

TIP LINE

AUTUMN ISSUE

A
STINSON
COMMUNITY
PUBLICATION



HARVEST SPECIAL!

2014

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Katherine's Korner

Keeping Halloween in Stinson
By Katherine Dymkowski



Halloween is my 2nd favourite holiday next to Christmas of course. As an adult I have fond memories of all the anticipation and excitement this night brought me when I was a child. Whether it was putting together that perfect costume, my neighbourhood pals and I figuring out the most productive route or finally going door to door collecting all that glorious sugar coma inducing candy. Back then it seemed that every house on the block was taking part in contributing to my parent's dentist bill. That doesn't seem to be the case anymore as more and more households are turning off their porch lights and locking their doors driving our own neighbourhood children to trick or treat in other communities across the city.

This October 31st I'm urging all Stinsonites reading this to help bring the horror back to our community! The saying goes "It takes a village to raise a child" so let's give our children the opportunity to make some memories in Stinson.

- *Why not get your friends together for a night of horror flicks and witches brew in between handing out candy?*
- *Have a prior commitment that night? Then why not contribute to your neighbours stash and ask them to give out some extras on your behalf?*
- *Parents, you're not off the hook either! Perhaps ask Grandpa or Aunt Sally to hand out candies at your place while you escort your kids around Stinson.*
- *In an apartment building – no problem! Why not band together with some of your neighbours to greet trick-or-treaters in your lobby or building entrance?*

So I urge you to march on over to our local NoFrills and spend \$10 on a few bags of candy. Turn that porch light on, round up your neighbours in your building, maybe even put out a pumpkin by your door to show the children you've got the spirit and bring back a little holiday tradition into our Stinson neighbourhood.



Ever since I first got involved in the activities of the Stinson community, I've been surprised by the number of professional and aspiring creative people in our neighbourhood; not because I don't figure there are a lot of us around, but because we never communicate or share our artistic output with our neighbours. It's understandable. There aren't a lot of creative outlets or opportunities made available to engage our 'Creatives'.

With the founding of the Stinson Creative Lab, I'm hoping to unite the first in a series of groups that can change the way we communicate, share and organize events with our neighbourhood. From planning committees to brand and beautify our neighbourhood, to planning musical events, arts, crafts and (original) book sales, to face painting and busking at community events, and even group get-togethers just to talk shop about our areas of interest and provide mentoring to aspiring creatives (we were all new, once), and help to showcase what we can do.

The first step is to get Creatives together to share plans and concerns, and decide what we need from such a union. The first steps are here:

 <http://thestinsoncreativelab.wordpress.com/>
 <https://www.facebook.com/groups/767109143350358/>



~Lee Edward McIlmoyle

SCA Annual General Meeting

By Erika Morton

If I could add one more value to the Stinson Community Association, it would be ACTIVE! Over the past year, through the commitment, passion and skills of Stinsonites, there was a lot of work and successful happenings going on in Stinson. That's because we are an active group and we thrive on creating opportunities that engage our community.

For this coming year, I know that we will continue with our great efforts and it will be great to see how we build upon the last year's accomplishments. To continue to see progress, we need as many Stinsonites as possible involved. There are many ways to support Stinson to be a great neighbourhood for all. In order to help us move forward, we look to our Neighbourhood Action Plan goals, which include:

- Enhancing our pride and ownership through beautification and history
- Enhancing liveable and walkable communities
- Improving social and health outcomes through building connections and relationships in the neighbourhood
- Strengthening education and skills training
- Addressing poverty and housing issues
- Engaging Residential Care Facilities and
- Connecting with businesses

This coming year, we hope to have the participation of as many Stinsonites as possible. Everyone's contribution makes a difference to our community!

SCA Annual General Meeting Agenda: Terms of Reference Ratification, 2014-2015 SCA Elections, Celebration!

DATE: Thursday October 9th, 2014 Time: 7pm – 8:45pm

PLACE: Central Memorial Recreation, 93 West Ave S

The SCA meets the 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm at the Central Memorial Recreation Centre



Carter Park REDEVELOPMENT

Construction work will be starting in the fall of 2014 at Carter Park (corner of West Ave S & Stinson) to further enhance the park's function and aesthetic. The redevelopment of Carter Park has been achieved through a planning partnership between the City, the Stinson Community Association and neighbourhood residents over the past two years. The project is being funded based on monies allocated a couple of years ago from the Ward 2 area rating fund.

A community consultation of the park was held at Central Memorial Recreation Centre on November 30th 2013 where residents of the community had the opportunity to view and comment on the park proposal. The plan was finalized this spring.

So what exactly is happening at the park?

- A brand new full size basketball court with new sport benches, lighting and drinking fountain
- A Bryce Huffman Mural to be located adjacent to the Basketball court once Claremont remediation work completes.
- New fencing, plantings and entrances off of Stinson Street and West Ave S.



