

Re - Elect **Bob Pulleyblank**

REEVE SANDWICH SOUTH TOWNSHIP

Bob Pulleyblank WORKS for You.

- Elected **Reeve**, Sandwich South Township Council - 1968.
- Elected **Councillor**, Sandwich South Township - 1963.
- Elected **Warden**, County of Essex - 1971.
- **Chairman** - Essex Region Conservation Authority - 1973-74.
- **Chairman** - Essex County Ad Hoc Committee For Senior Citizen Housing - 1972-73.
- **Chairman** - Social and Family Services Committee, Essex County, 1972.
- **Chairman** - Essex County **Roads Commission** - 1970.
- Appointed by Federal Government to **Windsor Airport** Ad Hoc Committee - 1974-76.
- Member - Greater Windsor-Essex County **Industrial Commission** - 1969-74.
- Member - **Agriculture** Rehabilitation Development Committee on flood damage.
- Member - **Agriculture** Exhibition Centre Committee.
- Member - Windsor-Essex Metro **Health Unit** - 1968.
- Member - Board of Governors of Windsor - Western Hospital Centre (I.O.D.E.)
- Member - Windsor-Essex Heavy Construction Association.



Bob and his wife, Donna, have four children, Kathy Lyn [Mrs. Chris McCarthy], Earl, Wendy and Patricia. The family lives in Oldcastle.

- Owner and Manager of family **business** purchased in 1959 and expanded to include sod farm operation.

FOR PROVEN ABILITY and EXPERIENCE

Re - Elect

Robert Pulleyblank

X

Robert Earl Pulleyblank

Born in Essex, Ontario on March 12, 1935

Died at Metropolitan Hospital

In Windsor, Ontario

On Thursday, July 22, 2010

Buried on Saturday, July 24, 2010

At Greenlawn Cemetery in Oldcastle, Ontario

Presider: Fr. Chris Quinlan

Private family burial with grandchildren spreading
Grass seed over his grave and everyone wearing one
of his lapel pins from Sandwich South Twp.,

Sandwich South Fire Dept. and
Essex Region Conservation Authority

Donations in Memory of Bob

To the Essex Region Goodfellows

A Bradford Pear tree was planted
by Earl and Wendy by his grave along the driveway.

A Maple tree was planted by Wendy

At the Oldcastle Greenway Trail off Hwy # 3

Rest in peace "Pops"

ROBERT EARL PULLEYBLANK

LIFE ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Born on March 12, 1935 to Earl and Corrine (nee Beneteau). Oldest child.
2. Lived on Talbot Street North in Essex.
3. Married Donna (nee Markert) on March 23, 1957.
4. They built their home at 2115 Hwy #3 in Oldcastle in 1958.
5. Robert bought out his father's Oldcastle Nursery in 1958 and started Suburban Landscaping. He retired in 1996 and sold the business.
6. Family included Kathy, Earl, Wendy and Patricia.
7. Member of the Michigan State Turfgrass Foundation.
8. Member of the Ontario Landscape Association.
9. President of the Windsor-Essex Heavy Construction Association
10. Member of Ontario Parks Association.
11. Member of the Associated Landscape Contractors of America.
12. Member of the Professional Grounds Management Society.
13. Bob was elected Councilor in Township of Sandwich South in 1963.
14. Bob was Reeve of Sandwich South Township from 1967 to 1978.
15. Bob was elected Warden of Essex County in 1971. One of the youngest politicians to serve as a Warden.
16. First Chairperson of the Essex Region Conservation Authority in 1973.
17. Honorary Member of Ciociaro Club in 1977.
18. Served on the Board of Directors at Windsor Western Hospital.
19. Received the Distinguished Citizen Award from McAuliffe Park Association in 1975.
20. Received the Boy Scouts of Canada Appreciation Award in 1984 from the 75th Rovers.
21. President (in 1987) and Director of the Sandwich South Goodfellows from 1968-2004.
22. Named the Sandwich South Township Honorary Fireman in 1987.
23. Received the Ontario Municipal Recreation Distinguished Citizen Award in 1989.
24. Received an Appreciation Award from the Sandwich Baptist Church in 1986.
25. Founding member and President of the Essex Region Goodfellows 2004-2010.
26. Associate Member of the Royal Canadian Legion #201 Captain Brien branch in Essex.
27. Sponsored the Oldcastle Hockey Team and the Sandwich South Men's Baseball Champions 1968-1971.
28. ERCA established in 2011 the Robert Pulleyblank Municipal Award to be given each year to the municipality who demonstrates conservation practices.
29. St. Clair College in Windsor honored Bob as a Major Contributor to the Landscape Industry in Windsor and Essex County. His name is engraved on the Legend wall.
30. Tree planted in Memory of Bob in 2011 at the Oldcastle Heritage Park.
31. Major landscape projects accomplished: South Windsor subdivision, Forest Glade subdivision, E.C.Row and Huron Church Roads, the Kings Navy Yard Park in Amherstburg, the Riverfront Park in Windsor, the original Windsor Casino, Boblo Island, the Odette Business building at the University of Windsor, to name a few.

