

Harbord Village Residents' Association

Interesting Articles inside:

- UPDATE on the College Street Revitalization
- Annual General Meeting is coming!
- and much more...

Important points:

College St.Update	2
Environment Notes	3
Fall Fair Update	4
Joint Conflict Resolution	6
Membership Form	6



Welcome!

By Rory 'Gus' Sinclair
Chair, HVRA

Welcome to this our second HVRA newsletter! We have had an eventful summer & fall: The College Street Revitalization goes forward; We have co-sponsored an All Candidates Meeting for the Provincial Election; we will be co-sponsoring a Municipal Forum in October – stay tuned; the HVRA AGM is going to October 21st - new officers and Board members will be

elected and the theme will be “Intensification—what does it mean for HVRA?”. Our Environment Committee is at the front of the Pack having sponsored neighbourhood cleanups and a pilot project for organic waste at the east end of our catchment area. Some of you may be new to the concept of what a Residents' Association can do and this newsletter will help you, I hope, to

understand. In essence we like to think we foster a sense of community within a stable neighbourhood. Come out to the AGM on October 21 and you will enter into a wonderful collaboration with your fellow neighbours. If you love your community now, you will love it even more inside HVRA, truly “Good neighbours building a great community”

Annual General Meeting – Oct 21st 7pm

JCC at Spadina & Bloor

Notice of the election of officers and a new board at the Annual General Meeting.

The Board of HVRA is based geographically with 2 members elected each year by a caucus of each of

5 areas. If you are unsure of the area to which area you belong, check the web site:

www.harbordvillage.com

There will be some vacancies this year and if you think you would like to participate in the Board this year, please attend the

AGM and put your name forward at your caucus. The vacancies this year will be in: South-Central, Northeast and Northwest.

Please note that there will be also be put forward a constitutional amendment – please see the website for more information.

Come to the Annual General Meeting Tuesday October 21st !

Revitalizing College Street

By Gord Brown



Free Times view – before...



... and after.

“...since sidewalk replacement only occurs every 40 years...let’s go for it!”

Latebreaking news! The TTC is requesting the city to bring College Street track replacement forward to 2004, from the originally planned 2005 /2006. This means HVRA's College Street Revitalization Committee is working double time to meet city deadlines -- so that we can influence planned sidewalk reconstruction to incorporate the exciting ideas proposed by our architects, Brown & Storey.

The new schedule means we need to bring key items of the planned design work forward, and to fast-track fund raising as approved at the HVRA 2002 Annual General Meeting.

But there's more news! **Redevelopment?** One of the ideas that arose from College Street studies was the possibility of sensible redevelopment to take advantage of the excellent transit service and close proximity to U of T and downtown. To get this rolling, HVRA was successful in having the Spadina-Bathurst section of College

included in a pilot "Avenues" study under the new official plan.

This means the city will assign a consultant to work with HVRA, businesses, property owners and other key stakeholders to produce development guidelines and a draft zoning bylaw for the street. A major achievement!

Cycling? The College Street Committee continues to work with city officials to promote innovative improvements in "rush hour shift" bike lanes (as proposed for the north side of College) that we hope can be applied on areas of College Street where there is currently no cycling infrastructure.

Funding? The city has funds for sidewalk replacement, TTC track repair and enhancement of street furnishings -- but it's likely that more will be needed to cover the sidewalk extension and 150 trees envisioned in HVRA's proposal. To address this gap, we've initiated discussions with

Kensington Market Action Group (KMAG) to establish a separate foundation to accept and distribute philanthropic donations for streetscape improvements on College Street and in Kensington Market. Still lots of work to do - - but worth a shot!

The new TTC schedule makes all of this a very tall order -- but since sidewalk replacement only occurs every 40 years or so, this is our one chance to get it right. So, let's go for it!

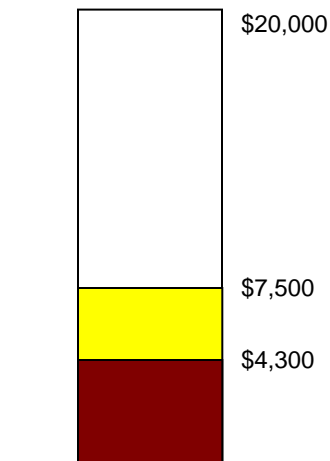
[How can you help with this exciting proposal?](#)

[Join HVRA](#) -- the more members, the stronger our voice. Visit our website to sign up.

[Contact Olivia Chow](#) to express your support for the proposal 416-392-4124 or councillor_chow@toronto.ca

[Consider a financial pledge](#), to help fund streetscape design work which we must now submit to the city in very short order (visit www.harbordvillage.com to see how, it's easy!)

