

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

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City Takes Tougher Stance on Derelict Properties

In the wake of Mayor Watson's forceful warnings in March about a tougher City stance on vacant, and often derelict, properties throughout the city, a proposed **Strategy to Address Vacant Buildings** was approved by the Community and Protective Services Committee in late April, and subsequently endorsed by full Council on April 24. Despite some predictable sabre rattling on the part of a number of property owners warning of lawsuits should the City pursue an aggressive approach in this area, Council was solidly in favour of measures to strengthen by-law enforcement mechanisms, increase standards applying to vacant properties and tighten up the property tax régime to limit tax concessions for properties left vacant for extended periods (case in point: the long-vacant row on Beechwood's south side). In addition to the proactive enforcement of existing regulatory mechanisms, Council

approved the exploration of possible new measures, including:

- Strengthening the provisions of existing by-laws to require higher standards of maintenance of vacant lands and buildings to prevent deterioration;
- Developing specific standards pursuant to the Ontario Heritage Act for maintenance and repair of heritage buildings (e.g. utilities servicing remain connected);
- Considering a by-law similar to that in place in the City of Winnipeg requiring annual permits for vacant buildings and the payment of associated fees;
- Reviewing the feasibility of requiring that a fire safety plan be in place and that safety systems be maintained; and
- Requesting that the provincial government grant the City the authority to limit property tax reductions on vacant properties.



Photo by Garth Gullekson

Runners in The Ottawa Marathon, part of the Tamarack Ottawa Race Weekend, at the Stanley Park cheering station on May 26, 2013. This cheering station, led by Joseph Cull, is organized by the Crichton Community Council and has been the recipient of the Community Spirit Award given to the best marathon cheering station every year since 2007. They hope to win again this year.

City Planning Department Riddle: When Is a Rule not a Rule?

By Michael Histed
Chair, NECA Heritage and Development Committee

I recently saw a quotation that read "parliamentarians make laws for others and exceptions for themselves." And no, this was not an article about the Senate! This, however, is exactly how we have been feeling regarding our relations with the City of Ottawa planning department.

In the last issue of the NEN, I described challenges with regards to a development proposal at 61 Queen Victoria Street. Since then, NECA and the immediate neighbours have put together and presented excellent arguments against the proposed new house at the rear of the property facing onto River Lane, *based on the City's own By-laws and heritage district rules*. Despite

overwhelming support, including from Councillor Peter Clark, both the Built Heritage Advisory Committee and the Planning Committee approved the development.

How did this happen? Surely the City creates rules to be followed—otherwise why create rules? In the case of 61 Queen Victoria, the City's Planning Department has created excep-

Continued on page 7

Jane's Walk - Bring Back Beechwood

By Bruce Grant

Jane Jacobs is one of my personal heroes. Here's a person who dropped out of university, preferring to take her education in the real world. An intelligent and curious thinker, writer and energetic community activist, she made her mark by overturning all the accepted notions of urban planning. Her writings are now required reading for all students of urbanism and architecture. Jacobs never did complete a university degree, but she did turn down a pile of honorary degrees and held an Order of Canada, among many other honours.

There is no better place to reflect on Jacobs' teachings than Beechwood Avenue, and so on May 5 we held our Jane's Walk. The event was a joint effort of Beechwood Village Alliance (BVA), New Edinburgh Community and Arts Centre (NECTAR) and New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA). Beechwood is beloved as our commercial and social centre, but...oh, there are so many buts: the vacant lots, dead zones, aban-

doned, derelict and burned out buildings.

Our walk was organized by **Isobel Bisby** and led by **Tobi Nussbaum** of the BVA, who is clearly an enthusiastic follower of Jacobs. Additional colourful commentary was inserted by **Bruce White, Bruce Grant, Julie LaPalme, Mark Kaluski, and Councillor Peter Clark**. Over 70 participants attended and coffee donated by Bridgehead was enjoyed in the shade of the abandoned and shuttered Église St. Charles.

Now, what of Beechwood's future? Money talks of course,

and so do the demands of traffic, parking, zoning rules and building codes. Community concerns too should be at the table, but these concerns are often expressed without a clear focus and without always understanding the consequences that flow from choices. This is where the common sense analysis of Jane Jacobs is needed. Dear reader, if you don't have a copy in your library of *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, then you must get one, available at Books on Beechwood.



Photo: Louise Imbeault

Isobel Bisby, Jane's Walk organizer extraordinaire.



**New Edinburgh House
Needs Your Help
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>> See page 28

New Edinburgh's

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Report from NECA Acting President David Sacks

NECA Acting President David Sacks Reports

With summer's approach, blooms return to our lovely park, and construction crews and equipment to our streets. NECA continues to monitor closely several proposed local building projects.

To the great interest of NECA and our whole community, plans for the condominium building at "19 Beechwood Avenue" (the fire site) proceed, if slowly. In May, the developer, Minto, informed us they had finalized their purchase of the site—a step that, as many of us had forgotten, had yet to be completed—and that they would soon reach the next stage in the City's permissions process, which is for the developer to file a "site plan application". Once filed, this paperwork will trigger a public meeting by the City's Urban Design Review Panel, to discuss such planned aspects as (a) the ground-floor use of retail space and (b) the parking-and-traffic configuration. NECA looks forward to reviewing the site-plan application and to attending the public meeting; we hope that some of the concerns raised previously by community residents—such as the building's small number (apparently four) of intended retail spaces, and the hazard of traffic logjams at MacKay Street—will now be addressed by Minto and the City. In monitoring this project, NECA is liaising with the **Beechwood Village Alliance** of concerned area residents.

Less agreeable, in NECA's view, is the progress of the

building proposal for 61 Queen Victoria Street, a property with an L-shaped backyard extending to River Lane. As described in **Heritage and Development Chair Michael Histed's** reports in the April New Edinburgh News and in this issue (**Page 1**), the proposal contains a component that NECA deems simply unacceptable: namely, to legally sever the property's patch alongside River Lane and, through a half-dozen complicated exemptions, apply different zoning rules to that confined area only, so as to allow a new house to be built there, fronting the lane. To build a new home fronting a lane in New Edinburgh is expressly forbidden under the Heritage Conservation District guidelines, yet this basic prohibition is being skirted here by the legal expedient of "spot rezoning". Particularly irksome to us is the City's Planning staff's role in approving—and probably devising in the first place—this spot-rezoning formula.

NECA fears that if the City ultimately allows this one construction, the same spot-rezoning formula could be used over and over, in future years, to build more houses on New Edinburgh lanes. We worry about the precedent being set. However, so far, our City councillors overall have not shared our concerns. On May 14, the **Planning Committee of City Council** voted unanimously to approve the proposal—despite speeches against made by our ward councillor, **Peter Clark**, by neighbor **Dick Palmer** (a beautifully organized and

impassioned plea), by **NECA Past President Joan Mason**, and by me.

On May 22, City Council voted to approve the proposal. NECA and certain neighbours plan to continue to fight it, in the media and through the appeals channels of the City's **Committee of Adjustment** and the **Ontario Municipal Board**.

Bridge of Sighs

Unfortunately, the spectre of the Kettle Island bridge is back, to overshadow neighbourhoods like Manor Park, Vanier and New Edinburgh. Following a years-long, controversial analysis by the Roche-Genivar consultant group, the **National Capital Commission (NCC)** announced in May its official recommendation that the Kettle Island route be chosen for construction of a sixth interprovincial bridge across the Ottawa River, to connect Ottawa with Gatineau. This route would lay down the Ottawa end of the bridge alongside the Aviation Museum, connecting to Montreal Road. The prospects of enormous local traffic, air pollution, and noise, with the ruin of a pristine urban park and the hazard of physical complications for the museum and nearby Montfort Hospital, all combine to make the Kettle Island option highly unpopular among most New Edinburgh residents. There is also the question of how effective it would be anyway, to lighten current truck traffic in Lowertown.

The NCC announcement was preceded by a press release

State of the Park

By Marci Surkes

Summer is nearly upon us, and it is clear the park will be busier than ever with activity! The Friends of the Park would like to graciously thank the nearly two dozen volunteers who joined us—despite overcast and rainy conditions—on May 11 for the annual park and river cleanup. The collective effort spiffed up many of the high-traffic areas in the park, including the playground, riverbank and off-leash area. We would also especially like to thank our community business partners, **Heather from Scone Witch** and **Paul, Carla** and the crew at the **New Edinburgh Pub** for providing hot coffee and yummy scones for our volunteers.

Of course, a one-time cleanup is not sufficient to keep the park looking its best, so we would urge everyone in the community to continue the effort to keep waste and dog refuse in the bins. The City has added additional round cans for the summer season, so let's make sure they get used! The Committee is still looking at options for larger garbage containers with sealed

lids around the off-leash area for dog refuse, and will hopefully be able to provide updates in the next edition of the NEN.

Many residents have emailed to ask about the removal of the large ash trees that separated the soccer pitch from the playground area. We understand those trees, like so many others in the City and in our park, were victims of ash borer, and therefore needed to be cut down. The Committee is working with City officials to push for re-planting in that area, as well as throughout the park where additional trees may have to be removed.

The City maintains an informative series of pages on their website about the emerald ash borer. Check <http://www.ottawa.ca/> for details.

Finally, as a follow-up to an item mentioned in the previous edition, a group of residents is planning a bur snipping party in the park to occur sometime in June, once the bur plants have flowered. If you would like to participate in this "burilla warfare," please email me at Marci.surkes@gmail.com.

Wishing all a wonderful summer in our park and beyond!

questioning the need for a costly bridge, signed by several east-Ottawa community associations, including NECA. Now that the preferred corridor has been identified, NECA is working to fashion a full position on the interprovincial crossing question. Please watch the New Edinburgh website, www.newedinburgh.ca, for announcements on NCC public consultations and for other bridge news in coming weeks.

This NECA report is one of my last to write for you. At the April NECA board meeting, I announced my plan to step down as Acting President in time for our Annual General

Meeting next October; the board has now embarked on informal discussions as to which board member(s) might be willing to run for NECA President. Although I consider it an honour to serve this community and a true pleasure to work with my friends around the board table, I simply am finding the president's duties too onerous atop my day job of teaching university. This June marks for me eight full years at NECA, three-and-a-half of them as president, and the time has come to downshift.

From NECA, best wishes to all for a blissful summer. We'll see you in October.

NECA MEETINGS: All Welcome

The NECA board meets nine times a year, normally on the **third Monday of each month at 7:30 pm**. No meetings in July, August, or December.

Our June board meeting will be held at **St. Bartholomew's Church at 125 MacKay Street**, by kind permission of the church board and warden. Our September meeting will be in **Stanley Park Fieldhouse, at 193 Stanley Avenue**.

Meetings are open to all New Edinburgh residents. Anyone wishing to make a presentation to the board should please contact David Sacks in advance to arrange scheduling. Our next meetings are:

June 17, 2013, 7:30 pm, at St. Bartholomew's
September 16, 2013, 7:30 pm, at the Fieldhouse

Any changes to this schedule would be posted in advance on the New Edinburgh website, www.newedinburgh.ca.

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Re: Rush Hour Editorial

My husband and I regularly read through the NEN to catch up on news in our neighbourhood and pick up any juicy tidbits that we may have missed in conversations with our neighbours. We love New Edinburgh because of its village feel and its real sense of neighbourhood and history. But sometimes that sentiment can get taken too far. We read the guest editorial on pg. 2 of the April edition on the upcoming St. Patrick Street roadwork first with interest, then in distaste, then, upon reflection, in extreme distaste. We understand the sense of NIMBY that is often part and parcel of a neighbourhood newspaper, but this article took that feeling too far. Much too far. It was xenophobic in a way that made us very uncomfortable (although we are not Quebecois and have never lived in Quebec). Like the author, we also live on Crichton St. and are concerned

about increased traffic and speeding. In fact, we live in front of a stop sign that is only occasionally respected and we have toddlers that we have to watch out for. But there is still no call for writing a hate mongering epistle that does nothing to create dialogue about the issue. The question of traffic redirection during reconstruction is an important one and the piece could have been a reasonable article expressing fear of increased traffic in the neighbourhood, and maybe suggesting solutions to the problem created by the necessary roadwork. Instead, it can only have riled hot feelings on all sides and made some, like us, feel uncomfortable with the image of our neighbourhood.

Laura Barnett and Marc d'Orgeville

I have lived at least part time in the New Edinburgh community and environs for a long time. During this period I have become a faithful reader of the News and have long considered it an exemplary community newspaper—and I still do. Might I point out to you that the guest editorial in the most recent issue (Rush Hour) has an unpleasant, even ugly, tone; not in keeping with the generally respectful and toler-

ant values I believe the NECA and NEN promote. Criticism is healthy (the columns on the Minto Beechwood project are good examples), but disrespect is not.

Harry Meredith

No to Kettle Island Bridge

Recently, the National Capital Commission released its recommendation of using the Kettle Island corridor for a proposed east end bridge to Quebec. If built, this would send heavy truck traffic through established family neighbourhoods like New Edinburgh.

I want to state my firm disagreement with this route choice, a position I have held since the 1990s. A Kettle Island bridge is a 1960s solution to a 2013 problem. The route simply spreads the downtown truck problem to yet another neighbourhood.

Taxpayers should be concerned that the cost of this unnecessary bridge has gone up to an estimated \$1 billion. To put this in perspective, the 2013 federal budget promises \$5.35 billion annually in infrastructure spending. This means that the proposed bridge would cost about one fifth of the country-wide infrastructure

spending in a year.

If the federal government has an extra \$1 billion to spend, I would rather see that money spent on improving transit and reducing commute times for Ottawa families, rather than giving truckers and Quebec drivers another route option.

For example, the City of Ottawa has recently started construction on the Confederation Line, a 13 km light rail transit line from Blair to Tunney's Pasture. This world-class system will be up and running in 2018. Instead of building an unnecessary bridge, we could extend this line and deliver light rail transit further east, west and south even sooner.

In my view, the NCC has

not adequately identified and addressed all the negative impacts additional traffic will have on City infrastructure and established neighbourhoods. Further, I'm not satisfied that more creative alternatives, such as a truck tunnel under King Edward Avenue, have been given proper consideration.

The City of Ottawa Transportation Committee will review this issue in June and provide its own recommendations to the NCC. At that time, we will consider public feedback, our own staff's suggestions, and may propose better solutions.

Jim Watson, Mayor of the City of Ottawa

Letter to the Community

As many residents know, on the night of March 14, a serious fire broke out on the roof of our heritage house located at 87 MacKay Street, at the corner of Union Street. Most of the roof and a good deal of the interior were badly damaged. Right after the fire, many members of our community expressed deep concern and sympathy. A letter to the *New Edinburgh News* seemed the best way of communicating with our community in the fire's aftermath.

