

WOODFIELD

NEWS

Spring/Summer 2019



Art everywhere
in Woodfield

Victoria Park
Draft Secondary
Plan to be presented
in early Spring

Eco-Meditation Garden
at First-St. Andrew's
coming soon



RESIDENTIAL TO THE CORE

Woodfield News is published twice a year and delivered free of charge within the Woodfield area.

We invite your comments, suggestions and submissions.

Please email
info@historicwoodfield.com

www.historicwoodfield.com

*A member of the
Urban League of London*

2019 Woodfield AGM

Thursday, April 18

Dessert potluck 7:00 pm, Business portion 7:30 pm

BISHOP CRONYN PLACE

442 William Street

Join us for the 2019 Woodfield Community Association AGM. At this dessert potluck tradition neighbours gather to learn about the goings on in the community, hear what the executive has been working on, and plans for the coming year!

Also at the AGM we will recognize the Neighbour of the Year for 2018, as well as the Woodfield Streetscape Improvement Awards. A guest speaker will be announced closer to the AGM date.

Bring a dessert, we will supply coffee and tea, and meet some new neighbours. You will be able to renew or purchase a membership. The cost of a lifetime membership per household is \$50 and a 4-year membership costs \$5. This is voting year! We will be voting in the Woodfield Community Association Board. If anyone is interested in becoming involved in the WCA, please email info@historicwoodfield.com.

2019 Plant Sale and Exchange

Lord Roberts French Immersion School, 440 Princess Ave

Plant donations accepted from 8 am, shopping starts at 8:30 am

Spring is almost here and that means the 24th Annual Woodfield Plant Sale and Exchange will be on **SATURDAY, MAY 18**. Skip breakfast and treat yourself to coffee, a tasty breakfast sandwich or baked goods while you browse the beautiful selection of plants that your neighbours have dug up and donated. There'll be compost, mulch, annuals, perennials and native trees from Trees for Woodfield. Come early for the best selection.

HOW IT WORKS: Dig up your perennials, put them in a pot. Bring your plants to us, (please indicate plant names and colour) trade them in for tokens (we give you half the value we'll sell them for) and then shop for something new for your garden. If you don't have plants to donate don't worry, all shoppers are welcome!

We look forward to mingling with our neighbours at this great event! For more information contact us at info@historicwoodfield.com.



Art everywhere in Woodfield

We love art in Woodfield! There are so many established and emerging artists in our neighbourhood and across London. And this spring we are lucky to have two art shows!

Gallery Painting Group, which paints on location twice a week from May until October, has its annual show from Oct. 17-20 at First St-Andrews Church at Waterloo and Queens. This group of artists will



From a previous paint-out: Princess Ave by Hilda Markson-Gray

have several 'paint-outs' in Woodfield this year. It's London's oldest art club and it started at the former London Art Gallery when it was located at the old library on Queens Ave, so members feel that the club is coming back home. They are very excited about re-joining the Woodfield community. Do stop and say hello if you come upon artists on your street!"

The 26th London Artists' Studio Tour is on April 26 (7-9 pm), 27 (10-5), and 28 (noon to 5) and includes 28 artists at 25 studios around the city. Four of the participating artists are located just adjacent to Woodfield at the Factory Building on Adelaide St. N. between Princess and Lorne; they welcome Woodfielders to come by. Moira Burke, Ingrid Connidis and Catherine Eichstedt are in Studio III, Unit 210 at 538 Adelaide St N (by Princess). Richard Sturgeon's studio is on the other side of the building at 630 1/2 Lorne Ave. Check the website at londonstudiotour.ca.

HarvestFest Potluck and Auction

Last November Woodfielders gathered in Proudfoot Hall at First St.-Andrew's United Church to share a meal, catch up with neighbours, and start a little early holiday shopping at the silent auction tables. This event is a major fundraiser for the association. Funds raised help the WCA create and host community-building events like the Street Fair and Christmas Carolling. Funds also go to the Lord Roberts Naturalization Committee, the Urban League, and are available as needed to hire planning and heritage consultants or acquire other resources needed to help inform decisions involving proposed developments in the community.

We raised \$1,874.50 at HarvestFest



Left to right: Kate Rapson presents the Lifetime Contribution Award to Hazel Elmslie at the 2018 HarvestFest Potluck and Auction

this year! This would not be possible without the generosity of many local businesses and neighbours who donate items to the auction. We also held a live art auction with a gorgeous original painting by Jacqui Kipfer. Our thanks to everyone!