PULLEYBLANK, Robert

On behalf of our family we wish to thank everyone for your phone calls, visits, flowers, cards, gifts, food, Masses and generous donations to the Essex Region Goodfellows. Thank you to Tony and Jennifer deRyk and staff of Kennedy Funeral Home for their outstanding and excellent service. To Fr. Chris Quinlan for your compassionate and heartfelt graveside service. To the grandchildren who participated in the service by each wearing one of Grandpas Sandwich South Township and Essex County lapel pins and for sprinkling grass seed around his grave. What a great send off! To Luigi Tosti, for not only being such a loyal friend, but for dedicating the Windsor Italian television show in memory of our dad. To dads buddies at Tim Hortons in Oldcastle especially Bill ONeil whom he enjoyed a daily cup of coffee and a Tiger update with. To the staff at Tim Hortons for your kindness shown to our dad. To Tom Kilgallin for arranging a special reunion in June with the legends of Amherstburg. To our wonderful neighbours especially Dan and Theresa who looked after things at a moments notice. Thank you to Dr. Bob McKay and his dedicated staff and to Dr. Hamm at the Windsor-Essex Cancer Clinic for your special efforts. Thank you to Gregg Charlton and staff at Essex Guardian Pharmacy for your outstanding service. Thank you to CCAC especially caregiver Sheri, case manager, Niaomi and placement officer, Betty for your compassion given to our dad. To the wonderful and helpful staff at the TD Canada Trust bank at Victoria & Tecumseh roads. Thank you to everyone that we may have forgotten to mention. Your kindness is deeply appreciated. Our dad was a pillar in our family and our community and will be greatly missed. He left a legacy of love for his family, community, politics and the needy. In honour of our dad please take time to volunteer in your community, donate to the needy, vote in the elections, plant a tree or garden, make a difference. May you rest in peace dad.

