



## ***AUCHMAR ADVOCATE***

**Published by Friends of Auchmar**

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## ***BEYOND THE FRONT DOOR***

### **Inside the Auchmar Manor House: A New Decade**

**1925. CHEDOKE MOUNTAIN.** The preparations were underway for next Saturday evening. Orders had been placed with the grocers and the purchases made at Eatons would be delivered during the week. Pete and Edna had invited Harry and Gladys Greening and several of the Southam Balfour family for dinner.

A recent edition of the Hamilton Herald covered the Ottawa Senators hockey club and its success at winning the Stanley Cup so often during this decade. Some people called them the Soaring Senators in the Roaring Twenties.

The paper was left on the table while Pete and Edna walked the grounds of Edgecliffe, their home which overlooked the city, at the top of Beckett Drive. They talked about how the city had changed.

The Great War had effected all. Veterans were still recuperating at The San. Hopefully, countries would not blunder so greatly in the future and leaders and diplomats would provide wise counsel.

Then, there were the epidemics; Spanish flu, and smallpox which swept through the city wards. Now, the city faced a new disease – diphtheria which peaked in 1922 according to the Health Board.

The Medical Officer of Health closely followed the trials conducted by Connaught Laboratories in Hamilton. The results were encouraging. It would take a year or two to know completely the effectiveness of the diphtheria toxoid treatment.

It was cold this late winter afternoon. The wind was harsh and biting, blowing in off the lake and bay. The children, James 9, Gwyn 7 and Sue 3, were already inside, warming up. Bill and Doug would be over soon and Elsie. The children liked playing with their cousins.

Pete sat down in the library. Stephen Leacock's humorous Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town lay on a nearby table. On the desk, were the newspaper articles of May 1915 which described the sinking of the Lusitania.

It had been a winter most remarkable for the cold temperatures and snowfall. Children throughout the city made the best of it; skating, making snowmen and tobogganing down hills such as the one at Cootes Paradise.

Perhaps, the McLean family walked with their young daughter, Evelyn, from their Rosslyn Avenue home, through the new park being built in stages at the corner of Main and Gage streets.

Pete wanted Bill's opinion. It had been rumoured that the Buchanan Estate, Auchmar, may be for sale.

## **FRIENDS OF AUCHMAR EVENTS**

### **News, Updates, Change**

#### **CHANGE.**

In March of 2021, Pat Saunders tendered her resignation from the Friends of Auchmar Board and her position as Membership Co-ordinator.

Pat served as Membership Co-ordinator and was a member of the Charter Board of the Friends of Auchmar which was officially established in June 2012.

Over the course of nine years, Pat advocated passionately for public ownership and use of the estate and grounds.

With a cadre of volunteers and friends, she manned the membership table at all of the Friends of Auchmar events. Among these were the Annual General Meetings, Doors Open



Hamilton, Auchmar Open House, the Voices of Auchmar series and Auchmar, The War Years which was held at the Westdale.

Around the table, with fellow Board members or at City Hall with councillors, her opinions were always valued and respected.

Pat, a sincere heartfelt thank you for all that you did and accomplished for the Friends of Auchmar from your fellow board members and the membership.

Best wishes always.

**THE FRIENDS OF AUCHMAR** had no formal events scheduled during the winter months.

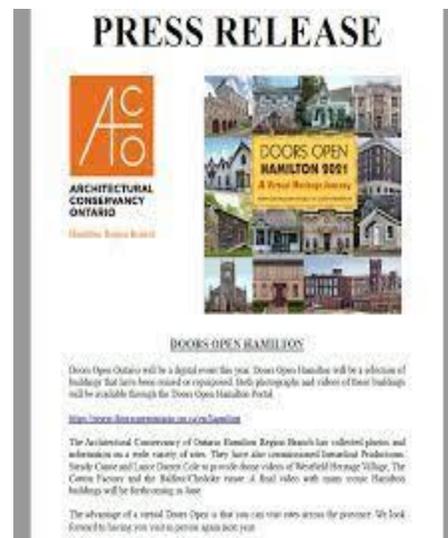
The Board of Friends of Auchmar continued communication with the City of Hamilton regarding updates on the designation of the Auchmar Gatehouse and what role or roles “The Friends” may undertake.

## DOORS OPEN ONTARIO

Doors Open Ontario 2021 will be virtual. Check the website [www.doorsopenontario.ca](http://www.doorsopenontario.ca) for details, updates, and the roster of participating communities.

The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, Hamilton Branch is working with the city and others to develop Digital Doors Open Hamilton.

Doors Open Ontario 2021 will run from May to November.



## BUILT HERITAGE

### The Long and Bisby Building

In December 2020, the City of Hamilton served a Notice of Heritage Designation on 828 Sanatorium Road. This is the Long and Bisby building which was a former nurses residence for those who worked at the Hamilton Sanatorium during the 1920s and 1930s.

