



Harbord Village Residents' Association

Spring 2017

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Chair's Message

RORY "GUS" SINCLAIR



It feels like only yesterday that we were at the Fall AGM, and here we are six months later with our upcoming annual Spring meeting on May 17.

As you may recall from the AGM, the constitution was updated

to reflect job positions that more closely mirror how HVRA operates after 17 years of existence. We have a new Vice Chair, Gail Misra, who will become Chair in six months' time, thus beginning the

new regime of a maximum of two terms of two years each for the Chair to keep things fresh! The board also replaced the Communications Director position with a Committee as the qualities needed were best distributed over five members. The Committee has been very active sending out the very popular weekly e-blasts full of community activities and interests, publishing the newsletter that you hold in your hands, and keeping the our website up to date with the latest news (check out www.harbordvillage.com—it's gorgeous!).

Your board has been very active on a number of other fronts as well. There has been prodigious development pressure on our community and on all sides: Sussex and Spadina—a proposed UofT residence; Bloor

This newsletter is produced twice a year by the Harbord Village Residents' Association (HVRA) serving the part of Toronto bounded by Bathurst Street, Bloor Street West, Spadina Avenue, and College Street

Visit us at harbordvillage.com.

Don't Miss Our May 17 Spring Meeting 6:30–9:00 p.m., 45 Brunswick Avenue

Find out what's new and newsworthy, and reconnect with fellow neighbours after a long winter! In addition to neighbourhood and ward updates, we will feature guest speaker Anthony Smith, a modern day cartographer who interprets Toronto data to create maps that reveal socio-economic insights. See how Harbord Village fits into a city undergoing transformative change. This promises to be an educational and interesting evening. We hope to see you there.



(cont'd from page 1)

and Bathurst—the development of the old Honest Ed's; Bloor and Madison—a new condo tower, to name but three, all of which have been monitored by the Planning & Development committee—which entails attending myriad meetings, trying to promote the values inherent in the stable built-form community that is Harbord Village: lower heights, public amenities, respect for heritage, and green and sustainable solutions.

The Environment Committee has been working with the city to produce “bump-outs,” or tree pits at four intersections in Harbord Village. These will replace the current concrete planters and promise to be beautiful. More details are in this newsletter.

As someone intimately involved in HVRA from its inception in 2000 to the present, I am astonished how much this organization has accomplished in that time. But the most astounding point about this tiny organization is how it has been able to recruit and retain the dedication of so many wonderful, competent, and talented residents to take on the good work. Further, there is a palpable sense that members past and present, really believe that citizens—and HVRA—can make a difference. Many in the city bureaucracy, and in other neighbourhood associations, say that HVRA punches way above its weight. Good on HVRA for stepping up to the plate and good on you for your support for good people doing good things in this fine city.

HVRA Events

TIM GRANT

Spring has sprung and it's time to get outdoors and reconnect with neighbours. Your neighbourhood association offers a number of occasions to help you do both. So mark your calendars and get ready! As always, volunteers are needed. If you can help, get in touch with the appropriate contact for each event.

Dragon Boat

Registration is now open for the Harbord Village Dragon Boat team. Thursday evening practices begin in mid-May, and the big race takes place on July 1. For more details, visit <http://rustydragons.homestead.com/> and click “Harbord Village,” or call Tim McFarlane at 647-971-7332. No experience is necessary.

Spring Meeting

Meet your neighbours and renew your membership at HVRA's Spring Meeting on Wednesday, May 17, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. in Kensington Gardens' Multi-Purpose Room at 45 Brunswick. Guest speakers include Councillor Joe Cressy and Anthony Smith, whose digital maps of Toronto are revealing interesting trends about our city.