Victoria Park Draft Secondary Plan to be presented in early Spring

The West Woodfield Heritage Conservation District determined that the desired scale for development around Victoria Park was a maximum of five storeys. Due to intensification goals for the downtown area, the London Plan supports development of properties surrounding the entire south half of the park to reach 30-35 storeys. This includes a proposal for twin high-rise towers on the surface parking lot behind St. Peter's Cathedral.

The Victoria Park Secondary Plan will create a framework for subsequent zoning decisions, nullifying the height restrictions imposed by the Heritage Conservation District and prevent contesting any future development proposals based on height.

The draft Secondary Plan will be presented to the Planning and Environment Committee during a Public Participation Meeting in early Spring, then to full Council in late Spring. Learn more at getinvolved.london.ca/VictoriaPark and follow a discussion of issues on the 'Friends of Victoria Park, London' Facebook group.

This is an important issue not only for Woodfield but for all of London given we all use this historic Park. Please contact Ward 13 councillor Arielle Kayabaga (519-661-2489, ext. 4013 / akayabaga@london.ca) and City Planner, Michelle Knieriem (519-661-2489, ext. 4549 / mknieriem@london.ca) with your feedback.

— Submitted by Friends of Victoria Park

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LONDON



Community Clean-Up Day

Saturday, April 27, 9 am-noon

This is the day that Londoners get together to help clean and green our neighbourhoods and parks.

Who knew cleaning could be so fun. Meet locations will be announced soon on our facebook page (historicwoodfield). Bring gloves. We'll have all other necessary supplies on hand.

We Thank You

We are extremely grateful for the generous donations we receive for our HarvestFest Auction. Be sure to frequent these businesses as thanks for their generosity over the years.

BUSINESSES

Central Cat Hospital
and The Cat Hotel

The Bag Lady

Bertoldi's Trattoria

Bloomers of London

Boombox Bakeshop

City of London

Copp's Buildall

Covent Garden Market

Delta London Armouries Hotel

Dream in Progress Voice
and Drama Studio

Entrenous Hair & Beauty

Edward Jones, Lisa Conley,
Financial Consultant

Flower's Story

Frame Space

Grand Theatre

Insomniac Press

Jill's Table

Locomotive Espresso

McCabes Irish Pub & Grill

The Morrissey House

Palace Theatre/
London Community Players

The Park Hotel London

The Pub on Richmond

Revkor Fitness London East
The Tasting Room

Woodfield Automotive

Wheels & Gears

FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOUR

Anonymous, Lorraine de Blois,
Jeff Carson, Olivia and Nikki
Carson, Glen Curnoe, Wes Kinghorn
and Wendy Dickenson, Max
Kipfer, Rosy Loewith, Paula Marcotte,
Lincoln McCardle, Rod and Joey
McDowell, Hilary and Burton Moon,
Kate Rapson, Penny and Pat Stone,
Adam Strange, Patricia Zachos,
Dr. Arnold Spozak

*And a special thank you to
Jacqui Kipfer.*

Historic Woodfield Fall Street Fair

Mark your calendars for **Saturday September 7th** and get ready for another great year of our fabulous Street Fair. As always we'll have delicious BBQ by the BBQ Blokes, horse and carriage rides, vintage games, the Woodfield Café, live local music and theatre, scarecrow decorating, pumpkin tossing, the Kids of Woodfield art gallery and so much more.

This is always one of the best days in Woodfield, and you won't want to miss what we have planned for 2019. Thanks to all of our dedicated volunteers — see you there Woodfield!



Jacqui Kipfer generously donated this beautiful Historic Woodfield Fall Street Fair painting to our live auction at the 2018 HarvestFest Potluck. The bidding was fierce. The successful bidders are thrilled.

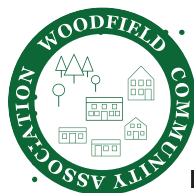
Eco-Meditation Garden at First-St. Andrew's coming soon

With grants from the City of London, Nature London, TD Friends of the Environment, United Church and member contributions, construction of the First-St. Andrew's Eco-Meditation Garden will be completed Spring 2019. Fanshawe's Environmental Design and Planning students helped plan this ecologically healthy landscape which includes:

- Native trees
- A rain/pollinator fusion garden bed
- Acknowledging and celebrating the traditional First Nations lands, indigenous sacred plants

- A walking labyrinth for meditation and spiritual development
- A Chimney Swifts sign and observation bench
- A stage, which extends the front steps for functions such as worship, weddings and musical performances
- An organ pipe sculpture "In diversity there is harmony".

We invite Woodfielders to come and enjoy the garden. If you are interested in helping out with the gardens please contact Barrie Evans, evansbm@rogers.com.