Although no longer with us physically we have to admit that this imposing building that loomed over Stinson Street in the late 19th century, must have left behind a few stray ghosts that could even have wandered over to area homes or possibly Stinson School.

In 1948, the city decided to close the Boys' Home and it was eventually sold in 1950, then demolished to make way for the seven apartment buildings located on Stinson Street between Erie Avenue and Emerald Street. Maybe some of these buildings are home to restless spirits that want to stay in the neighbourhood.

In 2010, a show called Rescue Mediums actually visited a house on Stinson Street because stories circulated that there were a few lost spirits including a one supposedly visiting from the Boys Home.

So, when walking through this area at night (or any other time) we should be aware of the lives lived, the buildings we have lost and all the history that echoes through to our present day. Do you have any stories of strange sightings or bumps in the night? If so please let us know!

YOUR AD HERE

Contact: adsales@stinsoncommunity.ca

WALKING

By: Maggie Day-Myron

WITH

Maggie

A walk on the wild and spooky side! At this time of the year, with the hint of fall in the air, cool crisp mornings, dark evenings and the approach of Hallowe'en, it is a perfect time to peek into the spooky side of Stinson, learn a bit of history and tales of strange happenings in the dark.

Let us start with Stinson School, (although it is now known locally as the Stinson Lofts) the cornerstone for the school was laid in 1894 with another building added in 1914 and finally closing its doors in 2009. Even though the school itself has now been transformed into residential use, it has a long history, perfect for tales of unexplained activities, especially at this time of the year when ghosts and spirits fuel the imagination.

There has been talk of something other-worldly in the sprawling attic of the school, this space has, over time, been used as a shooting range and a gym and it is said that this is the busiest spot for paranormal activity and where many spirits remain. There are claims that footsteps can still be heard along the vacant hallways, voices of children whispering and even invisible tugs on sleeves of those who enter the site.

Downstairs in the boiler room, it is believed that there are 3 spirits: a former janitor, a head mistress and a librarian. They would certainly make interesting company for each other, even though with such a big school at their disposal it is odd that they would all choose to live in the basement!

Also part of the neighbourhood over a hundred years ago, was the Boys Home – it was opened in 1877 and home to about 75 boys from five to fourteen. These boys were the children of what was then termed “idle or dissolute parents, or of parents who were poor”, this seems like it would be a very sad place but in those days this was actually a much healthier option for some parents than living in the conditions that poverty subjected families to.



Harvest Meal

By Natasha Murphy

What is special about fall harvest is the great tasting comfort foods that can be enjoyed. These dishes are simple to make and can easily be reworked into vegan dishes or be added to for heartier family meals.

BRUSSEL SPROUTS WITH WHITE BEANS

All you'll need is:

- 8 tablespoons olive oil,
- 2 pounds brussel sprouts, trimmed, cut in half lengthwise
- 6 garlic cloves, chopped
- 1 cup low-salt chicken broth*
- 1 15-ounce can cannellini (white kidney beans), drained
- 2 tablespoons (1/4 stick) butter
- 1 cup (about 4 ounces) coarsely grated young pecorino**

*Substitute for chicken broth is any of your favourite veggie broth.

**Substitute for Pecorino cheese Use equal amounts of Parmesan, Asiago, or any corse cheese

Please note: Butter adds a creamy flavour, salt and thickens the sauce. Soy butter may be a good substitute for this recipe along with your favourite complimentary spices.

Heat 3 tablespoons oil in a large skillet over high heat. Add half of the brussels sprouts. Cook until brown. (around 5 minutes). Transfer to large bowl. Repeat this step for the remaining sprouts. Add remaining 2 tablespoons oil to skillet over high heat. Add garlic; sauté until brown. Add broth and brussels sprouts. Cook until brussels sprouts are crisp-tender, stirring frequently (about 3 minutes) Add beans and butter; stir until butter melts and broth is reduced to glaze (about 1 minute). Season with salt and pepper. Stir in cheese.

UPDATE! 467 Charlton Development

By: Maggie Day-Myron

Quite a few Stinson area residents showed up at City Hall at 9:30 a.m. on the morning of August 12th. for the Planning & Development Committee debate/vote on re-zoning the strip of escarpment between Charlton Avenue East and the rail trail.

The meeting started at 9:30 and did not finish until after 7p.m. With the Charlton issue being the last item on the agenda! A long frustrating day for those that saw it through to the end. Council voted to change the zoning from light industrial to high density residential, giving the initial go ahead for the developer to build three multi-storey buildings.

The NEC (Niagara Escarpment Commission) has stated that the proposed scale of the development is contrary to the Urban Area policies of the Niagara Escarpment Plan and raised concerns including the impacts to the views of the escarpment and also that the building heights should be limited to no higher than 4 storeys.

