

DPRG NEWS

THE VOICE OF OUR COMMUNITY 🌿



September 2024 NEWSLETTER

Your source for the latest news and updates about our neighbourhood.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome back!

We thank all of you who attended the DPRG June AGM, perhaps a record attendance!

Our Councillor Josh Matlow talked to us about how recent Provincial legislation has taken away much of the City's and our ability to have a say in development approvals, especially regarding height and density. Shortened time frame limits make for limited opportunities to make improvements. The Province's objective is to get more housing built but other factors ensure little gets built.



We are pleased to report that the residents of the Cottingham area requested to join the DPRG and the AGM subsequently approved their request. Cottingham resident

Michele Chandler is now a member of your Board.

As we approach the new season, our priorities include developing our position on the City's street safety proposals for Avenue Road and finding new ways to affect development applications to help address your key concerns, development and traffic.

Belated thanks to the many of you have volunteered to help our Deer Park Residents Group. We will shortly be reaching out to you to find out more about your interests and propose ways you can help.

Cathie Macdonald, President

2024 DPRG SURVEY

Results Summary

We thank all of you who responded to the survey which was sent to residents of Deer Park, both members and non-members this spring. 144 responses were received, most from members, of which most were homeowners and over half between ages 65 and 85 generally reflecting the census data of our area. 60% live in condo or apartment buildings.

The key findings included:

- A good mix of reasons why residents like living in Deer Park, with access to parks and ravines topping the list.
- You reported the top negative issues facing our neighbourhood, first the overall development and height of new high-rise development and then traffic congestion, with bike lanes and cafes on Yonge also noted.
- About half of respondents report their quality of life remained the same over the last few years and half felt that it has declined. Only 5% felt their quality of life has improved.
- The neighbourhood is equally divided in support and in opposition to bike lanes, with the greatest number reporting they are "very concerned". The major concerns were the couriers speeding on e-bikes and increased congestion.
- Regarding the City proposals to improve safety on Avenue Road south of St. Clair, more residents were concerned about impacts on traffic flow. Sidewalk widening was the top change supported.

- The majority of respondents supported the introduction of a congestion charge.
- The main noise issues reported were gas powered leaf blowers and construction noise.

To see the survey findings in detail, click below.

[Read the Survey](#)

DEVELOPMENT

Avenue Road Study Update

11 Pleasant Blvd

Just when we thought it would be impossible for there to be more development applications for an interval, we have a new one! It's for the tiny site at 11 Pleasant Blvd, the adjacent lane and abutting the City parking garage and 19 storeys high. How would it get built, we wonder? There will be a public consultation meeting in the near future. Keep a watch-out for notices. We will send a flare when we learn of the date.

135 St. Clair Ave West

Members of the Deer Park Residents Group's Development Committee are currently in meetings with the new owner of the site, Fitzrovia, which is planning a new building to replace the current Provincial Environment building at Avenue Road and St. Clair. It is on leased land. The company builds high end rental housing that comes with support uses such as cafés that are open to the public. We will be visiting one of their current buildings to get further information. The application is an opportunity to get wider sidewalks and better landscaping at grade.

Avenue Rd at Balmoral

We finally were able to get the correct makings for Avenue Road lane diversion required for the Amica development at Balmoral and traffic seems to be moving better. The next step is to better erase the old markings.

Yonge + St Clair BIA Community Consultation

The Yonge + St. Clair BIA held well-attended Community Consultation sessions at the end of July. Attendees were invited to provide input on a number of issues and questions. We'll look forward to seeing the results.



RAVINES AND PARKS

TRCA Local Projects

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) has sent through an update on local projects. It reports that it continues to advance 3 projects to address erosion concerns in Yellow Creek. Please see their updates below:

Yellow Creek Channel Repairs below Summerhill Gardens

Construction crews mobilized the site in August. Signage and fencing for tree protection, site security and access have been installed. Construction of channel repairs are planned to start within a week and finish in March 2025.

Yellow Creek near Heath St. Slope Stabilization and Staircase Replacement

Detailed design work continues, and designs are now 60% complete for slope stabilization work and 30% complete for the staircase replacement. Design is expected to be 100% complete in early 2025 in preparation for construction to start in spring 2025.

