# thedurander

Newsletter of the Durand Neighbourhood Association

**WINTER 2013** 



The Durand neighbourhood is the inner city district bounded by Main Street West, James Street South, the Escarpment and Queen Street South. It is home to approximately 12,000 Hamiltonians. The DNA was established in 1972 as a politically independent community organization and chartered as a not - for - profit Provincial Corporation. It is the DNA's vision to be an active, resident-based voice successfully addressing priority issues affecting our neighbourhood to nurture a vibrant downtown community. Please contact us at any time with questions, comments or concerns about the neighbourhood or if you are interested in volunteering, joining or renewing your membership.

Contact Information: Durand Neighbourhood Association C/O 332 Bay Street South, Hamilton ON L8P 3JB 289-887-2366 • president@durandna.com

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Frances Murray

The Durand Neighbourhood Association held its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, October 22, 2013 at City Hall, Council Chambers

Janice Brown, President welcomed everyone to the 41<sup>st</sup> annual general meeting and introduced the executive for 2012-2013.

Others at the council table for the meeting were: Edward John, Planner for the city; Sgt. Geoff Burbidge, Crime Manager; Councillor Jason Farr; Jeff Paikin: Developer of Thistle site.

Janice reviewed the highlights this year: There were two Durand Park Revitalization PICs and topographical studies for the park are complete (see article in this issue of the Durander). Work on the park should be complete by 2015.

We held the third annual Grand Durand Garden Tour and had 600 guests. Money raised goes into park revitalization, spending money for the community in the park with activities that can be enjoyed, extra money for trees, etc.

In September we held the dinner and movie night in the park with Reardon's, Kernels popcorn, Timbits, and coffee. We had 200 people for the rain date on September 28. Janice has also heard a request for possible movie nights for adults.

A St. Mark's open house was held in May, with plans for cultural events. The DNA is committed to retaining heritage and green space. This topic is scheduled to be on the GIC agenda for November. We hope the next AGM will be at St. Mark's.

Two third-year McMaster students are working with the DNA on a Practicum investigating St. Mark's from 1877 to now and its importance in the community.

Nicholas Kevlahan, Kathy Hagan and Reenie White were active in Participatory Budgeting. Participatory Budgeting will continue. Take part next year, send in ideas, join assemblies and VOTE.

Frances Murray and Dave Cherkewski took part in the Queen Street audit in the spring and Kelly Foyle and Simon Kiss did an audit of traffic on Hess Street. The purpose of both projects is to address cut-through traffic in the Durand. Studies are available on the DNA website.

More on page 2

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING continued from page 1

#### **Future projects:**

Janice outlined potential issues for the upcoming year: The casino has not gone away; the Lynnwood-Charlton Hall property will be declared surplus; James Street Baptist Church; City Square intensification; policing of Hess Village; representation on CHH safety security task force.

Frances Murray summarized the minutes from the 2012 AGM and Claudia Sheldrick presented the Treasurer's report.

Councillor Jason Farr presented his remarks to attendees and emphasized he is pleased to be part of this engagement process. There has been \$200 million in investment in the downtown core in the last few years and this is partly because of incentive programs (community improvement plans) to create renewal projects in downtown Hamilton.

For Durand specifically, pedestrian-friendly streets are very important to this neighbourhood. It's great to have a PED light at Caroline and Herkimer which was a direct result of the DNA pressing for action. A bike lane is in the works for Charlton. PB brought about a PED light for Hunter. At 95 Hess and 181 Jackson (CHH buildings) a very expensive security camera system is being put in at a cost of \$750 k from the capital budget for safety and security. More money was found for 24/7 local monitoring and HD quality.

Bike lanes, CHH, and little things like the timing of a PED light at Queen and Duke will stay. The subject of UHauls parking on residential streets was brought forward - the problem is solved for now.

PB initiatives: James Street South beautification (thanks to Kathy Hagan and Reenie White for their work); benches; St. Mark's community garden (temporary because the neighbourhood has asked for other ideas).

There will be \$1 million for PB next year and increased marketing to bring more ideas forward.

Councillor Farr appreciates everything offered by residents.

Sgt. Geoff Burbidge, Crime Manager, presented his report: Geoff attends DNA executive meetings every month and speaks to Janice on a regular basis. A major issue at the beginning of the year was car break-ins. In May, police conducted a Lock it Or Lose It program to look at cars for visible items and they left flyers advising car owner about protecting themselves. There were two arrests in August for strong suspects in thefts. The May project showed a 42 per cent failure rate. A follow-up audit in August showed a 9 per cent failure rate. This improvement proves the neighbourhood reduced the opportunity for thefts.