Some people—unfortunately we do not even know their names!—very generously donated to a fund at our local caterers, 42 Crichton, run by our friend Susan Jessup. We were astonished to discover that over \$300 had accumulated to help our family through the rough patches that inevitably lie ahead after a fire on the scale we experienced.

Not only that, but a few days after the fire, David Sacks, our ever-attentive Chair of the New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA), turned up at the door of the house where friends had taken us in, with a bottle of scotch in one hand and a fine bottle of wine in the other, along with a further donation at a local

caterer's—gifts from wonderful colleagues on the Board of Directors of NECA.

Other friends brought over baked goods, loaned us their cars, offered their houses as temporary residences, made soup, dropped off food, helped us (in the freezing cold) to carry endless boxes out of the basement that had been a foot deep in water, washed out jars, and supported us in other ways too numerous to mention. We were flooded with so many emails that we were unable to keep up.

Some people we have been able to thank directly, but others remain anonymous. We are writing this on behalf of our entire family to express our thanks to all those people who have helped us both materially and emotionally in so many ways. We have lived in New Edinburgh for almost 25 years, and always known it to be a special place, but we never dreamed that so many people would rally to us in the ways that they did.

Many residents have since asked, "What's happening to the house?" Briefly, restoration lies ahead, and the process has begun. We regret that some neighbours will be inconvenienced in early June as a sec-

tion of MacKay Street will be temporarily closed to permit work on the demolition of the roof and its reconstruction. We hope the new roof—a replica of the previous one—will be in place by mid-summer, at which point the serious internal restoration can commence. There is a lot to do, as the damage from smoke, fire and water was extensive.

It's going to be a fairly long haul. We have been fortunate to be able to engage Barry Padolsky, a highly reputed Ottawa architect who, with colleagues in his firm, is developing the detailed plans for restoration, respecting the heritage values of the house. Another positive note is that it seems the City of Ottawa has been supportive of our desire to restore this heritage landmark.

Current estimates are that the rebuilding of the house and restoration of the garden should be completed by the summer of 2014. By then, we hope the fountain that many people may have noticed in our front yard will be playing again, to welcome neighbors and passersby once more.

With warmest thanks to our wonderful neighbours and friends,
Barbara Laskin, Bora, Genny and Tim Plumptre

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From the Desk of Mayor Jim Watson



Ottawa to Celebrate in 2017

By Mayor Jim Watson

When I was six years-old, Montreal hosted Expo 67. Visitors and locals alike enjoyed an amazing celebration while the eyes of the world watched. As a kid, I was swept up in the excitement of the Expo and count that feeling as one of my earliest memories. It left a lasting impression on me and I've never forgotten how a world-class event can transform a city.

In 2017, Canada will celebrate 150 years since the signing of the *British North America Act* and the creation of our country. As the capital of Canada, I want to make Ottawa the focal point of these anniversary celebrations. Our city is known for its annual Canada

Day celebration but I want to extend that celebratory spirit to the entire year of 2017.

In the lead-up to 2017 we have already been aggressive in pursuing major events for Ottawa. The City, in partnership with Ottawa Tourism, created Events Ottawa which is guided by a simple strategy: bid more, win more, host more. Already this has borne fruit as seen by the 2012 NHL All-Star Game, the 2012 JUNO Awards, and the 2013 IIHF Women's World Championships all having come to Ottawa. And for 2017, we have already confirmed several events including:

- 2017 Annual Association of Municipalities of Ontario Conference

- Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Annual Conference and Tradeshow, and
- Canadian Whitewater Canoe and Kayak National Championships.

To coordinate the City's efforts and plan for 2017, we have set up a task force led by Councillors Katherine Hobbs and Rainer Bloess. It has already begun to meet regularly to discuss other major events and conferences that should be bid on, but those are only part of what we want to bring to Ottawa in 2017. The larger goal is to realize former Convention Centre Chair and Member of Parliament Jean Pigott's dream of Ottawa being every Canadian's second hometown. In 2017, we want Canadians to be especially proud to call it so.

We have ideas already as to how we can make 2017 a year to remember in Ottawa, but we want to hear your ideas as well. Are there festivals, events, concerts, or cultural celebrations you think would make for great additions to Ottawa in 2017? If there are, or if you would like to share any ideas you have for Ottawa in 2017, please send me an email at Jim.Watson@Ottawa.ca.

For more information please visit www.ottawa2017.ca.

From the Desk of...



Mauril Bélanger
Member of Parliament for
Ottawa-Vanier



A Bridge at Kettle Island Is Not an Option Un pont à l'île Kettle, ce n'est pas une option

Le français suit

I have always supported the construction of a new bridge to get the heavy trucks out of the core of the city. I cannot however support an option which would put them in another community, thus ruling out option 5 (Kettle Island corridor).

In 1995, I stated publicly that I was against a bridge at Kettle Island, via the Aviation Parkway. I have not changed my mind and I am always against this option because it only spreads a problem without solving it.

In the absence of a sound planning of our transportation corridors from the NCC, I add my voice to those who advocate the abandonment of this project and urge the Ontario

government not to finance a bridge at Kettle Island.

* * *

J'ai toujours appuyé la construction d'un nouveau pont interprovincial entre Ottawa et Gatineau pour éviter de faire passer les camions lourds par le centre-ville. Cependant, je ne peux appuyer une option qui les ferait passer par une autre communauté et par conséquent j'écarte l'option 5 (corridor de l'île Kettle).

En 1995, je m'étais prononcé publiquement contre un pont à la hauteur de l'île Kettle, sur la promenade de l'Aviation. Je n'ai pas changé d'idée et suis toujours contre cette option car elle ne fait que répandre un problème sans toutefois le solutionner.

En l'absence d'une planification saine de nos corridors de transport de la part de la CCN, je joins ma voix à celles qui recommandent l'abandon de ce projet et enjoins le gouvernement de l'Ontario à ne pas financer un pont à la hauteur de l'île Kettle.

*Hon. / L'hon. Mauril Bélanger,
M.P. / député
Ottawa-Vanier*

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Ottawa City Councillor Peter Clark Reports

Residents invited to attend Emerald Ash Borer information session

River Ward City Councillor Maria McRae, Chair of the City's Environment Committee, invites residents to attend an information session on the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in June.

Since 2008, this invasive insect has spread across Ottawa. The presence of EAB poses a serious threat to Ash trees located on both public and private properties. Residents are invited to attend a public information session on **June 4**, to learn more about the impacts on their community, what the City is doing to address this situation and what residents can do to help mitigate the impact that this pest is having on our Ash trees.

When: June 4, 2013, 4:30 to 9 pm, staff presentation followed by a Q & A session beginning at 7 pm.
Where: Jim Durrell Recreation Complex, Ellwood Hall, 1265 Walkley Road

The City of Ottawa continues to implement its Council-approved EAB management strategy, which includes tree injection, tree planting, selective tree removal and controlling the movement of infected wood. The City is proactively identifying areas for Ash tree injection and interplanting to reduce the impact on our forest cover by this invasive species.

For more information, please visit ottawa.ca or call 3-1-1.

Rideau River Crossing: Multi-Use Pathway and Donald Street Reconstruction - Range Road to North River Road

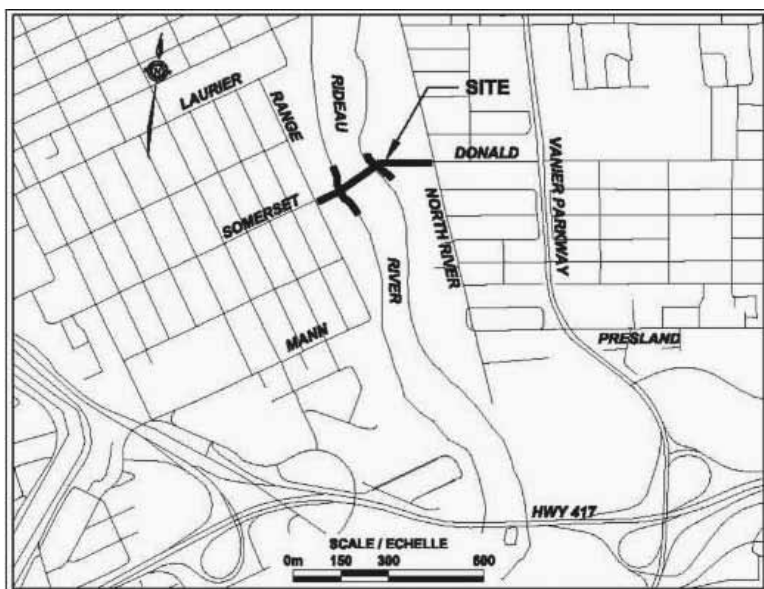
An Open House will take place on **Monday, June 10, 2013, from 7 to 9:00 pm** at the Overbrook Community Centre, 33 Quill Street, Ottawa.

The Project: The City of Ottawa has identified a requirement for a multi-use pathway connection between Range Road and North River Road. An Environmental Study Report was completed in January 2012. This project will include a new multi-use pathway including a bridge crossing the Rideau River and connections to existing pathways on the east and west side of the river. The project also includes the resurfacing of the parking lot at Strathcona Park and the reconstruction of Donald Street.

Consultation: Members of the public, agencies and other interested persons are encouraged to participate in the Public Open House. The Public Open House for this project will be held on June 10, 2013 to review plans displaying existing conditions and preliminary design information on the scope and limits of the proposed works. You will have the opportunity to discuss the project with the City and Design Team Members and bring forth any issues that you may have.

If you have any project-related questions, or have any accessibility requirements in order to participate in this project, please contact the Project Manager, Jeffrey Waara, at the following coordinates.

Jeffrey Waara, P.Eng. Senior Project Manager, City of Ottawa Infrastructure Services Department, 613-580-2424 ext.27805, Jeffrey.Waara@ottawa.ca



Beechwood Development Project Updates: Things Are Rolling on Beechwood At Last

By Jane Heintzman

The Kavanaugh

Domicile's **David Chick** reports that the company is on the point of moving its Sales Centre for *The Kavanaugh* down the street to the site of the present 84 and 86 Beechwood. Domicile has just concluded a leasing agreement with Claude Lauzon and Claude Lauzon Groupe Limitée, enabling them to demolish the existing buildings and to relocate their Sales Centre, lock, stock and barrel, on to the Lauzon property. Demolition permits were pending when we went to press, and the process was expected to begin shortly.

According to David, the company has confirmed with CDS Movers that the Centre can be moved down the street intact, and plans are in place to undertake the process on a quiet, low traffic Sunday to minimize disruption. Once the Sales Centre has been removed from 222 Beechwood, it will be full steam ahead for construction on the site. David promises that the "pace there will accelerate to top speed and the Kavanaugh presence will rise again, this time in the form of our new development."

Condo sales in the new development continue to be strong, but there are still a number of attractive suites remaining from which to choose. Check out www.thekavanaugh.ca or call the Sales Centre at 613-897-7873 or 613-868-7597. At the same time, discussions with prospective retailers are ongoing and while there are as yet no confirmed commercial occupants, David reports that

he is "confident the right tenants for us and for Beechwood will come on board." Amen to that, and the sooner the better!

Minto Development at 19 Beechwood

Minto Development Manager **Kevin Harper** reports that Minto now officially owns the fire-ravaged property at Beechwood and MacKay Streets, and is delighted to be part of our community. As anticipated in our last issue, the zoning by-law amendments requested by Minto for its mixed commercial/residential redevelopment of the site were approved by Council, and the company is expecting to receive Site Plan approval from the City later this summer.

NECA's Heritage and Development Committee has now received copies of the Site Plan, and the City has requested comments by **June 10th** in preparation for a decision by **July 23rd**. The basic project details remain the same as those presented at the community consultation:

- eight storey with partial ninth storey, 3-5 storey podium along MacKay, five storey podium along Beechwood
- 3 commercial spaces (but only along Beechwood, which seems contrary to the earlier Minto promise of some shops on MacKay)
- 157 residential units, 188 parking spaces (26 for retail)
- 2 levels of underground parking, with 5 visitor spots
- 88 bicycle spaces

For more details on the Site plan, interested readers can

contact Acting NECA President David Sacks at dsacks1776@aol.com.

According to Kevin, work is about to begin on the Minto Sales Centre, which will occupy the former Beechwood premises of Hamie's Diner and Bread and Roses Bakery. The Sales Centre should be completed by the end of the summer, and building and suite designs are currently being finalized in anticipation of a sales launch in September. Response to Minto's pre-sale registration has reportedly been extraordinary, with considerable interest being expressed in the chance to purchase prior to the open sale to the public. Interested readers can track the progress of the development or register for the project at www.mintobeechwood.com. In the interim prior to our next issue in October, we'll keep you posted on any major project news on the community website at www.newedinburgh.ca.



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Bluesfest's Burgh Connection

By Jane Heintzman

Many readers may remember Crichton Street resident **Gary Firth** as the velvet-voiced DJ who kept the hits of the '50s and '60s rolling at the hugely successful Cocktails for Crichton fundraising dance/auction in October 2010. If you thought he did the job with all the charm and *savoir faire* of a professional, you were right—he is a professional with a long career in the music

Cooper (bedecked with a massive snake graciously gifted to Gary), and the inimitable Dolly Parton. Another wall is replete with gold and platinum records awarded to Gary's radio stations as recognition for being first in the business to air the hits in question, including mega-hits by Roberta Flack and Nick Gilder, among many others.

Not surprisingly, given his career-long immersion in the

days to over 300,000 in recent years. The number of performers has increased in lockstep, to the point that over 200 acts are currently scheduled for this year's festival, which runs from July 4 to 14.

In contrast to the often tenuous financial footing of some of the other local summer festivals, a five-year title sponsorship arrangement with RBC Royal Bank has afforded Bluesfest much-needed financial security, and with the acquisition of Bell as an important sponsor this year, organizers have been able to drop the prices of festival passes, as well as to offer 3- and 5-day passes to those unable to take in the whole 10-day show.

Needless to say, the production of a 10-day event with hundreds of artists performing on six stages (all of them on the property of the Canadian War Museum) requires an extraordinary amount of planning and sheer manpower. Thanks to its immense popularity as a musical mecca, Ottawa Bluesfest has attracted a small army of over 3,500 committed volunteers who work thousands of hours to make the festival happen, and to ensure that all goes as smoothly as possible.

With reference to the freak stage collapse of 2011, Gary notes that a provincial government report on the incident placed the blame squarely on the violent microburst that preceded the accident, as opposed to the design of the stage. The festival has, however, made a



Bluesfest mover and shaker Gary Firth has many friends in the biz ... like Alice Cooper.

few changes in its procedures, installing weather vanes on all the stages and retaining a meteorologist on site to monitor weather conditions on an ongoing basis. A change has also been made in the company from which the stages are rented.

