

# **N** Cabbagetown Preservation Association NEWSLETTER

Preserving the architectural integrity and historic character of our neighbourhood

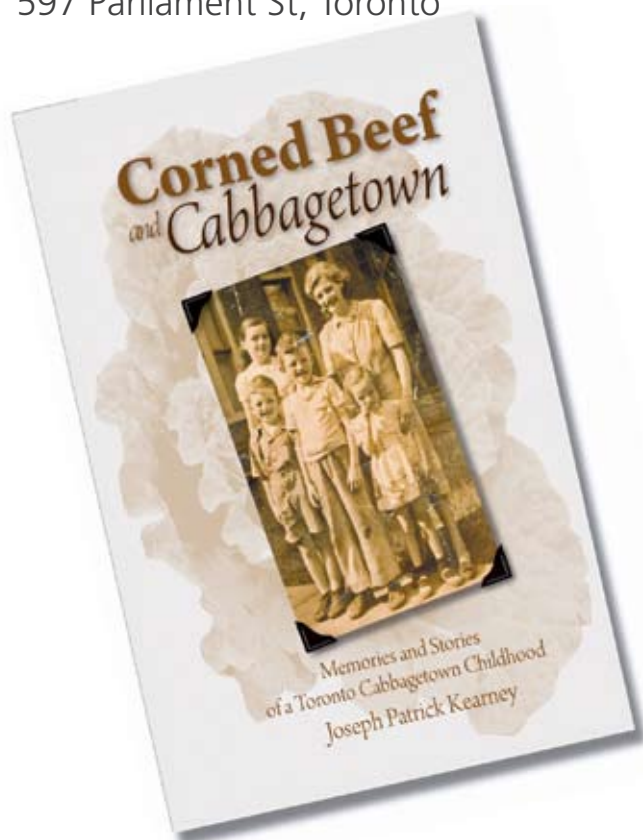
## Corned Beef & Cabbagetown Joe Kearney Speaks

Joe Kearney's recently published book, *Corned Beef and Cabbagetown*, captures our community's spirit as a village that nobody truly leaves. Revisiting the Cabbagetown of his youth, Kearney reminisces about the life of a ten year old in the 1930s and 40s, weaving the funny with the bitter, the familiar landmarks with the lost.

In the neighbourhood of Joe's youth the Farm is a zoo, the Don River is a swimming hole and the circus comes to town. Dad is at war and the Depression is just fading into memory. Our familiar landmarks are bathed in a new light.

Come to the November CPA Speaker's Night to hear Joe look back on our community as it was in a simpler but rich time. Joe's book ( [www.ofknotsandquills.com](http://www.ofknotsandquills.com) – also available at Nicholas Hoare, McNally Robinson and the various Book City stores) will be available for sale.

CPA Speakers Night  
Monday November 30  
7:00 pm, doors open at 6:30  
Filipino Centre  
597 Parliament St, Toronto



## New Plaques: Jeffries, Stapleton, p.4



Bill Stapleton, "Self-Portrait of the artist in his Sumach Street studio", courtesy of the Cabbagetown Regent Park Museum©

*Sword Street makeover, page 2; Restoring your facade? page 3*

# Sword Street Makeover

**Walking along Sword Street in 2005**, one would have passed waist-high concrete planters on the City boulevard, noted several dying or neglected City-planted trees, and stepped carefully to avoid boulevard asphalt lifting up in angry chunks. The planters were cracked, unkempt and full of weeds, the trees were unattended, and the boulevard had become a flagrant trip hazard that made winter shovelling difficult. Despite the tiredness and general state of disrepair, some home-owners tried to improve the understory patches in front of their homes with seasonal planting. The protruding and sun-baked roots, run-off and soil erosion, however, ensured a short life-span for any added colour. Hardly an image consistent with the area's heritage designation.

In the Fall of 2005, a Sword Street resident contacted the City to determine whether she would need a special permit to remove the asphalt in front of her home, replace it with interlocking paving stones and create a raised planting bed around the base of the chestnut tree in front of her house to increase water delivery to its roots. When the inspector arrived to evaluate the site and her proposed solution, a neighbour overheard the conversation and expressed the same inclination. The next day, another suggested that a group of neighbours assemble one weekend, remove the asphalt, rent a truck to haul it away, and then fix up their respective portions of the boulevard. Word spread that a street project was underway. A core of the committed had loosely defined a vision, but quickly faced the challenge of cost and consensus.

In Spring 2006, Sword Street residents embarked on what would become a two year campaign to lobby and work with the City to transform their street. Led by Anne Pastuszak, the thirty-three homeowners leveraged the goals of the Clean and Beautiful City Program, Mayor Miller's re-election promise of funding for Neighbourhood Beautification initiatives and the City of Toronto's June 205 document, Cabbagetown South Heritage Conservation District; Heritage Character Statement and District Plan (Plan) and lobbied for a plan that would promote the preservation and enhancement of the area's special character. Vocally and in writing residents positioned themselves as prepared "... to foster and encourage a public sense of interest in the preservation of the area's heritage resources" (Plan, p.2).

In the Plan, residents found the words they needed for their business case: "The goal of the Plan is to encourage a sensitive approach to the conservation the Cabbagetown South Heritage Conservation District architecture and maintenance of the physical, contextual landscape which includes grassed boulevards, street trees, front yard landscapes and associated fencing. It is also important that any new development – including additions visible from street level – and public works projects be encouraged not to detract from the heritage attributes of the District but to contribute to and enhance them". (Plan, p.13).

In the City's public documentation, residents found the sentiment under which they would proceed: "Clean and Beautiful City programs successfully renew public spaces with the participation of everyone who lives and works here. By working together on community gardens, murals, community clean-ups and graffiti removal we encourage citizens ... to develop practical skills, leadership and civic responsibility."