The cameras at CHH will address ongoing issues at these apartment buildings. Cameras will be beneficial in deterrence and prosecution and will assist in investigations. Monitoring will be live on-site leading to pro-action. In addition, POP (Problem-oriented policing) is in place in the neighbourhood to help make police more familiar to residents. Police have gone door-to-door in the apartment buildings to introduce themselves and advise residents on reporting crimes.

Hess Village: During August and September there were increased complaints about noise. There is an enforcement project with city bylaw to deal with excessive noise from bars. Hess Stats: Ongoing issue about paid enforcement which will continue until police are told otherwise. There was not a single charge of assault. The incident at Hess and Herkimer was not related to Hess Village.

Sgt. Burbidge took questions from attendees.

#### DNA board members for 2013-2014:

Dennis Baker Janice Brown Alfred Cheng Dave Cherkewski Jonathon Dalton Melanie DeWildt Kelly Foyle Anders Knudsen Sarah Matthews Frances Murray Peter Tapolovic

Janice asked for nominations from the floor. None were put forward.

Motion to Approve Board for 2013-2014: Richard Lubbers; Chris Cutler seconded.

First board meeting is scheduled for the second Tuesday in November.

Sarah Matthews introduced guest speaker Jeff Paikin. His presentation was followed by Q&A for Jeff, Edward John and Jason Farr.

Janice delivered closing remarks and thanked Edward John, Jason Farr, Geoff Burbidge and Jeff Paikin.

#### **Update:**

Durand Executive for 2013-2014

President Janice Brown Vice-President – Anders Knudsen Treasurer Claudia Sheldrick Secretary Frances Murray

## President's Remarks

Janice Brown

It has been almost a year since I became President. It has been busy; it has been exciting; it has been eventful; it has been unsettling; it has been fun; but most of all it has been a reaffirmation of just how important and valuable the Association is for the neighbourhood.

Over the past year we hosted two Public Information Centres for Durand Park; we held our annual Team Up to Clean Up in April; we produced a third Grand Durand Garden Tour, raising almost \$9,000; we celebrated with Duranders at the Annual Durand Park Dinner and Movie Night in September; we hosted the AGM in Council Chambers with guest presenter Jeff Paikin (NHH) this past October; we took an active role in the new Participatory Budget process; we offered our expertise and developed a practicum on St Mark's for third year Public History students from McMaster (this will eventually find its way onto our website) we were active participants in the Queen Street Audit and this resulted in some very good suggestions to improve Queen Street South. This is just a small sampling of the activities and the issues that the DNA has dealt with over this past year.

Looking ahead to 2014, Councillor Farr has requested a second traffic study to deal with traffic concerns due to the

increased intensification of City Square and the traffic issues not addressed in the initial traffic study in 2005. Councillor Farr is in the process of setting up meetings with City staff and the DNA Board. This is the first step as we prepare for Public Information Centres. The Heritage Permit Review Subcommittee has approved James Street Baptist, a designated heritage building, for partial demolition. Please see the Durand's concerns and next steps moving forward in this newsletter. Working with Sgt Burbidge and Councillor Farr, we will pay close attention to both Hess Village and City Hamilton Housing issues should they arise.

In closing, please take the time to read the blogs from our Webmaster, Peter Topolovic. This information is timely and informative. Thank you to all Duranders for your continued support. Keep your comments coming to <a href="mailto:president@durandna.com">president@durandna.com</a> or <a href="mailto:jedbrown2009@gmail.com">jedbrown2009@gmail.com</a>

#### Meet Your New Board 2013 - 2014

Dennis Baker Dave Cherkewski Kelly Foyle Frances Murray Janice Brown Jonathon Dalton Anders Knudsen Peter Tapolovic Alfred Cheng Melanie DeWildt Sarah Matthews

ELECTIONS for our EXECUTIVE WILL TAKE PLACE AT OUR FIRST BOARD MEETING IN NOVEMBER.

As someone who lives and works in the area, I have grown to love this part of Hamilton. Durand is a unique and historic neighbourhood and I am proud to support the DNA.