Gary's primary role with Bluesfest is to produce and direct a promotional video version of the festival which captures the highlights of the event and provides vignettes of the artists to give viewers everywhere a sense of what it's like to be part of the action here in Ottawa. His DVD, based on Bluesfest 2012, is hot off the press with a scheduled launch date of June 11. At the time of our interview, Gary was on the point of completing a deal with Universal Studios to market and distribute the video throughout North America. Plans are also afoot to get the DVD on digital distribution points such as iTunes.

Producing the promotional Bluesfest DVD is a complex and lengthy process, beginning with a round of negotiations with a selection of the artists to obtain their permission to have their performances filmed live, and to provide interview clips for the DVD. In many cases, these permissions are only given on the day of the performance, and artist selections may also be made on the spur of the moment, so flexibility and spontaneity are the order of the day for Gary and his technical team. The next challenge is the live filming and recording on site at the festival. Gary reports that this can be a physically demanding exercise involving sprints among the five stages, and can also be susceptible to the occasional glitch in the special audio feed that is run for the video.

Once the festival is over and the filming is completed, Gary has a six month job remixing the audio and selecting the best tracks from the live performances. Each of these selections must then be approved by the artist in question, and this, apparently, is no easy task

as the groups move around in the perpetual motion of concert tours. With these approvals in hand, Gary can then produce a rough cut of the video in his own home studio (thanks to the miracles of computer technology) before sending it out to the production company, Liverpool Court Studios here in Ottawa, to turn out the finished product.

Gary's Bluesfest 2012 DVD features 19 of the bands from last year's festival, including such artists as K'Naan, Blue Rodeo, Rich Aucoin, Metric, the Sam Roberts Band and the Monophonics. As Ottawa Bluesfest is a registered charity, the proceeds from sales of the DVD will be donated to music education programs for children and youth, specifically, "Blues in the Schools" and "Be in the Band." The latter program is directed to at risk youth, focusing not only on musical development, but also on life skills and the training in the discipline of working as part of a group. Interested readers can purchase the DVD at the Bluesfest online store at store.ottawabluesfest.ca or at local record stores after the official launch on June 11.

Gary is enthusiastic about this summer's action-packed festival, the theme of which (appropriately enough, given the setting of the event) is *Take Me to the River*. Recently announced headliners on the opening day, July 4, will be the Black Keys, and the countless other acts will include such notables as the legendary B.B. King, Mitch Ryder and the Detroit Wheels, the Tragically Hip, Great Big Sea, Grand Trunk Railroad, Tegan and Sarah, Weezer, Eric Burden, the Dixie Chicks, Kenny Wayne Shepherd, and Ronny Earle and the Broadcasters. For all the details, check out the Bluesfest website at www.ottawabluesfest.ca. We wish Gary good luck and good weather for Bluesfest 2013, and look forward to viewing his video re-creation of the event this time next year.



Crichton Street resident Gary Firth is also quite at home at the radio station.

business. Before moving to Ottawa with his wife Angela, a senior Foreign Service officer, Gary operated major radio stations in Phoenix, Detroit and Houston, and owned a record company based in Poland, which he subsequently sold to Warner Brothers.

Gary's Crichton Street home office/recording studio is a testament to his background in the biz, with a star-studded photo wall featuring the likes of Bruce Springsteen, Alice

popular music world, Gary's current activities include a major role as Director of Broadcast & Digital Media for the **RBC Royal Bank Ottawa Bluesfest**, a local success story which is now the largest blues festival in the country, and the second largest in North America. In the two decades since the event was first launched, the audience for Ottawa Bluesfest has grown exponentially from a modest 5,000 in its early

Established in Ottawa since 1990, le Saint-Ô is a fine dining French Restaurant that has retained its rustic and intimate setting reflecting the restaurants of southern France. The Saint-Ô menu innovates with the seasons, and is punctuated with an impressive wine list. Conducive to intimate dinners, a soirée with friends or an important business dinner, le Saint-Ô and its staff are ready and at your service.

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Planning Riddles...

Continued from page 1

tion after exception to allow this particular development:

- The area between Stanley, Sussex, MacKay and Dufferin is a Heritage Conservation District—that means no new construction. In the case of 61 Queen Victoria, the Planning Department changed the zoning for that property alone, thus permitting new construction and allowable property set-backs, something we have called “spot zoning”.
- River Lane is a lane. Before you all say that’s obvious—well evidently not to the Planning Department. In order to permit parking for the new house (not permitted on a designated “lane”), Planning changed the designation for this short section of the lane to a “street”, thus permitting parking.

Remarkably, Planning also makes reference to new sections of the zoning By-laws that are not even posted yet—how do you work with that? It often feels as if the cards are stacked against us. Isn’t the

purpose of By-laws to ensure *fair* and *consistent* application of standards?

Despite these constant road-blocks, NECA and the members of the Heritage and Development Committee, as well as neighbours, all give up their spare time to protect the neighbourhood we have all come to love; attending City of Ottawa Planning meetings during work hours, and holding strategy meetings at night and on weekends. This should not go unnoticed.

So how do we work with a system where the rules are not applied by the regulators who

are supposed to enforce them? I must admit to not having the answer. I do know, however, that NECA will continue to fight on behalf of the community, and the homes and heritage that we so love in New Edinburgh.

As for 61 Queen Victoria, I hope the fight is not over yet. The precedents of this development will impact all of us in New Edinburgh. This is not a case of “Not in My Back Yard”. This could open up all the lanes in New Edinburgh to new development. We cannot and should not allow this to happen.



61 Queen Victoria - A new infill is proposed for the part of the property backing onto River Lane.

Riverbank Cleanup 2013

By Gemma Kerr

We weren’t able to work on the steep parts of the river bank on May 11 because heavy rain the night before made it too slick underfoot. Other than that, however, there was lots of good news: the rain stopped before we got started; nearly two dozen volunteers came out to comb the park and accessible river bank for garbage and recyclables; and there was much less to pick up than we remember finding in previous years.

Many thanks to all of the May 11 volunteers, and bravo also to the people who made our job easier by picking up tossed items during the rest

of the year. We are also very grateful to the Scone Witch and the New Edinburgh Pub for providing nibbles and hot coffee, which we all enjoyed in the warmth inside the Fieldhouse. See you again next year!



Introducing: For Our Grandchildren (4RG)

For Our Grandchildren was established in 2006, and then incorporated as a non-profit organization in 2009. Our mission is to empower grandparents to take the urgent action needed to address the causes of climate change and avert the potentially catastrophic consequences for our grandchildren.

The organization is endorsed by prominent public figures, such as Archbishop Desmond Tutu, David Suzuki and Stephen Lewis. *For Our Grandchildren* (4RG) works closely with similar organi-

zations in Australia, Norway and Sweden, all committed to ensuring a better world for our grandchildren.

For more details on our work and to sign up for the newsletter go to: www.fourgrandchildren.ca or visit our Facebook Page.

Local contact: **Hugh Robertson 747-0334.**

Editor’s Note: *Hugh Robertson is well known to NEN readers as the author of an extensive series of thought-provoking articles on climate change, all of which have appeared in*

these pages over the past six years. Hugh has joined forces with a group of like-minded environmental activists, all of them grandparents, who are committed to pursuing a campaign of education and action to address the challenges of advancing climate change and avert disaster for future generations. We invite all interested grandparents out there to contact Hugh if they’d like to participate in “For Our Grandchildren.”

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St. Brigid School Counting on Community These Are Exciting Times at Heartwood House!

What happens when you combine the local business community, committed parent volunteers and school staff with 275 bright, enthusiastic kids? An amazing opportunity to do good.

With the support of staff at St. Brigid School on Springfield Road, a group of parents formed the Playground Renewal Committee and began a fundraising effort to rebuild a play structure and create a welcoming play environment.

The play structure at St. Brigid was deemed unsafe and taken down before the start of the 2012 school year. The school uses this space during the school day as a reward, just for fun and to re-energize students. The play structure and other play environments on the property are available for use outside of school hours, as it is not fenced in, and is used by the neighbouring community year-round.

Currently, all that remains is sand where the former structure once stood. "Our children lack the social and physical benefits of outdoor play. The children want their play structure back and an inviting area in which to play. Parents were disappointed to see the old structure go, but are also very excited about new possibilities to build a new one and surrounding areas to meet growing outdoor play needs," said Angela Christiano, Chair of the Playground Renewal Committee. Teachers and staff also see potential for enhancements to the outdoor space to benefit the children through other uses: outdoor classrooms, shade zones and nature pathways.

Purchase and installation of a new play structure is expensive. The committee has been intensifying efforts to raise necessary funds to rebuild the playground and, as part of that

process, applied to the TVO Kids program Giver. Last season the TVO Kids show built 13 amazing playgrounds across Ontario with help from communities, volunteers and Giver kids! This year, they had over 200 applicants across Ontario and have selected St. Brigid as one of the ten 2013 Playground rebuilds. The students, teachers, parents and staff are preparing for production. All that needs to be done in a short time to get the playground made, as filming will take place this June.

The Committee is looking to the community and local businesses to raise the remaining funds with individual and corporate support. In addition to donations to help reach their goal by June, the committee will need many volunteers for the build and activities associated with the production such as: construction assistance, hotel accommodations for the crew of 10 and restaurants/catering service for breakfast and lunches during the shoot dates in June.

"We are confident the school and local community will come together to be part of this initiative that will result in a great playground for the students of St. Brigid and the community to enjoy for years to come!" added Angela Christiano.

To make a donation or contribute in other ways, contact Angela Christiano, Chair of the Playground Renewal Committee via email achristiano@summa.ca or by phone 613-290-0307.

For more information on the playground renewal committee and their efforts, visit playgroundrenewal.wordpress.com and show your support by liking them on Facebook.

By Isobel Bisby, Heartwood Board Member

In the past year, Heartwood House successfully negotiated the purchase of its own building, thereby raising the bar for small charities, and providing a home for a community of 18 small, like-minded organizations to work together under one roof for the foreseeable future. It is our fervent goal to move this community of non-profits and charities to our new home by July 2013.

We are most grateful to the Ontario Trillium Foundation, which approved funds to begin the renovation. Various levels of government have provided grants, most recently for an elevator. Our business partnership with the Unitarian Fellowship of Ottawa, whereby they share ownership of the building, also significantly contributes to infrastructure renovation. Our financial advisors, legal support, interior designers and numerous other professional and trades service providers have been most generous by providing "pro bono" services.

Heartwood Fundraising Committee is a dedicated team of volunteers. Raising \$800,000 to complete the renovations is a challenging task but we have already raised \$582,000 and are certain we

can reach our goal with the support of the Ottawa community. Many public figures have expressed support and admiration including Mayor Jim Watson, Councillors Peter Clarke and Mathieu Fleury, as well as community leaders in the Vanier/Overbrook communities.



Shalma Reynolds (left) and Isobel Bisby sold hostas during the recent community plant sale in support of Heartwood House.

We began our Capital Campaign by collecting TOONIES... over \$2,000 of them! During the winter holiday season people purchased square feet to renovate Heartwood – socially responsible giving that we greatly appreciate. The monthly fundraising buffet suppers at the Golden India Restaurant in our new building are proving very popular—a win/win event for the owner and Heartwood. This summer we are asking Friends of Heartwood to host **Runaway Garden Parties** with Silent Auctions all over the city, to raise the funds to complete the work of turning our warehouse into offices, classrooms, meeting rooms, a child care facility, etc. The **first party will be on June 9**, in the garden I share with good friend and neighbour Margo Silver and our respective partners. Please do join us. **Tickets can be purchased at Books on Beechwood.**

Editor's note: Heartwood House provides affordable accommodation for non-profit, charitable organizations—sharing resources and facilities to deliver a wide range of services. Their new facility is located in Vanier on MacArthur Blvd.

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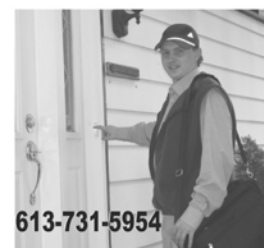
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Centième anniversaire de Stornoway

Par Michel Prévost, archiviste en chef de l'Université d'Ottawa

Stornoway, située au 541, avenue Acacia, dans le chic quartier boisé de Rockcliffe Park, s'avère reconnue comme étant la résidence officielle du chef de l'opposition parlementaire canadienne. Cette somptueuse maison doit aussi sa célébrité pour avoir hébergé pendant la Seconde Guerre mondiale, l'héritière du trône des Pays-Bas, la princesse Juliana et sa famille.

On connaît toutefois beaucoup moins le fait que l'édifice est lié au patrimoine franco-ontarien. En effet, le monument historique, érigé en 1913-1914, selon les plans de l'architecte renommé Allan Kiefer, loge la famille d'Ascanio J. Major, un des hommes d'affaires les plus influents de la capitale fédérale. Major dirige la National Grocers, l'une des plus importantes chaînes d'épicerie de l'Empire britannique. Major, un des plus illustres diplômés de l'Université d'Ottawa à son époque, est considéré comme l'un des premiers Franco-Ontariens à devenir millionnaire. Il repose dans un mausolée à l'entrée du cimetière Notre-Dame d'Ottawa.

En 1923, la famille Perley-Robertson achète la propriété et lui donne le nom de Stornoway, en souvenir de leur lieu d'origine, en Écosse. En 1941, les Perley-Robertson prêtent leur domicile à la prin-

cesse Juliana qui doit vivre avec ses enfants, hors de son pays occupé par les Nazis jusqu'en 1945. Juliana sera reine des Pays-Bas de 1948 à 1980.

Le sénateur Grattan O'Leary lance en 1946, une campagne de financement pour acheter une résidence afin de loger le chef de l'opposition. L'argent ramassé est déposé dans un fonds en fiducie. C'est avec ce fonds privé que l'on acquiert en 1950, la maison de l'avenue Acacia pour accueillir le chef du parti conservateur, George Drew. Cet ancien premier ministre de l'Ontario y réside jusqu'en 1956. Par la suite, plusieurs chefs de l'opposition

Nouveau Parti démocratique réside à Stornoway.

Le gouvernement canadien achète la propriété en 1970 et la Commission de la capitale nationale assure, depuis 1986, la gestion de cette résidence officielle.

Le public ne peut pas visiter l'intérieur de la maison centenaire, qui se distingue par son vaste hall d'entrée, son majestueux escalier en bois, son grand salon et sa magnifique salle à diner, dotée d'une très belle fenêtre panoramique. Ce monument, riche en histoire canadienne et en patrimoine, est protégé depuis 1986 par les générations à venir.



