



A SIGN OF THE TIMES

The 7th ANNUAL McDOUGALL STREET

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Membership Matters</i>	2
<i>Fish Fry</i>	3
<i>Book Sale</i>	4
<i>Memories</i>	
<i>Swim & Slide</i>	

August Edition

**WE
NEED
YOU!!**



The Board of Directors for the Northstar Cultural Community Centre met on Wednesday, July 22, 2009 to make a final decision about staging the 7th Annual Reunion at Wigle Park.

Amid rumors that a tentative agreement had been reached between the City of Windsor and the CUPE locals, a decision was made to cancel the Saturday August 8, Family Day events simply because there was no guarantee that a ratification vote, to be taken the next day, would result in an end to the 101 day old strike.

The photo above illustrates the scene that has prevailed at most of our city parks. The long grass and garbage that lurks below the straw like grass is a hazard both to the public at large and the city workers who will have the task of cutting/mowing this stuff.

Although the workers did ratify a new contract no firm commitment could be made to any group or organization about the condition of the park in the two week time period before the actual event (would the grass be cut? wash-room cleaned and open? stage available? garbage removed after the event ?

etc.) Yes, there will probably be a sense of disappointment felt throughout our McDougall Street community but all is not lost.

Within the pages of this Newsletter you will note a few activities that will replace our usual Saturday Family Day format into a schedule of events that will take place over the next month or so... please note on your calendars and call a friend (or foe) to share the good news and invite them to come out and enjoy the fun!

The final sign of the time relates to the bronze plaque that is attached to the stone cairn. The significance of the 1909 date cannot be over looked. A letter can now be forwarded to Mayor Eddie Francis asking that the City of Windsor participate in a ceremony to celebrate the 100 years that Wigle Park has existed. Our letter will also include a request that he bring along a large cake suitable in size to feed at least 100 people (date to be announced) **IT IS THE OLDEST PARK IN THE CITY!**

McDougall Street Memories

(excerpts from 'McDougall Street Reflections', 2006)

Fondest Memory While Living

- * Playing sandlot baseball in the Mercer Street school yard.
- * All night New Year's Eve Services.
- * Booze's Confectionary Store on the corner of Elliot and Mercer Street
- * Knew all the neighbours and their children; it was a popular hangout.
- * Taking my Dad's bike without his permission and getting caught in the act.
- * Uncle Al's Day Booze's Store
- * Living across from the park seeing all the baseball games
- * The building (construction) of Mount Zion Church of God in Christ.
- * Friendly neighbourhood to raise a family.
- * Attending Wigle Park skating in the winter and playing baseball in the summer and sitting in the green grandstands.
- * The old Mercer Street School on Elliot and Mercer Street and Patterson Collegiate School on Elliot & Windsor Avenue were attended by many people in the community.
- * Playing with friends
- * Black and Italian Neighbourhood women bent over in grandma's backyard picking dandelion greens in the early spring each year.
- * Skating in Wigle Park.

In The Neighbourhood

- * Playing road hockey in the Neighbourhood with all the other kids
- * Having Bible study in my basement with the Neighbourhood children.
- * When the pigs got loose from Essex Packers on Mercer
- * All the kids hung out at the Neighbourhood park.
- * Engaging in games or hockey in the alley immediately behind our individual houses adjacent to each other.
- * Grandma's home
- * Community life , love, caring attitudes
- * Knew everyone and everyone knew me.
- * Baptismal services which attracted several thousands at the Detroit River.
- * Elder Morton's baptismal ceremonies and numerous out-of-town buses: Patterson Collegiate lawn was picnic ground.
- * I loved sitting, on the front porch watching different families in the neighbourhood and the smell of barbeque.
- * Going to Emancipation Celebration Parade and Carnival at Jackson Park.
- * Everyone knew each neighbour that lived in the neighbourhood by name and we all socialized together.
- * Going to Bishop C. L. Morton Sr.'s Church.