Regular meetings created a sense of engagement, and awakened and crystallized the underlying community pride and sense of responsibility to the Street. Though not an imposing avenue, residents agreed that Sword Street naturally welcomes visitors approaching from the south to Cabbagetown's network of heritage streets, façades, green spaces, gardens and palpable community spirit. A Street bound by heritage preservation guidelines should at least look the part. An email distribution list linked all residents and supported the necessary communication and debate that built consensus.

Pastuszak methodically delivered the residents' vision of working together with the City to transform the boulevard according to a coordinated plan and assuming responsibility for its subsequent upkeep to Councillor Pam McConnell, the Cabbagetown Preservation Association, the Clean and Beautiful Secretariat, Heritage Preservation Services, Urban Design, Transportation Services as well as the Office of the Mayor. At each stage, the residents' plan of holding the City responsible to the same heritage conservation guidelines that homeowners must abide found supporters.

After several on-site visits by a City-assigned urban planner and multiple consultations, the City agreed that it would:

- remove the concrete planters,
- remove the asphalt and reclaim and replace the underlying soil,
- replace the asphalt with tumbled paving stones; dry laid, they cause less compaction of the root zone of the street trees and allow continued percolation of rain water into the soil to support root systems,
- create new 5m wide understory planters around all existing and new trees and fill them each with 28 boxwoods or hostas,
- plant six new deciduous trees consistent with Heritage documentation on the boulevard,
- create a unified planting look and theme for the street – low-lying perennials and slow growing hedges hardy enough to withstand periods of less water and winter salt

At every step of the way, residents agreed to assume the responsibility for the boulevard's upkeep; a reasonable quid pro quo for the City's financial commitment to transforming a deteriorating space.

After two years, dozens of meetings, seven-hundred emails and five iterations of scaled plans, the bulldozers and back-hoes arrived in Spring 2008, removed the old surface and replaced it with tumbled red pavers and new planting areas for 6 new trees. The landscapers arrived in October 2008 and graced Sword Street with hundreds of hostas and boxwoods. Neighbours added the final touch - their own signature planting among the perennials. This Spring 2009, residents enjoyed the fruits of their labour for the first time.

What exists today is nothing short of an oasis of green, texture, balance, movement and calm in our often chaotic urban core. The vision of a few supported by the energy of many and enhanced by the commitment of all transformed Sword Street to one of the most attractive heritage streets in Cabbagetown.

*Anne Pastuszak*



## Honouring History; Guiding Fire trucks

Most of Toronto's networks of lanes that were built to serve as access and utility corridors are unnamed, creating a hazard for people in need of emergency vehicles. Aside from public safety, lane naming is useful for neighborhood watch/child-safe programs, animal welfare services, "greening initiatives" such as municipal tree and volunteer wildflower planting projects, historic walking tours and more.

In 2006 the City announced a lane-naming initiative, inviting citizens to suggest names for their local lanes. This follows the naming of "Oskenonton Lane" as a working model and is the first lane-naming project of this scale in the history of Toronto.

Seeing an opportunity to honour Cabbagetown's history, CPA member Douglas McTaggart volunteered to organize a committee to study and gather names appropriate for this neighbourhood. CPA members were contacted by email to join the committee and the names generated were eventually added to those coming from other residents.

Drawing from a variety of public sources, all names submitted for consideration conformed to the City of Toronto's Street Naming Policy (approved by City Council in 2000). Chosen names honor the rich and diverse natural, cultural, social, economic and technological history of Cabbagetown from First Nation settlement through the pre-built environment, the Victorian and post-war eras and to the present day. Many of the lane names were drawn from past Cabbagetowners, such as those honoured in the CPA's Cabbagetown People program, some reflect local flora, some recall industries that once existed here.

Look for new lane signs in your area, as the City starts to sign the first of 52 lanes in the East end.

*With thanks to Douglas McTaggart*

## Also on Sword Street...

Deborah Levin has brought the facade of her workers cottage back to the nineteenth century by removing the artificial stone (that seemed like such a good idea back in the day...) and the aluminium canopy. Here are views of Hallowe'en '08 compared to Hallowe'en '09.



## CP School Tours

The Cabbagetown People Program celebrates the ability of any individual to be a "hero" and of ordinary people to do extraordinary things!

Some of them attended Winchester Public School.

The Cabbagetown People Program for Schools includes guided walking tours, in both English and French, along a number of routes in Cabbagetown where plaques are installed to commemorate these "heritage heroes". We deliver pre-teaching material to the schools in advance of their tour dates, and following the tour, classroom activities take place or homework is assigned.

Since 2006 Winchester Public School has been a regular participant in our Walking Tour Program and this Spring we conducted guided tours for seven classes of their students.

Student work following the tour included comments on their (school's) neighbourhood, their favourite personality and the reason for their choice, questions they would ask that individual were they to meet him/her today, and what they learned from having taken the tour. Some responses from that question:

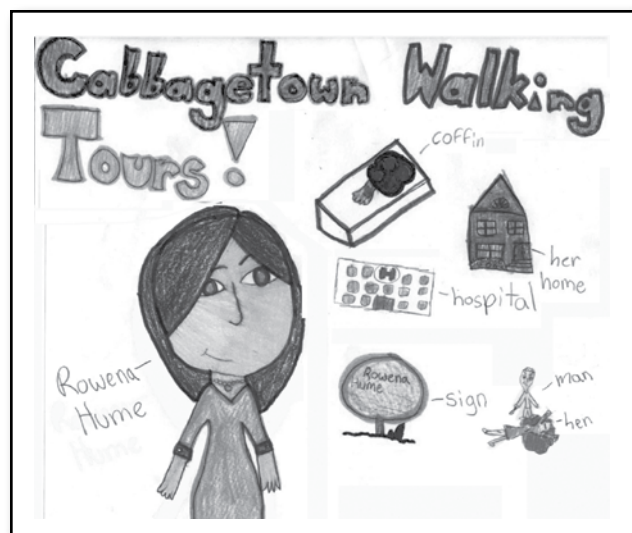
"I learned that I can be anyone and I can change the world."