Photo: Louise Imbeault

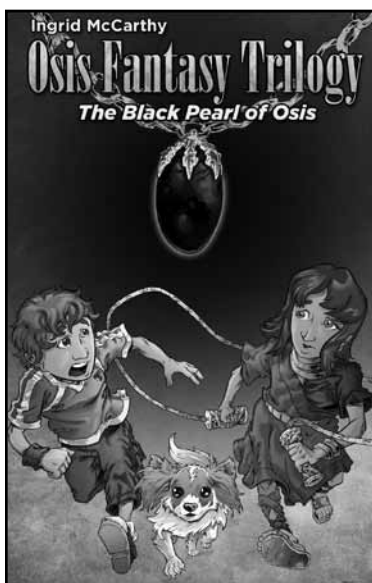
La résidence officielle du chef de l'opposition (1913-2013).

et futurs premiers ministres, notamment Lester B. Pearson et John Diefenbaker, occupent les lieux. Actuellement, la résidence officielle est occupée par le chef de l'opposition, Thomas Mulcair. Soulignons que c'est la première fois qu'un chef du

Vous pouvez joindre Michel Prévost aux Archives de l'Université d'Ottawa, 100 Marie-Curie, salle 012, **michel.prevast@uottawa**, tél. : 613-562-5825.

school year.

Ingrid will also be in touch with **Books on Beechwood** to ensure that the new editions are readily available to local readers, as the original versions were ten years ago when the community scooped up over 200 copies. We wish Ingrid the best of luck with this reissue of her novels, and look forward to future works on her literary agenda.



10th Anniversary Reissue of Ingrid McCarthy's Trilogy

Ingrid McCarthy is well known in our community as the talented director of the former **New Edinburgh Players**, an acclaimed amateur theatre company with a 33-year history of annual fundraising performances in our neighbourhood. What may be less widely known is that Ingrid is a published author of children's fiction, with an extremely successful trilogy of fantasy novels to her credit. A decade ago, **The Black Pearl of Osis**, the first Volume in the **Osis Fantasy Trilogy**, made its début in local bookstores, followed shortly thereafter by Volumes Two and Three, **The Curse of Lake Osis** and **The Battle of Osis** respectively. The novels are pitched to 9-11 year olds (though they have also proven immensely popular with adult readers), and chronicle the adventures of central characters Jonathan and

Magenta as they pursue their quest to destroy the evil power of the Black Pearl of Osis.

In celebration of this 10th anniversary year, Ingrid has revised and republished the trilogy with new, eye-catching covers, which are showcased in a promotional YouTube video as well as on Ingrid's updated website at **ingridmccarthy.com**. She has also produced a comprehensive Teachers' Activity and Resource Guide for Volume One of the trilogy, and plans to be in contact with schools in our community, including Manor Park, St. Brigid and Rockcliffe Park in the course of the spring. When the novels were initially published 10 years ago, she gave numerous readings at the schools, and looks forward to meeting a whole new generation of Grade 4/5 students to introduce the updated versions in the coming



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BURGH BUSINESS BRIEFS

- By Jane Heintzman -

Bread and Roses Bakery: The Famine is Nearly Over!

After a three-month hiatus, while the new premises for **Bread and Roses** at **323 St. Laurent Blvd.** were completely overhauled and new equipment ordered and installed in its state-of-the-art commercial kitchen, **Chris Green** reports that he is hopeful that the bakery will reopen in the week of May 21. If all goes as planned, and the final equipment glitches are resolved and necessary permits obtained, the doors of the new location will be open by the time this edition is in circulation, and we can look forward to stocking our larders once again with our favourite specialty breads, baked treats and savoury pies and quiches.

Apparently, I am not alone in having experienced severe deprivation over the past three months without my Bread and Roses staples (notably ginger cookies and gluten-free bread). Chris reports that a regular stream of loyal clients has been dropping by throughout the construction period to check on progress and anxiously inquire about when the shelves will once again be stocked with all their favourite baked items. Chances are that once the doors have opened, the new location will be deluged with what economists refer to as "pent up demand," as both the former clientele from our neighbourhood and an enthusiastic new contingent from

Manor Park and beyond converge on Bread and Roses to admire the freshly-minted new premises and load up on baked supplies.

Chris' team has expanded slightly since the closure of the Beechwood location. On hand at the St. Laurent Blvd. store will be bakers **Norbert** and **Jacek**, sales team **Meaghan**, **Camille**, **Connor**, **Vicky**, **Nigel** and **Lee Lin**, and kitchen helper **Christopher**. Thanks to top-of-the-line facilities in the bakery's new custom designed commercial kitchen, Chris and his crew will be offering an expanded selection of soups, quiches, savoury pies, chili and sandwiches, which you can sit and enjoy right in the bakery, along with a freshly brewed cappuccino or latte. And as the weather warms up in the course of the summer, both staff and clients need no longer swelter in the combined heat of the ovens and the summer sun, as the store is now equipped with an efficient air-conditioning system.

It's been a long and rocky road for Chris since the fateful Beechwood fire of 2011. As readers may know, he has made a heroic effort, initially to survive and grow the business in his Beechwood location despite unrelieved pressures from the property owners, and more recently, to undertake a major renovation and refurbishing of his new premises—a process full of

its own challenges, but one which he hopes will trigger a whole new phase of prosperity and growth for this landmark business. We wish Chris and his team the best of luck in the coming months, and want them to know that they can rest assured: we'll be back—in force!

Studio One Personal Training: New Arrival on Beechwood!

We wish a warm welcome to Personal Trainer **Craig Adams**, owner/operator of Beechwood's newest business, **Studio One Personal Training**, which opened its doors at 1 Springfield Road (above the **Second Cup**) in late April. In the weeks prior to the opening, Craig's team was hard at work transforming the nearly 1,000 square foot space from its previous incarnation as a clothing and accessories outlet to a fully equipped, air conditioned gym/exercise area, complete with full bathroom, shower and change rooms. The new studio is now up and running, offering customized workouts and nutrition counselling on a one-on-one basis, or to couples or small groups. Interested readers can check out all the details at www.studioonept.com.

Craig has worked as a Personal Trainer for the past five years, balancing his communications studies at the University of Ottawa with a busy training schedule serving



Photo: Louise Imbeault

Bread and Roses owner Chris Green had to try getting himself "half baked" before testing the oven on real dough. His new facility should be opening very soon, if it is not already!

a growing clientele of professionals. He first attained his PT certification in 2006 from the International Sports Sciences Association (ISSA), one of the original certifying bodies and now internationally recognized in both North America and Europe as an accredited organization in this rapidly growing field. In addition to the intensive courses associated with fitness and strength training, Craig reports that maintaining his certification also requires a regular updating of his credentials in CPR, First Aid and the protocols for use of a defibrillator—critical skills whose importance was underscored this winter in the context of two near tragedies at area gyms.

Craig's colleague at Studio One, **Rebecca Nicklin**, was also certified as a PT through the ISSA, and trained for the rigorous police fitness competency examinations while completing her Police Foundations Diploma at Algonquin College. While Craig and Rebecca will each work with their respective clienteles, they also plan to operate in tandem to cover

one another's appointments in the case of illness or holidays to avoid any interruption of clients' routines.

Before designing a fitness program for an individual client, Craig begins the process by collecting a basic medical history and lifestyle profile (stress levels, eating, drinking and smoking habits, etc.), followed by a baseline test of flexibility and cardiovascular fitness. In some cases, he recommends that the clients have a general physical exam before starting their exercise regimen, simply to ensure that he has clear guidelines for determining the nature and intensity of the techniques to be used in their customized workouts.

Important as the strength, flexibility and fitness components of his programs undoubtedly are, Craig believes that their predominant value may in some cases lie in the nutritional and lifestyle support that is an integral part of the process. His basic approach in this area, focused as it is on the overall mental and emotional wellbeing of his client, is to regard the process as a



Photo: Louise Imbeault

Studio One owner Craig Adams and assistant trainer Rebecca Nicklin are enjoying being part of the Village. The studio at 1A Springfield above the Second Cup was totally renovated.

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marathon, not a sprint, starting with small changes in diet or lifestyle “within the emotional range” of the client, and gradually building on these, week by week, until new and healthier lifelong habits are able to take root. Because Craig is acutely aware of and attuned to the individual differences among his clients, it might be fair to say that no two of his nutrition/lifestyle/fitness programs will be exactly alike, but rather each will reflect the specific needs, capacities and objectives of the individual client.

One such client, who has been working with Craig for two years and plans to continue his program at the new Studio One, is **Aly-Khan Rajani**. Aly-Khan is impressed by Craig’s ability to really listen to his clients’ individual concerns and objectives, and to recognize that a “one-size-fits-all” approach simply doesn’t do justice to the vast range of body types, personalities, abilities and lifestyles among his clients. Aly-Khan reports that he has personally benefited greatly from his sessions with Craig, both from a fitness perspective and in terms of improvements in his dietary habits and lifestyle. While at the outset, he hadn’t intended to pursue the program for the long-term, he has found it such tremendously “good value” that he plans to stick with it and remain a regular client at Studio One.

If you are like many of Craig’s clients, and have been struggling to find time in a hectic schedule to maintain a healthy diet and exercise routine, despite being acutely conscious of its importance in improving your chances for longevity and quality of life, perhaps now is the time to turn things around by giving him a call at **613-447-7425** or email **craig@studioonept.com**. To celebrate its grand opening, Studio One is currently offering attractive specials: a package of ten 30- or 60-minute sessions now includes two free sessions and a \$10 Second Cup gift card, while a package of 20 comes with the added bonus of five free additional sessions plus a \$20 Second Cup gift card.

Craig and his wife are now part of our neighbourhood in more ways than one, having recently moved to Manor Park, and are looking forward to becoming active members of our community both as residents and as proprietors of the newest business on the block. We welcome them both, and wish Craig the best of luck with his new studio.

Studio Kim Hairstyling: The Barber of Seville!

While **Kim Kaskiw** is well known in our community, and indeed throughout the city, for her musical talents as a jazz singer, tuba player, singing instructor and voice coach, her second vocation as an experienced hairstylist is perhaps not yet equally common knowledge beyond the circle of her long-time clients. Both Kim’s parents were in the hairstyling business, and she worked in their salons while in her early 20s, later training in a high-end Yorkville establishment where she was mentored by Vidal Sassoon’s partner Malcolm. Here in Ottawa, she worked at the Celadon and Moda salons before setting up her own, home-based operation here in our community at **101 1/2 Marier Ave** (entrance on Ste-Monique).



Photo: Louise Imbeault
Owner Kim Kaskiw with longstanding regular client Michelle Guidoni at Studio Kim Hairstyling located at 101 1/2 Marier Ave.

Kim’s impressive credentials in the field include certification as a master level colourist with both Wella and Schwarzkopf, and she takes pride in her proficiency in guiding her clients to a colour selection that best complements their skin tone and eye colour. Because of the comparatively low overhead costs of operating a home-based business, Kim is able to keep her prices within a highly affordable range, and offers monthly specials (you can check these out on her website at **www.kimkaskiw.com**). While her business is focused primarily on precision cuts, hairstyling and colouring, Kim also has a limited esthetics repertoire that includes eyebrow shaping and tinting, as well as the occasional makeup makeover. Interested readers can call for an appointment at **613-747-8835** or email Kim at **kimk@rogers.com**.

No account of Kim’s talents would be complete with-

out reference to her musical career, first and foremost as an accomplished jazz singer with her own jazz band, the **Kim Kaskiw Sextet** featuring pianist J.P. Allain, trumpeter Rick Rango, saxophonist Mike Tremblay, along with Don Johnson, Tom Denison and Mike Mullin. In late January, this loyal crew came together to donate their time for a successful benefit concert to raise the funds required to cover the costs of the prosthetic iris that Kim requires for a third and final surgery to restore the sight in her left eye. Kim and her band will be performing at the Ottawa Jazz Festival on June 24, so jazz lovers should be sure to take in this local talent and support a long-time community member.

In addition to her work as a vocalist, Kim is on the Faculty of Music Performance at Carleton University, and offers private singing lessons two days each week. Her star-studded clients include such local success stories as Kelly-Lee Evans and Sue Foley, along with numerous other professional singers. She also has a background in speech pathology, and provides voice coaching and instruction in voice care to politicians, newscasters, teachers, singers and individuals from a range of backgrounds whose vocal chords have been comprised through disease or overuse.

With her twin vocations of music and hairstyling, Kim jokingly alludes to herself as “the barber (or perhaps more accurately, stylist) of Seville,”



The Canadian National Underwater Hockey Team winning gold in Quebec City Tournament in April 2013. Mood Moss Flowers’ owner Eric Cardinal is centre, front row.

an admirable label that testifies to her life-loving, positive approach to her demanding careers. She is philosophical about both her chosen paths: “I love helping people; I love making people beautiful; and music chooses us!” We wish her luck with her final restorative eye surgery this summer, and hope that her Burgh-based hairstyling business continues to flourish, along with her rich musical life.

Mood Moss Flowers’ Eric Cardinal: Underwater Athlete!

While most readers are well aware that Mood Moss Flowers’ owner **Eric Cardinal** is a talented florist with a remarkably successful Beechwood business, it would seem a safe bet to say that few, if any, were aware of his prowess as an athlete, more specifically, as an underwater hockey player of

world-class calibre. And if you were unaware of the existence of underwater hockey, you’re not alone! Well, thanks to a well-timed prompt from Eric, the NEN wishes to report that there is indeed such a sport, and that he is now an elite player, recently chosen as a member of the Canadian National Men’s team competing in the World Championships in Eger, Hungary, this summer.

Underwater hockey is a non-contact sport in which two opposing teams manoeuvre a puck across the bottom of a swimming pool towards goals at either end. Teams consist of up to 10 players, with six in play at any one time, typically three forwards and three backs, or defensive players. The equipment includes a diving mask, snorkel and fins, and a water polo cap to protect players’ eardrums and also to

Continued on page 12

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Continued from page 11

designate which team they are playing for. Players carry a short stick to manoeuvre the puck, and not surprisingly, a prodigious breath-holding capacity is key to their effectiveness in the underwater fray.

The sport has been around since the early 1950s when it first emerged in the U.K., and has since spread to the U.S., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, France, the Netherlands and a host of other countries, all of which now take part in the biennial World Championships organized by the sport's governing body, *la Confédération Mondiale des Activités Subaquatiques (CMAS)*. Up to 80 teams are expected to participate in this year's CMAS World Championship in Hungary, which Eric proudly reports will be entered into the Guinness Book of World Records as the largest underwater hockey tournament in history.