Donna Pulleyblank

Kathy, Earl, Wendy and Trisha and families



Thank You



In Memory Of
Robert Pulleyblank
March 12, 1935 - July 22, 2010

Dear husband of 53 years to Donna (nee Markert). Dear father of Kathy (Chris) McCarthy of Maidstone, Earl (Lil) Pulleyblank of Windsor, Wendy Pulleyblank of Essex, and Patricia (Greg) Bright of Troy, Michigan. Special grandfather to Jessica, Sarah (Chris), Luke McCarthy, Jeff (Carolann), Justin (Cassia), Melissa, Monica Pulleyblank, Sam, Abby & Grace Bright. Great grandfather to Emersyn Pulleyblank. Beloved son of the late Earl and Corinne Pulleyblank. Dear brother of Howard & Kay Pulleyblank of Kitchener, Mildred Pulleyblank of Toronto, Caryl and Harish Verma of Burlington and Pauline Pulleyblank of Hamilton. Predeceased by Bill Pulleyblank. Brother-in-law to Susan Pulleyblank of Guelph and Marjorie (Morley) Rounding of Essex. Will be missed by several nephews and nieces. Cherished friend of Luigi Tosti. Will be sadly missed by his buddies at the Oldcastle Tim Horton's. Bob was owner and operator of Suburban Landscaping in Oldcastle from 1957 until retiring in 1996. He planted thousands of trees, plants, flowers, and millions of yards of grass. He was a visionary and environmentalist before his time. Bob was Reeve of Sandwich South Township from 1965 to 1979. Warden of the County of Essex in 1971. First Chairperson of Essex Region Conservation Authority. Past President of the Windsor-Essex Heavy Construction Association. Member of Landscape Ontario. Founding member of the Essex Region Goodfellows and The Sandwich South Historical Society. Member of the Royal Canadian Legion in Essex. Sponsored hockey and baseball teams in Oldcastle. Respecting Bob's wishes a private family burial has taken place. Donations can be made to the Essex Region Goodfellows, 25 Centre Street, Essex, Ontario N8M 1N8. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the Kennedy Funeral Home Ltd. (519-776-7378) 128 Talbot St. North, Essex. You may send your condolences online at www.kennedyfh.com.



PULLEYBLANK, Robert Earl

March 12, 1935 to July 22, 2010. Dear husband of 53 years to Donna (nee Markert). Dear father of Kathy (Chris) McCarthy of Maidstone, Earl (Lil) Pulleyblank of Windsor, Wendy Pulleyblank of Essex, and Patricia (Greg) Bright of Troy, Michigan. Special grandfather to Jessica, Sarah (Chris), Luke McCarthy, Jeff (Carolann), Justin (Cassia), Melissa, Monica Pulleyblank, Sam, Abby & Grace Bright. Great grandfather to Emersyn Pulleyblank. Beloved son of the late Earl and Corinne Pulleyblank. Dear brother of Howard & Kay Pulleyblank of Kitchener, Mildred Pulleyblank of Toronto, Caryl and Harish Verma of Burlington and Pauline Pulleyblank of Hamilton. Predeceased by Bill Pulleyblank. Brother-in-law to Susan Pulleyblank of Guelph and Marjorie (Morley) Rounding of Essex. Will be missed by several nephews and nieces. Cherished friend of Luigi Tosti. Will be sadly missed by his buddies at the Oldcastle Tim Horton's. Bob was owner and operator of Suburban Landscaping in Oldcastle from 1957 until retiring in 1996. He planted thousands of trees, plants, flowers, and millions of yards of grass. He was a visionary and environmentalist before his time. Bob was Reeve of Sandwich South Township from 1965 to 1979. Warden of the County of Essex in 1971. First Chairperson of Essex Region Conservation Authority. Past President of the Windsor-Essex Heavy Construction Association. Member of Landscape Ontario. Founding member of the Essex Region Goodfellows and The Sandwich South Historical Society. Member of the Royal Canadian Legion in Essex. Sponsored hockey and baseball teams in Oldcastle. Respecting Bob's wishes a private family burial has taken place. Donations can be made to the Essex Region Goodfellows, 25 Centre Street, Essex, Ontario N8M 1N8. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the **Kennedy Funeral Home Ltd. (519-776-7378) 128 Talbot St. North, Essex.** You may send your condolences online at www.kennedyfh.com

Wendy Pulleyblank it is with a heavy heart to announce the passing of our dad. He succumbed to cancer after a 3 year battle. May you rest in peace now dad.

Friday at 3:09pm · [Comment](#) · [Like](#)



Anthony Revenberg Sorry to hear Wendy. My condolences to you and your family.

Friday at 3:13pm · [Like](#) · [Delete](#)



Lisa Brady so sad to hear your news Wendy....thoughts and prayers wing their way to you and all your family Wendy...much love from all our family to all your family...xx

Friday at 3:16pm · [Like](#) · [Delete](#)



Janet Bezaire Your Dad was a special man, and friend of my Parents. He will be sadly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family, Wendy.

Friday at 3:20pm · [Like](#) · [Delete](#)



Stephanie Foote Pulleyblank Please let everyone know that you are in our prayers at this time....