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#### **City Square and the Third Tower**

Janice Brown

"No two men ever judged alike of the same thing, and it is impossible to find two opinions exactly similar, not only in different men but in the same men at different times." ~Michel Montaigne



I found this quote to be quite fitting for the very intense and sometimes unsettling circumstances that we experienced with the proposals for the third building in the City Square Development located at 85 Robinson.

Jeff Paikin came to the Board in early October of this year and presented his latest proposal to build a third tower of 11 stories rather than the 17 storeys that we heard about in May. It was to be joined to the second tower with a lobby in the middle. This is to serve as entry into both towers. Mr Paikin presented, we questioned, and then asked him to leave so that we could discuss. Mr Paikin was seeking DNA's approval. It was obvious that evening that the Board was divided but we all agreed that we needed to hear from Duranders. Jeff had already accepted an invitation to be our guest presenter at the AGM. This provided an excellent forum. It also provided the Board with the opportunity to gauge the reaction as well as the

concerns of Duranders.

Following the AGM, the Board decided to take no position. The Board members ascertained that there was not a consensus with Duranders. However, we did make note of all of your concerns and issues and will be proactive in helping to address them on your behalf. We are suggesting that you personally write your letters to Jeff Paikin, Councillor Farr and Edward John and of course the DNA.

jeff@newhorizonhomes.ca, Edward.John@hamilton.ca, Jason.farr@hamilton.ca, president@durandna.com.

**Update:** Thistle Club architectural elements are currently in storage in the underground parking garage at City Square and will be installed soon.

#### **Durand Park Revitalization Update**

The topographical studies are complete and the plans have been submitted for the budget. Work will be in full swing this coming spring and complete by 2015. Please see our design below.



#### **Queen Street Audit Update**

Frances Murray

In March of 2013, a group of residents including Duranders and Kirkendall residents, walked the stretch of Queen Street between Aberdeen and Main to catalogue the items that will need to change if Queen Street is converted to two-way traffic. Under the guidance of Councillors Jason Farr and Brian McHattie, the group came up with a list of approximately 42 changes e.g. street signs, intersections, parking regulations. There was also a list of 10 "quick-win" interventions that could be put in place in the short-term. The list is below:



Intersection	Category	Sub- Category Comments	Specifics
Queen and Aberdeen	Change to Traffic Signals	Change traffic signal sequence	Make signaling sequence at this intersection more pedestrian-friendly
Queen and Canada	Sign Change	Add street sign	Add street sign for Canada street
Queen and Duke	Lane Marking Change	Add crosswalk lines	Add crosswalk lines on south side of intersection
Queen and George	Change to Traffic Signals	Pedestrian Signal	Add pedestrian crossing signal at this intersection
Queen and Herkimer	Change to Traffic Signals	Traffic Signal, Pedestrian Signal	Add pedestrian crossing signal at this intersection, perhaps complete traffic signals
Queen and Hunter	Beautification	Add benches, replace fencing	Remove old chain-link fence at end of Hunter and beautify area to take advantage of scenic view of rail tracks
Queen and Jackson	Change to Traffic Signals	Pedestrian Signal	Add pedestrian crossing signal at this intersection, perhaps complete traffic signals
Queen and Robinson	Beautification	Lighting	Improve street lighting in this area
Queen and Duke	Safety	Inconvenient or inadequate pedestrian infrastructure	Current traffic lights can be pedestrian activated but the activation is very, very slow.  Most people- pedestrians and cyclists seem to give up thinking it is broken and cross through gaps in traffic.
Queen (All)	Safety	Traffic Speed	Speed Limit Monitoring

According to Councillor Farr, after meetings with Public Works staff, the following items are under review:

- Queen and Duke staff are to leave the signal timings as current, no change with the Hill reopened
- Queen and Aberdeen staff to review signal timings and provide additional time to pedestrians
- Queen and Duke Ladder Crosswalk to be added in the Spring
- Queen and Hunter Review fencing at the railway tracks, noting this is controlled by the railway agency and recognize they
  are often not as co-operative as we would like
  - Queen and Jackson staff will review for full traffic signal or IPS
- Queen and Robinson staff have forward this to the Streetlighting section for review
- Queen Street staff will arrange for a speed study to be completed

The full audit survey can be found on Councillor Farr's website at: www.jasonfarr.com.

