



# CABBAGETOWN PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

APRIL 1991

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 2

**COME AND HEAR A MEMBER OF 'THE TASK FORCE TO BRING BACK THE DON'**

## CPA GENERAL MEETING

**ELECTIONS • ELECTIONS • ELECTIONS • ELECTIONS • ELECTIONS • ELECTIONS ELECTIONS**

THURSDAY MAY 9, 1991, AT 8:00 P.M.

St. Martin's School, 55 Salisbury Avenue, Just East of Sackville.

### Keynote Speaker:

**Rollo Meyers,**

Member of 'The Task Force to Bring Back the Don'; Cabbagetown Resident; and Past Chairman of History for the Toronto Historical Board will tell us about 'The Don Improvement: Why Can't Donvale Residents Get to the River?'

### ELECTIONS ELECTIONS

6 Positions are open For Re-election: President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, And 3 General Board Positions.

### Slide Presentation by:

**Debbie Deak:**

"A Walking Tour of Laurier St., Wellesley Cottages and Alpha Ave."

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This is the most important meeting of the year. At this meeting nominations and election of executive and board members takes place. Consider becoming an active member of our board. The preservation of our historic neighbourhood relies on interested and dedicated people. Significant neighbourhood issues have already been addressed and resolved by the CPA. Therefore, consider presenting yourself as a candidate, or nominate someone who's aching to be nominated. The future of the CPA always relies on new energy. Help preserve Cabbagetown! Call Bob White to present a name: 924-2387  
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## MAIN STREET UPDATE ...

On January 24, 1991, the CPA was pleased to sponsor a public meeting to inform members and residents about the Main Streets planning for Cabbagetown that is currently taking place. In brief, 2 different groups are making plans for our main streets; the City of Toronto (to increase the number of available rental housing units), and the local Business Improvement Area in conjunction with Heritage Canada (to improve the economic viability and vitality of the local business area including Parliament St.). The CPA is actively involved in all of this planning, particularly with regard to preservation of the architectural streetscape of Parliament Street.

"... 2 different groups are making plans for Main Streets..."

Over 90 people attended our meeting in January, and a variety of concerns were expressed. These included effects of facades studies, the status of the Winchester Hotel, mechanisms for accommodating the economic and cultural diversity of area residents, designation of Cabbagetown as a Heritage Area, improvements to the sidewalks, and burying of Hydro lines. All of these concerns have been placed on record with the BIA and the City of Toronto, and are being

considered in the planning process.

Several developments in the Main Streets plans have occurred since our January public meeting. The first is that the Board of the BIA has given approval to initiate the Heritage Canada Main Streets Program. The official kick-off for the program is scheduled for May 1, 1991, with a 'ribbon-cutting' event at the BIA Awards Dinner. This will be followed in very short order by a forum to discuss the community vision for our Main Streets. In the meantime, a project coordinator will be hired and an office opened on one of our main streets.

"... several developments in the Main Streets plans have occurred ..."

Progress is also being made in the City of Toronto Main Streets Project. Representatives of the CPA and of other City Heritage groups have now had the first of several meetings with the Toronto Historical Board to discuss how residential intensification can take place without imperilling heritage properties. At the present time, the City is drafting by-laws to address this issue, and further negotiations will take place upon presentation of these by-laws to the community.

Thus, alot of progress is being made in plans for our Main Streets. Watch this column for regular updates

*Pat Poulin*

.....  
Accolades to 'More than Cabbages' for removing the mobile sign outside the store

# 20th Annual Forsythia Festival ... A Tribute to Tony Brady.

Tony Brady, also known as Briget the Clown, died suddenly on Thursday April 11, 1991.

As founder of Cabbagetown's Forsythia Festival, Tony had a "golden vision" of Cabbagetown awash in "rows and rows" of Forsythia.

The Forsythia Festival began 20 years ago, in the front garden of Tony's house, when a friend presented him with a golden Forsythia bush. Tony made and served "pots and pots" of beans, cajoling friends, neighbours, and passersby to stop, partake of his fare, and discuss the idea of planting Forsythia bushes throughout the neighbourhood. Since that day in 1971, this annual Springtime event has become an honoured tradition in Cabbagetown; one at which Tony plants a new Forsythia bush every year.

