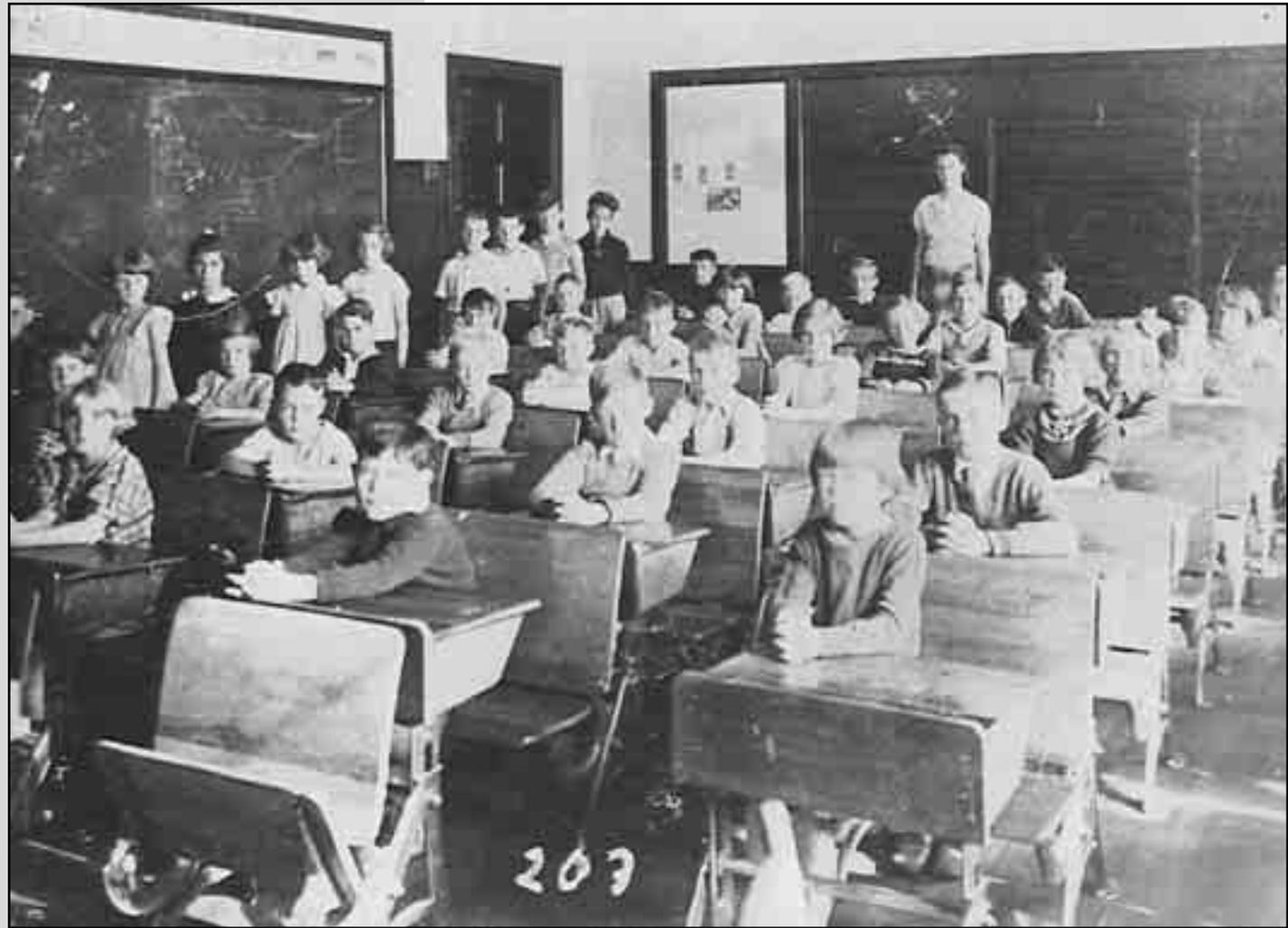


Lakeview Park Public School - 1923

AS THE POPULATION in Lakeview grew, Toronto Township Council decided in 1923 that another school was required in School Section #7, under whose jurisdiction Mr. George Bush was chairman. So one was built on two acres (0.8 ha) of James Walsh's property, Lot 6, Con. 1, SDS, and called Lakeview Park Public School. It was a two storey structure of red brick situated on the north side of the Lake Shore Road, further east of Lakeview Beach Public School. Walsh had bought 31.5 acres (12.6 ha) for \$28,350 on April 12, 1911, from Mary McEvay. In 1923, he put in a plan for a subdivision.



▲ Lakeview Park Public School Class

The school building was of Victorian architecture and consisted of four rooms with skylight ceilings and 12 inch (30 centimetre) thick walls. It was heated by a coal burning furnace.

Two rooms were ready for occupancy to start the school season in September, 1924. There were 80 pupils registered under teachers,

Miss Phyllis Ford and Miss Gertrude Lewis. The principal of Lakeview Beach, Stan Leuty, also handled this school until Colin McIntosh was hired in 1928. When the third classroom opened in September, 1926, Miss W. Wells was the teacher. The fourth classroom was opened in 1930 when kindergarten was started. By 1933, there were 159 students enrolled.

There was a variety of extra curricular activities for the students over the years such as fitness classes, the writer's guild, the choir, dance club, plays, the homework club, education week events, concerts, fund raising, barbecues, the all star reading program, and the spirit day committee.

Annual awards were given out for academic excellence, personal improvement, citizenship diligence, student leaders and sportsmanship. A student of the month was chosen. The students were also encouraged to reach out with compassion to the community and from this involvement the school received many awards from organizations: a Heart & Stroke Foundation plaque for Jump Rope for the Heart; and a United Way Peel Board of Education Gold Award for an outstanding contribution through the support of the United Way.

As the community developed with post war prosperity and the baby boomers came of age, in 1954 a new addition was added. On October 15-16, 1954, when the torrential storm of



▲ Lakeview Park Public School, 1967 (South Peel Board of Education)

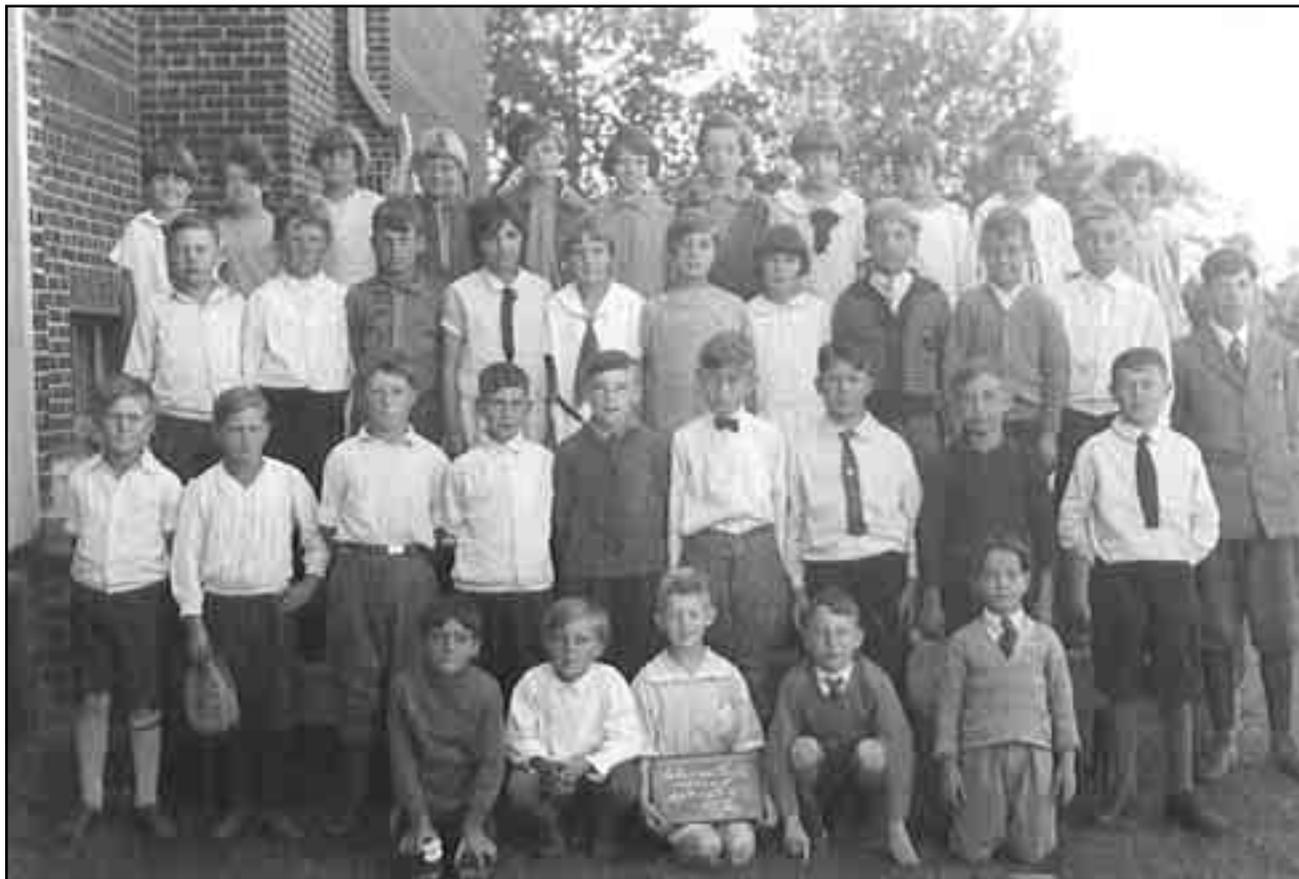
Hurricane Hazel hit the area, Lakeview Park was used to shelter local residents who had been flooded out. They remained at the school until the storm subsided and accommodations could be found. In 1963, the school had a fire, fortunately the damage was slight and no students were injured. In 1965, the school was expanded to nine rooms to accommodate the growing populace.

