

the durander

Newsletter of the Durand Neighbourhood Association

SPRING 2016



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 Durand Neighbourhood Association (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 the model downtown community that protects heritage while creating a diverse, sustainable and vibrant future. 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

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President's Remarks

Frances Murray

The Durand Neighbourhood Association is very busy as we continue to focus on our Mission and Vision.

We will soon see the implementation of the Herkimer and Charlton bike lanes with the latest innovations for protection of cyclists and safety for all users of our streets. These innovations would not have been included in the final design if not for the tireless advocacy of Duranders Kyle Slote, Sara Mayo, Kevin Love, Nicholas Kevlahan and Jon Dalton; and our neighbours in Kirkendall: Ned Nolan, Robert Iszkula of Bike Locke, and Ryan McGreal. Also Sean Burak from Downtown Bike Hounds was instrumental in the final plan. Thank you to all!

Meanwhile, protecting our unique and beautiful heritage continues to be a top priority for us. See Janice Brown's update about the latest news on heritage properties in the Durand neighbourhood. We continue to investigate the benefits of Character Zoning and will have more news on this unique solution shortly.

Also, don't miss out on your ticket for the Grand Durand Garden Tour, happening Saturday, June 18. Tickets are available online this year. Our fabulous tour happens only once every three years, folks! If you would like to participate as a volunteer, we also have info on that in this newsletter.

Our community partners continue to assist us in achieving our goals. Councillor, Jason Farr and our new Crime Manager, Jennifer McFeggan have updates for you in this newsletter.

So, read and enjoy! We are happy to bring you this issue of the Durander as Spring arrives in the Durand Neighbourhood.

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Councillor's Remarks

Jason Farr

Hello, Duranders

Thank you DNA for the opportunity to correspond in your newsletter. I am just back from a meeting with several City of Hamilton staff from Traffic Engineering in Public Works. We were standing at the "T" intersection of Augusta Street and James Street South.

You know this intersection. It is the one that has not had any regulated crossing, but sure sees a great deal of pedestrian crossing. The intersection where, on your Durand side, we have an aging chain barrier followed by a rocky and dangerously graded slope toward the curb surrounding concrete steps that may encourage crossing where no crossing technology exists. This is the intersection that received a great deal of attention from local business leaders and some seniors' residents a few years ago and inspired a 250k reserve from our Ward 2 Area Rating Capital Reserve to address the issue of Augusta and James.

It was at this meeting that I had confirmed that our engineers will be out inspecting the infrastructure so that we may proceed soon with a project that will clean up both the Durand and Corktown sides of James at Augusta and make the crossing safe and the walk-ways Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) compliant. It should also improve things very much from an aesthetic standpoint.

Before we can install lights for safe crossing (to be timed precisely with the existing lights at Bold and James Street) and sidewalk design and renewal, we need to get underground and see what infrastructure is there and what may require adjustment. So, our Public Works Corridor Management staff are on it (or under it), and I will be sure to update you on the progress.

Any questions? I am happy to chat any time. 905-546-2711 or JasonFarr.com for all contact information or to order a blue box, green bin or garbage tags.

Until next time, Duranders!

Jay

Durand Coffee

In case you missed it, Durand Coffee is now open at the corner of Caroline and Charlton.



The opening weekend was busy, creating quite a buzz in the neighbourhood.

Proprietors Christine Larabie and Christopher Redmond announce their hours are:

Monday to Wednesday: 7:00 am to 5:00 pm

Thursday and Friday: 7:00 am to 7:00 pm

Saturday: 8:00 am to 7:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Beautiful Alleys Spring Cleanup

Sara Mayo

Saturday, April 16, 2016

11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Join the growing team of friends and neighbours working together to create safe and beautiful green spaces for all ages to enjoy. Sign up for the Beautiful Alleys Spring Cleanup on April 16. Pick an alley or laneway near your home, or join a team elsewhere in the community.

Provided FREE: garbage and recycle bags, protective gloves, safety training, light refreshments, and an “after party” with pizza at Powell Park! Join in with Sherman, GALA and Crown Point hubs, welcome our new community partners from Stinson, Durand, Kirkendall, and Concession Street. Hear about new funding and exciting future plans for urban art installations. Enter a prize draw, make new friends, get some fresh air, and join in a city-wide project organized completely by volunteers and sponsored by generous donors.