"A valuable lesson I have learned was to be good at something, I have to work hard."

"One valuable lesson I learned was history can be fun if you listen. The last valuable lesson I learned was when you think something is boring, then you won't have fun."

"I learned that if you really put your effort into something, you will accomplish it."

For more information on the Program, and to view more of the student work, visit our website [www.cabbagetownpeople.ca](http://www.cabbagetownpeople.ca)



Work by Meaghan: "My favorite person is Rowena Hume... because she was one of the founders of Women's College Hospital. She made a special effort to take care of people who were poor or had problems. Rowena Hume was killed at 89 by a man she helped deliver."

THE ONTARIO  
TRILLIUM  
FOUNDATION



LA FONDATION  
TRILLIUM  
DE L'ONTARIO

We are delighted to announce that the Ontario Trillium Foundation has approved a grant to the Cabbagetown Preservation Association for the Cabbagetown People Program to produce French language resource material of local historical heroes for students in French and Immersion programs in downtown Toronto's Cabbagetown district.

The material, which includes a resource booklet, DVD, and internet downloads, will support the Cabbagetown People Program for Schools and the delivery of its walking tours. The Ontario Trillium Foundation is an agency of the Government of Ontario. [www.trilliumfoundation.org](http://www.trilliumfoundation.org)

Autumn 2009 volume 19 issue 2

## Old Homes Shine in '09 Restoration Awards

**2008 was a good year for restoration.** The two properties honoured in this year's award were spectacular resurrections of well-worn homes. One was a faithful restoration of a corner store converted into two dwellings; the other brought two feeble semis back to life as a single home.

At 355-357 Wellesley Street East were two houses in pretty disastrous condition. Nothing short of a total gut would do, but there were a number of surprises in store. The party wall which was assumed to be masonry was in fact 2" x 4" at 24" o.c. with brick between which had then been plastered over. There were no foundations under any of the perimeter walls. The exterior walls appeared to be solid masonry however there was a standard exterior brick facing on the exterior, inside of which was a 2" x 4" stud at 24" o.c. on its flat. Inside of this there was a brick wall, laid on it's

edge, only 2 1/2" thick, which was then plastered over. There was no connection at all between the exterior and interior brick. The plan was to save as many of the architectural features on the front as possible and make sure that all of the alterations and additions tied into the building.

369 Wellesley Street East was built in approximately 1890. The building was once McCormick's Grocery Store, and until recently a corner variety store. The exterior has been cleaned of its paint and the windows have been replaced with restoration windows that replicate the long-vanished originals. The front has been rebuilt with restored detail and large plate-glass windows appropriate to the period.

Inside, a complete rebuild has yielded two generous homes; a typical Cabbagetown Victorian with a faithful facade disguising a digital-age interior.



## I'm renovating! What do I do?

Owning a home in a heritage district gives us the advantages of living in a beautiful historic district of leafy, human-scaled streets, a large variety of architectural styles and a tangible connection to Toronto's past. These characteristics that we find so attractive and the rarity of finding such a preserved gem intact are protected by Cabbagetown's designation as a Heritage Conservation District.

Most homeowners in Cabbagetown know that when they make changes to the parts of their homes that are visible from the street, they have to conform to HCD rules. But many people are confused about what the rules are, how to approach renovation or where to get help. Inside is the definitive word; everything you ever wanted to know about living in an HCD.

### Here's the fortune cookie version:

- The rules apply only to what can be seen from the street.
- Changes must revert to the original building.
- Design, technical and referee help is available from the HCD Committee. They will walk you through the Heritage Permit process with the City (it's quick), if you need a permit.
- A heritage permit is needed for windows, doors, siding, any facade changes.
- The CPA does not enforce heritage; that is a City and provincial function. All HCDs have an HCD Committee of neighbours that have an advisory function.

Once you have decided that you want to make changes, an initial call to Rick Hall (416-967-6773) will get you started.

For the whole story, please go to our site at <http://www.cabbagetownpa.ca>. You will find the definitive explanation from the Ontario Ministry of Culture.



# New Plaques in Town

## Look who lived right around the corner ...

Toby Schertzer, Cabbagetown People's installation specialist (and former Cabbagetowner) came into town from his new home in Caledon to do the installations of this year's plaques honouring these heritage heroes:

C. W. Jefferys (1869 – 1951) one of Canada's most famous historical painters and illustrators (the story of his contributions we feature in this edition of the newsletter) – plaque located at 390 Wellesley Street East (the Owl House).

Bill Stapleton (1916 – 2008) "The People's Artist", Activist and Teacher – plaque located at 424 Sumach Street.

Winchester Public School had requested a second plaque to honour Nobel Laureate Arthur Schawlow (1921 – 1999) for installation on their property.

The plaque is located on the west wall of the heritage building, alongside that of Academy Award winner, Walter Huston, who also attended Winchester Public School.

The original plaque honouring Arthur Schawlow is located at his former residence at 436 Sackville Street.  
[www.cabbagetownpeople.ca](http://www.cabbagetownpeople.ca)

## Charles William Jefferys

**Historical Painter and Illustrator  
1869-1951**

Charles William Jefferys was a well-known painter, illustrator, muralist, writer and teacher. He was born in Rochester, England and arrived in Toronto, Ontario with his family around 1880. His formal training as an artist began in 1884 when he attended evening classes at the Ontario School of Art. After attending school, he apprenticed with the Toronto Lithography Company for five years.

Beginning work as a newspaper illustrator and artist, he was with the Toronto Globe from 1889 to 1892 and then served as an illustrator for the New York Herald from 1893-1901. Returning to Toronto, he became a magazine and book illustrator.