Friday at 3:26pm · [Like](#) · [Delete](#)



Nancy Holdsworth Wendy, Please know that it was an honor and a privilege knowing your Dad and of course you and the family.

We ran into Earl today and gave him a big hug... I can only imagine the kind of sadness you are all feeling right now.

Sending you a...

[See More](#)

Friday at 3:36pm · [Like](#) · [Delete](#)



Julia Mosceo Deschamps Wendy Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time of sorrow.

Friday at 3:43pm · [Like](#) · [Delete](#)



Marilyn Martin We have many fond memories Wendy. Our love goes out to you and all the family

Friday at 4:18pm · [Like](#) · [Delete](#)



Tim Bondy Our prayers are with you and your family as well.

Friday at 4:36pm · [Like](#) · [Delete](#)



Mary M. Antonuzzo Thoughts and prayers are with you and your family Wendy.

Friday at 4:38pm · [Like](#) · [Delete](#)



Kristen Damphouse Wendy, so sorry for your loss. Prayers to you and your family.

Friday at 4:50pm · [Like](#) · [Delete](#)



Barbara Mactier Wendy

Kelly and I send our sympathies to you and all your family - he was such a great guy and will be sadly missed!

Friday at 5:02pm · [Like](#) · [Delete](#)



Annette Garneau-Myers my deepest sympathies from my family to yours.

Friday at 5:14pm · [Like](#) · [Delete](#)



John Revell So sorry to hear about your Dad. My sincere condolences to you and your family.

Friday at 5:16pm · [Like](#) · [Delete](#)



Shelley Thrasher So sorry to hear that Wendy. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Shelley

Friday at 5:44pm · [Like](#) · [Delete](#)



Leanne Bechard-Stiers Wendy, on behalf of my family, I would like to offer our prayers to you and your family. We're very sorry for your loss.

Friday at 5:47pm · [Like](#) · [Delete](#)



Christie O'Neil Burford So sorry for your loss, Wendy. Our thoughts are with you all.

Post a new entry

Vince and Irene Bondy - July 23rd, 2010 at 3:03pm - Email

Dear Wendy and all the Pulleyblank family: Our deepest sympathy to all, with the loss of a wonderful man - and a life well-lived. I am sure that Vince's dad is welcoming him with open arms in Heaven to chat about County Council affairs. With our love and prayers, Vince and Irene

Chris Lapain - July 23rd, 2010 at 3:26pm - Email

Mrs Pulleyblank, Wendy, Earl, Trish Cathy and Families Our deepest sympathy to all of you in the loss of a dear husband, father and special grandpa. You are in Our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. love and prayers Chris, Laurie Lauren, Brandon, Mary, Nick, Michael, Julie, Martha, Louise, Therese and John Paul

Martha Lapain - July 23rd, 2010 at 3:33pm - Email

Dear Sam, Abby, Grace and Monica Sorry to hear about your grandpa. We are praying for you and your family. He was a great grandpa to all of you and he will always be watching over you. Love and Prayers Martha, Louise, Therese and John Paul

Judy Robson - July 24th, 2010 at 9:05am - Email

Bob was a wonderful family man who contributed much to his community and cared deeply for those in need. He will be greatly missed. My prayers and deepest sympathy to his family.

Jean-Paul and Pauline Gagnier - July 24th, 2010 at 9:24am - Email

Dear Donna and Family, Our extended condolences on your great loss. We have many good memories of your family during all those years that we were all municipal politics. We will surely be thinking of your family to-day. All our love 'Pauline and J.P. Gagnier

Tom Burton, Deputy Mayor town of Tecumseh - July 24th, 2010 at 9:53am - Email

To Donna & family I wish to extend my deepest sympathy in your loss. May all the great memories comfort you at this time.