In case you were wondering what underwater hockey has to do with floral design, the answer is not much. Eric has, however, a longstanding connection to the sport, which his father has played since the 1970s, and which he first played as a youth in the 1980s. After a decade-long hiatus, Eric picked up the game again in 1999, and has been playing with increasing seriousness ever since. He now averages four hockey practices a week, along with regular cardio-fitness workouts at the **Physical Therapy Institute**, where he has trained with both **Eduardo** and **Lydia**. Among the rigorous exercises involved in the try-outs for the National Team this year was a test of the number of times the player

was able to swim 25 metres underwater in 25 minutes, a gauntlet which is exhausting just to contemplate, but which he clearly tackled with flying colours.

Members of the National Underwater Hockey Team were selected from clubs across Canada, ranging from Smithers, B.C., in the west to Rimouski in the east. Needless to say, because the sport has so far lacked the visibility to attract significant sponsorship funding, the players have few opportunities to leave their gainful employment in order to practice as a team. Recently, however, they managed to get together for a competition in Quebec City where they emerged victorious as gold medal winners of the tournament. Interested readers can find out more about this intriguing new world of underwater sport, and Eric's prowess on the national scene, by checking out <http://www.cuga.org/index.php/uwhmenu/uwhnt/uwh-nt-elitemen>.

We wish Eric and his team the best of luck in this summer's World Championships, and look forward to a full report on the results in time for our first edition in October.

Arturo's and El Meson: Two Going Concerns, One Busy Owner!

As many readers will know if they have enjoyed a meal there recently, **Arturo's Market** is hopping these days, with full houses for both lunch and dinner. Because there is no reservation system at the restaurant (except for larger groups of five or more), co-owner **André Cloutier** reports that diners are encouraged to come before 6:30 pm or after 8:00 pm to avoid the rush, although he notes that the wait times



Photo: Louise Imbeault
Flamenco dancer Sara Pelizer, guitarist John O'Grady and El Meson owner André Cloutier during a recent Tapas and Flamenco night (Thursdays starting at 7 pm). Olé!

are rarely more than 20 minutes, and on most evenings, everyone can be comfortably accommodated. André and his co-owner/chef/colleague **Jamie Urie** have been focusing much of their energies on the catering part of the business, reportedly with considerable success. Arturo's tasty fare is in high demand for gatherings of all descriptions, whether it's sandwiches and salads for office parties, antipasto platters for neighbourhood soirees, or family-sized trays of lasagna for birthdays and cottage weekends. In fact, the lasagna orders have been coming in so thick and fast that Arturo's has had to acquire a whole new supply of sauce pots to keep up with the demand.

With the growing popularity of the restaurant has come increasing pressure on André and Jamie to open up on Sundays. While André has made a point of setting aside this one day as undisturbed family time, to accommodate this enthusiastic clientele, Arturo's is on the point of

launching a "**Taste of Italy Night**" on the last Sunday of every month. Each of the evenings will be **by reservation only**, and will feature dishes from a specific region of Italy, beginning on June 30 with a splendid four-course menu drawn from the culinary traditions of the Lazio region. Just to whet your appetite, Jamie was kind enough to give the NEN a sneak preview of the fare for the first Taste of Italy Night:

Antipasto: house made mozzarella, grilled artichoke, red prawn

Primo: Bucatini all'Amatriciana (*Pig cheek, tomato, hot pepper, pecorino*)

Secondo: Abbacchio alla Romana (*Spring lamb, anchovies, rosemary, garlic*)

Contorno: Insalata Mista

Dolce: sweet ravioli, honey, chestnut, fig, ricotta

Across the street at **El Meson**, André's second going concern on Beechwood, lunch time has been busier than ever thanks to a glowing review from restaurant critic Anne Desbrisay in a recent edition of *Ottawa* magazine. El Meson's second-level patio has been spruced up just in time for the summer season, and Thursday evenings are now Tapas nights on the second floor and on the patio, where diners can savour small, reasonably priced plates of tasty El Meson fare (\$8-\$13), along with beer and wine

pairings. On some evenings, you may even be serenaded with live flamenco music to complete your immersion in a warm, Mediterranean atmosphere.

And speaking of wine and food pairings, El Meson recently hosted a successful evening featuring a winemaker from Marques de Borba wines in Portugal, when diners enjoyed five wines and five courses for a comparatively modest \$50. André was delighted with the event (which he organized on extremely short notice and at lightning speed), and hopes to host another such occasion in the near future.

Paul Denys: Another Heritage Restoration Award

Paul Denys needs no introduction in our community, where he is well known as a master craftsman with an impressive legacy of award-winning work in the building fields, ranging from meticulous and intricate heritage restoration to the skil-



Paul Denys hard at work.

ful design and construction of state-of-the-art modern kitchens and bathrooms. Paul's outstanding work has garnered no fewer than 10 design awards and award nominations from the Greater Ottawa Home Builders' Association, as well as five City of Ottawa Heritage Restoration Awards. One of these recognized his extraordinary craftsmanship in the creation of a 2-storey, intricately carved wooden porch on the Rochon House on St. Patrick Street.

More recently, in late February this year, the owners of the Alexandre Taché House on Champlain Street in Gatineau—received a heritage renovation award from the Société de l'histoire de l'Outaouais for their "outstanding contribution to the



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built heritage of Gatineau.” Paul and his crew had completely restored the original antique windows and meticulously painted the front façade of the historic home. In accepting the award, owner Michael Montgomery paid glowing tribute to Paul’s exceptional work, which he described as “an artistic process” executed with “great care and love for the character of the house,” and which “brought the house truly to life.”

The Taché House is only one of the projects in which Paul has brought to bear his special expertise in the restoration of antique windows. In late January this year, he issued a press release outlining the benefits of a “steam-stripping” process that his team has perfected to give new life to century-old windows that would otherwise be discarded in a major renovation. In case you’re leaping to the conclusion that this process would cost a small fortune and not even approximate the R-value of a new set of windows, this is very far from the case. In fact, Paul points out that the original windows can be restored through this process at the same cost as a total replacement, and will be very nearly (95%) as energy-efficient as

the models of today, as well as infinitely more durable over the long haul.

From a heritage conservation and aesthetic perspective, Paul’s restoration process has the significant advantage of maintaining the character of an older building and preserving the antique “non-pilkington” glass with its characteristic shimmer. In terms of environmental benefits, Paul is equally convinced that restoration is the way to go, since “the greenest building is one that is already built,” and his process makes the best possible use of existing materials, some of which are literally irreplaceable. Specifically, the wood in century-old windows typically came from old growth forests where slower growing trees produced far more densely-packed, rot-resistant wood than any that is in use today, resulting in a degree of durability that far outstrips modern windows. In theory, at least, Paul reckons that a fully restored century-old window should last another 100 years!

Paul’s steam-stripping process is ingenious but simple, and is both safer and more environmentally friendly than restoration procedures involving chemicals and heat guns. The windows are placed in

a steam box at a high heat for up to five hours to soften up and simplify the removal of the multiple layers of old paint that have built up on the sash. A hollow scraper is then used to vacuum off the lead based paint without damaging the window or producing toxic fumes. Among the advantages of the process in comparison to such other methods as chemical stripping, dry heat or scraping and shaving are:

- Elimination of the risk of fumes from chemicals and decomposition of binders in old paint, as well as from lead;
- Reduction of fire risk by maintaining the paint surface temperature below 2120 F;
- Portable steamer is easily transported to work sites;
- Necessary equipment is moderately priced, and considerably cheaper than chemical paint removal.

Last summer, Paul gave a comprehensive presentation on the steam-stripping process to the by-invitation-only Westford Symposium on Building Science, otherwise known as the Building Science Summer Camp, where the best and the brightest forensic engineers, scientists and contractors in the commercial and



Photo: Louise Imbeault

The Elite team: Greg and Mary Birtch (back row); Monique, Oimung, Pina, Veronique, Dao (front row left to right).

residential building field gather to exchange reports on the latest innovations. Interested readers can check out the full presentation at http://www.buildingscienceconsulting.com/presentations/documents/0204a_Windows.pdf.

Regardless of whether you’re a heritage buff interested in restoring or preserving some of the fine features of your older home (windows included), or just an ordinary homeowner keen to upgrade your less-than-efficient kitchen or bathroom, and in the process give a boost to the resale value

of your house, you may want to give Paul a call at **613-236-6516** or check out his website to see samples of his fine work at denys.ca.

Elite Home Decorating: 50 Years on the Ottawa Scene

In the half century since this highly regarded, locally-owned business was first launched in 1963, **Elite Home Decorating** has served countless residential and commercial clients, ranging from incumbents of the Prime Minister’s Residence at 24 Sussex Drive, to prominent diplomats and local VIPs,

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notable dining establishments such as Eighteen, Social and the Empire Grill, and ordinary homeowners like you and me. While its specialty over the years has been custom window coverings, including draperies, blinds, sheers and shutters, its repertoire covers the interior decorating gamut from wall coverings, to upholstery, slip covers, bed coverings, furniture and one of the largest collections of fabrics in the city.

In contrast to the majority of comparable businesses, in which the bulk of the fabricating work is sent out rather than carried on in house, Elite's custom-made products are created in an on-site workshop by a team of full-time seamstresses, a system which allows for tight quality control. Long-time Elite owner **Mary Birtch** also manages a staff of decorators and designers who conduct in-home consultations with clients to determine their specific decorating needs, and provide professional advice on everything from wall or window coverings to paint colours and art selection. Mary has a special connection to our community as her father, the Reverend William Wright, is a former Rector of St. Bartholomew's Church on MacKay Street, and was a well-known and loved figure here in the Burgh.

Mary's spouse **Greg Birtch** is also an active participant in the family business, specializing in motorized window coverings that close or open automatically through the day in response to the angle of the sun.



Photo: Louise Imbeault

Student Works Painting: Owner Thomas (Tom) Murphy (middle, back) with his crew, Kelsey (left), Brandon (middle, front) and Saif (right).

According to Greg, these automated fixtures, which require no pre-wiring and only a small solar panel to provide the power, are becoming increasingly popular, largely because the traditional manually operated versions are only rarely opened or closed in response to changing light conditions, resulting in either overheating or heat loss, depending on the season. Like the majority of other products in Elite's decorating repertoire, the motorized blinds are also fabricated on site by the staff team.

Greg notes that with the recent explosion in condo sales, the business has encountered increased demand for draperies and wall fabrics, particularly those in warm colours, to soften and add character to the often sterile layout of many classic concrete

and glass condo developments. Fabric and drapes are also a significant aspect of acoustic management (i.e. sound baffling) in the high-end restaurants in Elite's client base. While Elite is firmly rooted in Ottawa, where the business was launched 50 years ago, its solid reputation has garnered clients in Montreal, Toronto and even Iqaluit, Nunavut, to which its custom-made products are shipped on a regular basis. We welcome Mary, Greg and their team as regular advertisers in the NEN.

Tom Murphy: Student Works Painting

Some readers in the neighbourhood may have had a knock on their door in the chilly months of February and March, and encountered the smiling face of Tom Murphy, our local representative for **Student Works Painting**, offering the services of his team for a spring paint job. Tom is currently a resident of Stanley Avenue, and spent much of his youth in the Burgh, where he attended Ashbury College for middle school (Grades 7, 8 and 9) before moving on to Lisgar

Collegiate. When he signed on to the Student Works program to help cover the costs of his electrical engineering studies at McGill University, where he is heading into his third year, Tom was assigned a "beat", which includes New Edinburgh postal codes, and has been actively pursuing summer projects in our area ever since.

Tom is enthusiastic about the management of Student Works, describing it as a hands-on organization in which the President, Chris Thompson, conducts all the interviews and runs the comprehensive training program for recruits. The latter includes a series of seminars beginning in January with an overview of the painting business, covering such topics as paint technology, paint problems, preparation of estimates, sales, planning and marketing. In February, the sessions are focused on advanced sales techniques and communication, while the final seminars in March cover all the detailed aspects of the production process. As an area representative, Tom continues to meet with his District Manager on a weekly basis, and has found his experience and guidance an invaluable resource.

The first order of business for Tom earlier this spring was to hire a competent and dependable team of co-workers, and in the process, he spread the net as widely as possible, recruiting on the campuses of area high schools, colleges and universities, as well as via Kijiji and other internet sites. He cleverly screened potential applicants for punctuality and reliability by establishing a very precise time at which they were to reach him by phone. The device worked admirably, with only about a quarter of the applicants making the cut, and when we last spoke in late April, he had assembled

a crew of eight workers, with the expectation of acquiring an additional four as the summer unfolds. He is especially delighted to have on board an exceptionally capable second-in-command, **Kelsey Starr**, whom he describes as "incredibly dependable, punctual and responsible."

As the foreman of his Student Works crew, Tom begins the day by visiting a new job site to ensure that all hands are on deck and everything is in order to launch the project. After moving on to check up on the next job site, he carries out the first of two daily sessions of preparing estimates for prospective clients. The rest of the day is devoted to keeping an eagle eye on ongoing job sites, and a regular evening clean up. When I spoke with Tom this spring, the majority of his projects were interior paint jobs, (including one somewhat rush-job that he completed himself in mid-March for a couple attempting to sell their house), but as the weather warms up, no doubt more of his clients will be interested in an exterior facelift. If a paint job isn't on your list this year, bear in mind that the Student Works crew also handles **window and gutter cleaning**, as well as **interior and exterior staining**.

Interested readers can reach Tom at **613-979-7749**, or you can keep an eye out for the red, white and black Student Works sign on lawns in the neighbourhood, and catch up with him in person. The crew currently has projects on the go on Ivy Crescent, Noel Street, Rideau Terrace and elsewhere in the community, so it's unlikely you'll have to go very far afield to track them down. We wish Tom and his crew the best of luck in their enterprising local business this summer, and look forward to seeing plenty of freshly painted houses here in the 'hood.



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The Rockcliffe Retirement Residence

The Rockcliffe Retirement Residence's dynamic Executive Director **Linda Meek** and her team have been working diligently to make the residence "the place to be" for the young at heart at in the seniors' community—starting with new Zumba classes with popular appeal in even the 90-year-old set! When Activity Director **Nathalie Bartlett** first launched the Zumba program, the response was reportedly overwhelming, and the class now expands weekly, "as do the moves and grooves!"

Another Rockcliffe staffer in the Activities department, **Jen Milligan**, is a long dis-



The Kavanaugh Family dining at The Rockcliffe Retirement Residence.

tance runner and Spartan races champion whose athletic endeavours are enthusiastically supported by the residents. For her part, Jen offers gym training programs for active seniors, while The Rockcliffe's in-house physio-therapy services, yoga and ample opportunities for a leisurely stroll or a brisk walk around the island combine to help residents stay fit and on the move.

The social calendar at The Rockcliffe is equally busy, with recent events including "Splash and Dash," "Brie and Beaujolais" and "Ontario Ice Wine" cocktail parties, occasions which Marketing Manager **Catherine Strevens-Bourque** describes as ideal opportunities to "wear our best frocks, enjoy live music on the garden terrace and meet new and interesting guests."