During World War 1 he was given an assignment overseas, but was unable to undertake the job. Subsequently, he was commissioned by the Canadian War Records department to paint soldiers who were training at Camp Petawawa and Niagara, Ontario.

C.W. Jefferys was also an accomplished painter in the English manner. He produced compelling oils and wonderful watercolours. He especially loved the Saskatchewan prairies and painted at Last Mountain Lake and the Battlefords. His work was widely exhibited and collected. He inspired many artists and was instrumental in forming Canada's most famous group of landscape painters, the Group of Seven.

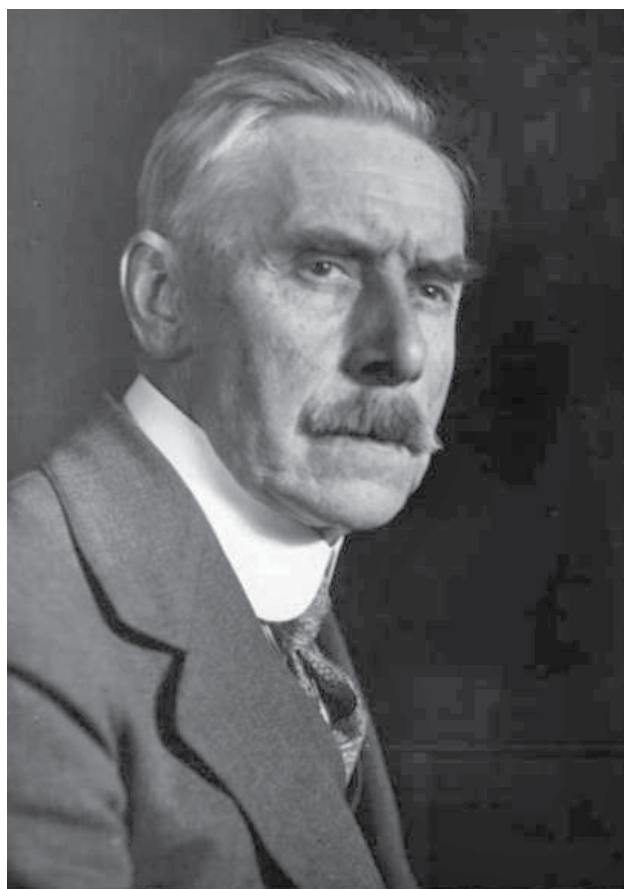
From 1912 to 1939 he taught painting and drawing in the Department of Architecture at the University of Toronto. He was also a lecturer and part-time instructor at the Ontario College of Art. After his retirement he continued to produce illustrations and murals.

Mr. Jefferys and Ivor Lewis were among the group of artists who founded the Graphic Arts Club (later named the Canadian Society of Graphic Arts), which by the 1940's became the primary artists' group in Canada.

Remembered primarily for his bold illustrations of Canadian history and as a well-known painter of military genre, he



*Bill Stapleton, self-portrait. Cabbagetown/Regent Park Museum*



*Simon-François Daumont de Saint-Lusson by C. W. Jefferys*

is one of the most frequently reproduced of Canadian illustrators, and is best known for his visual reconstructions of Canadian history.

C.W. Jefferys was a strong advocate of artistic nationalism, an artist who explored both the nature of our landscape and the historical and pre-historical background that

shaped Canadian society. If a picture is worth a thousand words, then his sketches and paintings of bygone events will continue to bring Canadian history to life for many generations.

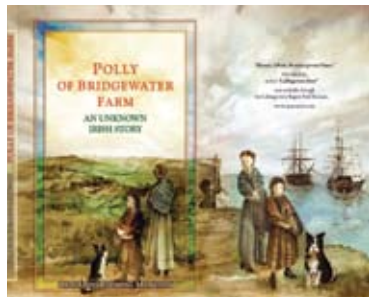
C.W. Jefferys Collegiate Institute, a public high school in Toronto is named in his honour.

# Cabbagetown Regent Park Museum

## The museum moves forward!

The museum has established an educational publishing arm, Cabbagetown Press. Our first book, *Polly of Bridgewater Farm: An Unknown Irish Story*, explores the early life of one of Cabbagetown's most celebrated citizens, "Aunt Polly" Fleming Verner of Cabbagetown Store fame.

Written by museum-supporter, Catharine Fleming McKenty, *Polly of Bridgewater Farm*, was launched on September 21st in Montreal. The lively event was attended by the Irish Consul of Montreal and entertained by traditional Irish singers and dancers. The launch in Ireland will occur in late November and the much-anticipated Cabbagetown launch follows on December 5th. at the Ben Wicks. Keep an eye out for details. Everyone is invited

