

THE FOUNDATION FOCUS

CONNECTING GRADUATES.....BUILDING FUTURES!



REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Mrs. Florence Darby

As we step into 2025, I extend warm New Year's greetings to you all. May this year bring health, joy, and success to you and your loved ones. It is always inspiring to reflect on the incredible work we have accomplished together as alumni, volunteers, and friends of Ardenne. Volunteerism is indeed hard work, but it is also one of the most rewarding experiences.

Each time we give of our time, talent, and resources, we help shape a

brighter future for our students, ensuring that Ardenne remains a beacon of excellence.

Our collective efforts have brought remarkable achievements, from the solarization of our school and Industrial Arts building to the scholarships that change the lives of deserving students. These moments remind us why we do what we do—because giving back makes a real difference.

The opportunities for service are enormous, and while challenges may arise, our history teaches us the power of perseverance.

When George and Nellie Olson set out to acquire the Ardenne property, they faced significant obstacles, including competition from Wolmer's Trust and resistance from the local community.

Yet, through unwavering faith and determination, they overcame, laying the foundation for a school that would transform thousands of lives. Their legacy is our inspiration.

As we continue to press toward our goal of building the **Ardenne Alumni Wellness Centre**, let us do so with joyful determination. This project is not just about infrastructure—it is about enhancing the well-being of our students and teachers for generations to come.

We are grateful for the unwavering support of our alumni, both locally and across the globe, and we look forward to strengthening our collaboration with the school and its leadership.

Together, we can achieve even greater milestones in 2025 and beyond.

Let us remain steadfast in our mission, working with the hope that **"May those who come behind us will find us faithful."**

Deo Duce Quare Optima

Flo Darby
Chairman



INFLOWS

Total Inflow:	\$5,833,752
Includes:	
Donation to the wellness centre	- \$ 5,474,473
Optima 5K Run	- \$ 152,176

Unaudited Financial Results for the Year 2024



OUTFLOWS:

Total Outflows:	\$2,681,764
Includes:	
Wellness Centre expenses	- \$1,832,648
Optima 5K Run	\$ 69,320

NOTE: The audit of the 2024 financial statement will commence in March 2025.

Highlights:

Surplus year to date

\$3,151,988

Bank account Balances:

JMD: \$1,621,470.17
USD: \$109,263.82

Net Balance Wellness Center Fund

\$17,880,695.93



UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS YEAR 2024

WELLNESS CENTRE UPDATE



The Ardenne Alumni Foundation remains committed to the development of the Wellness Centre, which will be a transformative addition to the Ardenne school community. While we had anticipated progress on the approval process, the Kingston & St. Andrew Municipal Corporation (KSAMC) requested additional modifications to the building design before granting the permit. This modification requires a change in type of stairs used in the design for the emergency exit as designed by our original Architect. This is because they consider the spiral staircase to not be the safest and easiest to navigate during an emergency evacuation. Our Engineers, MSR Engineers are now in the process of updating the design to reflect a more suitable design for the stairs. It is anticipated that these changes will be finalized and ready for resubmission by the end of February 2025. We appreciate the patience and support of our alumni as we work through this necessary step to ensure compliance and the successful execution of the project.

To enhance project management and transparency, a comprehensive project plan was developed and subsequently revised in December 2024 to take into account all changes occurring during that year and adjusted timelines going forward. This plan outlines key milestones, timelines, and phases of the Wellness Centre's construction. A summary of this project plan is included below:

Project Plan Summary:

- **Phase 1:** Planning & Fundraising (*January - December 2024*)
- **Phase 2:** Preconstruction Activities including securing necessary approvals from KSAMC (*Target: January - April 2025*)
- **Phase 3:** Construction Preparation & Execution Phase A, inclusive of site preparation, foundation/structural work and additional fundraising activities to secure the balance of the funds needed to complete construction. (*Target: May to December 2025*)
- **Phase 4:** Construction Preparation & Execution Phase B; Construction and development of key facilities including interior development, landscaping and other exterior work. Will include ongoing fundraising activities. (*Projected: January - September 2026*)