Robert and Cheryl Oliver - July 24th, 2010 at 10:36am - Email

Dear Donna and family please accept our condolences. We are very sorry to hear of Bob's passing and we include you in our prayers. Bob learned a great deal working with Bob, including a love of nature and the importance of hard work and never saying I can't but we will get the job done. Bob touched many lives including Bob's dad Bert whose friendship we know he valued. Bob and Cheryl Oliver

Ian Hui - July 24th, 2010 at 11:47am - Email

To Donna and family, our deepest sympathy for the loss of Bob. It was a pleasure to work with Bob and he took care of us as one of his own. Our prayer and thought will be with you. Love, Ian, Laurie and family

Ruthie Muxworthy - July 24th, 2010 at 11:55am - Email

Dear Hearts, Donna and Family, I am so sorry for your loss. My Mom was one of his biggest fans if not his biggest. God Bless You Love Ruthie

Patricia Quinlan and family - July 24th, 2010 at 12:21pm - Email

We send our sincere condolences to the Pulleyblank family. Your Husband, Dad, Grandpa truly embodied the term Goodfellow. The community has suffered a great loss. We send prayers and "heart flowers" especially to "mother earth" Wendy and ' ' sister flower' Kathy whose services have consoled so many others. Sincerely the Quinlan family

Mark & Jane Cloutier - July 24th, 2010 at 12:32pm - Email

Our deepest sympathy to the family. Memories will live on.

Richard & Judy Wirch - July 24th, 2010 at 12:57pm - Email

Dear Wendy and the whole Pulleybank family- Our deepest sympathy. We know how heart breaking it is to lose someone you love, so our prayer for you is that God will heal your hearts. Love Richard & Judy

Dave and Gail Hayes - July 24th, 2010 at 1:23pm - Email

Dear Earl and Family; Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this time. May the good memories of your dad always be with you. May God uphold all of you with His righteous right hand. God Bless Dave, Gail Hayes and Family

Kate and Don Bryant - July 24th, 2010 at 2:04pm - Email

Wendy, Trish, Cathy, Earl and families..Our sincere condolences on the loss of your beloved Father and Grandfather. May you find comfort in your memories and joy in knowing that he is now in God's embrace. Thoughts and prayers are with you. God Bless, Kate and Don

Gerry Sykes - July 24th, 2010 at 4:05pm - Email

I am so sorry for all of you on the loss of Bob. Bob gave me my first job (and my brother's and sister's as well). He always showed kindness and encouragement to me in my municipal career. In addition, he helped my mother find work after the death of my father and was always kind and compassion to her over the years. I am so grateful for having known Bob. May God bless in these difficult times

George & Barbara (Thompson) Orban - July 24th, 2010 at 7:26pm - Email

Dear Pulleyblank Family, We are so sorry to hear of your loss. Bob was a wonderful person & we will always remember & be thankful that he was a part of our life. He was one of the main reasons that I became a nurse. He has been a wonderful encouragement to both myself & George. Our thoughts & prayers are with you today & the days ahead.

Don & Patricia Borrowman - July 24th, 2010 at 9:54pm - Email

Dear Pulleyblank Family, We Most Certainly Extend Our Sympathy at this time while we have fond memories of Bob and You when we lived in Oldcastle. He always admired our large bed of yellow cannae in our circular driveway and eventually at his request, bulbs were provided for his enjoyment. I, Don lived in Oldcastle since age of three, having descended from Essex County ancestry who had settled there in mid 1800's from Scotland and France and then leaving in March 2008 after seventy-four years to live quite enjoyably near daughter Lynne and family, however has been quite an experience to leave longtime acquaintances behind. Sincerely, The Borrowmans, Niagara Falls

Leasa & Jerome Barrette & family - July 25th, 2010 at 12:32pm - Email

Wendy, Kathy & the Pulleyblank family, we extend our deepest sympathy and our prayers. May the cherished memories you created together lift your spirits and your faith bring you comfort. Leasa & Jerome, Jeremy, Jonathon, Benjamin & Zachary.

Sandwich South & Area Historical Society - July 26th, 2010 at 8:25am - Email

Donna, Wendy and Family We are saddened at your loss. Bob worked hard for his community.