Other recent highlights on the social agenda at The Rockcliffe included collaboration with the Chamber Players of Canada Coffee and Concert series, as well as the MacKay United Church Gala Fundraiser. At the end of May, the residence hosted an Opening Night Wine and Cheese reception to kick off the annual Rockcliffe Art Show in support of the Ottawa Garden Club. Later this summer, they will host the Coffee and Concert series for the Music and Beyond Festival, and help to launch the festival with a special concert featuring **Julian Armour**, Music and Beyond organizer and cellist extraordinaire. For more details, you can give them a call at **613-562-3555**.

Capping it all off will be celebrations of The Rockcliffe's 5th anniversary, with the "pioneers" at the residence joining forces with the more recent arrivals to celebrate their collective home at a series of summer signature events. Highlights include a **1902s Great Gatsby Party on Thursday, June 20, from 2-4 pm**; a **1940s Glen Miller Dinner and Dance on Saturday, August 17, from 5-7 pm**; and a **1950s Old Fashioned Picnic on**

Thursday, September 19, from 12-2 pm.

Kavanaugh's Garage and Car Wash: Up and Running

While the familiar Kavanaugh's service station on Beechwood was finally demolished in early April to make way for Domicile's major mixed residential/commercial project, its successor business, **Kavanaugh's Garage and Car Wash**, is now up and running at 145 Marier Avenue (at Pères Blancs). Owner/operator **Terry Kavanaugh**, the eldest son of legendary family patriarch **Rupert Kavanaugh**, is running the relocated business with his son **Ken Kavanaugh**, along with mechanic **Mark Babin** and car wash attendant **Damien Scott**. Terry's opening came just in time for tire-changing season, and both vehicles in our household have now had their first servicing at the new location. And speaking of "just in time," the relaunch of the local hand car wash proved a godsend for my salt- and filth-encrusted Golf after a winter of neglect.

Thanks to the additional



Photo: Louise Imbeault
Marier location of Kavanaugh's garage (car wash now open).

space afforded by a second garage facing Pères Blancs, Terry is currently contemplating some form of retail sales, possibly a line of electric bikes, of which he currently has a few samples in stock. He is also open to the possibil-

ity of supplying some basic hardware items in response to the surge of demand in our community since the demise of Home Hardware in the 2011 Beechwood fire. If you have suggestions about the kind of merchandise you'd like to see on his shelves to spare you a lengthy excursion to a suburban mega-store, drop by the garage and share your ideas—and perhaps get your car washed or oil filter changed while you're at it! While the telephone number remains the same (**613-746-0744**), Terry has had some problems with the line so if need be, you can reach him at **613-265-5404**.

BUSINESS BITS

42 Crichton: Hopes for a Second Chance

We were distressed to learn in early May that **Susan Jessup's** remarkable little gourmet food establishment, **42 Crichton Fine Foods**, was facing the possibility of having to close its doors by the end of the month. Susan's original business partner is reportedly fully occupied with other ventures, and without his participation, the store would not be financially sustainable. All may not be lost, however, as Susan has acquired many devoted clients with a strong interest in her continuing operations, albeit perhaps on an altered basis. When we went to press, she was exploring the options with characteristic resilience and

determination, and a possible new arrangement was under active negotiation. We fervently hope that a viable solution will in fact present itself, permitting Susan to carry on with the creation of outstanding gourmet fare in our community. Stay tuned for news on the community website at www.newedinburgh.ca.

Epicuria: First Anniversary Milestone

On April 16, loyal clients converged on **Epicuria's** spacious new headquarters to join **Tracey Black** and her team in a celebration of the store's first year on St. Laurent Blvd. Needless to say, well-wishers were treated to a host of mouth-watering appetiz-



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ers specially prepared for the occasion, and were able to tour the spotless kitchen and catering areas from which all these culinary riches emerge. Tracey is elated to have reached this one-year milestone, and to experience the satisfaction of having at last surmounted the arduous challenges to her business which resulted from the 2011 Beechwood fire. We wish her continuing success in her new location, and a renewal of friendly relations with Epicuria's old, and now new, neighbour **Bread and Roses Bakery!**

New Edinburgh Pub: Calling All Golfers

New Edinburgh Pub owner **Paul Williams** reports that as soon as the warm weather returned in early May, the Pub's rooftop patio kicked swiftly into gear and is now operating in full swing as we head into the season of long summer evenings. As always, the arrival of June heralds the Pub's annual **Lobsterfest** which is coming up this year on **Monday, June 10** (the Queen's birthday, by the way, so an auspicious start) and running until Father's Day on **Sunday, June 16**.

All you golfers out there should start limbering up to be in peak form for the Pub's annual **Charity Golf Tournament**, to be held on **Sunday, July 28, at le Club de Golf Hautes Plaines in Gatineau**. The course is a 10-minute drive from the Pub, and you'll find a map and directions on the club's website at **en.hautesplaines.clublink.ca**. All proceeds from this popular community event will go to support the Ottawa-East Community Health Centre Children's Summer Camp programs. There are 72 spots with a registration fee of \$125, so don't miss out on the chance to show off your golfing prowess in a friendly Beechwood competition in support of a worthy cause. To cap off the day in convivial style, there will be dinner, prizes and an auction at the Pub following the tournament.

Louis Hutchison: A New Vocation in Home Repairs

Louis Hutchison, a long-time NEN advertiser and former furniture repair and refinishing craftsman, has recently shifted his focus from furni-

ture to home repairs of all descriptions, ranging from replacement of doors to tiling, minor plumbing, drywall, replacement or installation of bathroom fixtures, fence repair and indeed, just about anything short of a full-scale home renovation or major electrical work. Louis has been a handyman for many years, having built a complete cottage from the ground up shortly before he emigrated from Scotland to Canada. We look forward to bringing readers a full report on Louis' new menu of services in our next edition in October, but in the interim, if you have a task that needs attending to in the course of the summer, you can reach him at **613-850-6707**.

Rockcliffe Lawn Tennis Club (RLTC) and Larrimac Golf Club Join Forces

In late April, the RLTC and the Larrimac Golf Club announced a brand new membership package designed to appeal to those who love to swing both a tennis racquet and a golf club. Starting this summer, the clubs will extend mutual membership privileges to their existing and new members, offering a 20% fee reduction to any member of one club who decides to join the other. The 9-hole golf club is just north of Chelsea, Quebec close to the Gatineau River, about a 20-minute drive from the RLTC. Larrimac's President Joshua Moon describes the arrangement as "a natural fit with a partner that shares a similar history." Interested readers can find details of the arrangement on the websites of both clubs: **www.rltennis.ca** or **www.larrimac.com**.

QVBIA Business Gala Awards

At its annual awards gala on April 4, held in the newly minted Wabano Centre on Montreal Road, the QVBIA celebrated the accomplishments of numerous area businesses and community members, including several of our local Beechwood establishments. Congratulations to **El Meson** and the **New Edinburgh Pharmacy**,



Photo: Louise Imbeault
The dramatic rollover on Beechwood on May 9 was allegedly caused when Joseph Ledo, 63, hit the curb of the road at speed, which then caused the car to flip, reported Ottawa police spokesperson Cst. J.P. Vincelette. A bystander, the driver and passenger were all taken to hospital, with non-life threatening injuries.

both of which received the Cummings Longevity Award, presented to businesses that have operated in the BIA area for at least two decades. And kudos goes to **SushiMe** owner/executive chef **Sue Jung**, who received the Talk of the Town Award for Business Discovery of the year. Our valued colleague **Sharleen Tattersfield** of the *Manor Park Chronicle* was also honoured at the gala, where she received one of the awards for Great Media Support. Congratulations Sharleen: the honour was richly deserved!

ZaZaZa Pizzeria: Putman Goes Pink for Penny

ZaZaZa Pizzeria is on the point of launching its *Pizzas for Penny* campaign to operate in tandem with the Pennies for Penny fundraising drive initiated this spring by **Marc Lafontaine** to raise funds for the Women's Breast Health Centre on behalf of **Penny Thompson**, former Chair of the Manor Park Community Association. ZaZaZa representatives will be dropping by area businesses with pink jars for the collection of donations throughout the month of June, and once again, the exterior of the pizzeria will be transformed to reflect its chosen charitable cause—yes folks, Putman is going PINK! The campaign will wrap up at the end of June with a patio party for Penny, when she will be

presented with a cheque for the Women's Breast Health Centre.

Imperial Barber Shop: Opening Soon on Beechwood

By now many readers will have noticed the bold banner on Beechwood proclaiming the imminent arrival of the **Imperial Barber Shop**, which is to occupy the premises next door to the Bank of Montreal.



Photo: David Rostenne
Detail from poster announcing the opening of the Imperial Barber Shop on beechwood.

The shop traces its roots back to the late nineteenth century when Joseph St. Louis opened a one-chair barber shop at 31 Sparks Street (conveniently located to serve the denizens of Parliament Hill). It was subsequently moved to Sparks and Elgin, where it officially became **The Imperial Barber Shop** in 1918 under the proprietorship of Maurice Scully.

While the Sparks Street location closed down in 2012, the Imperial Barber Shop continues to operate at **275 Slater Street** and at **837 Bank Street** in the Glebe, with new locations about to open up here on Beechwood in late June or July, and on Tenth Line Road in Orleans in September. You can check out Imperial's services or book an online appointment at **imperialbarbershop.com**, and we'll bring you a full report in our next issue this fall.

Update from Beechwood Village Alliance

By Tobi Nussbaum

With the arrival of spring comes hope for the blossoming of Beechwood, which has witnessed increased attention over the last number of months from developers, politicians, business owners and community residents.

Developers are focused on a few key sites. Along with the Domicile development (which has begun construction, as many will have noticed) and the Minto proposal on the Beechwood fire site, the Catholic Archdiocese of Ottawa is preparing to sell the St. Charles Church property. Hopefully, this sale will result in a development that contributes to a more dynamic and attractive main street. It is unclear at this stage whether the Archdiocese will structure the sale in such a way as to have the Church steeple incorporated in any future devel-

opment on the site, given its important function as a landmark on the street. A number of smaller developments are also popping up or planned along Beechwood, including one on the north side just west of Bridgehead.

Politicians too are using Beechwood as an example of what needs fixing in our urban landscape. Residents may have heard about Mayor Watson's press conference on Beechwood in early March at which he decried the vacant buildings that serve as a blight both on Beechwood and at other locations throughout the city. We were grateful to Mayor Watson for helping to apply political pressure on landlords to do the right thing—sell or develop.

Furthermore, to discourage landlords from keeping their properties vacant, City Council also recently passed a motion

encouraging the province to shorten the length of time that landlords are given property tax deductions while their properties are vacant. Along with our Councillors, thanks go to the Beechwood Village Alliance political action group which has been pushing the tax issue and engaging with landlords of vacant properties along the street. Business owners are banding together to work on our main street as well. As of January 2013, the Vanier Business Improvement Area includes the north side Beechwood businesses. We have met with the Vanier BIA to encourage them to consider ideas for Beechwood branding. They have been open to community engagement and recently invited community representatives to meet with their Board and staff to discuss next steps and opportunities for closer collaboration.

Lastly, community members continue to contribute to a Beechwood renaissance through individual efforts, community association activities and the work of the Beechwood Village Alliance. Recently, the BVA initiated a new “gateway project” with the objective of creating physical gateways to mark the east and west entry onto Beechwood. While still in early stages, we hope the project will lead to a call for proposals for ideas on how to conceive and execute such gateways. We have begun initial fundraising efforts, and have already secured some seed funding to get things moving. Stay tuned for details to follow in the coming months.

The work of the Beechwood Village Alliance is conducted through the initiatives of our active individual working groups: Political Action, Books on Beechwood (successfully finished!), St Charles Church, Public Art, Gateway Proposal, and Farmers' Market. With

regard to the latter, we are exploring options to have such a market located somewhere on Beechwood this summer, even if only on a pilot basis. Watch for news of a neighbourhood farmers' market on the New Edinburgh community website www.newedinburgh.ca or on our BVA Facebook page.

Art in the Parking Lot Festival is Back: Volunteers Needed!

We are planning to hold our now annual Art in the Parking Lot festival on **Saturday, June 22**, and are looking for volunteers for the organizing committee. So please let us know if you are interested in helping out, and be sure to mark your calendars and join us for this lively celebration of Beechwood.

To stay in touch, follow us on twitter (MyBeechwood), like us on facebook (Beechwood Village Alliance) or send us a note at beechwoodvillagealliance@hotmail.ca.

Proposed Bridge Blasted as Bad Deal for Taxpayers

NCC studies show billion dollar bridge won't solve downtown truck problem

OTTAWA, May 10, 2013 – Warning a proposed new inter-provincial bridge and associated heavy truck corridor is a “billion dollar boondoggle in the making”, community associations in Ottawa's east end called for Prime Minister Harper and Premier Wynne to demonstrate sound fiscal leadership by putting an immediate stop to further consideration of the proposed mega project. The call for action came on the eve of an anticipated announcement by the National Capital Commission (NCC) for the preferred location of the proposed project.

In issuing their appeal to Prime Minister Harper and Premier Wynne, the groups highlighted recent studies demonstrating that a new inter-provincial bridge is unwarranted, at Kettle Island or at either of the two other locations under consideration:

- The Interprovincial Crossings Study shows that a new bridge will not solve the downtown truck problem, estimating the number of trucks that will use the King Edward corridor in 2031 will be the same as today. Moreover, even if trucks were prohibited from using King Edward, the study states most would use the Chaudière Bridge.
- The National Capital Region (NCR) Origin-Destination Survey found, from 2005 to 2011 inter-provincial traffic demand decreased, with

travel demand in the peak 2.5 hour morning period dropping from 43,200 to 38,600 vehicles. Further, this 10.6% decrease occurred even though the NCR population grew by 7.2%, and the employed population increased by 8.2%.

- The NCC's own recent Interprovincial Transit Study confirms that “there is adequate surface capacity on the existing five core area bridges to accommodate the forecast interprovincial transit and traffic demands.” It also recommends that the O-train be extended across the Prince of Wales Bridge – at a fraction of the cost of a new bridge – to realize a further reduction in car traffic crossing the river.
- The Interprovincial Crossings Study confirms that a bridge at Kettle Island would add thousands of additional vehicles to the Queensway/Highway 174 split. This would negatively impact all east end commuters, especially during rush hour.

The Interprovincial Crossings Study estimates the cost of a new bridge and associated road works will exceed \$1.1 billion, and annual maintenance will be more than \$4 million per kilometer.

“As governments struggle during these challenging economic times to contain costs and reduce budget deficits and debt, building a new inter-provincial bridge is contrary to taxpayers' expectations of astute management of public funds,” said Mr. Norm Kruse,

spokesperson for Rockcliffe Mews/Carson Grove Residents' Association.