To volunteer for a cleanup team, or for more information:

Email: beautifulalleys@gmail.com

Call Carlos: **905-923-7770**

Team Leaders Needed!

Become a team leader. Email beautifulalleys@gmail.com, and please provide your name, address, phone, email and the four streets that surround your alley. Event organizers will help build your cleanup team, then deliver supplies and City of Hamilton waivers to you about a week before the cleanup day.

Join on Facebook www.facebook.com/beautifulalleys

Sponsors and media

Email: brenda.duke@hotmail.com

Call Brenda: **289-933-4810**

The Hidden Gardens of Hamilton's Historic Southwest



The Durand
Neighbourhood Association
presents the

2016 GRAND DURAND GARDEN TOUR

Saturday, June 18, 2016
10AM - 4PM (Rain or Shine)
ADVANCE TICKETS \$20.00

Durand Built Heritage Inventory Update

Sonia Mrva

On March 26, 2014, City Council approved the recommendations contained in the staff report regarding the Downtown Built Heritage Inventory (PED14039). Specifically, the property evaluation framework developed by ERA was approved for use as the guide to future inventory work, and staff were directed to consult with the Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee as well as those property owners listed in Appendix C of the report by ERA, and to subsequently report back to the Planning Committee.

Durand Built Heritage Inventory

Since the original Downtown Built Heritage Inventory project (DBHI) included the section of Durand between the north side of Hunter and Main Street West, the northern boundary of the study area for this project will be the south side of Hunter. This area encompasses approximately 50 city blocks and an estimated 1000 individual properties.

The methodology employed for the Durand project builds on the methodology developed for the DBHI, adopted by City Council for use on a citywide basis in 2014. A historic context statement for the Durand and its sub-areas will be written; a reconnaissance-level inventory of built resources will be prepared; and a preliminary assessment of individual properties will be carried out, assessing their contribution to the character and qualities of Durand. The study will identify a list of properties that merit listing on the City of Hamilton's *Register of Property of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest*, as well as properties that may be candidates for Part IV designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

ERA is completing the final report for staff with a completion date of March 4th. The report will include:

- Introduction – background and scope of report
- Classification system for individual properties
- Historic Context Statement for Durand and its sub-areas
- Summary of outcomes (classifications) for individual sub-areas within the study area
- Final Recommendations

Once staff has reviewed the draft document a public meeting



will be held sometime in the Spring to share the results of the study.

For further information, please contact Sonia Mrva 905-546-2424 x4123 or Sonia.Mrva@hamilton.ca

Pollinator's Paradise

Frances Murray

Green thumb? Look here for opportunities to get your hands dirty!

We recently posted to our blog with a link to an article about our own Pollinator's Paradise at Central Public School. This wonderful garden is managed by Beatrice Ekoko.

A new project for this year is planned to plant a native garden at City Hall. Jen Baker, Project Manager for Pollinator's Paradise has put out a call for volunteers to help with this project.

If you want to help build the "Pollinator's Highway", contact Jen at 1jenbaker@gmail.com. If you don't have a computer, but would like to be involved you can call 905-549-0900.

Grand Durand Garden Tour: Request for Volunteers

Ann Renee Andree

The Grand Durand Garden Tour needs volunteers on Saturday, June 18th. Commitment is minimal (a 3 hour shift), but the role is vital! In exchange for being a welcoming face at one of the gardens, you will receive a free ticket to explore the rest of Durand's hidden gardens. If interested, please contact Ann Andree-Wiebe (Volunteer Coordinator) at ann.renee.andree@gmail.com or 289-442-8115.

GO Bus Service to Pearson Airport

Barb Henderson

Take the GO bus from Hamilton, Hunter Street West station to Toronto Pearson Airport Terminal 1 for under \$12.00 one-way or under \$6.00 one-way if age 65 or over. What a deal! At \$24.00 return (\$12.00 if a senior) this is a bargain even if you take a taxi from your home in Durand to the GO station. A one-way trip from Hamilton to Pearson via an Airways Transit van is currently \$88.00 for one person (includes HST). You don't have to tip the GO bus driver unlike a trip by Limo or Airways Transit. Just pay the fare or use your PRESTO card.