In 1973, when George Shannon was principal, the teachers and students of Lakeview Park Public School celebrated 50 years with a reunion on May 20th, 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Part of the entertainment included a gymnastics demonstration, choral selections, tours of the school, displays of Canadian history, old photos and mementos. Former students and staff were on hand to reminisce about their years at Lakeview Park. The Parent School Association presented a beautiful wooden plaque to the school, which was designed and carved by E. Glen Redden.

The 70th anniversary in 1993 was also a great affair, attended by Mayor Hazel McCallion, who presented the school with a plaque from the City, Mississauga South MPP Marg Marland and Mississauga South MP Paul Szabo. An open house was held on Thursday, May 5th, when the students put on a play called, "The 70 year Itch."

As the ratio in students diminished, the decision was made by the Peel Board of Education to close the school and transfer the students to Allan A. Martin and Neil C. Matheson Public Schools on Ogden Avenue. It was a sad time for the students, but the principal Cathy Standing, the teachers and students put "A Night to Remember"

together for the parents. It was "A Celebration of Life" and the students' performance, depicting the years from 1923, was well done. Principal Standing, who was going to be the principal at Allan A. Martin, thanked the parents for all their volunteer efforts, "You participated in every special school event, supporting our students and certainly supporting us through our school council." It was a tearful night that was recorded on video as a remembrance. The remaining 97 students were presented with a last gift, a Lakeview Park Memory Book.



▲ Lakeview Park Class, 1933 (Class photos - Lakeview Park School)



▲ 2003 (Kathleen A. Hicks)

On June 22, 2001, the school at 1239 Lakeshore Road East rang its bell for the last time after 78 years of service to the community. As of September, 2001, it has been the location of InDEC, an individual educational centre that provides a senior elementary and secondary school alternative program. The councillor was Patti Lawrence and the program leader was Nancy MacDonald Foster. In 2004/2005, the program leader is Karen Wilson.

Lakeview Park Public School ▶
(Mississauga Library System)



▲ School Closing, 2001. Grant Ferguson, former Principal, Larry Street, Superintendent, Cathy Standring, Principal (The Mississauga News)

NEWS ITEM

Vandals destroy property at Lakeview Park School

A bad case of vandalism occurred at Lakeview Park School on Tuesday night. In conversation with Chief Garnet McGill on Wednesday he stated that no arrests had been made as yet but that the break-in looked as if it was made entirely to do destruction rather than to steal.

Entrance was forced by breaking a basement window. A fire was started in the basement and files, records and text books were used to start a large fire in the office. The walls were badly charred and furniture burned. In the various rooms, dishes were broken and books strewn on the floors.

Due to the quick action of Tom Clayton of Lakeview, who was returning from Toronto and noticed the fire, further damage was prevented. Mr. Clayton gained entrance to the school and extinguished the fire. The school was closed on Tuesday and classes resumed on Wednesday.

Port Credit Weekly,
October 10, 1946

The Groves Family - 1924

Thomas Jordan Groves was born in Bridgewater, Somerset County, England, in 1887. He grew up with little education and started work in construction at an early age and became a cabinet maker. He married Catherine Cornish (b.1891, d.1963) in 1909 and they had a son, Thomas Henry, on June 26, 1910. In 1912, they planned on coming to Canada to join his parents in Toronto. They were supposed to sail on the Titanic but Catherine took ill, and the trip was postponed. Thank God, because we all know what happened to the Titanic on April 14, 1912.



◀ Thomas Groves Sr.,
1914



◀ Catherine Groves,
1945

AS IT HAPPENED THE FOLLOWING YEAR, THEY FINALLY made their trip across the Atlantic Ocean on a steam liner. After several days at sea, they landed in Montreal and took a train that brought them to Toronto's Union Station. Tom's brother, Bill, met them in a Model T Ford and drove them to their parent's rented house on Jones Avenue. Once they were settled, his father, Thomas, asked him, "What are you going to do, Tommy? Are you going into a cabinet shop?" Tommy, who had thought hard about his livelihood in Canada on his trip over, told his father, "No, I am going into the building business."

Tom got a job with a Mr. Baxter, who was constructing homes in New Toronto, and made all the sashes for the bungalows. The first house he worked on was the Bell house on Greenwood Avenue. Within three weeks, he was made foreman. Before long, he was

absorbing every aspect of the construction business, which had not interested him while he was in England. He became fascinated with drafting and was soon drawing up plans.

On November 23, 1913, Catherine gave birth to their second child, Lillian. By the end of the year, Tom, his brother, Bill, and Tommy Holms, had founded Groves and Holms Construction. They began building small bungalows in Scarborough. They could put up an entire house in three weeks. World War I took the three young men off to Europe. Both Tom's brothers, Albert and Bill, were also in the war under King George V. Albert received two medals, but Bill lost his life in action in 1914. He was awarded the Military Medal of Honour, 1st bar, 2nd bar and the Silver Cross. Tom received two medals. They were involved in all the big battles such as Vimy Ridge and did not return until 1918. Tom's father, Thomas Henry, had spent 21 years in the 2nd Somerset Light Infantry and had received the



▲ Thomas and Winnifred Groves, 1945



▲ Thomas and Winnifred Groves, 1952

Queen Victoria medal. He had served at Buckingham Palace taking care of Prince Edward's horses. So the family's medals were accumulating. Back in Toronto, with the war behind him, much to Tommy's dismay, he had to go back to work for Mr. Baxter.

In 1921, he started Groves Construction and brought his family out to reside on Manor Road (First Line/Cawthra Road) in Lakeview in 1924. They rented a house three doors up from the Lake Shore on the west side. He and Catherine had two more children by this time, Catherine, 1918, and William, 1920. The following year, young Tommy was out of school and working alongside his father. Tom Sr. was one of the founding members of the Canadian Legion Post #86, which was organized in 1926. He worked on the restoration of the Reginald Watkins estate on Mississauga Road, Erindale, called Lislehurst, in 1927.

Young Tommy and a friend, Joe Monks, went to Brampton for a parade in 1929 and it was here that Tom met 17 year old Winnifred



▲ Connie Clarke. The photo Bill fell in love with, 1939



▲ Win Groves, wearing hat Kathleen designed, 1939



▲ Tommy Groves IV



▲ Robbie Groves, 1950



▲ Bill and Kathleen, 1945



▲ Groves Store, Kathleen, Harry and Billy, 1946



▲ Former Groves Store, 2004



▲ Tommy, Kathleen and Richard, 1937

Beeby and Joe met Stella Brown. The two couples had a double wedding on November 8, 1930, and lived on First Street in Lakeview with friends. Kathleen (this author) was born in 1931. Tom was still working in construction with his father.