We're on our way!



Contributors so far! Please pledge your support!

Heartfelt thanks to the following wonderful neighbours who are helping keep the dream alive with their pledges.

True Believer (\$500+)

- HVRA AGM 2002 (\$1200)

Movers & Shakers (\$200)

- Paul Bagnell/Diana Cafazzo
- Gord Brown
- Bob Frankford
- Richard Gilbert
- Tim Grant
- Jan Muszynski

- Rory Sinclair
- Mark&Heather Treleaven
- Rob Weinstein
- Jane Widerman

Builders (\$100)

- Olivia Chow
- Celia Denov
- Sue Dexter
- Julie McDowell/

- Steve Forchon
- Susan Pfeiffer
- Leonid Rozenberg
- Sandy Smith
- Mark Stabile
- Bob Stambula
- David Wurfel

Boosters (\$50)

- Susan Harrington
- Ingrid McKhool

Community Composting Takes Off

By Tim Grant

Last Spring, HVRA's board agreed to purchase up to 5 green composting bins from the City of Toronto (i.e. the same ones used by most neighbourhood restaurants and corner stores), one each for any group of 10 households that committed themselves to using the 35 gallon bin.

This summer, two groups of residents, one north and one south of Robert and Willcocks Streets, requested bins and launched their community composting projects. About 90% of the residents that

were approached by the two groups joined in. It is estimated that over 70% of residents in the areas adjacent to the bins now compost, a 40% jump from before. A third Robert Street group has started to recruit households and will soon ask HVRA to purchase a bin for them.

Here's how the system works: Participants from 10-20 households collect their household food scraps (including meat and dairy products) in clear plastic bags, close those bags

with a twist tie and drop them into their community green bin, which is usually located in a discreet laneway location. Using bags also helps to keep the bin clean and reduce odours. On a Monday or Thursday evening when the bin is full or nearly full, it is moved to the sidewalk on a main street, where a City truck empties it during the night.

If you are interested in having composting bin for your street, please contact your area representative or myself at (416) 960-1244.



The Composting Team

"This summer, two groups of residents...requested bins and launched their community composting projects."

Notice of Constitutional Amendment

By David Wurfel

In preparation for our incorporation--for which application was made in the summer--we need to make minor changes in the By Laws. The Board of an incorporated association needs to be elected by the members. So we need to rescind an earlier amendment that provided that under certain circumstances the Board itself could choose a member. In order to continue to have the option of utilizing specially qualified persons for particular tasks, it is suggested that the By Laws be amended as follows:

"Amend Art. 5 by adding section (i) as follows: 'In order for the Board to meet special needs from time to time and to be able to utilize the expertise which exists in our membership, one or two additional position on the Board may be created by a motion adopted at the AGM and filled by a vote of that AGM. A member of the Board so elected shall be called a 'Specialist Member' and shall serve for one year.'

"Further amend Art. 5, section (a) as follows: 'except as provided in Sec. (i)' "

While we are in the process of amending the By Laws it is also suggested that we bring the language up to date. Since the end of the year financial report is now scheduled so that it comes just before the Fall Fair, it is proposed that we change the end of the fiscal year from the present August 31st to September 31st, so at least the bulk of Fall Fair operations can be included in the treasurer's report to the AGM. The language of the amendment would be as follows:

"Amend Art. 4 (a) to delete 'August 31st' and substitute 'September 31st'."





At Sussex & Spadina: bronze castings of Rooster and Spaniel.

Joint Conflict Resolution Committee

By Margaret Beare

The Harbord Village Residents Association and the Harbord Business Improvement Area propose that there be established a Joint Conflict Resolution Committee (JCRC) to deal with such problems as might arise between businesses and residents in our neighborhood. The following is a summary of a report of a Joint HBIA/HVRA Committee charged with finding a mechanism for solving possible conflicts between businesses and residents. The complete report can be found on the Web Site. We intend to introduce it at the AGM this month with a view to have the AGM endorse its general aims and objectives. If there are concerns or further input, they can be submitted to the committee for consideration. The final product will be presented by the Board to the Spring AGM for approval.

Objectives of the Joint Conflict Resolution Committee (JCRC):

- At the most basic level, the objective of this Committee is to eliminate false information from spreading and causing disharmony in the community.
- Beyond this, the Committee will serve the role of bringing the parties of a dispute together in order to provide a forum in which both sides can express their concerns and hear the other side of the disagreement.
- Some recommendations may be made by the JCRC in order to foster agreements among the parties. These are only suggestions and the principals are in no way bound to these proposed solutions.
- Failing to achieve agreement, the JCRC may offer information as to further steps available outside of the JCRC format for resolution of the dispute.