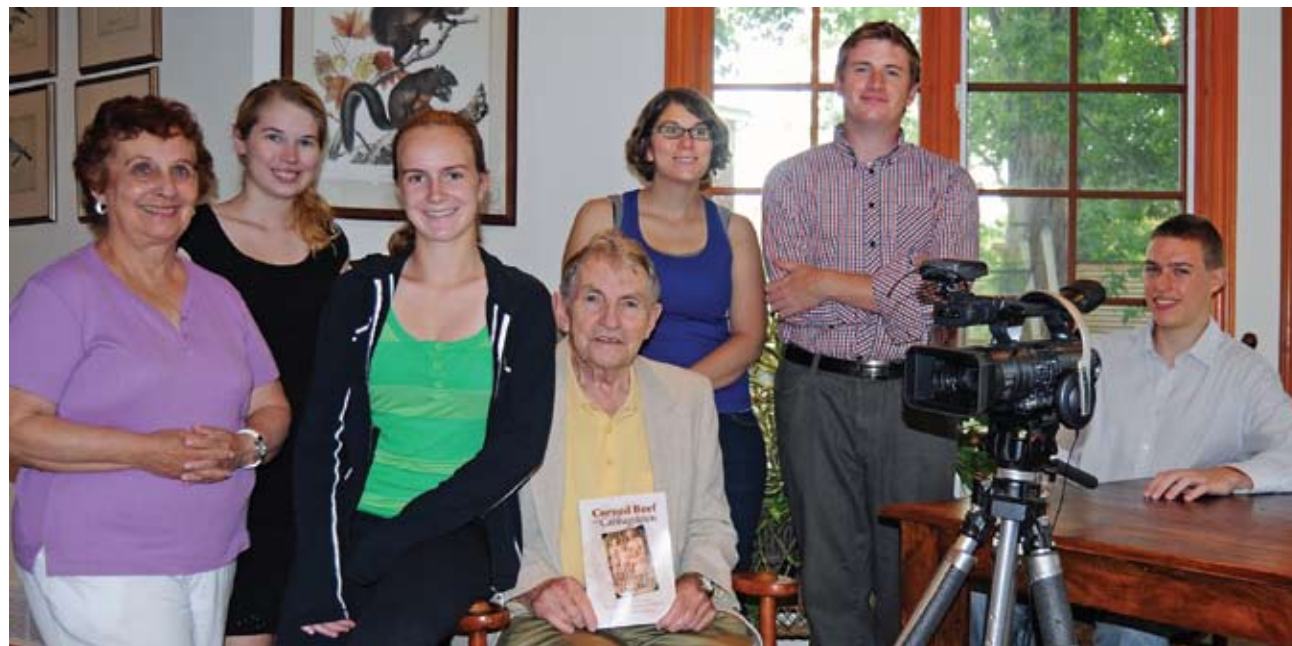


Author McKenty is the granddaughter of four-time mayor of Toronto, R. J. Fleming, who grew up in Cabbagetown; the great niece of Aunt Polly Noble Verner, who ran the Cabbagetown Store at 293 Parliament Street during the late 1800s; and a proud descendent of Cabbagetown. The author sifted through family records and made several research trips to Ireland, while one of the museum's volunteers provided extensive support services, including archival research, editing, and production.

The fictional account of Polly's early days follows her from her birth just outside Dromore, Ireland, in 1837; her survival of the Big Wind of January 6th 1839, the Irish Potato Famine in the 1840s, and the May 14th 1847 crossing of the Atlantic to the family's arrival at Grosse-Île near Quebec. The Canadian portion of her journey takes her first to Montreal, and then to Toronto where she married a young tailor, John Verner. Together they set up their business, later described by John McAree in his book, Cabbagetown Store.

This 240-page book although fiction, is based on historical fact and on actual people. There are 36-pages of colour, which include illustrations of scenes from the time, as well as family photographs. Original illustrations, book layout and design were created by Polish artists, Darek and Elzbieta Wiczorek.

This book is ideal for children and youth, but also is of interest to the general reader. It can be purchased by calling the Cabbagetown Regent Park Museum at 416-816-4994 or online at our e-Store on our website [www.crpmuseum.com](http://www.crpmuseum.com)



Top, from left to right: Judy Halperin, Madeline Bongers, summer student and part of the YCW program; Maddie Stephens, a high-school volunteer; author, Joseph Kearney; Lauren Archer, a YCW/CHIN heritage intern; Matthew Ferguson, a YCW summer student; Amadeusz Wiczorek, a summer high-school student specializing in programming for our website. Above: panels installed at 51 Division

## A Summer Hive of Activity

The Cabbagetown Regent Park Museum was a hive of activity provided by five students working for us this summer, three of which were funded by Young Canada Works. Additional funding has just been received for another post-graduate student under the CHIN (Canadian Heritage Information Network) /YCW program who will be with us until next March.

A great deal was accomplished by this talented, energetic group and included videotaping interviews with Chief William Blair, author Joseph Kearney of *Corned Beef and Cabbagetown*, as well as a number of other oral histories; designing exhibitions; uploading our substantial collection onto Artefacts Canada (<http://artefactscanada.chin.gc.ca:8015/Webtop/CHINApps/artefacts/chinACs.jsp?searchType=imgcontr&pageType=imgcontr&currLang=English>); and photographing, measuring and archiving our ever growing collected works. A highlight outing was a visit to Maureen Penno's house to tour an original Cabbagetown home which has remained unchanged over the years.

## Urban Pioneers /Cabbagetown Police History

Don Adams, former Assistant Curator of the CBC Museum, has been busy designing new displays for our 300+ weekly weekend visitors. This includes a new series, Urban Pioneers, which will be added to in stages. He has also designed a couple of cases for the lobby of 51 Division Police Station, where we recently installed a huge mural of four 8' x 4' panels. This will form part of a new display for 51 Division, which will focus on three themes: the history of the Cop on the Beat (of which our own Police Chief Blair was one); Women in the Force; and the Aboriginal Peacekeeping Unit. Research and writing were done by our own Cabbagetowner author/archivist, Sally Gibson, who uncovered a wealth of information and made connections and identifications hereto unknown. We are very grateful to Superintendent Kimberley Greenwood for all her enthusiasm and support.

Thank you to the Ontario Trillium Foundation for its generous grant to the Cabbagetown Regent Park Museum, which has just been announced. For more news check out [www.crpmuseum.com](http://www.crpmuseum.com)

## Streetscapes in Bloom '09

The Streetscapes in Bloom Committee proudly announces the 2009 winner...actually, winners. The competition was once again strong and the two winning gardens presented two very different examples of gardening in Cabbagetown:

**368 Wellesley Street** with its formal fountain and striking border plantings flourished in many shades of magenta and mauve.

**118 Winchester**, an attractive perennial garden, provided a wide variety of eye-catching blooms throughout the season.

