

Co-founder Signe McMichael remembered

Signe Kirsten McMichael (nee Sorensen), the co-founder of the McMichael Canadian Art Collection, passed away at Toronto East General Hospital July 4.

"Signe McMichael will forever be remembered as one of this country's strongest advocates for Canadian art and artists. Her lasting legacy, shared with her husband Robert McMichael, is her gift to the people of Ontario of an outstanding collection of Canadian art and a gallery that is singular among Canadian art museums," said Thomas Smart, executive director and CEO, McMichael Canadian Art Collection.

Signe was born in Sandersig, Denmark on February 10, 1921, and at the age of six travelled with her family to Peace River, Alberta to visit relatives.

While in Canada Signe's mother, Anna Tera Kirstine (nee Oggesen) became ill and passed away. Her father Soren Christian Sorensen then decided that he and his three daughters should settle in Alberta rather than return to Europe.

After graduating from Alberta College, Signe worked in the media and in advertising. During World War II, she served with the RCAF, working in the communications branch. During the course of her career she held a number of positions with radio stations in Edmonton, and Vancouver before moving to Toronto to work in the advertising department of CKEY.

In 1949 Signe married Robert McMichael and three years later the couple purchased 10 acres of woodland overlooking the Humber River Valley in

Kleinburg. Using giant hemlock beams dismantled from old farmhouses and barns, the couple built a unique log home, which they named *Tapawingo*. When asked why the log house bore this name, Signe McMichael explained; "We researched Indian names and came up with *Tapawingo*, which means *Place of Joy*."

Signe's great contribution to Canadian culture began when she and her husband, who shared a keen interest in Canadian landscape art, began to purchase paintings by the Group of Seven, Tom Thomson and their contemporaries. It wasn't long before the artists themselves and like-minded art lovers began visiting *Tapawingo* to see the McMichaels' growing collection, which soon expanded to include art by First Nations and Inuit

artists.

In the early years, with Robert McMichael often out of the country, Signe took an active role in the growth of their collection. With a strong sense of business and a growing understanding of Canadian art, she not only looked after the couple's home, but also their collection.

"We love our paintings so much that we consider it selfish to keep them just for ourselves. We have yet to turn away anyone with a desire to see our collection," Signe said. The buildings, the grounds, and the McMichaels' growing collection were given to the people of Ontario in 1965.

Signe and Robert McMichael continued to live at the gallery until 1981 when they moved from Kleinburg and took up residence in nearby Belfountain.

Signe, appointed a Trustee for Life," continued to be active at the McMichael Canadian Art Collection for many years, serving not only on the board, but also on many of the committees associated with the new public gallery.

In 1983, the University of Waterloo recognized Signe for her selfless work and

presented her with an Honourary Law Degree. Joining her husband, Robert, she was the recipient of the 1978 Society of American Travel Writers' Connie Award, and, in 1979, was made a Fellow of the Ontario College of Art. They were also the first to receive the Contribution to Canadian Art Award presented in 1981 by the Ontario Society of Artists. In 2001, both Signe and Robert McMichael were awarded the Order of Ontario.

In 2002, they were inducted into The Caledon Walk of Fame.

"Robert and Signe McMichael have secured a significant part of our artistic heritage, one that helps to interpret Canada to Canadians and the people around the world," said former mayor Carol Seglins at the Caledon East ceremony. "The McMichael Collection is a place of joy to the thousands of people who tour it every year. For this they should be recognized by their neighbours and fellow citizens and their names be placed on the Caledon Walk of Fame."

Signe McMichael was predeceased by her husband,

her parents, and her sister Helen Miniker. She is survived by her sister Astrid Wright and several nieces and nephews.

A quiet, very private woman, the late Signe McMichael will be interred on the grounds of the McMichael Canadian Art Collection. At her request she will be buried in the McMichael cemetery beside her husband and members of the Group of Seven and their wives.

The McMichael Canadian Art Collection is an agency of the Government of Ontario and acknowledges the support of the Ministry of Culture. The gallery is located on Islington Avenue, north of Major Mackenzie Drive in Kleinburg and is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Trip organized to Fallsview Casino

Barb & Denise have another bus booked for Fallsview Casino, Niagara Falls, for Sunday, Aug. 12. It leaves the Bolton community centre parking lot at 10 a.m. sharp and returns at roughly 7 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person, seats are limited. Free buffet included and reservations are required. All money received goes to pay for the cost of the bus, munchies served on the trip, driver's tip and the remainder is given out in free draws.

Call Barb at 905-857-4085 or Denise at 905-939-0522.

ASSOCIATED GOSPEL CHURCHES

ALBION HILLS BIBLE CHURCH
17243 The Gore Road, Palgrave
Sunday Services
9:45 am Bible study
11 am Worship
Member of the AGC
Associated Gospel Churches
905-880-5097
www.albionhillsbiblechurch.org
Founded on God's Word
Focused on Missions

ANGLICAN

CHRIST CHURCH BOLTON
Rev. Canon Gregory Symmes
22 Nancy Street, 905-857-0433
Sunday worship, 10 a.m.
Church school & nursery 10 a.m.

MONO PARISH
Rev. Barbara Hammond
St. John's, Mono Mills 10:30 a.m.
St. James, Hockley 9:00 a.m.