Yard Sale

On Saturday, May 27, the annual Harbord Village Yard Sale will display its wares on the NW corner of Robert and Harbord. Proceeds are

earmarked for the Stephen Lewis Foundation to support its AIDS work in Africa, and the Scadding Court Community Scholarship Fund, which covers post-secondary tuition fees for high school graduates living in low-income housing. While donations can be dropped off before 1 p.m. on the day of the sale, it's preferable if they're dropped off on the porch of 79 Robert, just south of Willcocks, during the week before. Volunteers are needed to help with the pricing and on the day of the sale. For more information, contact jamesmurdoch@sympatico.ca.

Farmers Market

Every Wednesday, from 3 to 7 p.m. from early June to late October, make your way to the Green P parking lot on Borden, just south of Bloor, and pick up fresh produce and other delicious items brought by Ontario farmers. To volunteer, contact Terri Chu at bloorbordenmarket@gmail.com.

Plant Sale

On Sunday, June 4, from 1 to 3 p.m. on the south patio outside the main doors of 25 Brunswick, you can ask questions of a master gardener or pick up a free plant propagated by a Harbord Village gardener. For more information, contact gardeners@harbordvillage.com.

Fall Fair

Sunday, September 10, from noon to 5 p.m. at Brunswick and Ulster.

Enjoy local food and beverages and a lineup of wonderful musicians. Check out the silent auction items donated by local businesses and renew your HVRA membership at the same time. Children's face painting will be provided by staff from St. Stephen's Community House. Volunteers are needed to solicit donations from businesses in the weeks leading up to the Fair and to help with the setup and cleanup on the day of. Contact chair@harbordvillage.com.

Annual General Meeting

As with our Spring Meeting, you can meet your neighbours, hear guest speakers, and renew your membership at HVRA's AGM, taking place Wednesday, October 18, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. in Kensington Gardens' Multi-Purpose Room at 45 Brunswick.

Pumpkin Festival

Always held on November 1, the day after Halloween, the Harbord Street Pumpkin Festival draws a few thousand adults and children to view up to 800 candle-lit pumpkins along a four-block stretch of Harbord. Many of the pumpkins have been elaborately carved. If you can help with publicity during Halloween, or collect pumpkins and light candles on Wednesday, November 1, please contact chair@harbordvillage.com.

Is your calendar full yet? For more details on any of the above events, check out www.harbordvillage.com



Beatriz and Carey Milner enjoy a hot mulled cider prepared and donated by Her Father's Cider Bar, along with Tim Grant.

closer to the dates. HVRA also has an Environment Committee chaired by Jane Perdue (jperdue@sympatico.ca) and a Planning and

Development Committee, with Bob Stambula, Gail Misra, and Rory "Gus" Sinclair.

Mary Ann Henderson



HVRA Greening Initiatives

ANNE KEREKES

With spring finally here again, this is a great time to remember that an ongoing focus for our downtown neighbourhood is to increase and nurture our limited green space. Studies show how green space can help reduce pollution and heating costs, attract pollinators, and increase property values! We have made great strides with our Green Plan and public initiatives such as the parkette renovations. But even small areas yield big results, so give some thought to what you can do in your own front yards, back yards or laneways. We have several accomplished gardeners in HVRA, so please reach out to us for help. In the meantime, for inspiration, here are some updates on two initiatives that are in progress or continuing.

Street Planter Project

JENNETTE BOEHMER

We could not be more excited! As part of the HV Green Plan and in recognition of the amazing cadre of neighbours who tend the existing concrete street planters and the Russell at Robert pinch point, the city has invited us to collaborate on an innovative project that will see the existing concrete “boxes” replaced with newly designed ground-level plantings. The city will cut into the

pavement, install street-level planter curbs, replace existing dirt with planting soil, and provide plant material. Neighbours who live nearby will be responsible for ongoing planting and maintenance.