Kirk and Cindy Walstedt - July 26th, 2010 at 8:54am - Email

Dear Donna and Family Bob was a wonderful and caring man. He was always there to take on important local issues and help those in need. I recall his determination, a few years ago, in establishing the Essex Region Goodfellows. He always got the job done. He'll certainly be missed. Our Deepest Sympathy to you and your family.

Ron McGuire - July 26th, 2010 at 11:40am - Email

The Pulleyblank family. I had the privilege of working with Bob in the Goodboys Newspaper project. What a legacy he has left all of us. Thank you for sharing him. Ron

Al Linnell - July 26th, 2010 at 1:15pm - Email

Dear Donna and Family; So sorry to hear of Bob's Passing! Our thoughts and prayers are with you and yours at this time.....I always held Bob in high esteem,as parent ,politician,community activist ,leader.I had much help from him with our Art Display at the Civic Centre,which I still curate. I loved teaching your children,Kathy-Wendy-and Earl-"The Pearl"as I used to call him. Best wishes to you all....May God Bless you all.....Love Always, Al -Linda Linnell and Family.

Tokey Ryan - July 26th, 2010 at 4:42pm - Email

Wendy & Family I was saddened to hear of Bob's death. He will be missed by all who knew him but especially by those to whom he gave such wise counsel.Without him there would not be an Essex Region Goodfellows and consequently the level of assistance we are able to give needy families would be a fraction of what it is now because of Bob's vision.He was a special guy and I was lucky to become his friend in recent years. Sincerely Tokey

Diane Arnold - July 26th, 2010 at 9:21pm - Email

Dear Donna and family, i just found out about the passing of my friend Bob, i have been out of town. I am so saddened by this ..He was my buddy!! Bob taught me so much about gardening and would always help us at the Adult Day Program... My thoughts and prayers go to Donna and family, I am grieving with you and my heart is very heavy.. Please remember, memories will keep you strong and united. Hold on to each other and dont let go!! To my special bud Donna,,kisses and hugs... Love Diane

Shelley Loisel - July 28th, 2010 at 6:21pm - Email

Dear Donna and family: I was so sorry to read about Bob's passing.I did get to know him when he drove Donna to program and through telephone conversations. He was a nice, kind man. Bob will be in my prayers.

Randy Bancroft & Family - July 28th, 2010 at 11:20pm - Email

We send our deepest Condolences. bless you all.

TRIBUTE TO
ROBERT 'BOB' PULLEYBLANK
 DEDICATED SERVICE PROVIDED
 TO THE
KING'S NAVY YARD PARK
 DEVELOPMENT
 2003

WINDSOR SUBURBAN
 ROADS COMMISSION

WARDEN
R. PULLEYBLANK

CHAIRMAN
F. HUTNIK

MEMBERS
F. BISTANY
J. DUGAL
R. HUNTER
R. SALMONI

ROY R. LEE, P.E., W.S.R.C.
 ENGINEER

HOWIE BURATTO & ASSOCIATES
 ARCHITECTS



King's Navy Yard Park pioneer mourned by residents

Ron Giofu

The Amherstburg Echo

AMHERSTBURG - A former Essex County warden and ERCA chair who was also one of the pioneers of the King's Navy Yard Park is being mourned by those in the town who knew him.

Bob Pulleyblank, who served

as reeve of Sandwich South from 1965 to 1979 and was county warden in 1971, died last Thursday at the age of 75. However, he may be best known in Amherstburg for the care he took of Navy Yard Park through the business he owned, Suburban Landscaping.

"Through my association with Bob over the years, he always

expressed first and foremost his love and devotion towards his family," said retired town clerk/administrator Tom Kilgallin. "He very much cared for others and was always willing to assist others."

Kilgallin said Pulleyblank and his company worked for the town for roughly 20 years and was responsible for care and maintenance of the Navy Yard Park and other parks in town. Kilgallin said Pulleyblank would often perform work and upgrades to the park at no cost to the town.

"Bob typified the best of public service," he said. "He carried his work out with gentle persistence, great charm, often with good humor and a genuine love of horticulture. Bob's professional skills and love and devotion to the care and maintenance of our parks was exemplary."

