

Walker's Creek News

Walker's Creek Neighbourhood Association (WCNA)

October / November 2008

FREE

Big Things are Affecting our Community this Fall

- A Creek is Moved
- Bridges are Built
- A Path is Created
- & Zoning Changes May be Coming

>>> How do they affect YOU? Read on... <<<

St. Catharines has many hidden jewels & Cherie Road Park is one of them. Most residents don't know that this natural haven even exists.

Cherie Road Park has achieved a balance between a naturalized & manicured park. With 1000 feet of cliffs & sandy Garden City Beach fronting on Lake Ontario, this city-owned park has been enhanced in the past year with a stone-dust creekside walking path under a beautiful canopy of trees, 2 new attractive & functional "Bailey Bridges" over Walker's Creek, which has been rerouted extensively.

Starting in 2007, Walker's Creek has been reconstructed in different areas to invite aquatic life & also rerouted to address the bank erosion that has been a major problem over the years. Native trees, shrubs & plants have also been planted to enhance the area. The project was years in the planning & over a year in construction with a price tag of over \$500,000.

On Saturday, October 4th, 2008 at 11:00 a.m., the WCNA is holding a celebration of the completion of this Walker's Creek restoration project. This will be a short low-key event at the Melody Trail section in the park, with Mayor McMullan & City Councillors Dawn Dodge & Bill Phillips. A guided tour along the site & sharing of information of the work completed will be done by Stuart Green from the City's Recreation & Community Development department.

Walker's Creek Neighbourhood Assoc. invites all residents to attend this celebration or walk the park to see the beauty, either that day or on your own time. You won't be disappointed.

We thank Karl Vanderkuip (CallKarl.ca) of Re/Max Garden City for his sponsorship of this newsletter and for his support of this community event.



Where is Cherie Road Park?

It is between Vine Street & Arthur Street, north of Cindy Drive with park entrances located at :

- Cindy Drive (between Willcher & Cherie Rd.)
- Butler at Largo Drive
- the west end of Melody Trail, west of Arthur Street or
- walkways beside 46 Cherie & 66 Cherie Rd.

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OUR WCNA MISSION STATEMENT:

"To promote safety and enjoyment, and to enhance and maintain the quality of life in and around our parks and neighbourhood."

www.walkerscreek.ca

Upcoming Community Events:

Sat. Oct 4 @ 11 am: Cherie Rd Park Celebration & Walk, meet in park near west end of Melody Trail

Tues. Oct 21 @ 7 pm Grantham Lions Club, WCNA Annual General Meeting & tentative guest speaker NRP Constable James Taylor on how the community can work best with the police

Sun. Oct 21 @ 9:30 am: Port Dalhousie, Lakeside Park 5 km Walk/Run/Stroll, Fitness Heritage Fundraiser, registration forms at Avondale or on event day

More at www.runforheritage.com

Tues. Nov 18 @ 7 pm: Grantham Lions Club. Join the WCNA at the Official Plan Review Meeting, for our area

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Official Plan Review Meeting:

In May 2007, 75 people from our area attended the City's first phase in the Official Plan Review process, hosted by the WCNA. At that meeting, we learned about some changes that the city may need to make. Some of these ideas caused concern to residents. City staff's job is to balance the city's needs with the residents' concerns.

Please join us on Tuesday Nov. 18 at 7 pm at the Grantham Lions Club where city staff will discuss their vision for the future and seek your input. This is a time where your input really counts...we hope to see you there.

What is the Official Plan?

The Official Plan is a significant part of the City's overall growth management strategy. It establishes the land use structure of the city, setting out what lands can be used for & how they may be developed.

The City is reviewing the Official Plan, based on both a legislative requirement & to determine how the City's future growth needs will be met. There is only a limited supply of vacant urban land within the municipality. As currently structured, it is not adequate to accommodate projected future housing, population & employment growth over the long term.

Both minor & major changes are required to the established land use structure if the City is to meet its future needs. To deliver these changes also requires consideration for change to policies & practices affecting all components of municipal governance.

There are many opportunities, many choices & combination of choices to be considered in how best to facilitate & manage required changes.

These opportunities for change will have an effect on how this City will look in the future, how the community at large & its neighbourhoods will function & how all residents will live, work, play & interact.

Changes may affect all neighbourhoods. They may affect your neighbourhood. To successfully plan for change, to develop & implement a successful long term growth management strategy, we need your help & your participation.