HVRA Board 2003

Chair	
Rory 'Gus' Sinclair	416-966-1523
Treasurer	
Gord Brown	416-924-6445
Secretary	
Bob Wilson	416-928-0271
Area Reps	
Richard Gilbert	416-323-8839
Tim Grant	416-360-1244
Maria Perin	416-922-6652
Bob Stambula	416-922-4453
Mark Treleaven	416-921-6251
Jane Widerman	416-534-9888
Brian Yellin	416-962-8841
Margaret Beare	416-926-8984
Jan Filips Muszynski	416-929-3441
Special Board Member for UoF	
Sue Dexter	416-964-9527

HVRA Membership & Renewal Form

It's time to renew for 2004. Please take a moment to send in your cheque.
 Not a member yet? Please join -- to help us continue building a great neighbourhood!

.....CUT HERE.....CUT HERE.....CUT HERE.....

2004 HVRA Membership	Please mail to: Harbord Village Residents' Association P.O. Box 68522 360A Bloor Street West Toronto, M5S 1X1
-----------------------------	---

- Please check one:**
- | | | | |
|--|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Voting Member (individual or family): | \$5 | 2 years | \$10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Member (to support HVRA activities): | \$20 | 2 years | \$40 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fanatical Member (to <u>really</u> support HVRA activities!): | \$50 | 2 years | \$100 |

Please make your cheque payable to the Harbord Village Residents' Association and include:

Name.....
Address.....
Telephone Email.....
Areas of interest or concern.....

Environmental Notes

By Tim Grant

All are welcome to attend the next meeting of HVRA's Environment Committee, which takes place Thursday, October 16th at 6:30pm at Momo's restaurant at the corner of Robert and Harbord Streets.

We'll be discussing what issues to focus on for the coming year, so bring your ideas and join our jovial group. Learn about our tree-planting, community-composting and graffiti-removal initiatives. For more information, contact me at (416) 960-1244 or via tim@greenteacher.com.

The City of Toronto recently introduced a "SmartWash" incentive program to encourage

residents to replace their top-loading clothes washing machines with water and energy efficient front-loading washers. Anyone who has purchased a City-approved front-loader since January 1 (2003), or purchases one in the near future is eligible for a \$60 cash-back from the City. For details, call the City at 416-338-0338 or visit www.city.toronto.on.ca/watereff/washer/list.htm

Starting this fall, the federal government will be offering average grants of \$1000 to homeowners who take steps to improve the energy efficiency of their homes. However, the program will end once approximately 79,000 Canadians have

claimed their grants, so those who are interested should sign up sooner rather than later. The first step is to pay \$150 to have an energy audit done for your house. The federal government modeled this new program after Green\$aver, the Toronto non-profit group that has been auditing Toronto homes for years. Green\$aver currently has a 2 month waiting list, so if you are interested, it is best that you call them soon. The audit will identify what changes to your home will yield the most savings. The size of the grant you will receive will be dependent on the increase in energy efficiency that is achieved by the changes you undertake as a result of the audit. Contact Green\$aver at (416) 203-3106.

"...the next meeting is Thursday, October 16th."



To participate in the environment committee, please contact Tim Grant at 416-960-1244 or tim@greenteacher.com





Your neighbourhood at it's best!

The 7th Annual Fall Fair!

By Gus Sinclair

On September 21 HVRA put on our most successful Fall Fair yet. The weather of course helps immensely but we have had great weather before. The Fall Fair Committee worked hard to produce an event with such highlights:

- A terrific musical lineup which has never been better
- The set up and break down were the smoothest yet: HVRA now owns its own platforms
- There were some serious prizes in for raffle/silent auction and the whole event was so well organized,
- The Produce/Bake Sale table set a record as well
- The Wine and Beer were nearly sold out and very efficiently run
- Finally-- the Great Leslie Mendleson produced the best food table yet -- there was no shortage of volunteers at the BBQ, the

it went off like clockwork. A new record was set over last year. The indefatigable Jan Muszynski, the raffle ticket genius, even sold a handful of raffle tickets to a Bike Cop!

food was excellent and simple, and the quantities purchased were almost to the bun correct -- very little sold at half price and even less left over.

The Park was full all day -- everyone was enjoying the day with their neighbours -- for me this is what it is all about.

Financially, we set a record – putting nearly \$2500 in the HVRA Bank Account. – for me the main thing has always been the building of a sense of our community

We are so lucky indeed to be each others' neighbours!

...HVRA put on our most successful Fall Fair yet."