At this 20th anniversary of the founding of the Forsythia Festival, Tony Brady and Briget the Clown will be sadly missed. It was Tony's wish that the tradition continue; and in his words, "we carry on ... regardless".

In honour of his memory tribute will be paid to Tony Brady on the day of the Forsythia Festival. Everyone is invited, and this year, encouraged to dress-up as clowns, join in, and be a part of the parade.

The 20th anniversary is a fitting time to plant a Forsythia bush in honour of the Forsythia Festival, and in honour of Tony's memory.

*Please join in welcoming spring.*

## Route ...

The parade will head north on Sumach, west on Wellesley, south on Sackville, east on Carlton, and north again on Sumach, finally ending at the south end of Wellesley Park, at the extreme east end of Amelia Street.

The parade route will be lined with yellow ribbons and of course, the blooming Forsythia which neighbours continue to plant for this day.

This year, for environmental reasons, no balloons will be used. Instead, all the children will get yellow flags made with streamers.

## Date and Time

The Forsythia Festival and Parade assembles at 12:30, and begins at 1:00 pm, on Sunday May 5, 1991.

## Contests

Prizes will be awarded in such categories as bicycle and wagon decorating, costumes (including clown costumes), and the mutt show. In these contests everyone wins.

Your support is needed. Join the Cabbagetown Preservation Association. Membership is \$10, Mail (or drop off) your fee, as well as your name, address and phone number to 93 Winchester Street, Toronto, M4X 1B1.

Articles for this newsletter are welcomed, Please call Debbie Deak, 944-0047, or Ruth Wagner 927-0167

## Entertainment ...

Again this year the entertainment will include a multi-cultural array of folk dancers; with booths, displays, and children's face-painting. All this in Wellesley Park.

## Planting ...

As part of the day's events, the annual planting the Forsythia bush will take place in honour of Tony Brady.

## Sponsorship

For the second year, the day is sponsored by the CPA.

## HELP FOR RESOURCE GUIDE ...

Do you know where to find the perfect reproduction paint to touch up the nicks on your mantelpiece? Have you found just the right spindle to replace the missing one on your bannister or porch? If so, the CPA would like to hear from you. We are preparing a Resource Guide to Heritage Restoration Materials and need your assistance! We have the nucleus of a Working Committee, but need a few more dedicated volunteers to help gather, collate, write and edit material. Most importantly, we need the valuable information you have gathered over the years so that our Resource Guide is as comprehensive as possible. If you are interested in joining the Committee, or would like to pass on some information, please call Ross Fraser at 920-5202 (evenings).

### CPA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

#### PRESIDENT

Pat Poulin - 27 Salisbury - 923-6934

#### VICE-PRESIDENT

Peggy Kurtin - 93 Winchester - 967-6432

#### SECRETARY-TREASURER

Jan Goulding - 41 Salisbury - 323-9240

### BOARD

Ian Thom - 158 Spruce - 920-9921

Pat Corlett - 312B Wellesley - 963-5102

Debbie Deak - 20 Salisbury - 944-0047

Ruth Wagner - 84 Winchester - 927-0167

Frances Rooney - 37-330 Sumach - 927-7503

Ross Fraser - 25 Sword - 920-5202

### The Treasurer Reports...

Assets		Liabilities	
Cash	\$10,676.	O.H.S. Dues	\$100.
		Contingency Fund	\$10,576.
	<u>\$10,676.</u>		<u>\$10,676.</u>
Revenue		Expenses	
Membership	\$1,800.	Fund Raising	\$1
Fund Raising	\$1,262.	Newsletter	441.
Interest	\$810.	Activities	300.
		O.H.S. Dues	65.
		Surplus	2,066.
	<u>\$3,872.</u>		<u>\$3,872.</u>

Accolades to those who planted Forsythia bushes last year.  
Let's carry on the tradition of "yellowing" Cabbagetown this year.