Robert Mays, Senior Project Manager, Transportation Services, Public Realm Section, Beautiful Streets, City of Toronto, introduced the project at last fall’s AGM. We followed up on March 9 with a neighbourhood planning meeting that drew more than 20 interested neighbours. Jeannie Hastie and Alistair Brown provided some context and insight, as they adroitly described how the pinch point at Robert at Russell came into being and offered insights and tips to the rest of us as we move forward. Robert gave an informative glimpse into the proposed in-street planter design and took our questions, thoughts, and ideas.

He outlined a two-phased implementation: Phase I (2017/2018) will see roughly half of the new planters in place, with the remainder scheduled for replacement in the following year(s).

The selection of Phase I planters was up to us, although Robert requested that we select intersections (where both planters could be replaced) in locations with strong

neighbourhood commitment to maintaining the new plantings. By happy serendipity, those who expressed interest in participating in 2017/2018 met these criteria ... and after some collegial discussion, we agreed on four Phase I intersections:

- Borden at Lennox
- Borden at Ulster
- Major at Sussex
- Major at Ulster

Congratulations to the “early adopters” and those who are willing to maintain their planter “boxes” for a while longer.

The city will now draw up the detailed specifications, taking our



Leslie Thompson

Looking north on Major Street at Ulster, with two planters, both of which will be replaced by tree pits.

comments and ideas into consideration, and get them back to us. Check our webpage Harbord Village Gardeners for project history and regular updates.

The likely Phase I implementation timing is spring 2018, which means we will plant and admire the Phase I “box” planters for one more year, giving us time to plan for next spring’s rollout of this thrilling neighbourhood greening initiative. Stay tuned—something good and green and beautiful could come of it!

Croft Street Project

BARBARA DONALDSON,
JANE PERDUE, &
ROCHELLE RUBINSTEIN

For residents and visitors to Croft Street, last year’s Croft Greening Project demonstrated a community that cared and contributed to the character of this special laneway. A group of neighbors built an urban garden in the overlooked, unused and forgotten spaces on Croft Street between College and Ulster streets. This project covers two city blocks and focuses on the private property edges that line the public laneway. The garden “hardscape” was created using cinder blocks, repurposed food grade plastic barrels and cast-off building materials. A variety of plants were used, including annuals, some perennials and vines, in addition to native plants added to support the habitats of birds, bees and butterflies.

The Croft Greening Project would like to build on the success of our



Jane Perdue

Cosmos and day lilies in colourful barrels brighten up the lane.

first year by reusing materials we acquired last year. We will repair and paint the containers, augment the soil with compost, and mulch and plant the 25 planters that are currently located on Croft St. Our two rain barrels will be reinstalled in their designated locations gathering runoff from two garages.

We will add some new locations and new plantings by preparing the 10 planters we have in storage. We also plan to purchase two more rain barrels to assist with the watering.

We need volunteers and new locations! Last year, it was busy in the early months (April to June), but through the summer we need volunteers and stewards to tend the gardens, replace plants, water and manage the sites. We also need two locations to install rain barrels and more sites to host planters.

We also need donated plants.

We’d like to try hardy shrubs and perennials, keeping in mind these will be planted in containers and could be more vulnerable.

Schedule

April 22, 23

Laneway cleanup. Sweep, clean and clear space, collect and organize garbage. We are doing this in conjunction with The Laneway Project (www.thelanewayproject.ca), which is organizing a laneway spring cleaning campaign.)

May 13, 14

Container prep, repair, paint, locate, soil prep, plant collection and planting.

May 27, 28

Plant collection and planting.

Croft Street is now included in many walking and biking tours of Toronto. Last year our project attracted both neighbours and tourists curious about laneway greening. It’s a neighbourhood effort to improve the public realm and pedestrian experience through plantings in colourful containers, vertical gardens and distinctive murals. Croft Greening is an initiative that reinforces the HVRA Green Plan, produced by the HVRA board, and supported by the City of Toronto.

If you want to participate, offer a location or donate plants, please contact us at croftgreening@gmail.com.



