

# WOODFIELD

NEWS

Spring/Summer 2020



**Streetscape  
Improvement Awards**

**PLANNING NOTES:  
Eyes on potential  
developments**

**New perspectives  
on key topics in  
our community**



## 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  
or write to

PO Box 601, Station B,  
London, ON N6A 4Y4

www.historicwoodfield.com

*A member of the  
Urban League of London*

## 2020 Woodfield AGM

Thursday, April 16

Dessert potluck 7:00 pm, Business portion 7:30 pm  
**BISHOP CRONYN PLACE, 442 William Street**

Come to the Woodfield Community Association AGM: meet neighbours and catch up on the happenings in our community! This year, Jenna Rose Sands, a Cree Anishinaabe artist in London and former Woodfielder, will be speaking about the importance of learning the history of the land we live on and how her ezines offer a way to connect with local Indigenous communities.

London Cares Homeless Response Services will be our other guest speaker. London Cares has recently moved into the former Info-Tech building at the corner of Adelaide and Queens. The new use for this building will be to establish it as a community hub with services for the homeless. London Cares, with one of its partners, Sisters of St. Joseph's, will present an overview of services and provide a discussion on the housing crisis in London, how it's impacting all communities, and how to help.

We will also recognize the Neighbour of the Year for 2019, as well as the Woodfield Streetscape Improvement Awards recipients.

All are welcome! Bring a dessert to share and we will supply coffee and tea!

## 2020 Plant Sale and Exchange

Lord Roberts French Immersion School, 440 Princess Avenue  
**Donations accepted from 8 am, shopping begins at 8:30 am**

The 25th Annual Woodfield Plant Sale and Exchange will be on **Saturday, May 16**. Skip breakfast and treat yourself to coffee, a tasty breakfast sandwich or baked goods while you browse the 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 and put them in a pot. Bring your plants to the school, (include 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 neighbours at this great event! For more information contact us at info@historicwoodfield.com.

**NEW THIS YEAR:** Pre-order pollinator plants and pick them up at the plant exchange. Help the bees, butterflies and birds in Woodfield! Check the Facebook group for updates and/or contact India at bodhindia@gmail.com.

**May 16**



— A letter from the Chair

## New perspectives on key topics in our community

I'm really looking forward to this year's AGM. We are honoured to have very special speakers join us this year.

The first is Jenna Rose Sands, a local Cree Anishinaabe artist. Jenna Rose is the creator of a series of ezines, which are her way to talk about the atrocities Indigenous people have endured, over the years and today. She will be telling us more about

these ezines and also about where we live now: the people who were here before us on this land. This will be a fascinating, and at times a little hard, discussion. I hope her ezines find a spot on all our bookshelves.

Our second speaker is London Cares Homeless Responsive Services which has taken up residence at the building on the north west corner of Queens and Adelaide. The homeless crisis

is a very complex issue. However, the answers should not lie in increased policing. How can we be more compassionate, how can we safeguard our property, and what is the best way to help?

I hope many will join us at the AGM, learn more about this land's history, and join the discussion about the homeless and addiction crisis.

— Kate Rapson

## PLANNING NOTES: Eyes on potential developments

*The following is a brief update on some of the potential developments in our area. We'll continue to watch as these progress and engage the broader community where appropriate.*

### 467-469 Dufferin Ave

The Local Planning Appeal Tribunal, formerly the OMB, at long last released its report as it pertains to at 467-469 Dufferin. The decision by the City to reject the demolition permit application was appealed by the owner, Marigold Homes, Inc. The basis of the City's decision was because of the buildings' history: the buildings

have links to London's labour movement to include serving as a labour hall and London's first library. Plus they may have been at one time located at the British Military Barracks at Victoria Park. The intent of Marigold is to demolish the buildings and replace them with 12 micro-suites.

The Tribunal in its decision ruled in favour of Marigold Homes permitting them to build nine units on the site. It instructed the city to issue a demolition permit to Marigold Homes.

However, the City of London asked LPAT to review its decision. The basis of this being that the Tribunal did not consider the

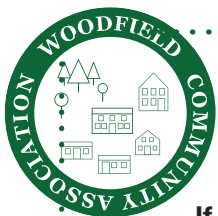
protection afforded to the buildings by the East Woodfield Heritage Conservation District. Local Planning Appeal Tribunal has stated the city's review request was "under consideration."

