions asked of her by the students.
- **Denise Chamberlin** is blind and has participated in the program for 5 years. With her guide dog Carla at her side, she openly shares her life experience with students. In addition, Denise has also assisted the committee with the Accessible Customer Service training received by all Municipal employees.
- **Laurie Scott** is blind. Her guide dog Weston accompanies her to the Access Awareness Week program. Since 2004, Laurie has made herself available whenever needed, speaking to the students and answering their questions about what life is like with a physical disability.
- **Neil Stewart** has cerebral palsy. He has been a part of the school program since 2004. Neil is always prepared for any question asked of him and speaks openly about all aspects of his experience living with a physical disability. His humorous approach puts the students at ease.

- **Shelley Ryall** is deaf and travels with her service dog, Stoney from their home in Oshawa. Since 2006, Shelley has spoken to students through an ASL interpreter about how she copes with raising a family, shopping and answering the telephone, always responding to students' questions with unflinching good humour and honesty.

The **Capitol Arts Centre Board of Directors** is a group of volunteers who attend monthly meetings to direct the operation of the theatre through policy and stewardship.

- **Michael Mackenzie** is a long-time board member who has also served as Treasurer.
- **Lynn Brown** served on the Board for more than 5 years and was President until 2008.
- **Rod Stewart** is one of the founding members of the Capitol Theatre and has served as a Board member for many years.

The Capitol Theatre Arts Centre relies on their dedicated volunteers to perform many vital functions such as taking tickets, ushering and working at the refreshment bar at intermission. Each of these individuals has served in this capacity for 5 years: **Audrey Levtov, Betty Wakely, Janet Snelgrove, Jo-Anne Debattista, Margot Agnew, Rena Watson, Suzi Gabany**

Frank Henderson has volunteered for 5 years with the Capitol Theatre, and is known in the Caroline Street neighbourhood for his tireless work keeping the summer flowers blooming and tending to the gardens on the corner of Ontario Street. He has also worked with the St. Mark's soup kitchen.

Joyce Prince is a 5-year volunteer with the Capitol Theatre and also volunteers at the St. Mark's soup kitchen. Joyce is a devoted gardener, tending to the flower beds along Ontario Street at Caroline and Howard Streets and making a trip down that street pleasant for all passersby.

The Ganaraska River is known by all Port Hope residents as the beautiful centre of our community. For 40 years, it is a group of volunteers, working with the Ontario Department of Natural Resources that keeps it this way. Working to improve the river and maintain the sport fishery, they have cleaned up the debris at Corbett's Dam, conducted the annual spring fish count and ensured that the fish ladder is open and functioning each year. **Rod and Joan Parrott** recruited a team of volunteers 40 years ago to assist with this work in the River and the group is still going strong today. Other group members are **Mike Brown** who has been involved for almost 20 years, **Tom Huffman, Jarrod Whyte, Jason Whyte, Fax Beatty and Brenda Scott** have all volunteered for at least 5 years.

Bob Courtice has been a member of the Port Hope Racquet Club for four years, contributing to its success Court Manager and Membership Director. Bob has taken it upon himself, along with some other members, to begin a mentoring program for our older and more promising junior players and has been of great assistance with the Junior Program.

John Haché has been a member of the executive of the Port Hope Racquet club since its inception. He is the architect of the club's website and for the last five years, organizes the adult badminton program. He is an enthusiastic participant in the club's activities including the junior program.

Sandra Eriksson has been a member of the executive of the Port Hope Racquet Club for five years. She is the Social Convener and has contributed greatly to the success and popularity of the club's social events. Her enthusiasm and contribution creates a positive and welcoming atmosphere at all the events she organizes.

Brian Hoad is a grade 12 student at Port Hope High School. An active participant in student government, charity events, student initiatives, and athletics, Brian currently serves as student Prime Minister. He complements strong academics with a genuine interest in his fellow students making him a strong positive influence at his school. Brian has volunteered with middle school volleyball, the Relay for Life and Halloween for Hunger campaigns and raised funds for children of Kilema. He is a member of the Ultimate Frisbee volleyball teams and has received numerous awards and recognition for his contribution to our community.

John Floyd has served with a number of committees and clubs since he came to Port Hope in 1981. He has been a member of the Masonic Lodge since 1988 and the Lion's Club since 2008. He sat on the Port Hope Hospital Committee and fought to save the hospital for our community. In 1994, John was awarded the Knight of Grace and a member of the Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem. He has worked on the Port Hope Fall Fair, Poppy Fund, Jazz Festival and Estival and volunteers for fundraisers and initiatives across the community.

Writers & Friends Port Hope host an annual literary evening gala event in support of Horizons of Friendship. A group of dedicated individuals oversees every aspect including planning, logistics, décor, site coordination, a live art auction, and special receptions. Their efforts are what make this special event a success year after year, putting Port Hope in the spotlight on the national stage.

- Ann Cox is a 6-year member
- Eileen Mountain is a 7-year member
- Kathy Angus is a 13-year member
- Marcy Berg is a 10-year member
- Margeurite Sandig is a 5-year member
- Mary Bunting is an 8-year member

Will Ryan has volunteered for 6 years organizing the Northumberland Hills Hospital Foundation's annual gala ball. He has provided exceptional leadership in planning this important event, working as a member of the Gala Cabinet and coordinating the décor. During his tenure, close to \$700,000 has been raised to support priority medical equipment purchases for the Northumberland Hills Hospital.