Ten Editions Books: A Family Affair

REGINE SCHMID

Harbord Village has lost many bookstores over the years, most of them along Bloor or Harbord. Ten Editions Books at the corner of Sussex and Spadina has survived the multifold challenges that closed so many others, but owner Susan Duff's success story is now threatened by an unlikely adversary: the University of Toronto.

The store and the Victorian building in which it is housed are local landmarks at the gateway to Harbord Village. "This second-hand bookstore is a treasure from another era. Upon entering you are greeted with high ceilings and shelves filled with books that climb from floor to ceiling and from wall to wall. There are ladders on rails that allow you to slide from side to side and reach the highest shelves. From young to old, the store is always filled with those who adore books," is how Melissa Duff describes the store her grandmother founded.

Christine Duff's dream of opening a bookstore had to be set aside after she lost her husband in a boating accident when she was pregnant with her 10th child. Only after her youngest child graduated did she quit her job at the Globe and Mail and opened Ten Editions, which she named in honour of her 10 children, her own "10 editions." Current own-



Ten Editions opened in 1984.

er Susan Duff is one of the 10, and took over the store after her mother's death in the early 1990s.

Christine's daughter, Wendy Duff, remembers: "Mom used to say, Spadina and Sussex was perfect, because it was the gateway to a reading community. Atticus Books had not moved far, and my mom said that was great because the best place for a bookstore is near another bookstore, and in a community that values books."

Ten Editions has been a major contributor to the intellectual and cultural life of our community. Material from the store has gone into many great collections that have been donated to libraries and archives in Canada. However, at the heart of the bookstore aren't the collectors or the famous clients, but the local people who routinely visit the store.

Melissa Duff explains, "Of all our

visitors at Ten Editions, my favourites are the parents and grandparents who bring their children and nestle in the corner with a book. Watching them hold a book in their hand as they share with their loved ones—perhaps for the first time—the joy of reading fills me with an overwhelming sense of happiness. If I close my eyes, I can still see my grandmother in the middle of that store, looking out at the community she helped bring together."

And this community is fiercely protective of its bookstore. It is now threatened by a 2016 University of Toronto development application. The University of Toronto and Daniels Corporation have applied for a rezoning to build a 23-storey, 549-bed residence for mostly first-year students on the site, a plan which presumes the demolition of the bookstore building. (See the Planning Report for more information.)

From the first community meeting about the proposed development, saving the bookstore was at the top of people's concerns. "When UofT/Daniels Corp first came out with the proposal, residents were shocked at the proposed destruction of their favourite bookstore. That UofT would kill a bookstore does not compute," said Sue Dexter, HVRA's UofT Liaison. HVRA and heritage architect Catherine Nasmith urged heritage protection for the building as early as 2009.

In its report, this winter, Toronto

Heritage Preservation Services unlocked the early history of the building. It was completed in 1885 as John James Funston Grocery Store, which it remained for many decades. It then briefly housed a laundromat and from 1978 Atticus Bookstore. After Atticus moved to Harbord Street, Christine Duff opened Ten Editions Books in 1984.

Long-term resident Norman Track remembered visiting the building as a child, when it was still a grocery store. At Toronto and East York Community Council, Track talked about lost landmarks and remarked that heritage isn't just about gems of architecture, it's also the story of a community. "Living buildings are better than plaques," he urged, and continued, "Without this building, this corner will become just another corner in Toronto, sans eyes, sans teeth, sans everything."

Councillor Joe Cressy added that we need to protect two layers of heritage, both the physical buildings and also their use, and he pointed out the value of protecting the bookstore and its cultural history: "So as we grow, we don't lose our past."



Joshua Cohen

Christine Duff, founder of Ten Editions, in 1980s. Today, her daughter Sue occupies the same familiar spot!