Tom Sr. and Catherine divorced in 1933 and Tom left to give his handiwork to his construction business. He went to northern Ontario where he built houses in the newly founded communities of Elliott Lake and Virginia Town. He built two large buildings to house the workers of the Norando Mines and houses at the Hosca Gold Mines both in Quebec, homes at Kearns Town Mines and Larder Lake in Ontario and he constructed a 454 suite \$4 million apartment building in Mimico.

Tom and Win took in his siblings, then Lil and Cath married and Bill stayed on. By 1939, Tom and Win had Tom, 1934, Dick, 1935, Harry, 1938, and Bill, 1939.

When World War II (1939-1945) commenced in Europe, Tom Sr. was again put into service in Alaska building Quonset huts for the Army and training the young men destined for overseas duty. His son, Bill, who lived with brother Tom on Jumna Avenue, also was involved in the war as a motorcycle dispatcher with the Canadian Army. While in London, England, Bill looked up Winnie's cousin, Connie Clarke, and they fell in love, got married on December 4, 1941, and had a daughter Marilyn on November 9, 1942.

When the war ended, Tom Sr. and young Bill returned. Connie came over as a war bride and she and Bill lived in Toronto. They eventually moved to Brampton where Bill worked as the custodian of the Brampton Court House, while Winnie's Uncle Joe Mitchell was the warden of the Jail. They then moved to Georgetown, where Bill died in 1985.

Tom Sr. rarely came back to see his family, but put his expertise into his construction company. He returned in 1950 and in 1952 he purchased property in Cooksville on

Western Avenue (King Street in 1972), two acres (0.8 ha) of Lot 16, Con. 1, SDS, where he built himself a house. He designed the Copeland's IGA, a drug store and the Johnsons & Magwood Service Station at the four corners of Cooksville. He constructed office buildings along Cawthra Road and throughout Toronto Township, leaving his mark on the land in apartment buildings, plants and a steel works in Oakville. Tom sold his property in Cooksville and rented a house in Port Credit on Briarwood Road. He saw five generations before he passed away on November 16, 1975.

During W.W.II, while Tom and Win lived on Jumna Avenue, Win worked at Small Arms as an ammunitions assembler. Tom worked in Toronto at a hat factory and then started his own painting and wallpapering business. With the two incomes, they managed to purchase several lots on Trotwood Avenue, of the Stephens subdivision plan of 1921, and moved there in May, 1942, to live in a two room tar paper shack Tom put up. Win quit Small Arms at the end of the war in 1945 and by this time Tom had built a two storey frame house with a cement block basement. They opened Groves Grocery in their front room and the store did fairly well.

Robert James came along in 1946. Besides doing the butchering for the store, Tom began to construct two cement block houses on his property and sold them to the Dykes, 1948, and the Stoners, 1949. He had bought a piece of property from Ed Ginger in 1946 and in 1949 he built a store with a house attached and in 1950, they moved into it and sold the other house. When Tom's health started to fail, they bought property in Parry Sound and moved there in 1952, leaving Kathleen and her new daughter, Kathleen Grace, 1951, behind. Tom died of lung cancer in 1977 and Win of emphysema in 1987.

There are still Groves living in Mississauga, Kathleen, of course, and brother Harry and his wife, Diane, and their children Richard and Diana and grandchildren, Kyle and Sarah.



▲ Bill and Win Groves, 1945



▲ Win and Kathleen Groves, 1944



▲ The former Groves Houses, 2003

Kathleen's two bedroom bungalow her relatives had built before she was married in 1949 at 1512 Kenmuir Avenue is still there as are Tom Jr.'s houses at 1371, 1375, 1381 Trotwood Avenue. Tom Sr.'s buildings still exist and his involvement in the restoration of the heritage house, Lislehurst, in Erindale that is the principal's home on the University of Toronto Mississauga campus, is still remembered. His house on Western Avenue was torn down when the street was put through to Hurontario and became King Street in 1972. It is now the location of Heritage House, a seniors residence. The old I.G.A. store is now the Mian Supermarket and the garage at the southeast corner of Hurontario and Dundas Streets was torn down in 2000.

Five Generations of the Groves Family, 1971 ▶



(Photos courtesy of Kathleen A. Hicks)



▲ Tom and Win Groves

NEWS ITEM

A double wedding took place at Lakeview Saturday, Nov. 8, when Miss Winnie Beeby was married to Thos. Groves and Miss Stella Brown to Mr. Joseph Monks. Both brides came from Brampton, while both grooms reside at Lakeview. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Mr. Dunsford, Anglican Minister.

The Streetsville Review, November 13, 1930

Author's note: The friends of the newlyweds put one baby shoe under the pillow of each bed and in the morning, Tom found the Monks' shoe outside his door. This pair of shoes was worn by this author.

The First Constable - 1925

Lakeview's first constable was Fred Choles, who operated a garage on the south side of Lake Shore Road, west of Aviation Road. He was constable from 1925 to 1927 and then William Cluff took over the task as well as truant officer. They kept an eye on activities in the small village and were only paid when they had to carry out an arrest or special function. Cluff owned a grocery store at the corner of the Lake Shore Road and Meredith Avenue, where he collected the local taxes. He also operated furnished cabins, which were used by American tourists, who ventured north for the Canadian National Exhibition every August.

In 1936, the men working on the widening of Lake Shore Road also provided Cluff with a good income. He also had gas pumps for Frontenac Oil Company. Around his time, Jack Wilson, who lived at Stop 4 on the Lake Shore Road, was the game warden. In 1938, Cluff was appointed a special township officer along with Bert Denison.



▲ Sid Belford
(Mary Richardson)

Choles House, 1920s (Stanley Choles) ▶



Joseph Allen was Toronto Township's first chief constable and Cooksville born Sidney Belford (b.1889, d.1942) was constable and truant officer, who joined Allen in 1924. At a council meeting in June, 1938, Sid was officially appointed Chief of the Toronto Township Police Department. He received a raise in pay and all fees and rewards were to be turned over to the Township's treasury. Sid was one of the Township's unspoken heroes, who was gentle and compassionate to others no matter what their crime. Ben L. Drennan, an officer of the Ontario Provincial Police, joined the Township Police Force and became chief in 1944. He was related to the Streetsville Drennans.

The first Sheriff for Peel County was Robert Broddy. He was the last Sheriff appointed by Prime Minister Sir John A. MacDonald in 1867. He was known for his splendid horses named Salt and Pepper. He served in this capacity until 1910 when he died at age 86. He was born in Chinguacousy and the area where he lived and raised six children was named Broddytown. It is now Bramalea.

NEWS ITEM

Township Bicyclists to pay Licence Fee

Toronto Township bicyclists will be required to purchase an annual licence for their machines immediately, according to a by-law given its third reading by township council on Monday. To be issued by Chief Constable Sidney Belford, the licences will cost fifty cents and will expire on December 31 of the year of issue.

"This by-law will provide protection for owners of bicycles and the public, and does not create a fund for the township treasurer," stated Reeve E. D. Maguire.

Penalties under the by-law provide a maximum fine of \$50. It will be effective immediately.

Port Credit Weekly
Thursday, July 7, 1938

NEWS ITEM

Constable denies charge

Earl Wise, Lakeview, charged with stealing a tire from Joseph Thompson, also of Lakeview, in police court on Tuesday accused Township constable Ben Drennan of using objectionable language and claimed that the constable had threatened that "he would get me."

"That is a serious charge to make," Magistrate W. E. McIlveen warned.

"I don't recall making that statement," the constable said when he was called to answer the accusation. "I told him that I had been watching him, but I don't remember saying anything more than that."

"Did you say that you were 'going to get him'?" Crown Attorney A. G. Davis asked.

"No sir."

George Turner, Sherbourne St., Toronto, volunteered himself as a witness and testified that Constable Drennan had called Wise several names and had used profane language while searching Wise's home. "The constable said, 'You're a smart guy, aren't you? Well I'm as smart as you are and I'm out to get you.'" Turner testified.

Chief Constable S. M. Belford denied hearing the constable swear at Wise. He had accompanied Drennan.

Recalled to the stand, Constable Drennan said, "It is absolutely untrue about my swearing at Wise and calling him a liar."