Yellow Creek near Heath St. Channel Re-alignment

TRCA was in the late planning stages with the design complete and ready to tender when one of the participating landowners withdrew their participation from the project. After discussions with our design consultant and City of Toronto staff, we have decided to move forward with a re-design of the project, moving the channel away from the property that declined to participate. This will delay the start date of construction to summer 2025.

Toronto Nature Stewards (TNS)

As we mentioned in our July issue, we are continuing to work on getting approval to steward sections of the perimeter of David Balfour Park, parts of which are quite overrun with invasive species. We're concerned that they will migrate into the Vale and that invasive species from the Vale can gain a further foothold in the Park.

The application, which was due at the end of August, has been submitted and we expect to hear back early next year after it is reviewed by TNS and the City.

Lead Stewards

If approved, we will be looking for a Lead Steward (or two) to spearhead our work. TNS provides a required training for anyone wishing to be the Lead Steward for a site and the applications to attend are now open. The deadline to apply to the training (Nov 15) is before we learn if the site is approved but the course is interesting for those who have an interest in working on any of the sites that TNS has already approved and any new ones as they continue to expand their important work across the city.

See note from TNS below relative to the application process and let us know of your interest in an email to info@deerparkresidents.ca



Message from the Toronto Nature Stewards

Want to become a Lead Steward?

Then apply for Lead Steward Training this year!

Here are the steps:

1. Review the information in the first section of [the application form](#).
2. Complete [the application form](#) by **November 15, 2024**.

If you've submitted a site application this year, remember that you'll need to receive Lead Steward training before you can start managing your proposed site! As of August 30, TNS has forwarded all site applications to the City. The window for site applications is now closed. We'll find out if the City has approved your proposal by January 2025, and we'll let you know as soon as we do. Lead Steward training begins in February.

HERITAGE

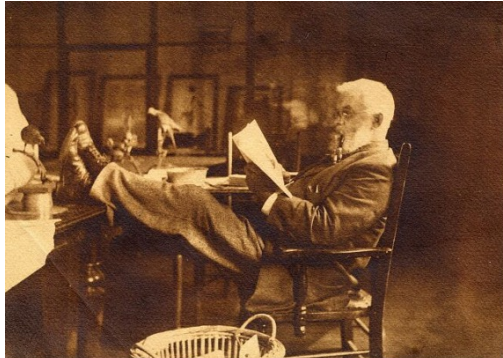
The Remarkable Residents of Walker Avenue

By Lyne Kurylo, DPRG member

Walter Walker

Originally the northern boundary of the village of Yorkville, Walker Avenue was named for the factory established there by Walter Walker. Arriving from England in 1832, Walter and his family soon established and operated the factory through to the 1920s, making wheels and selling brick making supplies. The family eventually

opened North Toronto Hardware on the southwest corner of Yonge and Walker as a successful business which lasted well into the twentieth century. By 1887 the family had built two houses at 23 and 25 Walker which have had many occupants. Most recently a descendant purchased and refurbished 23 Walker.



David Boyle

David Boyle (1842-1911) lived at 78 Walker from 1908 to 1911. Appointed Canada's first full-time professional archaeologist by the Canadian Institute Museum in 1888 he is known today as the father of Ontario archaeology.

A Scot, Boyle emigrated with his family to Canada in 1856. Starting off as a blacksmith and then a teacher, his studies encompassed history, preservation, local indigenous peoples and natural history. In 1896 he became curator at the Ontario Provincial Museum and laid the foundation for the development of archaeological study in Ontario. He remained in the post of curator until his death in 1911.

Walter Allward

Walter Seymour Allward, the Toronto sculptor (1876 -1955), lived at 76 Walker from 1907 to the 1920s. Allward gained his reputation as one of Canada's greatest monumental sculptors with his design for the Canadian National Vimy Memorial in Vimy, France (built 1922-36), which commemorated the important Battle of Vimy Ridge (April 1917) in which 10,000 Canadians were killed or wounded.



The massive monument is made of concrete and limestone and displays brilliant craftsmanship. It was unveiled at Vimy Ridge, France on July 26, 1936 by King Edward VIII.