#### Fewer commuters in Durand thanks to Oueen Hill Closure

By Simon Kiss

As residents on Hess Street South, we've noticed that there is usually a great deal of traffic heading north to the lake in the morning rush hour, with much less traffic heading south to the mountain during the afternoon rush hour. We always suspected that much of the traffic was commuters coming down the Queen Street hill in the morning, being forced off Queen Street at Herkimer where Queen weirdly becomes suddenly one-way in the opposite direction, and then taking the first opportunity to turn left (Hess Street) and carry on to or through downtown.

When the hill closed this summer, we had the opportunity to test this idea because the traffic from that source completely dried up.

We counted the number of cars on three days before the Queen Street hill was closed (May 27th, May 29th and May 30th), to get a baseline of regular northbound Hess Street traffic. Following the hill closure, we counted traffic on two separate days (August 28th and September 6th). The results were dramatic: traffic dropped by 38%!

It is unfair to residents of Hess Street South for their residential side street to be used by commuters heading to or through downtown, just because Queen Street South fairly arbitrarily becomes one-way.

We are nearing the re-opening of the Queen Street Hill. In future, we think the Durand and the city should think about some traffic management options to prevent Hess Street South from being used as a commuter thorough-fare. Some options include:

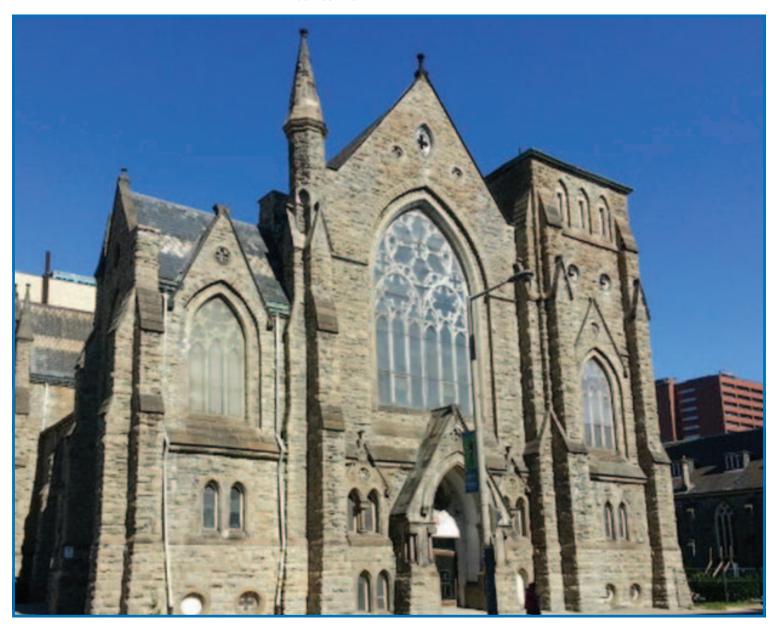
- 1. A no left-turn sign between the hours of 7 and 9 a.m. At the corner of Herkimer and Hess Street South.
- 2. Traffic calming measures on Hess Street South (e.g. More stop sights, bump-outs)
- 3. Make Queen Street South two-way.
- 4. Fewer cars by investing in public transit providing commuters with more options.

Regardless, the closure of the Queen Street Hill has been a blessing to residents of Hess Street South this summer. The DNA is continuing to request a long overdue traffic study of the Durand. We hope this study will help address issues like this one as well as other traffic issues in the community.



#### **James Street Baptist**

Janice Brown



At the time of writing this article, the Durand Neighbourhood Association's position is to request an independent Peer Review by the City for James Street Baptist. The Heritage Permit Review Subcommittee of the Municpal Heritage Committee has permitted a partial demolition permit. This means that only the East Tower of the former church will remain. While conditions were placed on the developer, the fact remains that most of a heritage-designated building will be torn down.

This will now go to the Director of Planning for approval for demolition and conditions that the developer must meet. These conditions were not available when this was being written. We will update you on the website. Following that, Council will make the final decision. Delegations may be heard at Municipal Heritage Committee or Planning Committee, at the discretion of those committees. We will make a delegation should we be given the opportunity. The DNA will send their letter to the Director of Planning, the Municipal Heritage Committee and members of City Council. We will also post on our website.

## **Durand Neighbourhood Events**

#### **Movie Night in the Park**

Frances Murray

Originally scheduled for Saturday, September 21st, Mother Nature made the decision (through an all-day downpour of rain) to postpone this event for one week and it was successfully held on Saturday, September 28 in Durand Park.