Wise repeated to the court some of the language he said he heard. He was remanded for one week.

Port Credit Weekly
December 15, 1938

The Lakeview Legions #86 & #262 - 1926

SEVERAL VETERANS OF WORLD WAR I (1914-1918), this author's grandfather Thomas J. Groves included, decided to form a Legion, whereby they would bring together all the local men who had fought in this war. In 1926, they held their first meeting and they met in one of the member's basements and called the group The Canadian Legion of the British Empire League. The charter members of Post #86 were: Fred Anderson, George Bradley, Arthur Bent, William Bolton, George Fourster, Thomas Graham, Thomas Groves, Thomas Hands, Joseph Kelly, William McMahan, W. O. Scott, Robert Townsend, Charles and John Wood and Alexander Waldrum. W. Scott became the secretary.

In 1927, they raised enough money to construct the Lakeview Memorial Hall on Centre Avenue (later Greaves Avenue) and it was managed by John Wood. They held dances every Wednesday and Saturday Nights and danced to the music of the Arcadian Orchestra. The organization only functioned until the end of 1930 and the Hall was sold. Several of the Legionnaires went to Port Credit Legion Branch #82.



▲ Army, Navy and Air Force Club, 2003

765 Third Avenue, Lakeview area. (Kathleen A. Hicks)

As time passed, some of the local veterans decided to reestablish a Legion and it all came together in a meeting of the Lakeview Veterans Association on February 20, 1936, held in a classroom at the Lakeview Beach Public School. Joseph Kelly was president, E. Johnson, vice-president, F. Gardner, secretary, and Mr. McCabe, treasurer. They eventually rented the house that had been the library on West Avenue. One popular fund raising project was the poppy fund. It usually averaged over \$200 every November, which was held in recognition of the end of WWI on November 11, Remembrance Day.

In 1938, the organization became known as the Lakeview Army and Navy Veterans Association, Unit #262. The following year a Ladies Auxiliary was formed. The members kept active with euchre nights, field days, children's picnics, sponsoring local sports teams and operating their Young People's Athletic Club.

The first record of an Army and Navy Veterans Club was reported in Montreal, Quebec, in 1840 and that date has been established as

its founding. So in 1940, the 100th anniversary of the organization was celebrated. In 1946, an Act of Parliament renamed the Association the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans (ANAF) in Canada.

In 1945, the ANAF started construction on its own clubhouse on Third Street. The basement was completed and opened on New Years Day, 1946. With the end of the war, the club's membership soared

140

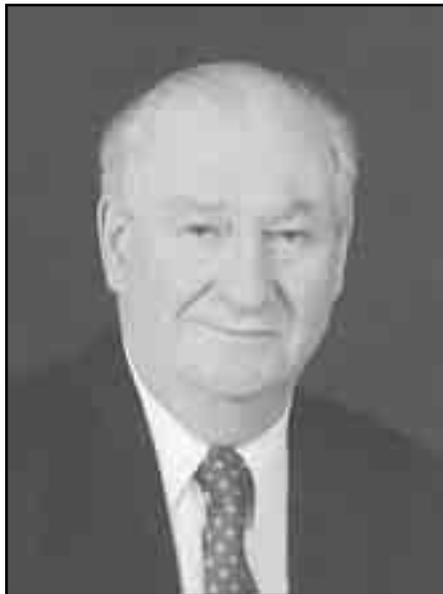


▲ The ANAF Unit #262 Hall, 2003 (Kathleen A. Hicks)

and activities increased until more space was required. It was expanded with a first floor in 1949. The building received a second floor in 1963 that contained a Banquet Hall and kitchen facilities. On October 6, 1963, Reeve Robert Speck did the honour of opening the renovated Lakeview Unit #262 clubhouse at 765 Third Street.

Some of Unit #262's activities include: a Canada Remembers program, marching in the Canadian National Exhibition parade, observing Remembrance Day, having a children's Christmas party every December and sports day every summer and a gigantic Canada Day party on July 1st. This author attended the Unit's Armistice Dinner on Saturday, November 9, 1974, which was also attended by the Kennedys, Searles, Kellys, Crawfords and McKays. One interesting activity that began in 1982, has been the participation in the American Legion West Seneca Post #735's remembrance parade for Pearl Harbour every December 7th in New York State.

In January, 1992, Andrew Dowling, who had joined Unit #262 on October 29, 1977, when there were 550 members, became president. His board consisted of Bud Stevenson, vice president, John Hudson, second vice, Jack Lowe, treasurer, and Ed Lee, secretary.



▲ Andy Dowling

After 12 years, Andy still retains his presidency, but his board has changed. Now he has John Angliss, first vice, Robert Levesque, second vice, William White, treasurer, and Donald Evans, secretary. Over the years, the members have kept their focus and worked at retaining a strength of purpose in retaining the character of the organization's aim to always build a bigger and better organization for those who sacrificed for their country.

NEWS ITEM

The Lakeview Army and Navy Unit #262 will present a grand variety concert next Wednesday in the Silver Moon Dance Gardens. Music will be provided by the well known South Sea College of Music radio artists, with singing, dancing and Hawaiian music also featured. Proceeds of the concert will be given in aid of the children's picnic held every year by the vets. Tickets are 25¢ and 15¢ and are on sale at every store. It is a worthy cause, so bring your friends with you. You won't regret it.

Port Credit Weekly
June 23, 1938

The Lakeview unit of the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans Association is making a name for itself at home and abroad.

A Windsor war veteran reports that he received a letter recently from the British Minister of Records advising him to contact the Lakeview A. N. & A. F. unit if he wanted to get action on his pension request. "You will not be let down," he was told.

At home, the Lakeview vets made a good showing in the Warriors' Day Parade at the Canadian National Exhibition on Saturday. They had the largest A. N. & A. F. unit in the procession with 100 men and 25 women parading, headed by two bands. They were joined by members of the Kitchener unit. It was the fifth year that the unit had participated in the parade, and this year's turnout was a record.

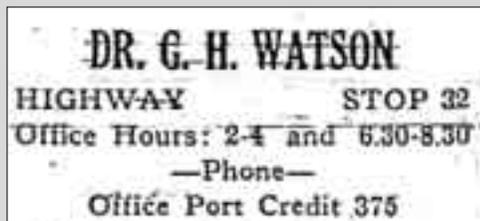
Fred Marshall acted as parade marshall and "Hank" Geil was sergeant of the colour party. The women unit was under the direction of Edith Wood.

Port Credit Weekly
Thursday, August 30, 1951

The First Doctor - 1926

George Watson was born the son of William George Watson on January 21, 1899. His grandparents John and Elizabeth Watson had come to Lakeview in 1871, where they bought Lots 4 and 5, Con 2, SDS, east of Third Line (Dixie Road). George was born on his grandfather's farm. He had three brothers and one sister.

After attending Dixie Public School and Humber College and acquiring the education at the University of Toronto Medical College to secure a medical licence, George interned at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto during 1924 and 1925. He then set up his practice in the newly named Lakeview in 1926. He bought property on Haig Boulevard and had a house built, which he christened Lakeview Park. He ran his practice from his home and he became a prominent family physician in Toronto Township



◀ Advertisement
Port Credit Weekly,
June 16, 1927



▲ former Watson House, 2004 (Kathleen A. Hicks)

IN SEPTEMBER, 1926, HE MARRIED HAZEL GOULDING. THEY had one son, David Goulding. The following year, he set up an office on the Lakeshore Road at Stop 32, where his office hours were 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. His telephone number was Port Credit 375. There were three doctors available at this time. Dr. Watson, Dr. Lionel Brayley who had a Port Credit office and Dr. Harold Sutton, the health officer and coroner, whose office was in Cooksville.

In 1926, Dr. Watson took over the Port Credit Child Welfare Clinic, conducted by the Catholic Women's League. The first clinic had been held in the Kingsbury Hall in Port Credit in 1925 with only five babies being attended to. Dr. Walter Thompson was the first physician involved and when he left after six months, Dr. Watson took over. He was assisted by Red Cross nurse, Miss Mary Turner. The mothers were given instructions in child care, nursing and general welfare of their babies.

For five years, the Clinic was open every Friday afternoon, except for one month during a flu epidemic, and Dr. Watson, the baby specialist, was on hand.