Kilgallin said he felt "honored and privileged" to have known Pulleyblank and his family over the years.

"On many occasions, he inspired me as to the importance and commitment and dedications to community service as a civil servant," said Kilgallin. "Bob always displayed a positive attitude and possessed superior supervisory and leadership skills. He was always so well respected by his support staff."

Pulleyblank was loved and

respected by the residents of Amherstburg for his patience and his willingness to pass along his horticultural knowledge, Kilgallin added. To recognize Pulleyblank's love and dedication to Navy Yard Park, a coffee tree was planted in his honor in the park several years ago.

"In many ways, Bob Pulleyblank was a father figure to me and my memories of Bob will always be cherished. Bob will truly be missed!" said Kilgallin.



Ron Giofu The Amherstburg Echo

Bob Pulleyblank (far left) joined other pioneers of the Navy Yard Park at a recent luncheon. Pulleyblank died last Thursday at the age of 75. Also pictured are Fort Malden Horticultural Society president Casey Overgaauw, retired senator and former MP Eugene Whelan, retired clerk/administrator Tom Kilgallin, former mayor Bill Gibb and Father Ted Gatfield. Absent from photo is former mayor Garnet Fox.

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Former Sandwich South Reeve remembered

Oldcastle businessman, service club volunteer and municipal government leader Robert "Bob" Pulleyblank was laid to rest last week after a lengthy battle with a rare type of bone cancer. Bob not only founded his Suburban Landscape business but was a founding member of the Essex Region Conservation Authority. As an active member of the Goodfellows, Bob recently helped establish the Essex Chapter of the organization. He served as Reeve of Sandwich South from 1965 to 1979. Town resident Harold Maenpaa, served on Sandwich South Council beginning in 1966, the year that a remnant of Sandwich East (the Tecumseh hamlet area between County Roads 22 and 42) was turned over to Sandwich South. Mr. Maenpaa recalls that it was Bob who encouraged him to sit on council and represent this new end of the township that was heavily populated. "He was a proper gentleman, I enjoyed working with him and I got a wealth of knowledge from Bob," Harold says, recalling the evenings they played cards at the Pulleyblanks after a council meeting.



Ray Robinet's first years on council were served as Deputy Reeve for the last two years of Bob's tenure in municipal government. "Bob was really helpful... I knew nothing. He was a kind-hearted person," Ray remembers. "He was a shrewd businessman and brought that to handling the Township's spending. He wasn't afraid to make tough decision and he wasn't afraid to express his opinions," said Ray, noting that it was Bob Pulleyblank who advocated strongly for the proper outfitting of a new fire station for the Township at Walker Road and Highway #3. "It was built after he left, but that was something Bob pushed to make happen."

Pictured above as the Township of Sandwich South moved into its new municipal office on North Talbot Road (a converted two room school) in 1968 are Clerk Bert Bedford (d.), Councillor Ron Moir, Deputy Reeve Jack McAuliffe (d.), Reeve Bob Pulleyblank (d.), Councillor Elmer Ure (d.) and Councillor Harry Brian. Previous to this building, the town hall was located on Highway #3 in front of the public works garage that is now occupied by Essex Power. The first town hall building was across the road.



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Goodfellows always remembered

Bob Pulleyblank and Wilber Brett

By Andy Comber

It was 2005 and things were not good.

Don Meloche, volunteer coordinator of the McGregor St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank, was getting concerned. The service organization that helped fund the food bank had folded.

"I was trying to figure out where we could get some help to fill this gap," Don said. "Then I got a call from Bob Pulleyblank."

Bob had some experience with lending a helping hand to the needy. He had started preparing Christmas food baskets back in the 1960s, along with friend Grant McKee. In the years following, with the assistance of the Sandwich South Fire Department, he helped raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the Goodfellows organization.

Don listened as Bob laid out plans to create an Essex Region Goodfellows. It was a plan to direct better service to the needy in the county, and he wanted to assist the McGregor food bank.