Now that the re-zoning has been finalized, a decision on whether to appeal can now be made by the NEC (Niagara Escarpment Commission). As part of the decision process, the Stinson resident group CRED (Committed to Responsible Escarpment Development) has been invited to present the concerns of area residents at the next NEC meeting.

If there is an appeal, the decision will ultimately rest with the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) which is an independent body that works to resolve differences on community planning issues or disputes with municipal councils.



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NEIGHBOURHOOD STUDY: McMaster's Hamilton Neighbourhoods Study in Stinson

As a part of Hamilton's new Neighbourhood Action Strategy, the Stinson neighbourhood created a neighbourhood plan – a vision for the future and specific actions to get there.

Research and evaluation are built in to the Neighbourhood Action Strategy so that successes and challenges can guide the process and we can track changes in the neighbourhood. Our team at McMaster, led by Dr. James Dunn, is participating in this evaluation through our Hamilton Neighbourhoods Study. Over 300 randomly-selected residents in Stinson answered our survey questions about their health, daily lives, and opinions about the neighbourhood. This information complements the work done by the neighbourhood planning team in Stinson.

Here are some highlights!

- Residents said that they were happy with their neighbourhood – 72% said that they were 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with the neighbourhood overall
- People felt that dealing with drug use/drug dealing, and increasing the general sense of community were the top priorities to make Stinson a better place to live

You can read the full report on our website:

<http://www.crunch.mcmaster.ca/projects/hnstudy>

What's next? The first survey was completed about 2 years ago, and we're now returning to Stinson to do a second survey with the same residents we spoke to before. We're calling people who were surveyed two years ago to ask if they will do the follow-up survey with us. If you participated and you get a call, we really hope you'll take the time to talk to us again! **For more information, please call us at (905) 525-9140 ext. 23375**

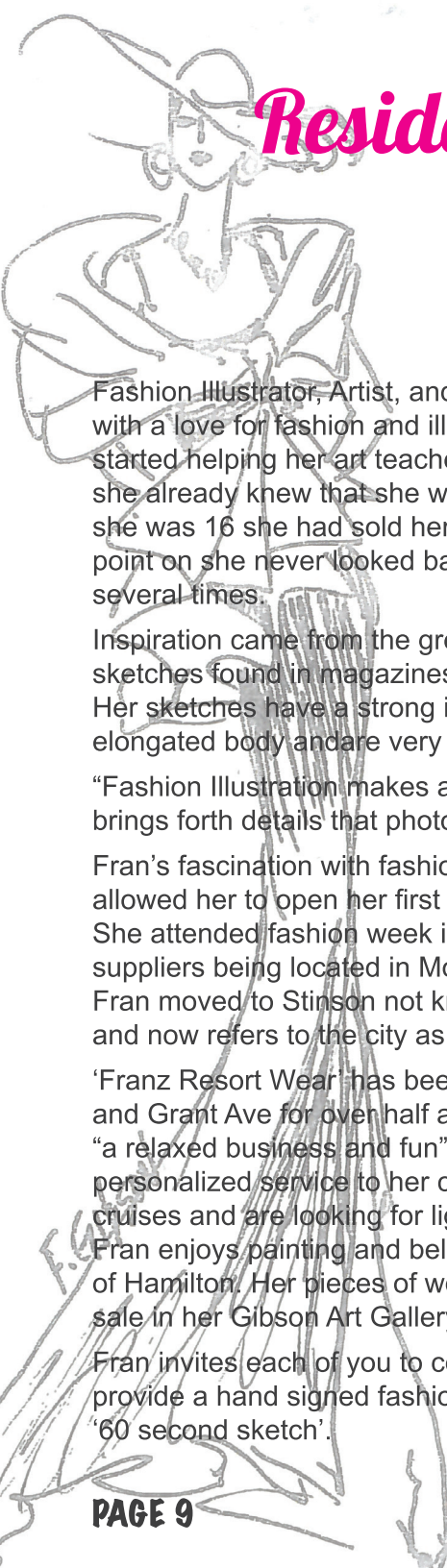
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Resident Spotlight - Fran Gavas

By Ralph Meiers

Fashion Illustrator, Artist, and Entrepreneur Fran Gavas grew up with a love for fashion and illustration. At the young age of 8 Fran started helping her art teacher with art class but more importantly she already knew that she was going to be an artist. By the time she was 16 she had sold her first fashion illustrations. From that point on she never looked back and has been published several times.

Inspiration came from the great works of Chanel and fashion sketches found in magazines such as Bazaar and Vogue. Her sketches have a strong identification, characterized by an elongated body and are very feminine with attractive profiles.

"Fashion Illustration makes a garment look more exciting and brings forth details that photography cannot do" stated Gavas.

Fran's fascination with fashion and attuned business acumen allowed her to open her first store in Oshawa in 1969.