The awards - an art glass medallion, garden hook and water colour garden portrait - will be presented to the winners at the CPA's November 30th Fall meeting (see page 1).



# Remembering Peggy Kurtin



## **Cabbagetown lost a heritage pioneer**

in July with the passing of Peggy Kurtin. Peggy was one of the early Board members of the Cabbagetown Preservation Association and, later, instigated and spearheaded the research that was used in establishing Cabbagetown's Heritage Designation. Tireless and determined to the end, Peggy suffered no fools in her aim to see her beloved

community protected. Heard to say, "I don't need any more awards!", Peggy was focussed on the issues at hand and had a no-nonsense approach to getting things done. Nevertheless, her memory is distinguished by many awards for her work with the CPA, the Ontario Heritage Board and the Toronto Historical Association, among others. Awards included the Lieutenant Governor's award and the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal.

In Peggy's honour, The CPA is designating our annual Restoration Award as "The Peggy Kurtin Award for Excellence in Restoration"

Peggy Kurtin's character is best seen through the words of her granddaughter, Melissa, in her Eulogy to her grandmother:

My grandma was involved in so many organizations and has touched the lives of so many people. Instead of talking about her many accomplishments I thought I would share with everyone my 10 favorite things about my Grandma.

### **#10 – She never stopped trying to get me to eat something green.**

As we all know my grandma wasn't afraid to try anything. Somehow that gene wasn't quite passed on to me. No matter what the occasion was grandma would always try a new way to get me to eat some sort of vegetable. She never gave up on me even though 9 out of 10 times I wouldn't try it. She would then pull out the bowl of raw baby carrots and just shake her head at me. It used to drive her nuts that my mother allowed me to hate vegetables, especially cabbage.

### **#9 – She was the coolest brownie leader.**

When my sister and I were young grandma always instilled that we were to join the girl guides. After both my sister and I were involved she helped us to earn countless badges, but both of our favorite times in girl guides were when she came to visit. She had so many stories and tales for us from many different places, and at the end of each visit would get everyone into her favorite song, I'm being eaten by a Boa Constrictor. During this song grandma would always provide an Oscar worthy performance and actually convinced us that it was really happening.

### **#8 – The Toronto experience.**

Because I grew up in the suburbs, my grandma dedicated herself to making sure that my sister and I got the full taste of Toronto. She would take us to all the different cultural events, Carribana, The Forsythia Festival, The Santa Claus Parade, Musicals, plays and exhibits. Even though we didn't live in the city, she made us feel right at home by showing us the many different faces of Toronto

### **#7 – Her sewing.**

Grandma had many skills and many hobbies. One of her real passions was sewing. If anyone has been to the Kurtin Chalet around Christmas time you will notice that every single decoration is hand made. She would make each one of us a beautiful stocking that represented what we like. I had sat her down when I was younger and asked for a wall covering of a garden and then proceeded to list the 20 different flowers and bugs that had to be on it. When I saw it not only was everything there but she had actually added more and incorporated my name into it. She made all of her granddaughters numerous Halloween costumes and not a single one of us would wear

the same one twice so at some points she had a cat, queen of hearts, treasure trolls and pioneers to craft up. She never once disappointed.

### **#6 – It was always a mystery how she raised 6 extremely different and sometimes difficult children.**

Grandma has always been well mannered and never raised her voice. After staying with her while I was on internship I learnt exactly how she managed. After watching Dancing with the Stars one night she had said how she felt Jane Seymour needed to go home because she was too old to keep up with everyone. I then said without thinking " If she's too old, what does that make you?" I then got a look from grandma that still terrifies me to this day, and it all made sense how she managed to keep all her boys in line.

### **#5 – Grandma was one tough lady. If someone was going to stand up against her they better be ready for a fight**

When my sister and I were younger we would often spend quite a lot of nights sleeping over at grandmas. One night stands out in my mind. During the day Grandma had been in a protest. The police were called and the protest started to get out of hand. A police officer in his riot gear approached my grandma and started to swing his baton. She grabbed his arm and looked him straight in the eye and asked him if his mother knew he was hitting grandmothers. She got away without a single scratch. She was then interviewed by the 6:00 news and taped it so that Jessica and I could watch it over and over, which we did with Grandma acting out her part, as she spoke on TV.

### **#4 - Her love for everything historical and heritage.**

Last year I had a position at a home renovation show. When she found out she frantically called me right away. She told me that they are the worst when it comes to renovations; they just do not respect the classic historical houses. She made me promise her that if we showed up at a historical house I would call her so that she could come down and assist me to stop all production and check their building permits and licenses to make sure they were following many of the laws she helped put into place.

### **#3 – Grandma could convince us to do just about anything.**

Each year in Cabbage town there is the forsythia festival. That was one thing my grandma looked forward to each year. When we were younger we had come out a few times and just walked in the parade. After one year of pouring rain we vowed never to come back. When we heard Grandma was going to be the Queen of the forsythia festival we knew we would be back, but this time we were princesses riding along in a car. After a long day in bright yellow matching costumes we thought it would be the end of the festival for us, but no. Grandma got us back there another 3 years in a row, and offering us to be princesses, dog walkers and of course face painters.

### **#2 – She never acted her age.**

In her early 70's she broke her ankle and after much convincing on my part came home with a purple cast. Not even 4 weeks after it was off she had already started working on the entire family to let her ski. Although we all knew she loved it and was very capable, we thought she should take it slow and easy. We all know those 2 words have NOTHING to do with my grandma. She ended up skiing the entire weekend and entered herself in one of the ski races at the ski club. In typical grandma style she got a bronze medal, just to prove to all of us she could still do it.