"Just the idea put tears in my eyes," Don said. "It has just been a godsend for us."

Bob also recruited Wilber Brett, retired publisher of *The Essex Free Press*. The Essex Region Goodfellows were going to need their own newspaper. The two men were well known to each other. Both had served in local government, at the municipal and county levels. Both were devoted volunteers to numerous organizations in their communities, Bob in Sandwich South and Wilber in Essex. They set about assembling a team and the Essex Region Goodfellows became a reality.

In that first year, 2005, the Essex Region Goodfellows raised about \$20,000 – a remarkable feat for a fledgling organization. Besides McGregor, it supported the Essex Area Food Bank, Harrow St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank and the Essex Salvation Army Food Bank. Last year, about \$45,000 was raised, adding up to a five-year total of \$176,000.

Sadly, Wilber passed away on Nov. 12, 2009, and Bob followed on July 22, 2010. Both men had lost their battles with cancer. But as Goodfellows, they had lived to see a victory in providing for the needy – far beyond their expectations. They had also passed the torch to other Goodfellows, volunteers and their families.

Bob had inspired his daughter, Wendy Pulleyblank, to promote the Goodfellows and their cause.

"My father raised awareness of the need to feed the hungry in our own backyard," Wendy said. "He was the epitome of a volunteer."

Wendy said her father was affectionately known as "Big Bad Bob."

"He was strong-willed but his heart had the right intentions," she said. "I give him credit for raising funds – he pushed us to keep raising the bar."

"The torch is passed to his grandchildren, Justin and Jeff Pulleyblank," Wendy said. Justin has proudly taken up Bob's post on the board.

Just as Bob had inspired Wendy, Wilber had inspired his daughter, Laurie Brett, to take up the cause for the less fortunate.

"My father always felt the Goodfellows was an excellent fit for our newspaper," Laurie said. "Being able to get the news about hunger and want out to the community is so important."

Wilber and Bob were a remarkable team, Laurie said.

"Both men were active in their community, deeply involved in public service, respected statesmen."

The code of the Goodfellows states that the Goodfellow shares, understands, cares, and lends a helping hand to the less fortunate; they are a friend and a neighbour – a Good Samaritan.

Bob Pulleyblank and Wilber Brett will always be Goodfellows – always remembered.

Bob Pulleyblank

Wilber Brett

Firefighters witness amazing acts of generosity

Everybody deserves to enjoy the holiday season. That's why members of the Essex Fire and Rescue Service band together each year to assist with the Goodfellows newspaper campaign.

Firefighters from each of the three fire stations, and volunteers from the Maidstone Knights of Columbus, donate their time to handing out copies of the annual "Goodfellows Edition" newspaper. In return, they collect donations from motorists travelling through key intersections in and around Essex, Harrow, McGregor, Cozy Corners and Oldcastle. These donations are passed onto local food banks that hand out special holiday food baskets to families in need.

Over the past few years, our firefighters have witnessed some amazing acts of generosity and heartwarming stories from motorists who have used our local food banks during tough times. Our firefighters have walked away from the two-day Goodfellows campaign feeling that all their hard work is vitally important. They see it as an opportunity to give back to the community.

If you have this newspaper in your hand right now, then you've met one of our firefighters or volunteers during the 2010 campaign and you've made a donation to the Essex Region Goodfellows. For your generosity and your support, I want to thank you and wish you all the best for this Holiday Season.

Ed Pillon

Fire Chief
Essex



Goodfellows: A Family Tradition

Volunteering for the Essex Region Goodfellows runs in the Pulleyblank family. The late Bob Pulleyblank, founding chairperson of the Goodfellows, was a volunteer for over 40 years in the former Township of Sandwich South. Carrying on the tradition of volunteering are his son, Earl, and daughter, Wendy. Now Bob's grandchildren – Melissa, Justin and Jeffrey Pulleyblank – are on board! Their combined years of volunteering for the Goodfellows is over 100 years!

Melissa Pulleyblank and her dad, Earl Pulleyblank, are carrying on the family tradition of volunteering with the Goodfellows.