The Red Cross Society took over the operation and within ten years the membership was up to 187 and the clinic was held in Forest Avenue Public School. Every year, a birthday party was held. At the 14th celebration in July, 1939, the babies were presented silver spoons from Colonel Thomas Kennedy, to commemorate the royal visit of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in May. Reeve Maguire



▲ Lakeview Baby Clinic, 1952. William Bayliss, President Lakeview Businessmen's Assoc. on left.

and MP Gordon Graydon were also in attendance. Mr. Graydon commented that, "Toronto Township has the good fortune in having such a self sacrificing and devoted doctor as Dr. Watson in its midst." Dr. Watson was involved until October, 1951, when he resigned. Due to his leaving, the clinic closed down. In 1952, it was reopened as the Lakeview Baby Clinic under the auspices of the Peel County Health Unit and the Lakeview Businessmen's Association. Mrs. George Gallow, the Association's chairman of the welfare committee, took over its management.

Dr. Watson suffered a heart attack and then died of cancer on October 3, 1964. His house at 1020 Haig Boulevard is now the residence of Arben Alekski and his family.

Author's note: Dr. George Watson was the Groves' family doctor (author's maiden name) from 1933 to 1954. He delivered all my mother's babies at home, except me, and delivered my first child, Kathleen Grace, in 1951, at St. Michael's Hospital.

NEWS ITEM

A very pretty wedding was solemnized on Wednesday evening at the attractive home of Mr. and Mrs. Jethro Crang, 2 Regal Road, when Hazel Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Alfred Goulding and the late Mrs. Goulding, became the bride of Dr. George H. Watson, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Watson, Dixie, Ontario. The ceremony was conducted by Rev. W. E. Baker. Miss Marjorie Goulding, as bridesmaid, carried an old fashioned bouquet of cornflowers and roses in shades to match her gown. Miss Jean Jarkinson, niece of the bride, was a dainty flower girl frocked in pale pink. Master John Clayson acted as ring-bearer. Dr. Douglas Scott of New York assisted the groom. Dr. and Mrs. Watson left by motor for their honeymoon. Upon their return they will reside in their new home, Lakeview Park.

Streetsville Review
Thursday, Sept. 16, 1926

Crookes' Auto Wreckers - 1927

English born, Albert Crookes, came from Sheffield to Canada in 1911 at age 27. He lived in a small cottage in a field a quarter mile south of the Middle Road (Queen Elizabeth Way), Lot 8, Con. 2, and here he started an auto wreckers business in 1927. Albert was a heavy set man of medium height, a banty rooster type of gentleman, who looked the part of a businessman who dealt with the public. He purchased old wrecks from A. D. Gorrie's used car dealership in Toronto and had high school boys go in to tow the cars out. Ogden Avenue wasn't put all the way through yet

and only went to the railway tracks so a team of horses had to pull the wrecks to the yard for dismantling. This rutted laneway, called Wreckers Road by the locales, was eventually extended up to the Queen Elizabeth Way and the address became 1365 Ogden Avenue.



▲ Albert Crookes
(Gerry Lancaster)



▲ Albert Crookes, 1938 (Gerry Lancaster)

CARS SOLD NEW FOR \$240, BUT AS WRECKS, ALBERT BOUGHT them for as little as \$5. If anyone complained about the price of parts, he would just refer them to the Eaton's Catalogue, which was his pricing guide. His business prospered to become well known and one of Lakeview's longest run successful operations.

Albert was politically inclined and as early as 1930, he began to attend the odd Toronto Township Council meeting. He and his old friend, John Evans, would hop in Albert's tow truck and make a bee-line for the Cooksville Town Hall, where, with law books in tow, he would agitate and thoroughly enjoy the experience.

In 1939 when the King and Queen of England came to Canada for a visit, he was the newly elected Deputy Reeve, and he was in charge of the train accommodations to transport the school children of Toronto Township to Riverside Park to see the royal couple. He had beat his opponent H. J. Hazard 668 votes to 305. His many years of

assisting the families of Lakeview through the depression revealed that the people did not forget a kind gesture.

After his one year stint as Deputy Reeve, Crookes rarely missed a Council meeting. By 1953, he was dubbed “the unofficial opposition member” by Reeve Anthony Adamson. He was known to be a stubborn hardheaded observer who was against every Reeve who was in office. He belonged to the Lakeview Businessmen’s Association and Ward 1 Ratepayers Association and swung his weight around when he had a beef to express. When Mary Fix was Reeve she ordained him, “The official opposition.”

Albert never married, so when he passed away on April 27, 1958, at age 73, he left his wrecking yard to his sister Kate’s son, Bruce Holness. Kate (b.1894, d.1977) and her husband, James (1887-1972), had four children, Edward, born in 1920, who was in the Air Force during World War II and died in 1944, a daughter, Bernice, 1925, Bruce, 1927, and Bernard (1930-1997). In September, the 10 acre (4 ha) Lakeview Athletic Park was renamed the Albert E. Crookes Memorial Park in his honour and a stone cairn with a bronze plaque was erected and dedicated by Reverend John Urquhart of St. Nicholas Anglican Church. It reads: In memory of Albert E. Crookes 1885 - 1958 for a lifetime of service to his community.

Bruce had worked for his uncle for a number of years. He remembers his Uncle Albert’s favorite slogan, “We’ve been Crookes since 1927 and it’s too late to change.” He operated the business until 1989 and then sold the property. Houses are located there today. He still resides in Mississauga with his family.



▲ Albert Crooke’s Park (Kathleen A. Hicks)

NEWS ITEM

The unsung hero of the outburst at the Toronto Township Council chambers was Albert Crookes, for years the “god-father” of the Lakeview area. Crookes, who did so much to assist unemployed of the district during the past winter and spring, and who has presented the case of unfortunates of Lakeview at every meeting of Toronto Township Council during the past three years, was instrumental with Township Constable Sid Belford, in stemming the rush of strikers into the council chambers long enough to give Reeve L. H. Pallett, who was attacked by the mob, an opportunity to escape from its clutches, and take refuge in the office of the road overseer.

When Pallett came to the door of the offices to talk to the workers, who had marched on the hall, Crookes edged to the fore to put in a pacifying word in case the outburst developed. When the men in the front rank of the mob grabbed the Reeve, Crookes interposed, and tried to get the men to leave the office. Windows began to crash, and the mob rushed. The Reeve, in hiding in the overseer’s office, was sought by the strikers, who rushed to the other end of the building. When they found that their intended prey had escaped them, they turned on Crookes.

Men and women swung threatening fists under his nose, and he was backed against the wall of the hall. One man waving a two-foot section of board, studded with rusty nails, made for Crookes. He was thrust away for the moment, but still holding the board, returned to attack. One of the Telegram staff, standing at Crookes’ side, blocked the man, and as cooler counsel prevailed, he contented himself with shouts of “traitor” and other epithets. “Why didn’t you let us get Pallett?” he yelled.

Crookes, to Inspector Doyle of the Provincial Police, refused information as to the identity of his attackers. Bitterly disappointed by the attitude of men whom he had befriended for years, he refused to adopt the character they would have thrust upon him.

Councillor Tom Graham, commenting on the affair later, said, “Crookes was the hero of the day. Things are bad enough as it is but if they had dragged Pallett out in the open, some of them would have gone to jail. It would have been a murder.”

Streetsville Review
June 22, 1933



Girl Guides - 1927

THE 1st LAKEVIEW GUIDE COMPANY WAS formed in 1927 with Gladys Mary Bumstead and Mrs. M. Hope as Guiders. In 1931, the 1st Lakeview Brownie Pack was organized and the Leaders were Miss E. K. Walker and Miss O'Reilly. These two groups held their meetings at Lakeview Park Public School.

The Girl Guide organization was started in England in 1909 by Boy Scout founder Lord Robert Baden-Powell and his sister, Agnes, who became the first Commissioner. In 1910, Guiding came to Canada with the first company being formed in St. Catharines, Ontario, by Mrs. Malcolmson. That same year companies were started in Toronto, Winnipeg and Moose Jaw.

The aim of the Girl Guide organization is to help girls and young women to become responsible citizens, who are able to give leadership and service to their community, whether local, national or global. Guiding has a three part promise: "I promise to do my best, To be true to myself, my God/faith and Canada; I will help others, and accept the Guiding Law."