With hotdogs, sausages and veggie dogs from Reardon's (Hamilton's original food truck), Kernels popcorn, Timbits and

coffee, over 200 residents ate dinner and settled in to watch Hotel for Dogs a feel-good family movie. The screen and movie were supplied by Tim Pocovic and Mark Milne.

One of the great things about our Durand residents is that after the night was over, there was very little litter or garbage left on the grass in the Park.

We have great neighbours and a wonderful neighbourhood! See you next year for another movie night in the park.

## **Durand Neighbourhood Property Standards**

#### **Property Standards & Rental Housing**

Janice Brown

The controversial Rental Housing new bylaw requiring rental units (6 units or fewer) to be licensed was voted down this past September. Some feel that this is not the end of the issue. The motion has been tabled. However, in the meantime, the existing pilot program of proactive enforcement by the Municipal Law Enforcement department has been made permanent. The City has hired four additional officers to deal with property standards and maintenance issues. The DNA requested a proactive blitz in 2012 and has just asked for a

second one. The issue was front parking pads with less than 50% landscaping. Most of the reported residences were rental properties.

On a personal note, I fail to understand how owners are able to get the driveway installed yet not comply with the regulations that require a front parking pad have 50% landscaping. Is there no collaboration between departments?

With winter coming, we remind you to keep your walkways shovelled. You have 24 hours. Please remind your neighbours to do the same.



## **Durand Neighbourhood Events**

#### **Grand Durand Garden Tour - June 15, 2013**

Janice Brown

Saturday, June 15 was quite a day in the Durand for so many reasons! The weather was just perfect as were the gardens.

The neighbourhood was alive with residents and visitors alike. In fact, over 600 people purchased tickets, making this a sellout. Many were unable to acquire tickets, although many arrived at Whitehern early Saturday morning in the attempt to purchase tickets.

Visitors came from across the GTHA, Niagara-on-the-Lake, St Catharine's, Montreal Quebec, Ottawa, Thorold, Orillia, London, Kitchener, Brantford, Guelph Port Dover, to name but a few. Some Hamiltonians said that they had no idea that our neighbourhood existed.

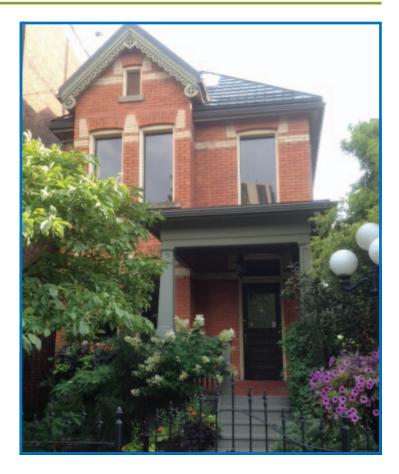
While there are simply too many comments to share in this letter of thanks, some common themes did become evident. Our guests loved the variety of gardens, saying that the diversity made it difficult for them to select a favourite. They commented on how welcomed they were made to feel at each of the gardens, both by volunteers who greeted them, and by the gardeners who shared their knowledge of and passion for gardening. Many commented on the fabulous historic neighbourhood and its stunning architecture.

Overall, it was a great day in the Durand. A day made possible through the support of our gardeners, sponsors, volunteers and our guests.

Special thanks go to the staff at Whitehern for their professionalism and attention to detail. What a treat to see so many people from so many places enjoying this magnificent oasis in the heart of our city. The Hamilton Suzuki School of Music was a treat as they played throughout the day.

Finally, together we met all of our targets. We are very proud to report that over \$9,000 will be allocated by the Durand Neighbourhood Association to the revitalization of the Durand Park as a direct result of The Grand Durand Garden Tour. The money will ensure that the impact of the tour will be felt and enjoyed by all of the people who use our park.







## from the Councillor's Desk:



#### **Councillor's Remarks**

Jason Farr

There has been a tremendous amount of momentum in revitalization throughout the downtown in the last few years. As a Durander, I know you do not require that I elaborate on that fact. From Participatory Budgets to park plans and from grocery stores to condos, the ambitious city is back. Sometimes, what rolls out is both cut and dried, but there are

always occasions where consensus is hard to come by. There always will be.

Frankly, as the developments on developments go, there are days where these sometimes big and sometimes small renewal ideas can be a little overwhelming as they frequently fly in and out of your Ward 2 office. Of course, the presenters often bill their own plans as "game changing originals" as an opener.