It is actually the Hamilton/Richmond Hill GO Bus line. The bus leaves Hamilton, Hunter Street West station with a stop at Trafalgar Rd, Square One and then Pearson Airport Terminal 1 on its way to the Richmond Hill Centre GO stop. Monday to Friday trips start at 3:20 am (arrive Terminal 1 at approx. 4:20 am) and continue every hour with additional buses departing during rush hour (morning and afternoon). Saturday and Sunday trips again start from Hamilton at 3:20 am and continue every hour until the last bus leaves Hamilton at 1:20 am. Pop into the GO station on Hunter St. West and pick up a timetable which includes return trips from Pearson Terminal 1 or go online at gotransit.com/schedules

Getting to the Pearson Airport from Hamilton just got a little easier and is definitely a bargain. Don't worry about getting from Terminal 1 to Terminal 3 as you can do so for free (wheel-chair accessible) using the Terminal Link Train.



Crime Prevention Program

LOCK IT

OR LOSE IT

A professional can steal your vehicle in just 30 seconds. A vehicle with an unlocked door or an open window is an easy target. Protect your vehicle from theft. Always roll up your vehicle's windows, lock the doors and pocket the keys when you park your car. Park in a well-lit area and never leave valuables in plain view.

CONDITION OF YOUR VEHICLE AT THE TIME OF OUR CRIME PREVENTION INSPECTION:

- vehicle unlocked
- vehicle unlocked with keys in view
- window(s) open
- valuables in plain view

VEHICLE LOCKED, KEYS REMOVED, WINDOWS CLOSED, VALUABLES OUT OF SIGHT – *Congratulations!*

This notice has been provided by the **Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police** and **Insurance Bureau of Canada**.
We care about your safety.

For more information, visit:
www.ibc.ca/en/Insurance_Crime/Auto_Theft/

Presented by

Name: _____

Police Service: _____

Date/Time: _____



Updates from The DNA's Heritage File

Janice Brown

St Mark's

In November 2015, staff was directed by the General Issues Committee (GIC) to develop a Capital funding plan for St Mark's and report back to the GIC by Q2 2016. This follows Council's direction from May 2014 when staff presented a financial and operating plan based on the St Mark's Cultural Programming Space Feasibility Study.

To complete the St Mark's restoration and adaptive reuse project, staff **estimates** that \$3.3 M in Capital funding would be required. This includes all exterior, interior and fit-up costs to create an operational cultural programming space. (This number has continued to rise since 1996 when funds were first requested to create adaptive public use.)

To date approximately \$1M has been secured from the following sources:

- \$100,000 from Ward 2's 2014 Participatory Budget for new roof;
- \$280,000 from Federal Economic Development Agency for Canada's 150th Anniversary project; (2017)
- \$280,000 Tourism and Culture Division's Capital Block Funding 2016 pending Council approval;
- \$400,000 from Ward 2's 2015 Area Rating -150th Anniversary project; (2017)

Staff is currently developing a \$2.3 M Capital funding plan and will seek funding from the following sources:

- Capital Budget
- Tourism and Culture Capital Block Funding
- Area Rating
- Federal and Provincial grants

The DNA is supportive of staff's proposals to secure funding which will create a vibrant and animated facility that will

be a valuable cultural asset for the Durand, for the citizens of Hamilton and our visitors and will provide both a social and economic return.

(In 1996, a condition study found that St Mark's could be repaired and made ready for public use for \$315,000, unfortunately Council of the day panned the recommendation. In 2008, the numbers for redevelopment and public use were estimated to be \$1.2 M.)

1 St James Place

In July 2015, the Conservation Review Board upheld the City's decision to designate 1 St James Place. Following this, the owner requested a Heritage Permit to demolish the house. In December 2015, Council refused the application to demolish, but in January 2016, the owner appeared before Permit Review to request a second application to demolish. Permit Review recommended that the application be denied and that a Peer Review be conducted regarding the reasons for demolition and





the potential for remediation. This review is to include a Heritage Impact Assessment. Staff would then take into consideration the peer review and its recommendation and determine next steps. Staff is to then go to the Municipal Heritage Committee for their recommendations and report back to Council.

Unfortunately 1 St James Place sits vacant and this does not bode well for the heritage building or for the residents of St James Place. The DNA has stood steadfast behind the residents of St James Place and the decisions by Council to refuse the permit to demolish.