◀ Agnes Baden-Powell
(Boy Scouts of Canada)

In the 1950s, the Lakeview Businessmen's Association assisted young people such as the Guides and Brownies. The Lakeview Guide Company camped at Sawyers Lake in Haliburton at this time. The Guides often visited the Cawthra-Elliott estate to enjoy hiking and learn about nature.

On April 19, 1956, the South Peel Division of the Canadian Girl Guides held its third annual dinner meeting in Lakeview. In attendance were the Division Commissioner Mrs. D. Smith, Director of Toronto Township's Parks and Recreation, William Hare, Township Reeve Tom Jackson and Streetsville Reeve and Warden of Peel, William C. Arch.



▲ 1st Lakeview Girl Guides, 1949 (Mildred Potter Anderson)

After Hurricane Hazel hit the area in October, 1954, the older Guides and Rangers (girls 15-18) were instrumental in helping people clean up the debris.

Guiding in the Peel and Halton Counties was part of the Hamilton area until 1961. In 1962, White Oaks Area was formed and Lakeview became a District in the Dixie Division. As the Guiding organization grew, the area below the QEW was divided into four districts: Lakeview, Lyndwood, Orchard Heights and Ogden. In 1972, these districts became part of the Jalna Division and in 1974, the four districts became the Ogden District.

In the 1980s, the Ogden District worked with the Mississauga Parks and Recreation Department to provide after school activities for chil-

dren of low income families. The Guides are involved in crafts, music, camping, hiking, games and earning badges. They also spend one week a year at Camp Wyoka, near Clifford, Ontario, approximately 160 kilometres (96 miles) north of Mississauga. All the Guides of the Ogden District participate in the spring clean up in April. During the Mississauga's Litter Not campaign, the Guides adopted Serson Park and a sign was put up acknowledging this.

The two Lakeview units are now called the 77th Mississauga Guide Company and the 77th Mississauga Brownie Pack. There are six units with 74 girls involved. Lakeview can take credit for having the first Girl Guide Company in Toronto Township/Mississauga.



▲ South Peel Division Dinner Meeting, Director of Parks and Recreation, William Hare, Reeve Tom Jackson, Division Commissioner Mrs. D. Smith, and Warden of Peel W. C. Arch, 1956 (Port Credit Weekly)

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

In 1909, when some girls in London, England, heard about the new organization for boys that was started by Lord Baden-Powell, they dressed in make-shift uniforms and went to a Boy Scout Rally in the Crystal Palace. They insisted that they wanted to start their own group of girl scouts.

Lord Baden-Powell was impressed with the young ladies' gumption and invited them to his house. He got them organized and helped them choose a distinctive name, the Girl Guides. He introduced them to his sister, Agnes, and she agreed to be their leader. She became the president of the Imperial Girl Guide Association. She and her brother wrote the first handbook for Guides called, "How Girls Can Help Build the Empire." The first company in England, registered February 6, 1910, was called "Miss Baden-Powell's Own."

Taken in part from a Girl Guide newsletter.

Lakeview Park - 1927

Lakeview Park, covering an area of 10 acres (4 ha), was opened in 1927 for people to enjoy the scenic beauty of Lake Ontario and its massive sandy beach. It was the first park in Toronto Township. With 700 feet (213 m) of lake frontage this vantage point would eventually harbor a boat house/first aid building manned by lifeguards, a concession booth with change and washrooms rooms, picnic area with tables, benches and barbeque pits and a softball diamond with a parking lot for over 100 cars. The Lakeview Girls Softball League started playing there in 1927.

During the summer months of the 1930s, many events were held at the park and the proceeds were used to improve the popular bathing area that would see up to 1,000 visitors on a weekend.

In the summer of 1936, a constable was put on duty by the Toronto Township Parks Commission to patrol the beach on weekends and holidays. That summer, on June 20th, parking charges of 10¢ for cars and 25¢ for trucks was implemented. The Park was also used for special events for the first time and permission had to be arranged through the Commission secretary, W. M. Ketchen. At this time it was announced that it was a popular place for picnickers and one weekend over 4,000 people utilized the beach.



▲ *The Groves Family at Lakeview Park, 1936*
(Kathleen A. Hicks)

A NEW BALL DIAMOND WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1946 BY THE Township's Board of Parks. The Board consisted of D. H. Cowling, T. H. Barrett and Alex O'Brien. In 1950, the Lakeview Businessmen's Association held several Bingos at the Lakeview Beach Public School to raise funds to make a few improvements to what was now called Aviation Park. The Toronto Township Council allocated \$5,775 for park improvements in November, 1951, and the park had another name change to Lakeview Athletic Park. The park was the only one handled by the Parks Commission and the plans were carried out in the spring of 1952. They had a 48 foot by 24 foot (14.8 m x 7.4 m) cement block building constructed by contractor Peter Caruk that had change rooms for swimmers, washrooms and a refreshment booth that would be open all day. It was the first building of its kind in the Township. (It would be converted to a Drop-in-Centre in 1967.) A park caretaker had living quarters at the rear of the building. Mr. Osborne was assigned life guard. Bleachers were built at the ball diamond and overhead lighting was installed so evening baseball games could be played.

In 1957, 12 large maple trees were planted, and in 1958, a children's wading pool was added. A large Scotch pine was also planted in the picnic area by Mrs. S. Sharpe of Port Credit. On any given summer weekend, over 1,000 people congregate at the beach. When an event was held over 2,000 people would attend.

When the former Deputy Reeve, Albert Crookes, passed away in April, 1958, the Toronto Township council decided to honour him by changing the name of Lakeview Athletic Park to the Albert Crookes Memorial Park. On September 8th, the Crookes family, Mayor Mary Fix, councillors and many Lakeview residents, who knew this community minded gentleman, gathered for the ceremony. Reverend John Urquhart, Rector of St. Nicholas Anglican Church, did the dedication. A cairn was unveiled by Albert's sister, Mrs. Lily Lancaster. The bronze plaque reads: Albert E. Crookes 1885-1958 for a lifetime of service to his community.

The Albert E. Crookes Memorial Park became part of Lakefront Promenade Park in 1994.

Gloria Harris Keene, 2003 ▶



NEWS ITEM

Miss Toronto Township Judged on Saturday



(Joan Harris Larkin)

A blonde 17 year old high school girl emerged victor over a score of rivals when the judges crowned Miss Gloria Harris, of Caven Street, Lakeview, as "Miss Toronto Township," Saturday at the annual picnic of the Lakeview Liberal Association.

The beauty contest, rained out a week ago, attracted more than 2,000 people to Lakeview Park. Some 23 girls participated in the event and the judges had a difficult time before selecting the winner. They finally awarded first place to Miss Harris over her dark haired rival, Miss Margaret Hazlett, 19, of Horner Avenue, Alderwood.

Third place went to Miss Gladys O'Lennick, 19, employee of the Toronto Golf Course. The judges were Mrs. A. McMann, of the Health League of Canada; Reeve Ed Maguire of Toronto Township; and Ward Price of Toronto. Mrs. McMann crowned the winner and presented her with a bouquet. Mansell Kitchen, president of the Lakeview Liberal Association, made the presentation of a \$25 cheque to the winner.

Miss Harris made her second appearance on Monday night, when she appeared at the Legion carnival to make the lucky number draw. *The Port Credit Weekly* extends congratulations to Gloria on this, her first venture to gain honours for herself and Lakeview.

Port Credit Weekly
Thursday, August 10, 1939

Author's note: Gloria Harris was 17 years old when she won Miss Toronto Township. In 1944, she moved to Vancouver, British Columbia, to be with her new husband, Norman Keene, who was serving in the Air Force. They still reside there.

Third Line/Dixie Road - 1927

IN 1927, WITH THE BACKING OF MAJOR General Cawthra-Elliott, who was working in earnest to have First Line called Cawthra Road, a petition started by Mrs. Ramage and Mrs. McMasters (who lived near the Lakeview Golf Course), was being circulated by the Third Line ratepayers of Lakeview, for the renaming of Third Line to Dixie Road, named for the village to the north. They had formed a committee to carry out this quest and succeeded.