Harbord Village Newcomers

ANDREA POPTSI

Headlines about the global refugee crisis may have faded from the front pages, but residents of Harbord Village continue to do their part when it comes to helping refugees. Many local residents participate in private refugee sponsorship groups or have contributed to the sponsorship efforts of friends and family. Some groups, like the Major Street initiative, are eagerly awaiting the arrival of families, while others have already been welcomed into the community. These newest residents join us in going about their day-to-day activities as they adjust to their new lives in Harbord Village.

Welcoming newcomers is not a recent phenomenon in Harbord Village. A closer look at the community's history reminds us that newcomers have been making Harbord Village their home for many generations. One example of the community's efforts to welcome newcomers is The Ralph Chiodo Family Immigrant Reception Centre at 100 Lippincott St., adjacent to King Edward Public School. The Centre, operated by COSTI, was established in Harbord Village over 20 years ago and so far has provided temporary accommodation to more than 15,000 refugees.

The Centre welcomes Government Assisted Refugees (GARS) who

arrive straight from the airport, meaning the first taste of Canada for these newcomers is life in Harbord Village. Many of these newcomers may experience this as a radical change, often having gone from living in a refugee camp far from their own homes to adjusting to their new lives in only a matter of days. Stays at the Centre are meant to be short, but as the GAR system has become increasingly overwhelmed by the volume of newcomers arriving in Canada, stays have been lengthening.

School-age children living at the Centre are welcomed into the King Edward school community, both formally and informally. On any given day, younger residents of the Centre are learning how to skateboard on the road out front, participating in a soccer match on the King Edward field or playing in the King Edward playground.

My son, a grade 3 student at the school, reports excitedly when his class welcomes a new student who has recently arrived at the Centre, and provides regular updates on how the new students are adjusting to their new environment. In previous years, King Edward would have welcomed kids from the Centre from five to 10 families throughout the school year; this year there



Facebook/King Edward Junior and Senior Public School

Neighbours come to the assistance of newly arrived refugees with King Edward donations.

have been more than 30 already. Almost as suddenly as they arrive, the students are gone, off to a more permanent home outside of the community. King Edward's principal Susan Moulton sees the benefit of having refugees as a part of the school community, even though students' average stay is only about one month. "Our students become ambassadors for these students. We ask them to help the students adjust and get used to the Canadian school



Facebook/King Edward Junior and Senior Public School

Clothing and toys made the Canadian winter a little more bearable.

system.” For students like my son, it puts names and faces to the headlines and it provides a teaching moment for parents like me—providing a lesson in gratitude for the things we take for granted as Canadians.

Many GARS do not experience the same level of social support as privately-sponsored refugees, who benefit from volunteers taking extra steps to make sure families have what they need for their new lives in Canada.

There is concern that the lack of social support for GARS could lead to a two-tiered system for newcomers. An anecdote from our own community illustrates this. Last winter, a parent from the King Edward community noticed one of

the pre-schoolers from the Centre playing in the playground in only flip flops and a light jacket. The parent’s concern led to a discovery that many of the Centre’s residents were similarly ill equipped for our harsh winter climate. Within days, the King Edward parent community organized and executed a successful clothing and toy drive. A gymful of gently used items were collected and distributed to GARS at the Centre and to other GARS in need through the help of organizations like COSTI. This experience helped connect the dots between the willingness to help and those who need the help, and in turn, provided the spark to keep these connections going through the newly launched Together Project.

The Together Project offers an opportunity for people to help GARS by matching volunteers to GAR families, much as private sponsors are matched with families, but without the financial commitment. By providing the social supports that are critical to successful integration into the local community, the Together Project is hoping to bridge the gap between the differing levels of support that GARS and privately sponsored refugees receive.