Updates from The DNA's Heritage File (cont'd)

The Pasadena 27 Bold Street

The new owner, a local businessman, has purchased the Pasadena Apartments from Ottawa-based CLV Group. He plans to preserve as much of the heritage features as possible plus adding contemporary amenities and safety provisions. The original circular staircase will be replaced using the original handrail but with new spindles to meet building standards. Crown molding, brackets and detailing will be replicated.

The plan also calls for a new wooden front door and metal entrance canopy; features that were lost over the years. The renovation will increase the number of units to 32 from 17, with some commercial in the basement. Currently the building is secure, is being heated and a dehumidifier is running.



The Connolly 98 James Street South

The applicant's conditional Site Plan Approval (May 25, 2015) is still valid and the developer is working through the conditions. The conditions need to be met for full approval and prior to receiving a building permit for construction. The former remaining portion of James Street Baptist Church is to be monitored monthly from November 2015 to April 2016 by Quinn & Associates on behalf of the developer Stanton Renaissance. The last report was November 2015. At that time, no issues were reported. However, it seems there have been no reports for December or January 2016 as outlined in the Heritage conditions. According to Councillor Farr, building is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2016.





Reverend Doctor Gregory Davidson, Minister
Joshua Weresch, Refugee Committee Chair

Syrian Refugee Sponsorship

Violence, destruction and fear have driven thousands of Syrian families from their homes and life as they knew it. We want to help – and we hope that you do, too.

Central Presbyterian Church is raising funds to sponsor a Syrian refugee family to come to Hamilton and start a new life in our community.

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in ... whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:35-40

Can you help? All donations, whatever the size, will help us reach our total goal of \$27,000.

There are two ways to **donate** to the Syrian Refugee Fund:

- 1) **Cheques** made out to Central Presbyterian Church, with "Syrian Refugee Fund" in the memo line. These can be left in the offering plate or dropped off at the church office.
- 2) **Online** donations through the church webpage, <http://www.cpchamilton.ca/>. Please click on the "Donate Now" button and choose "Syrian Refugee Fund" in the drop-down menu.

Thank you for your support.

Blue Boxes and Yard Maintenance By-law

Janice Brown

Property Standards are a priority issue for the Durand Neighbourhood Association. Members have reported that blue boxes are not being stored properly.

Please see the excerpt from By-law No. 10-118 below regarding this nuisance issue to make sure that you are in compliance with this by-law.

4(5) Every owner or occupant of property shall ensure that all waste which accumulates on their property is:

(a) when not placed out for collection in accordance with applicable City by-laws, in containers:

- (i) made of rigid, watertight construction;
 - (ii) provided with a tight-fitting cover, which may be removed only when the container is empty or is being actively loaded;
 - (iii) maintained in good condition without holes or spillage; and
 - (iv) closed, or emptied, rinsed and cleaned when not in use, to prevent the escape of offensive odour or waste; and
 - (v) **kept in a rear yard located against a building, structure, fence or retaining wall and arranged in an orderly manner; and**
- (b) not allowed to accumulate for longer than 10 days.



For more information, please see:

- <https://www.hamilton.ca/garbage-recycling/blue-boxes-recycling/blue-boxes>
- <https://www.hamilton.ca/home-property-and-development/property-gardens-trees/property-use-by-laws>
- or contact president@durandna.com to discuss your concerns about this violation or any other Property Standard issue.

Street Improvements Planned for Areas Bordering Durand Park

Ann Renee Andree

Along with the planned cycling lanes for Herkimer and Charlton, coming this spring, Daryl Bender, City Planner has reported that we will see improvements for pedestrians accessing Durand Park. According to Daryl:

“We are marking pedestrian crossings at all four corners of Durand Park with ladder crossings plus improving the marking of other pedestrian crossings along both Charlton Avenue and

Herkimer Street. Secondly, through auto traffic will be reduced to a single lane at all times on both streets too (plus the bike lanes).”

This is great news for our neighbourhood! Slowing car traffic around the park will be a vast improvement for the quality of life here in the Durand, especially for families with children, but also including everyone who fears for their safety in crossing these high-speed streets.



History Heritage Home

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for over 25 years!*



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905.522.3300

Locke Street
905.529.3300

Ancaster
905.648.6800

www.judymarsales.com



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