38 STORES
"at your Service"



Since 1905

WHERE
BETTER
BUYERS
BUY!

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

TIMELY TIPS FOR PARTICULAR PALATES

MAPLE CREAM

Hunt's something pleasantly different for the week-end. Hunt's good Old-Fashioned Maple Cream, made of top-quality Maple Syrup blended with the finest Cream.

Try them for your company on Sunday.

SPECIAL 23c lb.



THE WHOLE FAMILY AGREE

ON
Hunt's ICE CREAM!

OLD AND GRAY
YOUNG AND GAY
—they all love it!

BAKERY Specials

TWINKLES FOR KIDDIES

These "Hunt's" are a new kind of ice cream, made with a special recipe, and are so delicious that they will be a hit with all the children.

each **5c**



SUNDAY CUPS

For Greatness
2 for 15c

Just a dish of the "Hunt's" Sundae Cup, and you'll find it a delicious treat. It's a new kind of ice cream, made with a special recipe, and is so delicious that it will be a hit with all the children.



BRICKS FOR EVERYONE!

The "Hunt's" of the week-end. They are a new kind of ice cream, made with a special recipe, and are so delicious that they will be a hit with all the children.

each **10c**



HUNT'S "HANDY" HALF PINT, 10c



TOASTED COCONUT ROLL

A new kind of cake, made with a special recipe, and is so delicious that it will be a hit with all the children.

each **22c**



SALT WATER KISSES

As salty and tangy as the Ocean Spray! A treat you'll eat and eat. Light, Fluffy, Pure.

29c lb.

"They melt in your mouth"

DINE AT Hunt's NEXT SUNDAY

DELICIOUS FULL COURSE MEALS
Served from 12:30 noon to 2 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY'S 50c MENU

CREAM OF CELERY SOUP
OR
FRESH GRAPEFRUIT COCKTAIL
GRILLED HAM WITH FRESH ASPARAGUS TIPS
Tender Special Steak cut into thick slices and served with
Fresh Asparagus Tips on Buttered Toast
ROAST PRIME RIBS OF BEEF AU JUS
(The best of the 5 lb. of Superior Beef from Beef
Farm, Long and Tender)
CREAMED MASHED OR BOILED NEW POTATOES
BUTTERED NEW BEANS OR FRESH SPINACH
HUNT'S DELICIOUS FRESH FRUIT WATER-ICE
WHOLE WHEAT OR WHITE ROLLS WITH BUTTER
CHIPS OF
LEMON SNOW PUDDINGS WITH CUSTARD SAUCE
SHREDDED FRESH PINEAPPLE IN SYRUP
ASSORTED FISH OR CAKE AND ICE CREAM
TEA COFFEE MILK

NEXT SUNDAY'S 65c MENU

CREAMED CHEESE AND OLIVE CANAPE
SOUP OR COCKTAIL
FRIED SPRING CHICKEN WITH CORN BUTTER
Non-Fat Biscuits cut into quarters, served in flour and
Fruit-Filled for a delicious treat. Served with delicious
Chicken Gravy, Green Peas.
HUNT'S DELICIOUS FRESH FRUIT WATER-ICE
WHOLE WHEAT OR WHITE ROLLS WITH BUTTER
FRESH STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE
TEA COFFEE MILK

ALSO A LA CARTE

These Dinners Served at the Following Stores:
128 Yonge at Bloor 1511 Yonge at St. George
1412 Yonge at St. Clair 1512 West at Spadina
Special menu at Our Beaver Hotel

JUST CALL

WE DELIVER
S.A. 5731



Standard of
Quality Since
1905

Hunt's Bakery

Hunt's Bakery occupied 63 - 71 Walker Avenue from about 1928 to 1978 with the aroma of freshly baked bread wafting over the neighbourhood for more than 50 years. A favourite with Torontonians for its cakes, ice cream, and family meals, Hunt's had expanded to 36 stores by 1939. Eventually Hunt's merged with its competitor Women's Bakery in the 1960s. When the factory closed, the site on Walker quickly saw the construction of a housing development called the Bakery (1980) featuring townhouses along with detached and semi-detached houses.



The voice
of our
community