The Together Project has also been involved with helping to set up the Newcomer Kitchen, run out of The Depanneur at 1033 College. The Newcomer Kitchen is a non-profit organization that invites newly arrived Syrian refugee women to cook a weekly meal in The Depanneur’s kitchen during hours that the kitchen usually sits empty. Meals are sold online for pickup or delivery and proceeds are shared among the cooks. The Newcomer Kitchen’s goal is to create a model that can be replicated anywhere. The initiative gained national attention in December 2016 with a visit to The Depanneur from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

If you are looking for ways to get involved in helping GARS, check out the Together Project at www.togetherproject.ca or make a plan to treat yourself to a meal from the Newcomer Kitchen <https://thedepanneur.ca/newcomerkitchen/> on Thursdays.



Community Builder Awards

RORY “GUS” SINCLAIR

Celia Denov

Celia has had a long and illustrious history with Harbord Village. After moving to Borden St. in 1969. She attended her first Residents’ Association Meeting.

By 1972, as chair of the neighbourhood Parks Committee, Celia was involved with the city in developing parkettes at Brunswick and College and at Robert and Sussex, and organizing the first picnic in Margaret Fairley Park.

In 1975, Celia was instrumental in getting the first traffic maze installed

north of Harbord.

After a few years away, Celia was so homesick for the area that she moved back.

In 1996–2005, she initiated the Fall Fair, which continues to this day.

In 1999 Celia was on the committee that authored the Constitution of the new HVRA.

Since then, Celia has continued to be a passionate contributor and admirer of the HVRA and therefore is most worthy of the Community Builder Award.

Congratulations, Celia!



Robert Bell

Larry Sdao

Larry Sdao is a rare bird indeed—a veteran of the hospitality industry who also develops positive relationships with the communities in which he works.

Larry bought the Brunswick House in the early 2000s, intending it be run as a plus for the community. But then he signed a lease with an operator who proved to be a bad fit.

Since the operator was unresponsive to our complaints, Larry took the operator to court to break the lease. This is very difficult to do as the courts grant this mostly for non-payment of rent. However, Larry had a huge stack of evidence of

non-compliance for things agreed to (e.g. tenant to remove graffiti) and vituperative emails, with the result that the operator agreed to give up his 20-year option, finally ending the bad behaviour of the Brunswick.

Many landlords would have collected the rent and ignored our pleas. Larry did the right thing by Harbord Village and therefore is most worthy of the Community Builder Award.

Congratulations Larry!



Courtesy of Larry Sdao

Major St. Speed Humps: Slow Down, You're Moving Too Fast

MARGARET PROCTER

The first block on Major, between College and Ulster, will soon get the traffic-calming measures that residents started asking for in 2013. Parents joined forces four years ago to ask the city for ways to reduce speeding and wrong-way traffic—a concern especially for children walking to Lord Lansdowne School. Residents of Kensington Gardens are also at risk when they venture out for walks. So is anybody trying to cross the street in mid-block. After many rounds of discussion, meetings, petitions and compromises, the city has called for tenders to build gently raised speed humps that will slow drivers but not hamper emergency vehicles. Watch for results later this spring. The story so far is told on our webpage Traffic Calming: The Major Street Initiative.



Local School Changes

NICOLE SCHULMANN

This past fall the TDSB introduced important changes to our local elementary schools, separating the children of Harbord Village according to a new boundary map.

Lord Lansdowne, affectionately known as the flying saucer school on Robert St., has historically been the kindergarten–Grade 8 community school for a large part of the neighbourhood. It was the local JK–6 school for those who lived South of Harbord and east of Borden, and the local Grade 7/8 school for all of Harbord Village east of Borden. Now it is entirely a French immersion JK–8 school (with the exception of the alternative da Vinci school, which has been there since 2009). The English language students must now go elsewhere.

As a result of this change, the catchments of the other elementary schools that service Harbord Village have also been altered. Now children who used to be assigned to Lord Lansdowne for JK–6 will go to Kensington for JK–6. And they will go to King Edward for Grades 7/8. Children living north of Harbord and east of Borden, instead of attending Lord Lansdowne for grades 7/8 as they did, will now go to Jesse Ketchum (about two kilometres away at 61 Davenport Rd.).