- **Phase 5:** Furnishing, testing & Finalization which will include furnishing of the various offices/space, final safety checks and final inspections and approvals as required. Promotional activities for the space will commence in December 2026. (*Projected: October - December 2026*)
- **Phase 6:** Official launch and operations of the Wellness Centre; includes the implementation of wellness programs and ongoing maintenance and sustainability plans to be implemented. (*Projected: January - July 2027*)

This quarter, our primary fundraising event, the **Ardenne Optima 5K Run**, was successfully held on February 2nd. We extend heartfelt thanks to the Ardenne community for their overwhelming support, participation, and generosity. Full details on the event, including highlights and fundraising results, can be found in a separate section of this newsletter.

As we move forward, we encourage continued support from our alumni, corporate sponsors, and well-wishers. Every contribution—whether through financial support, volunteer efforts, or advocacy—brings us closer to making this vision a reality.

For more information or to support the project, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Ardenne Alumni Foundation. Together, we are building a legacy of wellness for generations to come.

Project Managers

Florence Darby, Attorney-at-Law/Chairman, Ardenne Alumni Foundation
Dean Burrowes, Quantity Surveyor & Project Manager, Ardenne High School

February 14, 2025

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY - OPTIMA 5K RUN



There are off: Runners move off at the start of the Ardenne Optima 5K Run which was held on Sunday, February 2, 2025.

Under the theme - ***A simple act for a significant cause*** - The Ardenne Alumni Foundation is thrilled to announce the successful completion of the second annual Optima 5K Run/Walk, held on Sunday, February 2, 2025. This event marked a significant milestone in our ongoing efforts to raise J\$64 million for the construction of a state-of-the-art Wellness Centre.

Event Highlights:

- **Participation:** The event saw an impressive turnout, with 825 registrants and 465 finishers, reflecting the strong support from our alumni and the wider community.
- **Men's 5K Run:** Garfield Gordon of UCT Steppas clinched first place with a time of 17:37 minutes, closely followed by Kemar Leslie (17:57) and Marvin Hamilton (17:58).
- **Women's 5K Run:** Ardenne alumna Sheree Bryan, representing Trainfit, led the women's category, finishing in 26:55 minutes. She was trailed by Kaelyn Lawes (27:22) and Therese Saunders (27:37).
- **5K Walk Winners:** Paula Sinclair of UCT Steppas emerged victorious in the women's walk, while Duwell Allen of Creation Foods topped the men's category.
- **Team Awards:** Hiitbox Fit was honored as the Champion Team, and Ardenne High School received the Champion School award, showcasing the collective spirit and dedication of our community.



We are deeply grateful for the overwhelming support from Acting Principal Dr. Pinto, our alumni chapters in Toronto, Florida, New York, Canada and Jamaica, as well as local participants. Your unwavering commitment and generosity have been instrumental in driving this initiative forward. *Our thanks to the team members covering Marketing, Sponsorship, Hospitality, Events and Administration - you were all the stars of the show.*

Our initial review indicates a profit from this year staging of the 5K Run, we are still however in the process of completing invoices and collecting outstanding funds. Information on the final accounting will be shared by the end of February 2025 through each Chapter Representative on the Foundation Executive Committee.

As we continue our fundraising efforts, we encourage all alumni to stay engaged and contribute in any way possible. Together, we can realize this vision and leave a lasting legacy for future generations of Ardennites.

For more information on upcoming fundraising activities or to make a donation toward the Wellness Centre project, please contact the Ardenne Alumni Foundation at ardennefoundation@gmail.com.

Thank you for your continued support as we look forward to an even bigger and better event next year!