The east-end residents' associations also object to the lack of an Environmental Assessment by the Ontario government and stressed Corridor 5 (Kettle Island) as a particularly unsuitable location for a heavy truck expressway and six-lane bridge. In addition to being adjacent to six ecologically significant Urban Natural Areas, the Montfort Hospital, schools and recreational facilities, the corridor is surrounded by densely populated neighbourhoods that are home to more than 100,000 people.

The groups called for the region to meet ongoing traffic challenges by designing and implementing a comprehensive, integrated transit strategy, reflecting present day transportation planning solutions and modern Canadian values of preservation of green space, sustainable development and fostering healthy, active communities. They stressed that heavy trucks do not belong in any residential area, including Lowertown and Sandy Hill where they run today.

“A bridge that promotes urban sprawl, heavy truck traffic in urban communities, car commuting, and more traffic congestion is an unacceptable 50's style planning solution and a failure of the NCC's mission to protect and enhance green space and build a world class national capital region,” said Mr. Brian Dickson, President of the Rockcliffe Park Residents Association.

He also noted the Aviation and Rockcliffe Parkways are prized cultural landscapes of significant national importance and key scenic gateways to such cultural assets as Parliament Hill, Sussex Drive, the RCMP Musical Ride, and Canada's museums and galleries in the nation's capital.

In a time of fiscal restraint

when government budgets are struggling to sufficiently fund public priorities like health-care, education and protection of the environment, spending more than a billion dollars on a needless bridge, and many millions more each year to maintain it, cannot be justified and would be a misappropriation of taxpayer dollars.

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Remembering D-Day's Sacrifices

Editor's Note: The following is a reminiscence of the D-Day Landing on June 6, 1944, written by **Larry MacDonald**. Mr. MacDonald was a veteran CBC broadcaster, and a resident of New Edinburgh from the late '50s until the time of his death in the late 90's. This is the third in a series of personal vignettes of his life and career which his daughter **Alex MacDonald** has been kind enough to share with the NEN.

By Larry MacDonald

D-Day, June 6, 1944 - When we fell, literally, into our Landing Ship Tank (LST), we could hear the bilge water sloshing about. We thought we were first aboard, but the place was already jam-packed with troops. It was hard to see in the semi-darkness of early dawn, but a few curses let us know we were last and not first.

There was a terrible smell.

It didn't take us long to figure out that it came from a witches' brew, a mixture of vomit and sea water. Floating around in this unholy broth were hundreds of leaflets with the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force crest at the top.

I am and have always been an inveterate collector of anything and everything dealing with the military. My heart was set on that piece of paper, but my stomach rebelled. As the daylight increased, I was able to partially read one of

the leaflets as they drifted by. "Enemy well-equipped, battle hardened, will fight savagely." This did not buck up my courage or increase confidence. Whether the rest of the war was short war or long, it was now clear it was going to seem long.

If you are wondering why we were on an LST, and not a Landing Craft Infantry (LCI), it was because nearly all the LCIs were being used in the initial assault landings which included heavy punches in the form of the first and second waves.

I was not in either wave—for which, today, I thank the beach landing planners. My lot went in later. We didn't have a single tank on board. We did have some very queasy Canadian soldiers who, after hearing, "Keep your bloody head down!", stared uneasily at that porridge at the bottom of our craft as it continued to slosh from port to starboard, starboard to port.

So there we were, most of us in our early 20s. It's hard to believe just how much equipment we carried. Besides razor, extra socks, extra shirt, knife, fork, spoon, and sewing kit, there were two belts of .303 ammunition, water bottle, field dressing in front trouser pocket and another under the camouflage netting on our helmets. We also carried a Lee-Enfield or Sten gun, a bayonet and a ground sheet. Some of the skinny guys looked like Groucho Marx bent over in his

famous crouch.

As we rolled over the rough Channel water, spray drenching us, I wondered about General Dwight Eisenhower's line in the leaflet. "Your enemy is well-trained, well equipped and battle hardened." Battle hardened against the seasick? My division, 3rd Cdn. Infantry, made it up the beach, but at a price: 340 all ranks killed, 547 wounded, 47 prisoners.

I went back to that same beach in 1969 for CBC News to cover the 25th anniversary of the landing. I came as close as I could remember to the exact spot where the LST had crashed onto the beach and where the doors slammed down, NCOs yelling: "Get off the beach! Get off the beach!" Then, non-protective cover stretched from beach to infinity. It was miles. I would never make it. Twenty-five years later, I see the distance was about half a city block.

During the time I was there, I talked with some of the veterans. The first Canadians into France were C Company, 1st Cdn. Parachute Battalion. The medical officer was Capt. C.N. Bradner: "I landed in a tree and wound up with a dislocated pelvis and broken arm. My entire combat experience lasted 20 minutes."

Major Lorenzo Robichaud, North Shore Regiment: "I really didn't have time to think. Men were falling.....the padre stopped to help them."

Sgt. Bill Watts, Royal Winnipeg Rifles: "We landed with 130. Thirty of us walked off the beach. My platoon

leader was Lieut. Rod Beatty of Winnipeg. He's a paraplegic."

Here and there, but rarely, a touch of humour. A private from the Regina Rifles: "I was hit on the beach. Someone gave me an orange. I don't know who, where the hell would he get an orange?"

Where indeed? We hadn't seen one for four years.

The men, who fell on the beaches and in the bitter bridgehead battles, are buried in Bény-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery, near the village of Reviere. For the mayor and citizens of Reviere, it is a special place. They feel that it is their own.

There the maple leaves flutter from the wind off the chan-

nel. And in the spring, the cherry trees, between the rows of headstones, are the first to flower. Hedges decorate the entrance. Flanking the registry building are platforms from which visitors can see the whole area. Such a view brings home the skill and devotion that has gone into the planning and design of this superbly tended place.

And there the 2,049 headstones stand—the dead of the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division and 15 airmen—each in its own carefully manicured plot, neat and orderly as though on the colonel's parade of a long, long time ago.

June 6, 1944.
I raise my glass.



Photo Courtesy of Alex MacDonald

Signalman Larry MacDonald, Aged 19.

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Lacombe's Legacy has been scoopt!

By Louise Imbeault

Twenty years ago, I met a man named **Robert "Bob" Lacombe** sitting on his porch day in and day out, knitting like there was no tomorrow. Totally focused on his craft, he didn't notice anyone or anything around him. His eyes riveted on the movement of his needles, it seemed almost like a meditative state with each stitch repeating a mantra or prayer. I noticed him daily while driving to work and was curious to see what he was making with all that yarn and such focussed intent.

One day, I decided to stop and walked over to say hello – the year was 1992.

I startled him a little, but he graciously took time out to explain what he was doing—knitting slippers of all sizes, colours and textures. He fell in love with knitting and his first needles were actually chop sticks on which he practiced. His then wife Anne, who passed away in 2009, was also a knitter. Seeing how serious Bob was about the craft, she offered him his first pair of real knitting needles—he has never stopped producing what I call **BUBBLE** slippers.

Back in the day, both my parents were ill with diabetes and poor circulation. Their extremities were always cold. Having tried everything available on the market to bring warmth and comfort to their feet, nothing seemed to work, or if it did, it was just temporarily. So I decided to try Mr. Lacombe's slippers and never looked back. My parents were delighted to finally have a pair of slippers that brought relief for their feet. Those "foot cosies" are form fitting, soft and warm, and don't make your feet perspire. It is like "walking on air" my father said.

After both my parents passed away, it was my brother's turn to be diagnosed with diabetes and the same cycle presented itself to me, his caregiver. With no doubt in my mind as to what would ease his discomfort, I tried finding Mr. Lacombe, to no avail. He had moved away from the corner house where he had attained "landmark" status. What was I to do? Where would I find him?

I kept money on hand just in case I'd literally bump into

him around the neighbourhood. Well, lo and behold, there he was, of all places, at the Beechwood METRO in the bakery section. I accosted him and bought a pair on the spot for my brother Pat. He never took them off (except for the regular wash) and finally wore them down to the thread. Well, we needed another pair quickly. Same scenario, I couldn't locate Mr. Lacombe. Silly me, I'd forgotten to ask him how to keep in touch.



Again, the planets aligned and I spotted him at the **SCONE WITCH** bussing tables (he has been a valued member of Heather's team since 2010). How embarrassing for him when I shouted aloud "Bob, thank God I've found you—I need sleepers right now"! Always so cheerful and accommodating, Mr. Lacombe took the time on his break to open his huge and bulky pack-sack full of colour-

ful slippers. Again he rescued me and made my brother a happy birthday boy.

I know this might sound bizarre, after all you might be thinking "they are just a pair of homemade slippers," but let me tell you, there's no price to the joy of knowing you've provided relief and comfort to an ailing loved one with something so simple. It's wonderful to see them smile and relax. I must admit there's something almost "ethereal" about Bob's bubble slippers—I believe they are made with love, healing and a touch of magic. And did you know he prices them for the yarn and not his time?

Maybe you received a pair as a gift at some point in your life and had a bad experience because they burned your feet while walking around. Rest

assured, the old fashioned knit slippers where made of a nasty nylon fibre called PHENTEX™ and are not comparable to the quality craftsmanship and expensive yarn blends used by Mr. Lacombe.

Here's a heartfelt thanks to Bob whose diligence in pursuing his passion for knitting over the decades has provided many return customers with **HAPPY FEET!**

Thinking In Pictures Educational Services (T.I.P.E.S.) Fundraising Tea at Elmwood School

By Ward Heatherington

On Saturday afternoon, May 11, Elmwood School provided the venue for a successful fundraising event for Thinking In Pictures Educational Services (T.I.P.E.S.), a not-for-profit organization based in Kanata that provides services for children and families with children dealing with Autism. Introducing the gathering were the twin **Wyatt sisters, Jennifer and Deborah**, Executive Directors and co-founders of T.I.P.E.S. Guest speakers at the tea and silent auction were **Senator Landon Pearson** and **MPP Jack MacLaren**, proud supporters of this endeavor to help children in need.

The speeches were all well received by more than 55 appreciative guests, and the silent auction, comprised of over 40 donated items, along with the raffle, raised approximately \$6,000. Musical entertainment, in the form of both classical and popular pieces, was provided pro-bono by prize-winning Canadian pianist **John Dapaah**, and refreshments were graciously donated by **Epicuria Fine Foods and Catering**. We extend our thanks to Elmwood for provid-

ing the venue, and to the energetic Elmwood student who offered tours of the school to interested guests.

To find out more about T.I.P.E.S. and the services it offers, interested readers can check out the website at www.tipes.ca.



Photo: Louise Imbeault
Moms Helping Moms - The afternoon tea fundraising event for T.I.P.E.S. Back row: the Wyatt twins (organizers), Deborah (hat) and Jennifer; front row: (Robert) Ward Heatherington and Elizabeth (Liz) Heatherington. The event was hosted at Elmwood School on Buena Vista Road in Rockcliffe Park.

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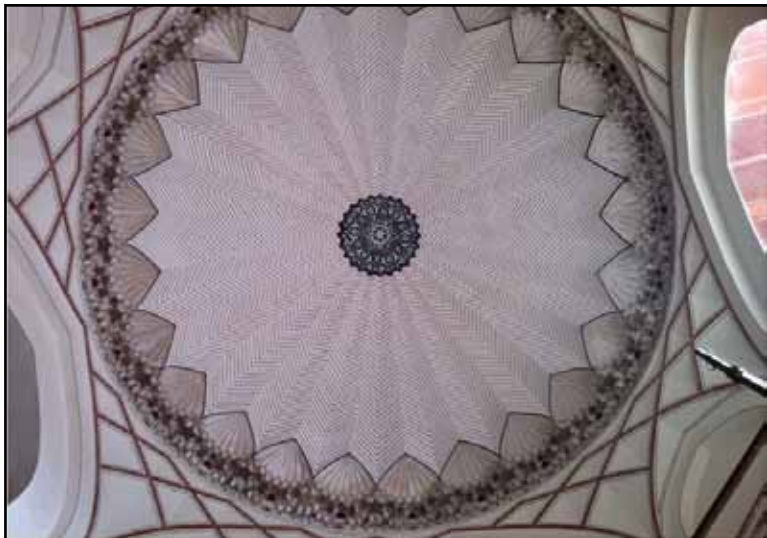


Travel Tales from the Burgh

This is the second in a series of articles about our neighbours' travels. From the Arctic to India – what a contrast! I have a couple of ideas lined up for future issues of the New Edinburgh News but would love to hear from all of the

Burghers who have adventures, no matter where. Please get in touch if you have a proposal, and we can work together to get it published.

Vicki Metcalfe
46metcalfe@sympatico.ca
613-747-0714



A first experience of India - the ceiling of a tomb.

By Jack Horwitz

If nothing else, India surprises. And if the ruins of India could speak, they would unfold a story of the rise of civilizations—so many, so cultured, so formal, so elegant and so profoundly arresting that it makes our present day pale in comparison. Travel writing is such a crowded field that I will only describe a few unconnected thoughts and musings about our recent two months

this winter, travelling through parts of Rajasthan and Kerala with my wife, Ellen, and our children (now young adults), Sophia and Rebecca.

Ellen planned meticulously, speaking with others who had travelled and lived in India, watching films and reading books, egging me on to read and study, to get a deeper understanding before setting out. I tried to resist her. I wanted to just be there and experi-

ence it all, but I too pored over travel books, watched some documentaries and helped with the planning. Travelling for extended periods is a relief really. You don't need to rush through sites and cities. So the trip became almost symphonic in nature and even now, some three months later, recurring motifs and scenes play out in my mind as I attempt to find some way to understand what I saw, felt and sensed.

So standing looking up at the intricate ceiling of a tomb and being absolutely gobstruck was my introduction to India, the second most populous nation on the planet. Two months is nothing like enough, though in that time we managed to visit several states, a smattering of large cities, some villages and countryside, rarely escaping the bubble that tourists travel in.

Not for lack of trying. Ellen had made contact with a Canadian studying in a Buddhist monastery in southern India. We set out from the town we were staying in along roads that got ever smaller until we reached the gates and found our guide waiting for us. She had started her studies as a 23-year-old, fresh from Saskatchewan, and now nine years later, she was graduating as an expert in a specific part of the liturgy, and capable of translations from Sanskrit and Tibetan. We peppered her with questions as she led us through the monastery.

Perhaps the most memorable part was sitting with 12 nuns who were studying a Sanskrit text and chanting, accompanied by gongs, trumpets and drum. Time passed without notice; we were suspended by the sight and sounds. As we made our way through this vast learning institute, we passed through this row of stupas, then the large prayer wheels and the smaller ones that surround the entire property. The rest of the family had a good laugh at my expense as I tried to fit into a monk's vest (it said it was a large!) at the monastery's tailor shop while the tailors clapped their hands in glee.