BAPTIST

CALEDON HILLS FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH
16591 Airport Rd. in Caledon East
Meeting at our new building north of Caledon East across from the Caledon Inn
Sunday: Worship & KidsChurch 10:30 a.m.
Weekly: Home Bible Studies, Ladies' Coffee Hour, Youth Group (Gr. 9 & up)
Tuesday Nights: AWANA (kids program ages 3-11 6:45 p.m.-8:15 p.m.)
For more information please phone
Pastor Bill Henderson
905-584-9525
Website: www.chfbc.ca

Churchill Baptist Church
We're on Mount Wolfe Rd. 1 km south of Hwy. #9 2 km north of Old Church Rd.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer 7:30 p.m.
(Call for location)
Pastor Marino Vereecke
905-936-3786

CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

Bolton Alliance Church

Meeting at Rotary Place (Caledon Seniors Centre)
7 Rotarian Way, Bolton

Sunday Services at 10:30 AM

Sunday Morning Children's Program

Weekday Home Groups

"Devoted to Christ and Making Him Known One Person at a Time"

Call 905-951-1051
Visit: www.boltonalliancechurch.org

NEW COVENANT

THE JESUS PEOPLE
Acts 2 Verse 37-38
EVERY SUNDAY 11 a.m.
15 King St. E.

HOLY SPIRIT MINISTRIES

PENTECOSTAL

BOLTON PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
All activities are upstairs at the Albion Bolton Community Centre
150 Queen Street, Bolton
Celebration Service 10:30 a.m.
Join us for our morning service and a coffee
Nursery & Children Programs
Visitors are always welcome!

Regular Family Night Activities held on Tuesday nights have ended for the summer season

"A church in the heart of the community with the community at heart."

For more information call
Pastor Kevin Parks
905-857-7424



Church Directory

PRESBYTERIAN

CAVEN CHURCH
110 King St. W., Bolton
Rev. Jeremy Lowther
Church: 905-857-2419

Sunday Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Nursery

The Friendly Church with A Mission
www.caven-life.org

UNITED

BOLTON UNITED CHURCH
8 Nancy Street, Bolton
905-857-2615
Rev. Donald White
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
11:00 a.m. Fellowship time
Church School & Nursery
All Welcome!
www.boltonunitedchurch.com

ROMAN CATHOLIC

ST. CORNELIUS CHURCH
Kennedy Road (north of the Grange)
Caledon
Mass: Sunday 8:30 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH ALBION
16066 Gore Road (north of Old Church Road)
Albion
Masses: Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:15 a.m.
11:45 a.m.

DODS AND MCNAIR FUNERAL HOME AND CHAPEL

Dods & McNair Funeral Home cares about our community through the services we provide. Orangeville's only locally owned and operated funeral home.
941-1392
www.dodsandmcnair.com

COMMUNITY EVENTS

A directory of what is happening in the community

THIS COLUMN IS PROVIDED AS A FREE PUBLIC SERVICE TO NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO ANNOUNCE UPCOMING EVENTS. PLEASE CONTACT BETH EARLY-REA AT CALEDON COMMUNITY SERVICES AT 905-584-9460 IF YOU WISH TO HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT PUBLISHED. THE DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY. MONTH OF JULY
Peel Health is recruiting volunteers for its In Home Volunteer Visitor Program and its Heartmobile Volunteer Program. If interested, please call Health Line Peel 905-799-7700.
WEDNESDAY, JULY 11
The Old Time Fiddlers meet 6:30-11 pm, in the Albion Bolton Community Centre. Everyone welcome to come out and enjoy the music. Admission \$2/person. Call Scotty 905-451-8057.
Tops (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Group meets in Bolton United Church Heritage Hall, weigh-in 7 pm; meeting 7:30-8:30 pm. This non-profit weight loss support group meets every Wednesday. Everyone welcome. Call Ruth 905-857-3237 or Beth 905-857-7452.
THURSDAY, JULY 12
Probus Club of Bolton District

meets 10 am, at the Caledon Seniors Centre (7 Rotarian Way, Bolton). Call Claudette 905-880-4532.
FRIDAY, JULY 13
The Caledon Parent-Child Centre/Ontario Early Years Centre is offering free programs throughout the summer in the Stationview Park, Bolton. On Fridays 1:30-3:30 pm, join in crafts, snacks, games. Call 905-857-0090 or visit www.cp-cc.org.
MONDAY, JULY 16
The Caledon Parent-Child Centre/Ontario Early Years Centre is offering free programs throughout the summer at the Cheltenham Pavilion, Mon & Thurs 9:30-11:30 am, join in crafts, stories, games. Call 905-857-0090 or visit www.cp-cc.org.
JULY 16-21
Bag Sale Week on all unpriced clothes at Chez Thrift (new location at 301 Queen St S, Bolton). Call 905-857-8121.
TUESDAY, JULY 17
The Caledon Parent-Child Centre/Ontario Early Years Centre is offering free programs throughout the summer in the Stationview Park, Bolton. On Tuesdays, 6-7 pm, enjoy bedtime stories and a snack. Call 905-857-

0090 or visit www.cp-cc.org.
THURSDAY, JULY 19
Caledon Meals on Wheels is hosting a trip to St Jacobs Farmers Market. \$26/person. For more information, call Gillian 905-584-7136.
FRIDAY, JULY 20
Caledon Meals on Wheels offers a Gentle Fitness Program for Seniors each Friday, 10:15-11 am, at St. James Church Senior's Drop-In, Caledon East. This program helps increase muscle strength, flexibility & mobility. Call 905-857-7651 or 905-584-2992.
MONDAY, JULY 23
Meeting of the Caledon F.A.M.E. Family Support Group, 7-9pm, in the Albion Bolton Community Centre, Rm A (150 Queen St S, Bolton). This group provides support to those with family members with mental illness. No cost. For more info or to register, call Frank Logue 905-488-7716.
TUESDAY, JULY 24
Steak Dinner & Beach Party, 5 pm, at Caledon Seniors Centre (7 Rotarian Way, Bolton). Entertainment is the Harmony Show Band. For tickets, call 905-951-6114.