Additional pictures shown on page 8

WELLNESS CENTRE FINANCIAL TARGET & DONOR BOARD UPDATE

FINANCIAL TARGET UPDATE

PERIOD	AMOUNT RECEIVED	TARGET	FUNDS TO BE RAISED
JANUARY, 2024	\$19,730,481	\$64,000,000	\$44,269,519

All funds are quoted in Jamaican Dollars | No New funds received in the month of January 2025

DONOR BOARD UPDATE:

←-----DONOR CATEGORY-----→

DONOR	BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD	PLATINUM
Paul Barnett Legacy Fund				11,328,695
AAA Chapter Toronto		1,000,000		
AA Chapter Atlanta (US\$19,309)		2,944,623		
AAA Chapter Florida (US\$23,096)			3,466,988	
Audrey Chin (Director - AA Foundation) (US\$5,000)	750,000			
Myrna Merchant on behalf of the Tri-state group (US\$4,700.00)	716,750			
TOTAL	1,466,750	3,944,623	3,466,988	11,328,695

All funds are quoted in Jamaican Dollars

YOU!!!



YOU NEED TO BE REPRESENTED HERE!!!!

DONATE NOW

BECOME PART OF
HISTORY

JOIN THE DONOR
BOARD

SILVER

J\$1,000,000 -
J\$2,999,999

BRONZE

J\$500,000 -
J\$999,999

GOLD

J\$3,000,000 -
J\$9,999,999

PLATINUM

J\$10,000,000
AND OVER

THE ARDENNE WELLNESS CENTRE



For more info call:

+1 (876) 817-4639



ARDENNE ALUMNI
FOUNDATION



ARDENNE ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

ARDENE OPTIMA 5K RUN FEBRUARY 2, 2025



ROAD TO 100 - ARDENNE 100 YEAR CELEBRATION

As we continue on the road on the Road to 100, the fun, the meet and greet continues. Join our Chairman Flo Darby as she journeys to the Florida Chapter's Spring Ting Weekend on February 22, 2025. Come on out to meet and greet Chairman Flo, get updates live and direct on what's happening with your Foundation. **Check out the flyer below. See you there!!**

FLORIDA

ARDENNE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF FLORIDA

SPRING Ting Weekend

SPRING TING AT THE PARK
Saturday **FEB 22** 2025
12PM-5:30PM
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
DJ CAPONE
HOSTED BY
LADY VEE
CONTACT:
MAXINE 954.839.0661
GEORGIA 954.854.4404
CAROL 954.415.7630

ROAD TO ARDENNE 100
1027-2027

WELCOME RECEPTION
Friday **FEB 21** 2025
LA VERANDA 8320 W SUNRISE BLVD PLANTATION, FL 33322

PICNIC MENU PRE-ORDER PREFERRED
FRY FISH
JERK CHICKEN
CURRY GOAT **\$30**
PORK
VEGETARIAN DISH
GREAT FOOD...MUSIC...
GAMES...RAFFLE

SPONSORS:
LYNDEN
HOMETRUST REAL ESTATE INC.
CB SMITH PARK
900 N FLAMINGO RD.
PEMBROKE PINES FL 33028.
PAVILION 22 | \$3 PER VEHICLE.

Zelle: ArdennealumniFlorida@gmail.com

Purchase Tickets Now!!

MEMBERS OF THE FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Officers:

Chairman	- Florence Darby
Deputy Chairman	- Esther Tyson
Corporate Secretary/Accountant	- Rosemarie A. Henry

Directors:

Members:

Jennings ‘Max’ Gordon	- Member, Special Project Committee
Audrey Chin	- Special Projects Director
Vilma McDonald	- Fundraising Director
Jermaine Heslop	- Representative (Jamaica): Ardenne Alumni Association

Chapter Reps:

Florida	-	Dennis Livingston
Atlanta	-	Uton Henry
Toronto	-	Paul Barnett
New York	-	Roan Wallace

Supporting Team:

Office Administrator/Manager	- Sherika Harris
Public Relations Officer	- Marie Nembhard
Editor - Newsletter	- Rosemarie A. Henry

Need to get in touch with the Foundation? Contact details below:



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