### Victoria Park

The City continues to work on the Victoria Park secondary plan. A second draft was presented to the City's Planning and Environment Committee (PEC) in February. The draft identified the north end to allow buildings up to 16 storeys; 2-4 storeys on Wellington between Central and Wolfe; 18 storeys and up to 30 storeys on Wellington between the south side of Wolfe St. and Dufferin Ave; up to 30 storeys on the south side of the park; then between 4 and 30 on the west side. At February's meeting, PEC members directed staff to reconsider the heights of the buildings around the park and look at wind and shadow impacts on the natural heritage of the park.

There will be another public input meeting this spring. Please voice your views, email our Councillor, Arielle Kayabaga (akayabaga@london.ca), the chair of PEC, Maureen Cassidy (mcassidy@london.ca), and the planner on the file, Michelle Knieriem (mknieriem@london.ca). Or go to <https://getinvolved.london.ca/victoriapark1> for more information.

We will keep you posted.



## 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.

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 to the AGM (April 16) or the Plant Sale and Exchange (May 16). Or mail with payment to PO Box 601, Station B, London, ON N6A 4Y4. For more details contact [info@historicwoodfield.com](mailto:info@historicwoodfield.com).

# 2019 HarvestFest and Auction another great success

On a chilly night 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 Fall Woodfield Street Fair, Christmas carolling; go towards helping various groups such as 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 inform

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Christmas Tree Lot



Neighbours warming up before making their way home with their Christmas Tree.

Almost 40 gorgeous trees were sold this year at the Woodfield Christmas Tree Lot! Neighbours gathered around the fire, sipped a warm beverage, and sampled some tasty snacks. Thank you to everyone who helped out and to Kelly for hosting in her driveway! We raised over \$500 this year. The call for pre-orders will go out this fall! Stay tuned!



decisions involving proposed developments in the community.

We raised \$2,733 at HarvestFest 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 gorgeous original paintings by Jacqui Kipfer and Amelia Husnik. Thanks to everyone!

## Support your neighbourhood businesses

*We are very grateful to the local businesses and residents of Woodfield who generously donated goods and services to our silent auction tables. Please frequent these businesses and thank them! Below is a list of 2019 donors.*

### LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS

- Boombox Bakeshop
- Central Cat Hospital & The Cat Hotel
- Copp's Buildall
- Covent Garden Market
- Dream in Progress Voice and Drama Studio
- Edward Jones, Lisa Conley
- Entrenous Hair & Beauty
- First-St. Andrew's Church
- Frame Space
- Grand Theatre
- Grooves Records
- Insomniac Press
- Junction Beats, Music School
- Locomotive Espresso
- London Painters
- Origins Café

- Richmond Row Businesses
- The Bag Lady
- The Church Key Pub and Bistro
- The Morrissey House
- The Park Hotel London
- The Pub on Richmond
- Wheels & Gears
- Woodfield Automotive

### FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS

Olivia and Nikki Carson, Lorraine de Blois, Wendy Dickenson and Wes Kinghorn, Max and Jacqui Kipfer, Rosy Loewith, Paula Marcotte, Hillary and Burton Moon, Kate Rapson, Gabi Sanio, Adam Strange, Susan Walsh, Patricia Zachos and anonymous neighbours.

## Streetscape Improvement Award recipients announced at AGM

At November's 2019 HarvestFest, attendees voted for their pick for the Minor and Major Streetscape Improvement Awards! The winners will be announced at the Annual General Meeting on April 16.

### Minor Streetscape Improvement Nominees

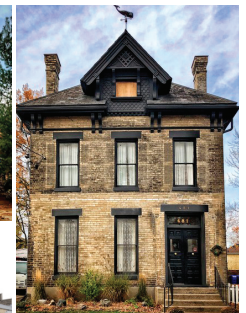
481 William Street  
549 William Street

### Major Streetscape Improvement Nominees

311 Wolfe Street  
First-St. Andrew's United Church  
Eco-Meditation Garden



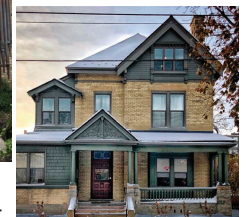
481 William Street



549 William Street



First-St. Andrew's United Church Eco-Meditation Garden



311 Wolfe Street

## Spring into action

### • Gardeners wanted

WCA Lord Roberts Rep, Tom Myles, announces that the Annual Mulch Day at Lord Roberts School is scheduled for Saturday, May 9 from 10 to noon. If you can help out, please bring a wheelbarrow, rake and/or shovel if you have them. Find out more from Tom at 519 878-9285.