Earlier in the year, Mr. J. J. Jamieson, Reeve of Toronto Township and chairman of the Country Good Roads Committee, decided to make the Third Line the first permanent road to be upgraded in Peel County. The contract for the concrete paving of the nearly three mile (5 km) stretch of gravel road between the Lake Shore Road and Dundas Street was awarded to The Grant Construction Company of Toronto. The transformation would cost \$70,000, half of which would be paid by the provincial government. The cost to maintain the road had been running at \$3,000 a year, and \$6,000 had been spent the previous spring, so it was thought by council to be a good investment.

A committee, to handle the opening ceremonies, had been formed



▲ Dixie Road, looking north, 1920s (Grant Clarkson)

and was headed up by Councillor Leslie Pallett. The grand opening of the newly named and paved road took place on Monday, August 8, 1927, in front of the Dixie Public School, just south of Dundas Street. Mr. R. C. Muir, chief engineer for the Department of Highways, standing in for the Minister, the Honourable George S. Henry, cut the ribbon with a pair of gold scissors. He complimented those involved with the project. Then the federal member, Samuel Charters, spoke on his many trips on this old line and how 22 years ago there had been 535 automobiles in Ontario compared with 335,000 in 1927. He complimented Reeve Jamieson on this accomplishment. Former Reeve Thomas Goldthorpe, the oldest living ex-reeve in the Township, who resided on Dixie Road, presented the Reeve and country engineer, M. L. Powell, with a set of club bags and resident engineer, J. Brown, with a walking stick. Remembrances of the old road, declared open in 1833, were exchanged. Up until 1913, Third

Line had been a clay road, almost impassible in bad weather. The first gravel was placed on the road that year thanks to the ratepayers by public subscription. In 1917, it was declared a county road.

A garden party on the school property followed, and the hundreds of guests were serenaded by the 73 year old Canadian singer, James Fax, who had first taken to the stage at age 25, and were entertained by dancer Thelma Oswen of Toronto and singer Mrs. Stanley Leuty. They were accompanied by pianist, Miss Mason. The Brampton Band was also on hand. When the festivities came to a close, 100 guests were treated to a banquet at Crofton Villa in Cooksville.

Dixie Road was still referred to as the Third Line until 1958 when it was officially sanctioned by the Toronto Township Council along with Cawthra (First Line) and Tomken Roads (Second Line).



▲ Dixie Road looking south, 1920s (Grant Clarkson)

NEWS ITEM

New sidewalk for Lakeview

The council for the Township of Toronto is anxious to see a sidewalk built in Lakeview on the Toronto Hamilton Highway. For some time the ratepayers have urged the council to take definite action in connection with the building of a sidewalk at this particular point in Lakeview, in view of the fact that the people are endangering their lives along the heavily travelled road. A resolution was passed on the motion of Councillor L. H. Pallett and Deputy Reeve Bryans that the Road Superintendent, T. W. McCracken, inform the Department of Highways that the council is prepared to proceed with the construction of the sidewalk at once. A letter was read from the Highway Department stating that the customary grant of one-third the cost of construction might be expected from the Department.

Streetsville Review
August 12, 1927

The Great Depression - 1930s



When the New York Stock Market crashed on Friday, October 29, 1929, the world economy spiraled downward until every country was hard hit. Canada was no exception. People became poor overnight, losing money, homes, businesses and their dignity.

▲ Lakeview Relief Camp (City of Toronto Archives)

MANY OUT OF DESPAIR AND DESPERATION TOOK their lives
There was mass unemployment and starving families, which led to bread lines so people could get food to sustain themselves in this desperate time of need and poverty.

With the men of Lakeview losing their jobs, their families suffered. This area seemed worse hit than the rest of the Township and the

stigma of that period stayed with the small community for many decades. People, who were renting and could not meet their monthly rent would move from place to place, dragging their families about as despair and poverty plaguing them. There was no work to be had. Lakeview as yet had no industry and the local farmers relied on their own family to do the work. Starvation sat on their doorstep and the men went out hunting to bring back a rabbit or two. They stole chickens and vegetables and fruit out of the farmers' fields and did what they had to do to survive. Many men hopped the freight cars and went to other parts of the country looking for work.

Reverend Allan Ferry of the Lakeview United Church began the Lakeview Church Relief Fund in March, 1931, to assist the people in

his parish. The local farmers began to donate food and second hand clothing began to pour in from the more affluent people of Toronto. Every Monday and Friday morning, the needy would go to the Church to receive food and clothing. In December of that year, the Lakeview Welfare Association was organized and supported by the churches, the School Board and the Ratepayers. The head of the household then signed his family up for relief from this organization, which provided food and staples.

It was not until World War II started in 1939 that life began to take on a new hope for the future, as jobs again became available and life took on a normalcy not felt in a decade.



1930s PRICES

Pay per hour: 10¢
 Room & board: \$1 a night
 Hamburger: 13¢ a lb.
 Flour: 45¢ for a 12 lb. bag
 Corn Syrup: 15¢ for a 2 lb tin
 Raisins: 13¢ a lb.
 Butter: 22¢ a lb.
 Work pants: \$1.50
 Cotton dress: 79¢
 Custom made suit: \$23.

◀ Unloading a truck parked on the north side of Lake Shore Road

(City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1266, Items 31245, 31249, 31274)



▲ Carrying food into the Camp, crossing the radial car tracks south of Lake Shore Road (City of Toronto Archives)

thin. My father came in for some tea and was asking the hobo questions and before long he and the hobo were talking almost as if they knew each other.

"I listened from the bedroom and for some reason I wanted to do something for the hobo. I picked up my notebook, tore a piece off one of the sheets and printed GOOD LUCK. I went to the veranda and walked beside the railing toward the chair where his hat lay and I pushed the paper until it disappeared underneath the band. Soon afterward, the hobo came out of the house, picked up his hat and started toward the steps. He said, 'S'long' and went fast along the road, setting his beaten up hat on top of his head."

Verna Mae Weeks

Excerpt from *My Villages of Mississauga*, page 217

Memories

"One afternoon as I returned from school, I was surprised to see a hobo sitting on a chair on the front veranda. I knew he was a hobo, because many people were wearing old clothes with mends and tears in them. He sat forward on the chair, wearing his hat with his shoulders hunched, holding the sides of the chair as though he were ready to jump up and go. Inside the house, my mother was making him an egg sandwich. He had offered to do some work, but she had nothing for him to do.

"I told him to come inside the sandwich was ready and when he took his hat off, I saw that he was not old, but quite young and

The Lakeview Library - 1930

THE LAKEVIEW LIBRARY WAS ORGANIZED and opened in 1930 by a few interested people who formed a Library Board in 1928 and held meetings at the Lakeview Beach Public School. The Board consisted of Howard Bowyer, principal of Lakeview Beach, as chairman, Mr. David, vice chairman, William Hett, secretary, M. Ketchen, treasurer, and Mrs. Wheatly as librarian.

A library was established in a house at the north-west corner of West Avenue and Second Street (Gardner Avenue). This house is still there at 1062 West Avenue and is now owned by Allan Nelson. The library was only open on Monday and Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoon. It cost 25¢ a year to be able to borrow books and 5¢ for a card. The librarians were Mrs. Hawthorne and Mrs. David. This library service was discontinued in the early 1940s and starting in 1957 the Toronto Township Library System's bookmobile serviced this area.

In 1963, several Lakeview residents, Dora Stewart being one, approached Chief Librarian, Ruth Conrad, about establishing a Lakeview Library. It was not until March, 1967, that the Toronto Township Council finally voted to construct three libraries as a Centennial project: Lakeview, Malton and Lorne Park.

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▲ Lakeview Public Library, 2003

(Kathleen A. Hicks)

The 37,000 square foot (3,437 m²) Lakeview Library at 1110 Atwater Avenue was designed by Pentland, Baker & Polson Architects of Toronto and built by Fredo Construction. It was officially opened by the Honorable William G. Davis, Minister of Education, on Sunday, October 15, 1967, with Ann Eddie as the librarian. Also on hand was Reeve Robert Speck, Deputy Reeve Chic Murray, Chairman of the Library Board, Peter J. Killaby, Chief Librarian Ruth Conrad and Father P. LeBlanc who made the dedication. Within three days of operation, 402 residents registered at the library and took out 1,691 items.