This said, not all that your Councillor is privy to in the early stages is always as it is billed. As your representative, it is my job to make sure that there is never a rubber stamp, but instead thoughtful examination as I first process each proposal, then facilitate where applicable in an effort to help turn ideas into reality. In addition, no one person can possibly ignite these initiatives on his or her own. For example, if an existing shop is looking to increase their footprint, knowledgeable staff from the building department are at the table. If a doctor from McMaster has a plan to plant a garden on an alleyway wall, the neighbours and adjacent businesses become part of the conversation. If a not-for-profit is looking for a grant to help expand, our Community Partnership people are informed. On the super-size side, when an entire precinct is in the design stage, the Councillor and City Planners count on panels of experts and local residents to help in the envisioning. Yes, input comes in many forms from a diverse network. It must and when it does, the prospect for a proper final analysis is strong.

One of the key components to sound analysis is input and engagement from a strong representation of volunteers in the community who have your complete community's best interests at heart. Your Durand Neighbourhood Association (DNA) certainly fits that bill. For over four decades, your neighbourhood association has operated under a mandate to enlighten and inform their neighbours. And just as the Councillor does early in the game, the DNA takes the time to process, study and then through the association, make a concerted effort to provide the details. On the web, in the Durander, at Public Information Centers, they present and then

offer ample opportunities for feedback.

There is a recent example of this as it relates to the latest in the City Square three phase condominium developments. Your volunteers on the DNA moved first to assess the third phase proposal to build a 17 storey tower on the third of the three footprints. They invited the developer to their monthly meeting, they attended the developer's May meeting and they updated on their progress as they went along. In October, the DNA made that proposal the main event at their annual AGM and offered the large gallery of neighbours an opportunity to ask questions and make comments on that plan. As it turned out, in large part due to the feedback from the previous community meetings, the main event began with an announcement of a modified 11 storey plan.

This volunteer effort was a very valuable resource in helping your Councillor weigh the sentiment of those most affected and similarly, as the DNA has indicated in a recent blog, "This provided an excellent forum. It also provided the Board with the opportunity to gauge the reaction as well as the concerns of Duranders." The DNA then met following the AGM and, "decided to take no position. The Board members ascertained that there was not a consensus with Duranders."

It was a very important meeting and the attendance alone showed it. It was also an October AGM meeting that in my view had an atmosphere far from that one hot night in May that saw a community room jammed with Duranders in near unanimity on an emphatic NO to 17 floors. There were undoubtedly folks who found compromise in the reduction of units and height and others who maintained that the four stories as negotiated at the neighbourhood level in 1996 was still enough.

At present, the DNA feels it is now not so cut and dried. The proposal before the DNA and by extension all Duranders they volunteer for was not one they wanted to take a position on. They may do so, in the event further consultation dictates and this is something we will discuss at the next monthly meeting. For me, as our monthly DNA meetings go, the next one will be essential, because as your Ward 2 representative, after all the consultation with all the right people, I will soon have to speak on your behalf with respect to this renewal story.

I can tell you through all this, I truly respect, understand and appreciate the challenges of the DNA in ensuring that the right decision is made in the end.

Thank you for reading and please remember that your engagement is not only always welcome, it is most encouraged.

Jay jasonfarr.com <u>Jason.Farr@Hamilton.ca</u>

Or call anytime: 905 546 2711

## Winter Crime Manager's Report

Sgt. Geoff Burbidge, Crime Manager

I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer. With children back in school now, please ensure you pay extra attention when driving.

There are two programs that I would like to talk about for this article. The first is our Lock It, Lose It program. This program is conducted by the Hamilton Police Volunteers. The volunteers attend an area of the city that is experiencing theft from vehicles and walk the streets looking into parked cars. If items, such as phones, electronics or sporting goods are left visible inside the vehicle, a flyer is left on the windshield advising the owner on how to better protect themselves against theft. This program was conducted in the Durand neighbourhood in May and it was discovered that over 40 per cent of vehicles parked in the area had something visible to a potential thief. I brought this information to Janice who did an excellent job of making residents aware of this issue. In August, the volunteers once again returned to the Durand neighbourhood for a follow-

up. During this audit, the failure rate was only nine per cent. Residents taking it upon themselves to remove or hide items in their vehicle along with the Hamilton Police making arrests in the area have contributed to a 70 per cent reduction in reported thefts between the spring and fall.