Woodfield Membership

If you have received this newsletter, you are living in the Woodfield neighbourhood. Your membership to the Woodfield Community Association is important for the preservation of our neighbourhood. We invite residents not already members to join today.

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ Postal Code _____

New member \$ _____ Renewal \$ _____ Lifetime \$ _____ Donation \$ _____

Amount enclosed _____ (\$5.00 for 4 years, Lifetime Membership \$50.00)

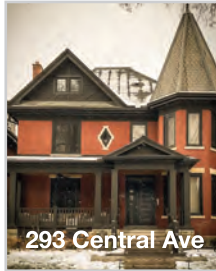
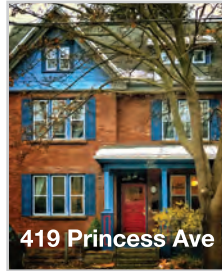
Complete this form and bring it with you to the AGM (April 18) or the Plant Sale and Exchange (May 18). For more details contact info@historicwoodfield.com.

Recognition Awards

Each year the Woodfield Community Association recognizes the labors of love that happen on our streetscapes.

Attendees at the 2018 WCA HarvestFest voted for their favourite recent Minor and Major improvements. Find out who the award recipients are at the AGM on April 18.

We'll also be presenting the Neighbour of the Year award.



Woodfield and Victoria Park

In our quest to keep Woodfield well treed, *Trees for Woodfield Committee* recently met with two City Staff. We met with Kat Hodgins, Supervisor for Forestry Operations, and walked through Woodfield's Heritage District. We learned what urban foresters consider before planting a boulevard tree.

Recently, Woodfield resident Julie Michaud, who works with London's Parks, Planning and Design, attended our Tree Meeting and brought plans and sketches from the City archives, recording the history and development of Victoria Park. She shared with us the complicated considerations concerning trees, and keeping Victoria Park well treed.

Victoria Park is Woodfield's only open space. City Hall, identifies two essential purposes of the Park – to be a Strolling Park and also an Events Park. Sometimes these two assigned purposes are in conflict.

The summertime festivals demand space for booths, and trees sometimes interfere with that need. Tree roots are often trampled and the soil compacted, rendering it a non-supportive environment for existing roots and new growth.

What to do? How to achieve balance? The festivals are loved by thousands of people and Victoria Park is already invested with utilities and other necessary physical needs for these events. However, the festivals

place incredible pressure on the trees, and detract from other benefits of open space essential for the surrounding communities.

There is a very strong voice in London for these summer events. Events organizers and Tourism London work very hard to make these festivals the success they have become.

The voice for the Strolling Park between these events, and rest of the year, is not so strong, and it behooves us in Woodfield to provide, and lead that strong voice for the planting and protection of the trees. In Summer-time, the paths are only enjoyed if they are shaded by large trees; people will throw a rug down and lay in the park if the grass is soft and green with large trees providing a cooling effect.

There are many benefits of large trees and many cities deem it negligent to not include trees as an essential of the Green Infrastructure in all planning, including parks.

In some cities in Europe and the US, the planting and maintenance of trees are of equal importance to both the City authorities and to the residents. Let's continue to make trees, especially in and around Woodfield, our continued priority for the benefit of every Londoner. Let's bring our influence and focus, to Victoria Park, the only open space that Woodfield has, that we gladly share with the whole city and with summer festivals!



A new tradition in Woodfield

Our second annual Woodfield Christmas Tree Lot was a great success in 2018, raising over \$400. We sold almost twice as many beautiful, fresh trees for Woodfield homes this year as we did last year, and the weather was perfect. Each year, Jeff and Wes drive an hour out in the country to pick up our trees, specially cut and ready to last the whole season (no trees that have been on the lot for weeks here).



Left to right: After securing their Christmas tree haul, Jeff Carson and Wes Kinghorn head back to Woodfield.

The first Friday of December we set up our picture perfect tree lot at the corner of Prospect and Princess (thanks Kelly!), complete with twinkling Christmas lights, music, an open fire, cider, authentic fire-roasted chestnuts and other treats. We even put on an outdoor Christmas movie later on. It's a night you won't want to miss, so keep your eyes on this newsletter next fall and get your orders in early! (Pre-orders only, all proceeds to the WCA.)

Heritage Alteration Permits

If you are receiving this newsletter, you likely live in one of Woodfield's two Heritage Conservation Districts! If you are planning any (even minor) exterior renovations remember to call Kyle Gonyou (City Heritage Planner) at 519 661-2500 (ext. 0267) to see if you require a 'no fee' Heritage Alteration Permit before you start (to avoid delays or a 'stop work' order). The call is quick, easy and **FREE!**