What will be the upshot of all this? One benefit is that children

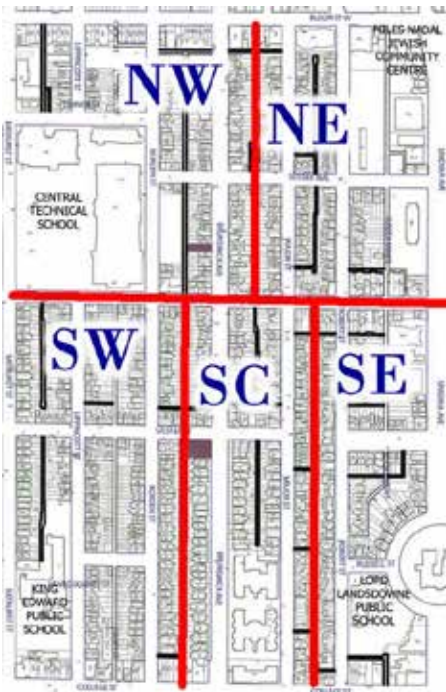
will now be able to enrol in French Immersion JK–8 without needing to leave Harbord Village, encouraging them to walk to school and develop friendships in their neighbourhood. On the other hand, those who follow the English language stream will be even more geographically dispersed, with roughly a third never assigned to a Harbord Village school.

While the overall number of children attending a school in the neighbourhood should increase significantly, that is essentially due to the projected increase in children from the surrounding neighbourhoods. According to the TDSB's growth projections, these changes should increase the 2024 projected enrolment at Lord Lansdowne from 386 (without the changes) to 423, and at King Edward from 534 to 646.

Harbord Village is fortunate to have so many local schools, and now a greater range of programs. Yet it is ironic that, by default, so many neighbourhood children will not attend them. Children are one of the foundations of a community, and the way they are divided by their schools ends up affecting the community as a whole.



Area Reports



Southeast

Chef Victor Barry of Piano Piano is opening a new restaurant across the street at 89 Harbord (most recently the site of the Harbord Room). Café Cancan is described as a “high energy French bistro,” and is scheduled to open in late May 2017.

South Central

We have two new parks to look forward to this spring, as well as calmer traffic on Major St. (see story on page 10). Doctors’ Parkette at College and Brunswick is already in full use after reconstruction last year, with strikingly patterned stonework, landscaping, benches and lighting.

Once a plaque explaining the new name is installed, the city plans an opening ceremony. (Read about the design process on our website.) And the reconstruction of Margaret Fairley Park is nearly complete, featuring a new play surface and equipment, including natural logs and a climbing stone. As soon as the splash-pad and plantings are finished, summer is welcome to arrive!

Southwest

We surveyed Lippincott St. residences (opposite King Edward School) concerning a proposed student drop-off/pick-up area.

We facilitated a meeting for residents and a new restaurant operator regarding a patio transfer application.

We worked with residents concerning construction debris and illegal parking on Croft.

We alerted area residents of a proposal for speed bumps on Croft. The city is to follow up with a survey.

Croft greening will begin in late April with laneway cleanup and container planting mid-May.

Northeast

Neighbours of the proposed University of Toronto residence, having long advocated for preservation of the bookstore at the corner of Sussex and Spadina, welcomed its heritage listing. Concern continues about the proposal’s height, density, mix of residents, and commitment to green space.

Negotiations have continued regarding the proposed new building

at 666 Spadina and the creation of publicly accessible green spaces on its perimeter.

Northwest

Last fall temporary bike lanes were installed along Bloor St. as a trial. Preliminary surveys indicate most residents and businesses are in favour, drivers feel more comfortable driving alongside bikes with the lanes, and significantly more cyclists are using Bloor St. thanks to the lanes. The city is now adjusting signage and signals to improve the impact on driving times. It also added 19 new Green P parking spaces near the Tranzac on Brunswick Ave. to counter the reduction of spaces on Bloor. Observation continues and this fall the city will decide whether to make the lanes permanent.