### **#1 – Her unconditional love for all of her grandchildren.**

Growing up outside of Toronto made it hard for me to see my cousins. We would often visit grandma or just give her a phone call. She would always have something new to brag about. Claire getting and academic scholarship, or Chloe getting into performing arts school, Casey winning yet another gymnastics medal and of course Carey and Matthews business ventures. No matter what the day was, she would always have another proud moment to share with us about one of our cousins. I had stayed with her a few years ago and met several of her friends who seemed to know more about myself and sister then most would. Grandma was always so proud of us all and no matter what the occasion, or how far away, if it had to do with any one of us grandkids she would be there as our #1 supporter.

## The Hidden Art Salons of Cabbagetown Tour

**Into its second year in 2009**, Cabbagetown's annual Tour of Hidden Art Salons expanded to encompass all areas of the neighbourhood in a sold out event held on September 26<sup>th</sup>. On offer was a rare glimpse at the artworks of three of Cabbagetown's collectors and artists in three lovely heritage homes.

The first art salon on the tour was located on Seaton Street. Guests sipped and noshed while drinking in a delightfully diverse collection of stunning contemporary art. The gentlemen hosts talked about their fascination with art collecting providing a remarkable, detailed summary of their acquisitions. A value-added bonus was a peek at the fabulous paintings and sculpture of Susan and Terry Dineen.

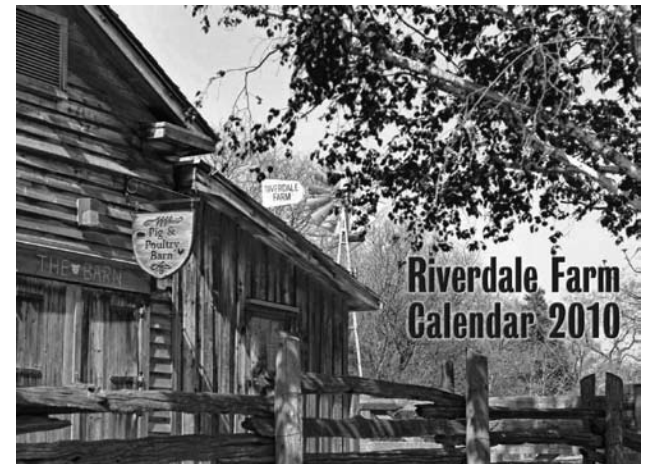
The second art salon, on Aberdeen Avenue, was a visit to the studio and home of contemporary artist, Victoria Hadden. While guests dined exquisite sushi, she answered questions about her award-winning work and her passion for beauty and flowers, especially the large colourful canvasses of the 'exquisitely useless tulip, once the most valuable commodity in the world and the creator of our modern day stock market'.

Steps away in Donvale, it was all about sweets – in the art and dessert. This third salon showcased the work of local artist Ryan Dineen housed in collector Geraldine Moffat's stunning grand Victorian home on Carlton Street East. Guests delighted in a heavenly pastry and candy buffet while Ryan related his artistic vision and successful career as a muralist.

As a bonus to the art salon tour, each guest was presented with a souvenir custom-designed cookie featuring the art of Victoria Hadden created specially for the art salon by Pauline Brousseau of 'From Me to You Gift Creations'.

Guests then dashed off to the Ben Wicks on Parliament for a grand finale of pictures and song. Photographer Patricia MacDonald Smith showed her new photo book, 'The Architecture of Cabbagetown' while jazz performer Tiki Mercury-Clarke crooned her soulful tunes. It was a perfect aural close to a satisfyingly visual and oral feast.

If you have a collection or are an artist and would like to be considered for Cabbagetown's 2010 Tour of Hidden Art Salons, kindly submit a request to [dineen.susan@gmail.com](mailto:dineen.susan@gmail.com). For security reasons exact locations of participants are kept confidential until the time of the tour.



### **Riverdale Farm 2010 Calendar Is Back!**

Featuring fabulous photographs of the Farm's buildings, gardens and animals throughout the year and includes not-to-be-missed dates of events at the Farm and in the community.

The Council is very grateful to all the local merchants who kindly sponsored the calendar and to all the visitors to the Farm who allowed us to use their photography. A special thanks to Joel Rotstein and Associates Inc. who volunteered their great design and layout services and added some extra colour and whimsy this year.

Calendars are NOW on sale for only \$10 at the Shop at Riverdale Farm in Simpson House, the Riverdale Farm Meeting House and St. Jamestown Steaks & Chops at 516 Parliament Street. Pick up some extra calendars for all your family, friends, guests and hosts. All proceeds from this fundraising activity will be used to enhance the Farm.

The CPA thanks our sponsors for supporting the Newsletter.

Historical restoration on WOOD, PLASTER and STEEL  
Residential and commercial stucco repair, plaster  
2 year warranty on restoration work  
Interior/Exterior painting



**FINE Restoration and Painting**

**www.finerestorationandpainting.com**  
**www.historicalrestorationdocumentation.com**  
416-566-5529  
Toronto Heritage Award Winner

**PPIP Award Winner for Little Trinity Anglican Church**



visit [www.Torontoism.com](http://www.Torontoism.com)

**www.richardsilver.com**  
sales representative

416.322.8000

**BOSLEY**  
REAL ESTATE



**Personal Best Physiotherapy & Pilates**

**An active hands-on approach to rehabilitation**  
124 Merton Street, Suite 307, Toronto  
1240 Bay Street, Suite 900, Toronto **NEW 2nd LOCATION**  
**(416) 322-6070**  
**Physiotherapy, Pilates, Personal Training, Massage Therapy**  
Your Cabbagetown neighbour,  
Deidre Pretlove, B.P.E., BSc.P.T.



