



The Community Newsletter of 5 Ogilvie, Dundas (Grafton Square)

Spring Issue – # 17 – April 2026

Dear Neighbours,

April is here - the month here in Dundas when we check the weather, step outside... and then come back in to change coats. Possibly twice. Do enjoy this unpredictable edition of the *Grafton Gazette*.

Wayne (401)

A warm WELCOME to our New Residents,

Stan and Darlene Hoskin, #502

and

Dieter and Joan Spiller, #203

Both families are arriving back in Dundas after a time elsewhere.

**We are happy they are joining our condo community,
and we hope they will soon feel right at home.**

UPCOMING SOCIAL GATHERINGS

Wed. April 22 - After Dinner Get Together

“Down to Earth Day” at 7:00 pm

Bring your own refreshments
and relax with your neighbours

Wed. May 20 - Pizza Night at 6:00 pm

Bingo Game afterwards

\$9.00 per person for 2 slices (inflation!)

sign up sheet will be posted

on the Community bulletin board closer to the date



A Word from our Garden Committee:



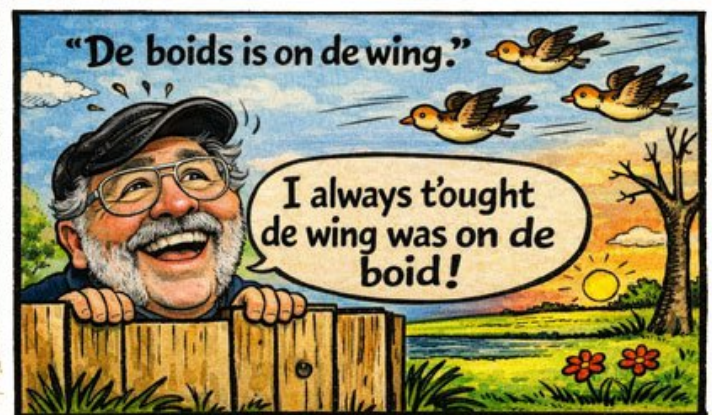
The flower beds **in front of our condo building** are tended and maintained by residents, Donna Yates and David Kemp. The flowering planters in the urns outside the front door are purchased by Donna and the cost comes out of the condo fees.

Donna established the garden **at the north side of the building** out of her resources and maintains it to the delight of our two neighbouring buildings. The residents there often express their appreciation for the colourful display when she is out there working.

Donna and Elaine look after **the lobby plants**. When they are away, you could be invited to take over the watering! Let either of them know if you could be available to help.



An old, old Spring Verse



It's A Fire Alarm WHAT TO DO?

(Now it may be just 'burned toast' but if it's not—you could be toast)

-Fire alarms generate panic: try to stay calm, use this to identify what you need to do

-EVERYBODY: call 911 if you hear an alarm or have a fire in your unit (the authorities don't mind *lots* of calls)

Then.. DO YOU STAY OR LEAVE?

IF YOU HAVE A MOBILITY OR MEDICAL PROBLEM, STAY. *The board has a list of persons needing help from firefighters in case of fire [**ensure the Board has your name if this applies to you**].

OTHERWISE if your door is not hot & there's no smoke, exit the building –use stairs, never the elevator;

-do not congregate in corridors, front foyer or lobby: this impedes the movement of the fire authorities

-do not re-enter the building until told to do so by the fire department

-if you do find smoke in the stairwell, do not go upstairs [smoke/heat rises], take the other set of stairs

-if there is smoke in that stairwell too, return to your unit

Do not risk being overwhelmed by smoke:

-if your door feels hot, stay in your unit, call 911 & tell them you are there

-(do not try to leave your unit a long time after the alarm has sounded for if there is a fire, the longer you wait the more chance there is that heavy smoke will have spread into stairways and corridors.)

NOTE: WITH A HOT DOOR AND SMOKE, EVERYBODY SHOULD

-wet a large towel and lay it along the bottom of your front door

-use duct or packing tape to seal the sides of the door

If smoke enters your apartment, —move to the balcony & tell 911

-wave a towel or sheet at authorities!

-wait for rescue or an all clear signal.

FIRE PREVENTION AND US Most condo fires are caused by cooking, dryers, faulty wiring & electricity use. Alas the most vulnerable people in fires are over the age of 70.