Within five years, the Library was too small and in 1972, the Library Board reported to the Mississauga Town Council that the Branch had to be expanded to accommodate the populace. It was estimated that the project would cost \$150,000. An architect was chosen in 1973 and plans were drawn up to proceed, however the Ontario Municipal Board did not give approval due to the rising costs of building materials and the new wing, that increased the library to 41,000 square feet (3,809m²), was not completed until October, 1974. On Sunday, March 9, 1975, Mayor Martin Dobkin opened the renovated Lakeview Branch. At this time, there were 110,000 books in circulation and Grace Shields was the librarian (1970-1981).

Over the years, the Library has hosted many functions for social

agencies, schools and churches. It is known as a meeting place for families and seniors, where there is always something of interest for everyone. The staff reaches out into the community as well, such as providing storytelling for day care programs.

On Saturday, October 18, 1997, a 30 year anniversary was celebrated, handled by senior librarian, Ruth Denyer (1993-2000). Many activities were provided and interesting items were on display, one of importance being an invitation to the 1967 opening, donated by former councillor of Ward 7 and former Mayor, Ron Searle.

In 2005, the annual circulation is over 208,000 items. Laura Higgison is the Senior Librarian and Ruth Denyer is the Branch Manager for Lakeview and Port Credit.



▲ Former Library Location, 2004
(Kathleen A. Hicks)



◀ Opening 1967
Ruth Conrad
on the right
(Mississauga Library
System)



(Mississauga Library System)



▲ Mollie and Ron Searle and the
First Librarian, Ann Eddie, 1997
(Kathleen A. Hicks)

Water Comes To Lakeview - 1932

It took three years of perseverance by the residents of Lakeview before the water pipes were laid from Port Credit, so that they would have the convenience of water in their homes and do away with the long time wells. It all began in August of 1929, when Lakeview residents heard that water was going to be put in Port Credit homes, that a petition was put together by William Cooke, Stanley and Elizabeth Eveleigh, Thomas, Helen, A. P. and Margaret Rundle, Albert and Minnie Stewart and presented to the Port Credit Council. They requested that their properties be annexed so that their homes could be connected to the Port Credit water system, which would be installed in 1931 with the construction of an 8 inch (20 cm) main from Long Branch, with water being purchased from New Toronto. The issue was put over to the next meeting, but their petition was never tabled again.

Mrs. Ann Mabel Adamson, granddaughter of Joseph Cawthra, who lived on the Grove Farm, wrote a letter to Council in May, 1931, making the same request. As it turned out her appeal was granted with the condition that she pay the costs of the extra work involved with the installation. She complied and her home was connected up during the course of Port Credit receiving its water supply. This was followed by an urgent letter to the *Port Credit News* from Major-General Cawthra-Elliott telling of the water conditions the Lakeview people had to cope with.

IT ALL CAME TOGETHER IN MARCH OF 1932 WHEN LOCAL men, under engineer William Storrie, began the installation and laboured through the summer laying the water mains along the Lake Shore Road, up Cawthra Road and Haig Boulevard to the Middle Road (QEW) and Deta Road to the CNR tracks. They were paid 35¢ an hour. It cost \$31,000 for the water system to be installed along the Lake Shore, \$15,431 for Cawthra, \$2007 for Deta and \$8,150 for Haig. The Council passed a By-law whereby a home owner would be assessed 7¢ a year for each foot of frontage. *The Toronto Telegram* ran an article on January 18, 1933, stating that Toronto Township council had passed a By-law authorizing further water mains in Lakeview, and each street cost over \$2,000 and remained at 7¢ a foot. In August, plumber Ed Post connected the Lakeview Schools to the water supply. However, it would be several years before every street was accommodated as Toronto Township Council refused further installations as many home owners were in arrears of taxes. Until that time four water taps were available at different locations along the Lake Shore Road for when the people had trouble with their wells.

In July, 1938, Toronto Township Reeve E. D. Maguire set out to negotiate with the Port Credit Reeve G. F. Skinner and Council for cheaper water rates. Toronto Township was paying the Port Credit Water System 22-1/2¢ per 1,000 gallons (4,540 L). The water agreement between Toronto Township and Port Credit was finally signed for a ten year period on Monday, May 6, 1946, at a Port Credit Council meeting. At this time the Township's population was approximately 20,000.

Hampton Crescent water pipes were installed before Christmas, 1941; A water main was extended from the Long Branch System September, 1942; Beck, Byng, Curzon and Lake Street by April, 1944; First and Second Streets, January, 1945; Canterbury, Trotwood and Kenmuir, 1946; Balment, September, 1953. So you can see what a slow process it was. By 1951, the population serviced was 13,600 and the summer consumption was approximately half a million gallons (2.27 ML) a day. Before meters were put in in 1953, water usage was charged at a flat rate from \$23 a year to \$43.

In 1952-1953, a \$543,000 Water Filtration Plant was built on a 30 acre (12 ha) site, Lot 4, Con. 3, in Lakeview, purchased from the Dominion government by Toronto Township. It was operational on May 5, 1953, and had an official opening on September 26th, with the Honourable Thomas L. Kennedy, Reeve Anthony Adamson and Deputy Reeve Mary Fix officiating at the ceremony.

The modern plant had an operational capacity of three million gallons (13.6 ML), with an additional \$215,000 for a 30 inch diameter (76 cm) intake that was extended 2,800 feet (853 m) into Lake Ontario. When it was put in operation, consumers numbered 58,000. The plant was upgraded to six million gallons (27.2 ML) by 1956 at a cost of \$170,000. In 1961 a \$500,000 addition was added, which provided 12 million gallons (54.4 ML). A water fluoridation program was initiated in April, 1955.

The extended capacity was required as Toronto Township grew and matured into the City of Mississauga with its present 680,000 population. In order to service the extended zones, re-pumping was necessary and pumping stations were located at Clarkson, Cawthra Road, Burnhamthorpe Road Dixie Road, Britannia and Malton during the 1950s.

In 1961, the members of the Public Utilities Commission of the Township of Toronto were: John Dobbs, chairman, Lloyd Herridge, vice-chairman, Anthony Adamson, commissioner, Sidney Smith, commissioner, Robert Speck, Reeve, and Arthur P. Kennedy, secretary-treasurer. A new 66 inch (1.68 m) intake was constructed in 1962 at \$500,000 that had a capacity of 67 million gallons (304,180,000 L) per day. The first metric meter of 35,000 was installed in Mississauga Reeve Lou Parson's house in 1971. Art Kennedy, manager of Public Utilities Commission from 1955 to 1974, said that about 150 meters would be installed a week. The project was completed in 1974 and the meters are changed every 20 years.



▲ Lakeview Water Treatment Plant (Region of Peel)

Over the next 30 years, many major projects were carried out to keep up the demand of the water treatment facility, some of which are: 1970, additions of 3 x 95.5 ML/d low lift pumps to low lift pump station #2 (low lift pumps pump water from the lake to the plant) and 2 x 91 ML/d high lift pumps to high lift pump station #1 (high lift pumps pump water from the plant into the distribution system); 1980, installation of the first system-wide SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition) system, providing automated control of the entire South Peel water system from one central location; 1983, construction of a central chlorine storage facility; 1990, construction of four new filters, flocculation

tanks, fluoride system, ammonia system - sedimentation tanks were added later for these filters, construction of a new plant intake, 2,550 millimetres (2.55 m) in diameter, 1,950 metres (1.95 km) out into the lake; 1991, construction of a plant waste treatment facility; 1996, construction of sedimentation tanks for filters 19-26, 1999, construction of a stand-by diesel generator building.

Following the Walkerton water disaster in May, 2000, the Ontario government set out new waterworks regulation and the Region of Peel included recommendations and new technologies from the report in the expansion plans for the Lakeview facility. This would include an improved cross connection section and improvements to the disinfection system. The expansion contract was awarded to CH2M Hill. The construction, started in 2004, will allow the plant to go from 560 ML per day to 820 ML. The work, which will include a new reservoir and pumping station, will be completed in 2006 at a cost of approximately \$115 million. Upgrades and improvements will continue until 2008.

The Lakeview Water Treatment Plant, owned by the Region of Peel, is located at 920 East Avenue. It has 25 employees under manager, Darko Kodric. The plant serves all of Brampton and half of the homes of Mississauga, which would be estimated at over 150,000 customers.