**Steve Yeates** illustration & graphic design

for small business:  
web design  
identity  
brochures  
ads  
**steveyeates.ca**  
416 531 5757



**ThaiTOGO**  
by PRASAI

Your Neighbourhood Thai Restaurant proudly sponsors the CPA Newsletter

free delivery 5-9PM for orders over \$20 before tax

452 Gerrard St. E. just west of Sword

416-515-THAI (8424)  
[www.thai2go.ca](http://www.thai2go.ca)



**Kendall & Co.**

Studio and Showroom  
438 Parliament Street, Suite 200  
Toronto, ON M3A 3A2

INTERIOR DESIGN & DECOR

T 416.363.9914  
F 416.363.2767  
E [contact@kendallandco.ca](mailto:contact@kendallandco.ca)  
[kendallandco.ca](http://kendallandco.ca)



**WINDOW CRAFT INDUSTRIES**

25 Years in the making of custom made wood windows and doors for Toronto's historic communities

24 Ronson Drive, Unit 4  
Toronto, Ontario, M9W 1B4  
416 535 4499  
[smallwoodj@windowcraft.com](mailto:smallwoodj@windowcraft.com)

We are a different kind of a window company  
**Visit our showroom**  
Historic replication is our speciality.  
Period hardware and speciality glass



**douglas DESIGN STUDIO**  
Residential Interior Design

317 Carlton Street 416-538-4692  
[www.douglasdesignstudio.com](http://www.douglasdesignstudio.com)

**CLAUDIA SALZMANN & ASSOCIATES**  
REGISTERED MASSAGE THERAPISTS

In the heart of Cabbagetown  
at 78 Amelia Street  
416-923-0494  
[www.salzmann.com](http://www.salzmann.com)

Massage Therapy • Aquatic Massage Therapy • Stone Massage Therapy • Reflexology



# Don Vale Cabbagetown Residents Association

Over the past few months the Don Vale Cabbagetown Residents Association (DVCRA) has been busy on several fronts and we would like to highlight some of the new initiatives upon which we have embarked.

The DVCRA helped residents alleviate some of their garbage woes during the Municipal strike by renting two large dumpsters on July 13th and 27th. After paying for the cost of the bins we were able to raise \$1,000.00 to donate to the Cabbagetown Youth Centre (CYC). This money will go towards the CYC's Recreational Infrastructure Canada fundraising campaign and will be matched by contributions from both the Federal and Provincial governments. The CYC intends to use the funds to make badly needed capital investments in its facilities to help ensure that it can continue to provide its valuable programming to members of our community.



on dumpster duty: Lee Matheson, Doug Rowlands, Judy Trogadis, David Crouch, Lindsay Whitfield

As always, the Cabbagetown Festival was a wonderful weekend in our community. We had many members stop by our booth at the corner of Sumach and Winchester for free water, to buy a t-shirt or check their membership status. A big thank you to APPLE school for allowing our vendors to use their parking lot during the festival.

As you may have noticed, the pavement on Carlton Street is in a state of disrepair. We are currently communicating with councillor Pam McConnell's office regarding the city's plans for resurfacing the street.

On Saturday October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 7pm-7am, Cabbagetown was buzzing with Nuit Blanche activity. It was a very successful night and we are happy to report that we contributed \$500 towards the cost of the event.

Finally, our membership drive is coming up, please visit the website for more information, check your email inbox or your mailbox for a renewal notice in the New Year.

We love to hear from our members, therefore please be in touch. Our website address is: [www.donvalecra.ca](http://www.donvalecra.ca) and we can be reached via email at [info@donvalecra.ca](mailto:info@donvalecra.ca). If you have any questions or concerns, suggestions for future events or would like to volunteer, we look forward to hearing from you.

Lee Matheson, President, DVCRA

# Restoring Your Home?



## Get City help with a Grant

The Toronto Heritage Grant Program, administered by the Heritage Preservation Services Unit of the City Planning Division, encourages the conservation of designated heritage properties in the City of Toronto. The program for 2009 is closed; the 2010 program awaits Council approval.

In 2009 the Program provided grant funds of up to 50% of the estimated cost of eligible heritage conservation work to designated heritage properties. Owners of a property designated under Parts IV or V of the Ontario Heritage Act could qualify to receive a grant for eligible conservation work in either of the two project categories:

1. Residential house form buildings - Up to a maximum grant of \$10,000.00 for individual properties.
2. Commercial, institutional, multi-residential and industrial form buildings.

The Toronto Heritage Grant Program is part of the City of Toronto's Community Partnership Investment Program.

If you are interested, check this url for updated information: <http://www.toronto.ca/heritage-preservation/grants/>

## Get to know your neighbours; become a volunteer

What is a volunteer and why do we need them?

A volunteer is someone who serves in a community primarily because he/she chooses to do so.

Many serve through non-profit organizations but a significant number also serve formally, individually, or as part of a group....

Not-for-profit organizations survive because of the many volunteers who so willingly give of their time to support them.

The CPA and other Cabbagetown community organizations are constantly seeking people to help out in many capacities.

Get in touch with the organization of your choice and consider donating a few hours a month to help out with these worthy causes.

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart." ~ Elizabeth Andrew

## CPA is always looking...

Some of our committees:

**Walking Tours: Heritage, People and Ghost Heritage Research, Cabbagetown Festival Booth, Forsythia Festival, Tour of Homes, Newsletter Delivery, Garden tours.**

Duties may be for one event or ongoing. If you are interested, please contact: [cpa@cabbagetownpa.ca](mailto:cpa@cabbagetownpa.ca)



# CPA Membership/Volunteer Application

Please mail to Cabbagetown Preservation Association, PO Box 82808, RPO Cabbagetown, 467 Parliament Street, Toronto, ON M5A 3Y2

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**There are many volunteer opportunities in the CPA. If you are interested check this line and we will contact you.** \_\_\_\_\_

CPA charitable number 85053 6160 (RR0001)

• 1 year \$ 20  
 • Would you like to make a tax-deductable donation? \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 • TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Until December 31, '09 Twentieth Anniversary Special! \$10**

Autumn 2009 volume 19 issue 2