FIRE PREVENTION 101

keep your kitchen safe –ensure your stove area is clutter-free

-have a pot lid on hand to smother burning oil (*never* use water)

-wear short or tight sleeves when cooking

-turn pot handles inwards & unplug appliances not in use

-*never* leave cooking untended (use noisy timers if nature calls)

and your laundry

-clean the dryer's lint tray after every use

-don't overload your dryer or leave your unit with the dryer on

other:

-don't overload electrical outlets –better: good surge protectors

-have an electrician replace worn electrical cords

-place nothing combustible (curtains, tablecloths etc.) less than 1 m. near a heat source like a space heater or a candle

-never leave candles unattended; place on a level surface

DRYER LINT Dryers don't look dangerous. Alas, they are the cause of many fires: regular cleaning is crucial.

Get Rid of Lint which builds up in the lint trap and inside the dryer vent and ductwork, reducing air flow and drying efficiency. **Importantly: Lint is combustible & dangerous.**

Clean the dryer's lint trap after every load. Remove the lint from the screen and wipe the edges. Note that dryer sheet residue can clog the screen—if this happens, submerge the lint screen in hot water and scrub with a soft brush to remove built-up fabric softener.

With the lint filter out, use a long-handled flexible brush in the opening to gently loosen the built-up lint.. Don't force the brush if you meet resistance but clean surfaces as much as possible. Remove any chunks that come out with the brush. (To eliminate smaller pieces, replace lint filter, run the dryer on air only for a cycle: this pulls lint into the filter (or blows

(Dryer sheets: do we really need them? Dryer sheets are polyester sheets covered in fabric softening chemicals and chemical fragrances which are irritants to many. These rub off the sheet & coat clothing in a slimy layer that helps clothes feel softer. But these chemicals vent off into the air & rub off onto our skin. Many are toxic & some are known allergens. Some even contain volatile organic compounds which cause respiratory irritation. *Do we really need this exposure to toxic chemicals?*

Safer: Woolen dryer balls—we can make these ourselves!

It's easy! Let's do it!!

**I snuck up on my dryer
Scared the sheet right out of it...**

SOCIAL LIFE AT 5 OGILVIE

This is a very "social" building with a strong spirit of community. We are fortunate to have so many talented and generous people here who are willing to help out whenever it is needed. There's a Social Committee which plans and organizes dinners and get togethers that help create the sense of community we enjoy here. **One of our regular events is the Biweekly Coffee Hour in the 1st floor Community Room at 10:30 on every other Tuesday** where we share treats and friendly conversation. This also gives us an opportunity to discuss any practical issues we are having in our units and get tips and solutions from our neighbours. The residents of each floor take turns hosting the coffee hour by bringing munchies, preparing coffee and tea and cleaning up. A schedule is posted on the bulletin board in the hall outside the Community Room. The coffee/tea is free. The cost of the coffee supplies is covered by the revenue from dinners and other events that are held in the Community Room throughout the year to celebrate various holidays, such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc. The meals are ordered from restaurants and residents who attend pay a surcharge of a few dollars added to the cost of each meal. We also have occasional pizza nights that include a vegetarian option, strawberry socials, wine and cheese events.

The Social Circle was started by residents who want to meet informally for conversation and companionship on a regular basis without the fuss of refreshments. They meet at **2:00 in the Community Room every 2nd Tuesday, alternating weeks with the coffee hour**. All are welcome. Offerings/activities change over time. You can set up and host a new activity for fellow residents by tabling it on the calendar in the room and posting notices on the bulletin board. All that's required is to leave the room clean and tidy and ensure that the tables are left as they were.

The Community Room can be booked for private events for a fee of \$25.00 which is paid to the Social Committee, but it is primarily used for activities open to our condo community. Reservations are recorded on the calendar on the wall next to the fridge in the Community Room and the fee is paid to Elaine Carr (308).

Elaine also gathers and posts information to keep us informed about community resources, services, activities and events in Dundas and beyond that may be of interest to residents. Much of this information is posted on the bulletin boards outside and inside the Community Room. Residents also post notices on the Boards. **There's a collection of books and puzzles donated by residents in the Community Room**. These are available for residents to borrow.

We are fortunate to have **farm fresh eggs from Lynden delivered to our Community Room every 2 weeks for the great price of \$5.00 per dozen**. The order sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside the Community Room and payment is made in advance to Unit 205. Trish and Paul, who arrange the egg delivery on Friday, were neighbours of the egg lady when they lived in Lynden.

The Social Committee welcomes your suggestions and feedback. Current committee members are Elaine Carr, Donna Yates, Jane Bonham and Georgia Mongiat. If you would like to get involved or need more information, please contact one of the members.

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Recipes, Announcements, Notices, Invitations, Cartoons, Whimsy.