### • Community Clean-Up Day Saturday, April 25, 9 am-noon

This is the day that Londoners get together to help clean and green our neighbourhoods and parks. Meet locations will be announced soon on our Facebook page (historic-woodfield). Bring gloves. We'll have all other necessary supplies on hand.



### • Fix a broken appliance

**Repair Café** (by Reimagine Co.)

**First Thursday of every month**

**211 King Street (was Novak's)**

At a Repair Café, Volunteer Fixers are on hand to help you, or show you how to, fix something that is broken. Give new life to a lamp or radio, a chair, a pair of jeans or purse or a favourite set of hair curlers! You must reserve a spot as these are very well attended and space is limited.

### • 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 contact Kyle Gonyou (City Heritage Planner) at 519 661-2489 (ext. 5344) or email [heritage@london.ca](mailto:heritage@london.ca) 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!

### • Make a big difference where you live

**101 ways to live sustainably**

[www.curbed.com/a/](http://www.curbed.com/a/)

[how-to-live-sustainably](http://how-to-live-sustainably)

## A threatened native species

It is a truism that if humans no longer inhabited the Earth, trees would not only survive - they would flourish. Whereas humans would not survive on the Earth without trees!

Our relationship and respect for trees is imperative for our own survival and enrichment. This is the awareness that your 'Trees for Woodfield' Committee holds in mind as we walk the neighbourhood, evaluating trees and where more could be planted. We know that every tree counts.

We welcome your observations, suggestions and concerns about Woodfield's urban forest. We work with the City's Urban Forestry Department to ensure the continued beauty and well-being that trees bring to the neighbourhood.

There are several species of Native trees that are boulevard hardy, but which cannot be planted because of pests and diseases that seem more pervasive and spread rapidly due to changing climate conditions.

However, one of the native species that has proven very boulevard hardy, is the Kentucky Coffee Tree. It is resistant to the harmful effects of road salt and is not prone to disease. It is adaptable to a range of conditions, but grows best in sunny open sites with deep, rich, moist soils. One of the benefits of this tree is that it is one of the last trees to leaf — sometimes not until early June, allowing Spring flowers their full blossoming beneath it. Since more and more people



Kentucky Coffee tree blooms.

are enjoying creating their own boulevard planting of flowers or grasses, the Kentucky Coffee Tree could readily be your best friend!

A very lovely tree; medium in height and with an attractive crown, it is well suited to boulevards, parks and backyards. (There is a good sample of a Kentucky Coffee Tree in Victoria Park). As a threatened native species, we urge you to consider planting one or asking the Urban Forestry Department to plant one on your boulevard to replace a felled tree.

In addition to other native species, we hope to have Kentucky Coffee trees for sale at the Plant Exchange. If you'd like one, call a Tree Committee member and ask to have one put on hold for you as they will be in limited supply. They will be good-sized 2' - 3' saplings for under \$20 (much less than commercially available ones).

See you at the Plant Exchange!

### Trees for Woodfield Committee

|                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| William Funston        | 519 433-5618 |
| Chuck Hoch             | 519 432-6231 |
| Hilary and Burton Moon | 519 438-8648 |
| Linda Whitney          | 519 434-9574 |



## Gallery Painting Group art show

The Gallery Painting Group is already planning their fall art show. After the great success of last year, they'll be returning to First-St Andrew's from October 15 to October 18, 2020. All paintings will be from 2020 paint-outs in and around London. Neighbours will again see group members painting in the streets of Woodfield, and at the street fair. If you'd



like to have your house portrayed for possible purchase, message their Facebook page or visit their website at [www.gallerypaintinggroup.com](http://www.gallerypaintinggroup.com).