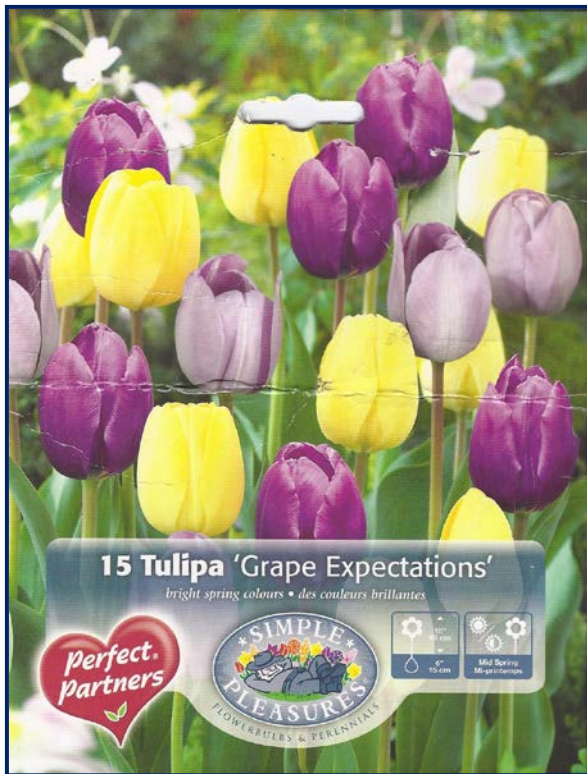




Green Space Update



As spring arrives, these bulb packages should yield a lovely colorful display at our westernmost entrance. With the recent warm weather, our bulbs are now showing. As they fade away, perennials will be planted by the City.

From Our Green Space Committee PLEASE HELP US PLANT

At the north end of our community, in our park area, the city will provide more shrubs for us to plant. Planting Day is Saturday May 26, 2012 starting at 10 am. We need lots of volunteers to come out and spend a couple of hours planting shrubs – last year's effort was a spectacular success thanks to YOU - our volunteers – we ask you to help us do it again – moving eastward along the north edge of the grass area. Once again, shovels and other tools will be provided by the city – please wear gardening clothes and bring gloves.

From our President

Dear Members,

Over the past few months your Board of Directors has been busy working on your behalf on several activities that impact our neighbourhood directly. We have canvassed every house in Sir John's Homestead to encourage joining our association and signing up for Neighbourhood Watch. We are planning our second annual Street Sale and a Spring cleanup of our public gardens. Please read the reports on these topics elsewhere in the Newsletter.

I recently attended a workshop offered by the City, to understand what the development of a strategy for Second Units could mean for our neighbourhood and our City. A Second Unit is commonly known as a basement apartment or in-law suite. This housing option differs from a Lodging House, in that usually the owner occupies the house as well as the tenant, and there must be a separate entrance to the Second Unit.

The Province would like to deliver affordable housing in a way that is financially feasible and fosters integration of those who suffer from housing affordability issues into existing neighbourhoods.

The City of Mississauga has sought public input into the development of a strategy for Second Units that:

1. Preserves the character of neighbourhoods; including standards for the outside look of homes, parking considerations and access to Second Units
2. Maintains the level of public services; including garbage pickup
3. Ensures safety of Second Units by establishing minimum building and fire safety codes

The objective of the strategy will be to establish guidelines for the development of the Second Units, provides for licensing and inspection, and conforms to the legislation requirements. It is expected that the City of Mississauga Second Unit Strategy will be presented to Council before the Summer. Given our recent issue regarding Lodging Houses, I will be watching this closely and keep our members up to date on what transpires.

Our next newsletter will be in the late spring or early summer, so I am taking this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Easter.

Respectfully,
Michael Spicer president@sjhra

Townhouse Update

In our last Newsletter, we reported that the SJHRA was dealing with concerns related to the noise and other disruptive behaviours of some of the student tenants of the townhouses located in our community. The Mississauga By-laws office had received sufficient complaints from SJH residents to lay a charge against the townhouse complex.

On January 18th, the first Court appearance occurred regarding this charge, at which time a hearing date was set for April 5th. There may be a further delay in the proceedings at that time, but in due course, the complaint will be heard, and some of your fellow residents will be called upon to testify.

The outcome of this Court case is important for Sir John's Homestead. We cannot afford to allow the townhouse complex to become an unsupervised extension of the University of Toronto (Mississauga). We need the assurance that townhouse management will ensure that its tenants' behaviour conforms to the family-oriented nature of our community. We need a lasting solution that will survive the turnover of students each year, and with your continued support, we will achieve one.

Tom Zakrzewski
VP SJHRA

Neighbourhood Watch Update

The Board members of our association have taken part in the canvassing activity for the renewal of the SJHRA membership and provided a short introduction to the Neighbourhood Watch (NW) program. As outlined in the previous newsletter, the NW program is an initiative that helps to protect our community from crime and keep our premises safe. The members of our community have shown a significant interest in the NW program and the very first steps will be initiated within a few weeks with the city of Mississauga for the development of a comprehensive plan.

Members of our community may be contacted by our primary watch member, Benoit Arsenault, within a few weeks if additional information is required. Within the course of the summer you may notice signage that will come up on Sir John's Homestead, Redstart Drive and Solitaire Ct. Members who signed up for the NW program will be updated through email messages which will be kept to a minimum.

Benoit Arsenault
Primary watch member

Signs of a Early Spring



Garage Sale – June 2

This summer's garage sale is being planned – similar to last year's successful event but hopefully with dryer weather. This allows each of us to offer once loved possessions to lead new lives in other homes or gardens. We hope this event brings inspiration to your spring cleaning efforts. In the photo below, one successful member even sold his car! This year's date is June 2. (Or perish the thought, June 9 as the alternative date if the humidity is 100%). For more information, please contact Molly Hutchison at secretary@sjhra.ca



Earth Day

Just a reminder that earth day is Sunday April 22 – why not spend a while picking up any debris on and around your front garden and if that is already done perhaps do a little clean up around our common areas and trails.

From Our Membership Chair

Following our initial membership drive, our membership stands at 88 households, very similar to last year's total.

If you have not yet paid your \$25 membership fee for 2011-2012 please drop your cheque in an envelope along with your name and address in the mailbox at 3086 Sir John's Homestead (Attn: Anita Cianciolo) or 3248 SJH (Attn: Craig Finlayson). A membership form (optional) is available on our web-site. **Please make cheques payable to: Sir John Homestead Ratepayer Association Inc.**

Join or renew today
Anita Cianciolo

SJHRA Board of Directors 2011-2012

President	Michael Spicer - 3086 RD
Past President	Alina Zogala - 3236 SJH
Vice President	Tom Zakrzewski - 3049 SJH
Secretary	Molly Hutchison – 3219 SJH
Treasurer	Andy Harvey – 3205 SJH
Membership	Anita Cianciolo - 3086 SJH
Webmaster/Editor	Bob Alden - 3159 SJH
Neighbourhood Watch	Benoit Arsenault – 3106 RD
MIRANET Liaison	Craig Finlayson - 3248 SJH
Director-at-large	Jeff & Heather Roberts - 3079 RD
Director-at-large	Needed from Solitaire Court !