Although not technically in Harbord Village, the shuttering of Honest Ed’s and the many independent businesses along both Markham St. and most of the west side of Bathurst ushers in a period of tremendous change for our area. A few of the businesses have relocated locally, but most have not. Although the developers are still negotiating the details with the city, the project aims to add about 800 rental units to the area. Demolition is scheduled to begin in June.

After a year of renovations and heritage restoration, the Brunswick House reopened as a Rexall pharmacy.

Planning and Development Reports

SUE DEXTER AND CAROLEE ORME

New College Willcocks Entrance

On its 50th anniversary, New College is getting an updated portico on Willcocks St. near Huron. This will soften the entranceway between buildings and improve the landscaping along the college's Willcocks frontage.

The public sidewalk is being replaced. Existing trees next to the college will be preserved, with the exception of one Norway maple east of the entranceway. Two trees will be added to the north of the sidewalk and two will be planted in the street boulevard. These include a flowering dogwood, a linden, a tulip tree and a horse chestnut. An improved irrigation system will be installed.

Work started April 28, with completion expected mid- to late August. Willcocks will not be closed, although there may be some disruptions during deliveries and the erection of the portico canopy.

This project marks the beginning of the rehabilitation of the corners of Willcocks and Huron. If funding is found, the Willcocks Common plan will create pedestrian-friendly streetscape on the remaining three corners.

Mirvish Village

With the April 28, 2017, passage of Westbank's Honest Ed's-Mirvish



V+A Architects

In the evening, additional lighting will frame the street.

Village rezoning, City Council has approved the largest development in our part of Toronto. After three years of assessment and negotiation between the bordering communities, City Planning, Councillors Layton and Cressy, the project has been scaled down by about 20 per cent, to 806 rental units. Maximum tower height is 26 storeys on Bathurst, with four lower towers. Provisions include:

- 24 of 27 heritage houses retained
- 40 per cent of units will be two- and three-bedroom
- 9 per cent will be affordable, with a right for up to 20 per cent affordable

- 50 child daycare spaces and a community space
- an on-site park

The rezoning mandates continuing community consultation on traffic, the public realm, streetscape and the park.

City Council passed this motion: <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2017.TE23.6>.

Significant heritage preservation on Markham and the corner of Lennox and Bathurst is part of the agreement. <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2017.TE23.16>.



This issue of the *HVRA Newsletter* was edited by Jane Auster. Anne Kerekes is managing editor. Layout by Ian MacKenzie.

HVRA Board 2016–2017

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NW	Nicole Schulman	416-934-0160	n.m.schulman@gmail.com
NE	Carolee Orme	416-704-3201	cmorme@gmail.com
NE	Regine Schmid	416-925-1218	resch@uniserve.com
SW	Jane Perdue	416-923-7065	jperdue@sympatico.ca
SW	Bob Stambula	416-565-7623	rstambula@gmail.com
SC	Anne Kerekes	547-544-5306	annekerekes1@gmail.com
SC	Margaret Procter	416-975-9486	procter@chass.utoronto.ca
SE	Carmen Gauthier	416-323-3944	carmgaut@bell.net
SE	Lena Mortensen	416-934-1961	lenamich@yahoo.com

HVRA Membership & Renewal Form

Please check one:

- Voting member (individual) \$10/one year; \$20/two years
- Supporting member (to support HVRA activities) \$20/one year; \$40/two years
- Fanatical member (to really support HVRA activities!) \$50/one year; \$100/two years

Payment can be made online at harbordvillage.com/membership.

Or mail a cheque payable to *Harbord Village Residents' Association* at HVRA, PO Box 68522, 360A Bloor Street West, Toronto M5S 1X1.

Name

New Renewal

Address

Telephone..... Email.....