The second initiative is "Safeguard Hamilton". This incorporates the CPTED Model. CPTED is Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design and focuses on the prevention of crime. Available to all residents is a Safeguard Audit where a volunteer attends your residence and provides suggestions on

how to protect yourself against a property crime. There is an electronic information pamphlet that will be available on the DNA website for anyone to download and read. Please utilize the information in the pamphlet and the available services.



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## Graham Crawford Wins the ACO Media Award

On November 8, 2013, Graham Crawford, founder of HIStory + HERitage, Hamilton won the ACO (Architectural Conservancy of Ontario) Media Award. For almost 80 years, the ACO has endeavoured to spread a strong message about the value of our built heritage. It has done so through print and in person. The ACO's new Media Award, is a way of paying tribute to the eloquence of the journalists, editors, bloggers, and other writers or creators of new media who have researched the facts, collected opinions, and diligently told the stories that have promoted a greater understanding of heritage significance and controversies.

Graham Crawford founded Hamilton HIStory + HERitage in 2007 in a three-storey building he converted into Hamilton's first storefront museum. He creates original bi-monthly multimedia exhibitions from archival and new material, often featuring Hamilton's built heritage and its associated architects, builders, owners, and chroniclers. He collaborates with local architects, artists, photographers, historians, and members of the public to create new angles on Hamilton's buildings and people. For instance, "Virtual. History: The 3D architectural illustrations of Oscar Luna Martinez" showcased some of Hamilton's prominent existing and demolished buildings, including the former (1888) City Hall. "Sleek" and "Sleek 2" challenged Hamiltonians to look beyond traditional architecture to appreciate the mid-century modern residential architecture designed by Hamilton architects.

Duranders are familiar with Graham's work on "The Grand Durand" a media exhibit and photo/coffee table book showcasing some of the fabulous mansions in the Durand neighbourhood. Graham was also instrumental in designing posters and other marketing material for the Grand Durand Garden Tour of 2013. Graham Crawford cares deeply about Hamilton heritage and makes his home in the Durand neighbourhood.





Please contact my office for assistance with any matters dealing with the Federal Government.

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#### **St Marks Open House**

Janice Brown

Staff organized and implemented a public open house at St. Mark's on Tuesday, June 25, 2013 to begin the process of gathering citizens' input to help inform the feasibility study. Below are the questions with the favourable responses to all questions.

- An in-house feasibility study to operate St. Mark's as a cultural programming space to be administered by Whitehern Historic House and Garden. – 81% strongly agreed
- Curriculum-based educational programming that would be suitable for elementary and secondary school students, as well as community groups such as Scouts and Guides –

#### 62% strongly agreed

- Cultural and community programming such as events, workshops and exhibits related to art, craft, dance, literature, poetry, film, heritage and multiculturalism – 82% strongly agreed
- Social and corporate rentals (indoor and outdoor) such as small wedding ceremonies and receptions, birthday parties, retirement celebrations, business conferences and community meetings.- 72% strongly agreed

The staff is scheduled to present their report and findings to the General Issues Committee (GIC) in December 2013. We will keep you informed by way of the website. I am keeping my fingers crossed that we can finally close the St Mark's file.

**Update:** The Feasability Study is postponed until Q1 2014

## White Trillium Award Winners

## **Congratulations to our Trillium Award Winners!**

**Linda Miocinovich** 

171 Robinson Street

**Richard Lubbers** 

163 Duke Street

Mike Beermann

245 Bay Street South

Sarah Matthews & Mike Valente

332 Bay Street South

Robert & Barb Fedak

7 Ravenscliffe Avenue

#### Award of Excellence Ward 2

Central Presbyterian Church 165 Charlton Avenue West

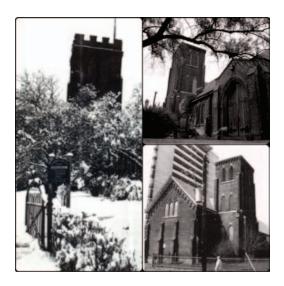


This lovely home was featured on the Junior League House Tour on November 2 and this photo was published in The Hamilton Spectator on November 8. The Mattina family live in this home in the Durand neighbourhood.





## A Cultural History of St. Mark's Anglican Church, 1877-1989



Researched and Written By: Olivia Dorio and Ryan Heyden



Written for the Durand Neighbourhood Association In association with the McMaster University Public History Program

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