Valery Homes, which is re-developing the former Sanatorium lands, agreed to proceed with the Heritage Designation for both the Long and Bisby Building and the nearby Cross of Lorraine which was built in 1953.

The adaptive repurposing of the Long and Bisby building will be the corporate home for Valery Homes.



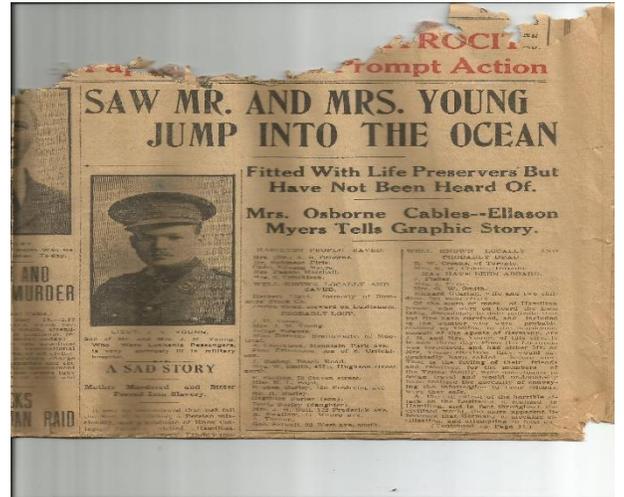
Paul Valeri

# THE PHOTO GALLERY

This issue is dedicated to the rooflines and window viewpoints of Auchmar and to newspaper coverage of the Lusitania.



(1)



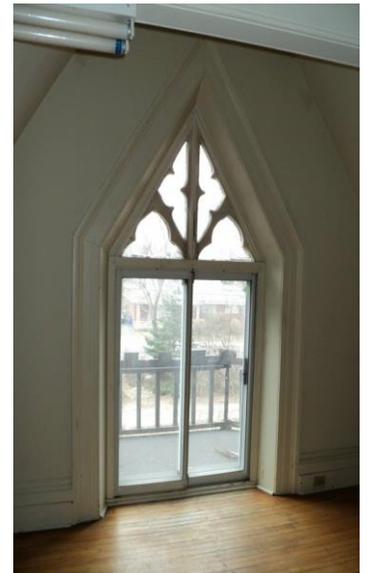
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## CONTACT US

**LOOKING TO REACH** the Friends of Auchmar and not sure how? Do you want to attend our public meeting? Would you like a little bit of information? Do you have a comment? Would you like to become involved? Do you have a memory or story about Auchmar that you wish to share?

Here are the ways:

Website: [www.friendsofauchmar.ca](http://www.friendsofauchmar.ca)

General Information Email: [info@friendsofauchmar.ca](mailto:info@friendsofauchmar.ca)

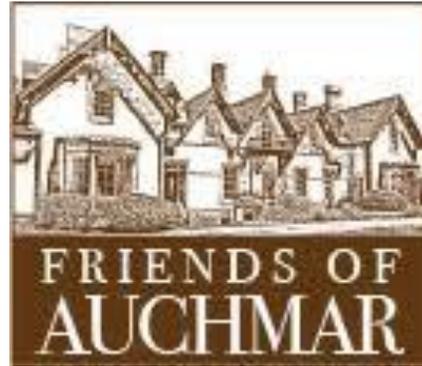
Membership: [membership@friendsofauchmar.ca](mailto:membership@friendsofauchmar.ca)

Twitter: @FOAuchmar.ca

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/friendsofauchmar](http://www.facebook.com/friendsofauchmar)

OR

Just come up and speak with us.



## PHOTO CREDITS

Page 1. Auchmar (southwest view) Norris Podetz. Dovecote, G. Crawford. Auchmar (southeast view) Robert Pinchin

Page 2. Pat Saunders Portrait. Hamilton Gallery of Distinction Awards. [www.dailynews.mcmaster.ca](http://www.dailynews.mcmaster.ca)

Page 3. A.C.O. Hamilton, [www.doorsopenontario.ca](http://www.doorsopenontario.ca) A.C.O. Press Release Carol Priamo. [www.acontario.ca](http://www.acontario.ca)

Page 4. i) Long & Bisby Building 1930s City of Hamilton Archives, [www.toronto.com](http://www.toronto.com) ii) Living Quarters, City of Hamilton Archives. iii) Drawing of Long & Bisby Bldg. Sourced at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) iv) Paul Valeri [www.thespec.com](http://www.thespec.com)

Page 5. 1) Newspaper Article 1915, Young Family Collection, Heritage Hamilton Foundation. 2) Newspaper Article, 1915 Ibid. 3) Auchmar Window, Blue Room [www.doorsopenhamilton.ca](http://www.doorsopenhamilton.ca) 4) Fotograf Geissler 5) Auchmar Window, Beige Room [www.doorsopenhamilton.ca](http://www.doorsopenhamilton.ca)

Page 6 Overlooking the City, near the James Street Incline Railway. (Sourced at Friends of Auchmar).