She attended fashion week in New York regularly, with her suppliers being located in Montreal. After retirement 8 years ago Fran moved to Stinson not knowing very much about Hamilton and now refers to the city as 'Ontario's best kept secret'.

'Franz Resort Wear' has been located at the corner of Main St and Grant Ave for over half a decade and is described as "a relaxed business and fun" by Fran. She provides a very personalized service to her clients who are often venturing on cruises and are looking for light weight and colourful cotton wear.

Fran enjoys painting and belongs to the Women's Art Association of Hamilton. Her pieces of work, all of which are original, are on sale in her Gibson Art Gallery located within her establishment.

Fran invites each of you to come in to meet her and she will provide a hand signed fashion card based on one of her signature '60 second sketch'.

Stinson Annual Neighbourhood Clean-Up Day:

The parks are in great shape this year, thanks in no small part to volunteers like the John Howard Society, and of course, you. However, the streets and alleys aren't looking as good this year as they have in the past, and the winter months are looming.

So what we're looking for are volunteers to come together and do one last big push through the neighbourhood to get the fallen leaves, branches, debris and general litter bagged and collected before the snow falls.

As weather is a factor in both the scheduling and organizing of this plan, we're asking that you sign up online for information about our clean-up team, so that you can coordinate with the team leads to figure out the best day for a neighbourhood sweep.

As we don't want to waste any of your valuable time, we won't be calling any meetings prior to the clean-up. However, there may be a day scheduled beforehand to scout the alleys and back streets for signs of refuse that will require team work and/or City assistance to clear up.

To register, send your emails to: info@stinsoncommunity.ca with 'Clean Up Team' in the subject line, before November 1st.

CARTER PARK ICE RINK TEAM

While we're on the subject of volunteers, did you know that the Stinson Community Association is going to build an ice rink for families to use in Carter Park this winter? This will be great for families that don't have time to take their children to a community centre with an ice rink, or to neighbouring parks that already have an ice rink program in place, like Beasley, Corktown, or Durand.

To do this, we're going to need a few stalwart volunteers to help us to build and maintain the rink throughout the winter.

As this too is weather-reliant work, and requires that volunteers come out after sunset to ice the rink, this is not something we can schedule right away. However, the rewards to our community growth and happiness are immeasurable, and the satisfaction of knowing you contributed to the happiness and health of area children should more than make up for the sacrifices made.

Obviously we don't expect one or two people to do all of the work all winter long, so the more full and part-time volunteers we can recruit will make the program go smoothly for everyone.

To register, send your emails to: info@stinsoncommunity.ca with 'Ice Rink Team' in the subject line, before November 1st.

Carefully pull out centerfold...

StinZine Centerfold

...and pin it up for easy access



LEGEND

- Neighbourhood Boundary
- Bike Lanes on Stinson St.
- Large Trees
- Rail Trail
- Berries Along Rail Trail
- Views and Vistas to the Escarpment
- Escarpment
- Great Access Across the City (Charlton Ave E.)
- HSR Bus Route 5 - Delaware
- Cutest Street in Stinson (Blythe St.)
- Beautiful Streets
- Beautiful Victorians
- Parks and Open Space
- Alleyways
- Railway
- Designated Heritage Properties
- Listed Heritage Properties

Other great features of Stinson not shown on map

- Unique Micro-Climate (Little Snow!)
- Stained Glass Windows Throughout Stinson

Economic Assets

- Convenience Store/Love Shop
- Canadian Tire
- Lawyer
- Central Health Institute & School
- Hearing Institute
- Convenience Store
- Stermann's Interiors
- Lawyer
- Jerelday Lodge
- Doctor's Office
- Nail Salon
- Tae Kwon Do
- Furniture Store
- Medical Clinic/French Health Clinic
- Clothing Store
- Electrical/Lighting Store
- Medical Office
- Rosart Dental
- Effort Trust Building
- Employment Centre
- Variety Store
- Stinson Towers
- Undermount Variety Store
- Bakery Supply Store
- Ontario Patient Transfer and Taxi/Limo Service
- Katherine's Day Care

Physical/Institutional Assets

- Carisma Pentecostal Church
- Versa Care Centre (Nursing Home)
- The Old Cathedral School/ St. Charles Adult Education
- Residential Care Facility (Beautiful Victorian Building)
- Bishop Park
- Green Space
- Central Memorial Recreation Centre
- Carter Park
- Hospice Building
- Dr. Chithalen
- English Garden
- Rose Garden and Christmas Decorations
- Alanson Street Lofts
- Stinson School Lofts
- Wentworth Stairs



NEXT NEXT ISSUE:
THAT BIRD'S EYE
VIEW MAP OF
STINSON

Yup, he missed another deadline, folks!

STINSON FOCUS

SCENES FROM THE STINSON COMMUNITY WATER FIGHT!