Imagine living here, walk-



Stupas at the Buddhist monastery.

ing these grounds, studying for years. I was struck by her discipline, devotion and determination, and even more so realizing that now she would translate these sacred texts into English for the first time.

One of our rest periods was a trip into the hill-lands to stay in luxurious tents beside tea plantations. The sun was hot as we walked through the finely trimmed bushes that stretched for kilometres in all directions, and we crossed a swinging suspended bridge that looked none too safe. In the distance we could see a group of women picking leaves.

Ellen asked to take their pictures and soon began to speak

universally understood gestures and a lot of smiling. The women were amused and even entranced, and this "discussion" went on for some 20 minutes. More gathered round and then the women started showing Ellen how they cut the leaves and packed the bags that they bore aloft onto a waiting truck. They had Ellen try to lift one of these 100 kilo sacks to great wails of laughter. Yet after this, they showed great concern that we had no water or food with us, and invited us to eat and drink with them. They didn't have much, yet there was no thought about not sharing what little they had.

Our final stop was in the




Ellen and the tea pickers.

with them. I am always surprised at how she can communicate across barriers of language, culture, age and background, but she does so with verve and a fair amount of sign language. Not your normal signing, but rather with

sacred city of Varanasi. The many steps to the river are filled with pilgrims, tourists and hucksters, and it is the city's central attraction. But the marketplace was where my "awakening" took place. For several days I had attempted to find a stall that carried the weaving I was enthralled by. I had been through the maze of stalls and come full circle to no avail, even after asking many shopkeepers. Passing by one of the stalls again, the owner looked me in the eyes and asked "What ARE you looking for?" I've been thinking that one through for months now and will let you know when I find out.

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By Catherine McConkey

This year I want to give a big thank you to everyone who came out on a not-so-sunny spring day for our **14th Annual New Edinburgh Plant Sale**. Despite the weather, we had an excellent turnout throughout the day and want to thank each and every one of our neighbours and friends who supported the event. I would like to especially thank **Mary Grainger**, with help from **Jerry and Martina Turchyn** for organizing this community fundraiser. I would also like to thank **Michel Giroux, Deborah Conner, Roxie, Caroline Matt, Kathryn McKeen** (our morning plant expert), **Melody Salter, Matt de Wolfe** and **Paula Pincombe**

Carol and Denis Lemieux Garden Center of Hammond, Ontario. The 3Cs have always been appreciative of the help that Denis has provided as we attempt this event each year. Until next year, happy gardening!

For the past three years, the 3Cs was able to have the Fieldhouse opened for use because we had a summer student. As the *New Edinburgh News* goes to print, we are happy to announce that the Fieldhouse will, again, be accessible to the community this summer. We have received confirmation of our **Canada Summer Job** grant and will be hiring a summer student. If you are a high school student (16+) and interested in applying for this position, please contact

nefieldhouse@gmail.com for further information or to apply. **3Cs Annual General Meeting**, this year will be held **Monday, June 10, at 7:30 pm** at the Fieldhouse. Come on out and meet the other members of the 3Cs and who knows, you might meet a new neighbour and forever best friend. All are welcome!!

The **New Edinburgh Garage Sale** will be held **September 21, from 9 am to 3 pm** (it's always the third Saturday in September). Rain or Shine! Please contact me at 613-746-0303 if you have any questions.

For anyone interested in renting the Fieldhouse, please contact **Caroline Matt** at 613-741-3128 or email nefieldhouse@gmail.com to reserve or for more information on our very reasonable rates. Or, you can check out www.newedinburgh.ca for more information on 3Cs and other community events by your local community organizations. Have a great summer everyone!



Photo: Louise Imbeault

NECTAR's "Buy-a-Stake" fundraiser is ongoing. Isobel Bisby displays sample stakes for sale at \$50 each during the recent community Plant Sale. You can paint your own or commission an artist to make a personalized stake. The fence will go up around the New Ed House on MacKay.



Photo: Louise Imbeault

PLANT SALE organizing team: Left to right back row: Paula, Mary, Melodie, Debra. Left to right front row: Cathy, Kathryn.

as well anyone I may have forgotten to name.

And for those of you interested in a little history about the **New Edinburgh Annual Plant Sale**; it first came to our neighbourhood in 1997 as a fundraiser for the Crichton Alternative Public School's Lighthouse Program. When the school closed, the Crichton Community Council (3Cs) took over the plant sale as a fundraiser to offset the cost of running the skating rinks, the community events we host and also replacement of the some of the playground equipment. The 3Cs first hosted the Plant Sale in May 2000, at the Fieldhouse at 193 Stanley Ave. Our supplier has always been



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, June 10, 2013

**7:30 pm
at**

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All are welcome!

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The Crichton Community Council is currently accepting applications for the position of

Fieldhouse Manager

This is a part-time, seasonal position (6 weeks, 34 hours/week) starting at the end of June. The Fieldhouse Manager will oversee the facilities at the Stanley Park Fieldhouse, as well as plan and implement community events and weekly children's activities.

Successful applicants must be:

- enrolled in high school (15+)
- independent and reliable
- comfortable working with children
- creative and pro-active

For further information or to submit your resume and cover letter, please email nefieldhouse@gmail.com. The application deadline is Wednesday, June 12.

This job is funded in part by the Canada Summer Job Program. Members of visible minority communities are encouraged to apply.

Summer 2013 Reading Suggestions from Books on Beechwood

Antoinette Recommends:
419 by **Will Ferguson**. The 2012 Giller prize winner is a page turner.

Life After Life by **Kate Atkinson**. Not her usual detective novel, the protagonist in this novel follows many alternate courses where destiny might have taken her.



The Painted Girls by Toronto author **Cathy Marie Buchanan**. This is a story about young ballerinas in Paris at the turn of the last century.

The Whisper of Legends by **Barbara Fradkin**. Here's the newest Inspector Green mystery by a great local author.

The Lower River by **Paul Theroux**. About an American who returns to a village in Malawi, where he finds escape, or does he?

Bridget Recommends:

Small Death in the Great Glen by **AD Scott**. A new discovery for me, this first novel, set

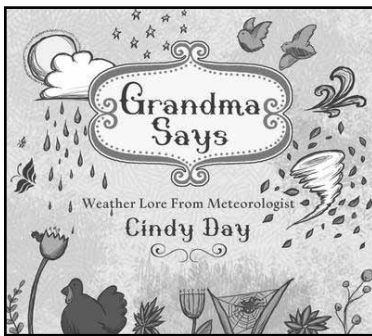
in the highlands of Scotland in the 1950s, is an absorbing mystery but also a great window into a place and time. The death of a Polish stow-away/refugee sets the small highland village into a turmoil that reflects post WWII paranoia and racial prejudice. The reluctant sleuth is the editor of the local newspaper and the language and characters are wonderfully Scottish. The aftereffects of the deprivations of the war are palpable.

Deadline by **Barbara Nadel**. Another novel with a great sense of place, is the latest Inspector Ikmen mystery. Istanbul is the exotic setting and Ikmen is a charming and genuine detective who finds himself embroiled in a suspiciously Agatha Christie-esque murder. As always, Istanbul provides a fascinating backdrop and the not-so-disguised Christie homage is clever and amusing.

Mount Pleasant by **Don Gillmor**. This novel will have particular resonance for we boomers, in that it chronicles the misadventures of a deeply indebted middle-aged professor struggling with his sense of irrelevance in the new world order of his children. When he learns that the inheritance he was expecting has disappeared, his shaky world is turned upside-down and the results are both wryly comic

and poignant.

Grandma Says by **Cindy Day**. Ex CFRA and CJOH personality Cindy Day, who is



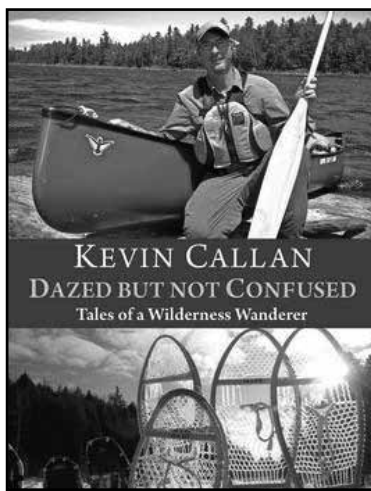
now a meteorologist in Halifax, has assembled a delightful collection of her grandmother's weather wisdom, some familiar and many a happy discovery. The book is perfect for us weather-obsessed Canadians.

Those Angry Days by **Lynne Olson**. Another highly readable tome from the author of "Citizens of London" and "Troublesome Young Men," this time about the polarization of the United States over the issue of whether to join Britain in its war against Hitler. The key figures are Roosevelt, the President who championed the interventionist cause, and aviator Charles Lindberg, the very effective advocate for the isolationists. As with Olson's other books, we are totally immersed in every aspect of the society, culture and political issues of the time.

David Recommends:

While I write this, the weather has just turned to spring-like conditions...the snow is gone and the bugs are not out yet, which is a good enough excuse to get prepared for camping!

Well, that and **Kevin Callan** having released two new books recently: *Dazed But Not Confused: Tales of a Wilderness Wanderer* – a series of hilarious essays on his adventures—and misadventures—in the wilderness. Of course no camping trip is worth it unless you're eating well throughout!



The New Trailside Cookbook – co-authored with **Margaret Howard**, who has written over a dozen cookbooks, this book covers all the things you need to do before you go, what you need in your camp to prepare meals...and lots and lots of simple but good looking recipes. Oh, and there's a section on drinks, yep, the adult kind. Now we're camping!

Hilary Recommends:

The Firebird by **Susanna Kearsley**. The newest offering by Canadian author Susanna Kearsley is a real treat. She takes us on an incredible journey from the wild cliffs of Scotland, through bustling French towns, and into the glittering halls of Russia. A wonderful split historical narrative that will make you laugh, cry, and come back looking for more.

Death's Last Run by **Robin Spano**. Clare Vengel is a young

undercover FBI agent whose latest assignment is to solve the mysterious death of a U.S. Senator's daughter in Whistler. While the local police are content to rule her death a suicide, Clare soon discovers that the dead girl may have been involved in an LSD smuggling ring, and the local PD may know more than they're letting on. This third novel in the Clare Vengel Undercover Series is a fabulous read!

The Drowned Man by **David Whellams**. In this follow up to *Walking Into the Ocean*, retired Chief Inspector Peter Cammon is sent to Canada in order to retrieve the body of a murdered Scotland Yard colleague. But this seemingly cut-and-dried crime intrigues Peter and he soon discovers that it's much more complicated than anyone thought. A clever whodunnit!

The Statistical Probability of Love at First Sight by **Jennifer E. Smith** (YA 12+). A chance meeting, a shared smile, and one very long flight. When Hadley misses her flight to London by minutes, a chance encounter and a surprise travel companion help her deal with her angry and confused feelings about her father getting remarried. A sweet story about how one moment can change your whole life.

5th Wave by **Rick Yancey** (YA 12+). As one of the last survivors on Earth after the arrival of the 4th Wave, Cassie has learned that there's only one way to survive: trust no one. But the one rule that has kept her alive for this long is threatened when she meets Evan Walker. She doesn't want to trust him, but he may be her only hope for saving her brother or herself. This is a wonderfully written post-apocalyptic YA novel. A thrilling must read!

Here are some great new children's books to keep an eye out for:

For Ages 8-12:

Stitch Head by **Guy Bass** is the story of a young monster

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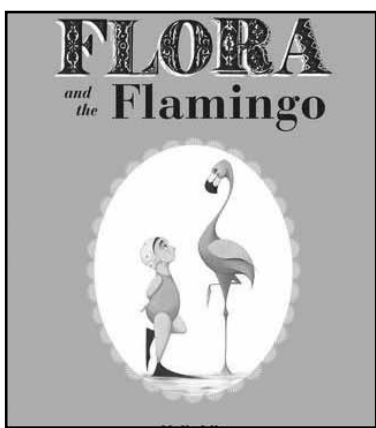
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who sets out on an adventure to try to find his place in the world.

Iron Hearted Violet by **Kelly Barnhill** is a wonderful fantasy of Princess Violet and her friend Demetrius who stumble across a forbidden book that tells an evil story. Along with an ancient, scarred dragon, Violet and Demetrius must make sure that this story has a happy ending – but stories often make their own rules.

Picture Books:

The Somethingosaur by **Tony Mitton** is an adorable story about a small “somethingosaur” that breaks out of its egg to find itself all alone. With few words and wonderful rhymes, Something sets out to find his family.



Flora and the Flamingo by **Molly Idle** is a lovely wordless picture book that features a young girl named Flora who forges a friendship and dancing partnership with a graceful pink flamingo. It's a great book with sweet, simple illustrations and flaps.

Flood by **Alvaro F. Villa** is another wordless picture book. Beautifully illustrated, it depicts the effects of a devastating flood on a family and their home.

Mooncakes by **Loretta Seto** is a beautiful story about a young girl who shares the special celebration of the Chinese Moon Festival with her parents.

Peter Recommends:

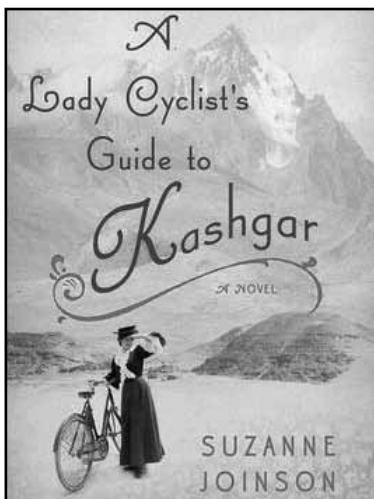
Eiger Dreams: Ventures Among Men and Mountains by **Jon Krakauer**, American climber and author. This is a

set of stories about climbing the world's highest or most inhospitable mountains with an emphasis on the all-consuming obsessions of those involved and the disasters that often result. It might appeal to anyone who- even on a small mountain- has faced the issue when things go wrong (weather, darkness, injury) of whether to push to the summit or retreat. The rest of the world would probably find the whole thing insane.

Skios by **Michael Frayn**. This is for those who would enjoy satirical farces skewering today's society sub-cultures. It requires some suspension of disbelief with its dependence on a complex case of mistaken identities but it is often very funny.

A Lady Cyclist's Guide to Kashgar by **Suzanne Joinson**. This is an intriguing first novel with some superb, sparse prose. The Lady in question doesn't cycle much in the story. Instead the novel interweaves the stories of Eve - a misplaced missionary in Kashgar in 1923, and Freida—a rootless woman in mid-career in present day London, and it illuminates the complexities of clashing cultures and alienation. The book leaves you thinking about its implications long after you've finished it.

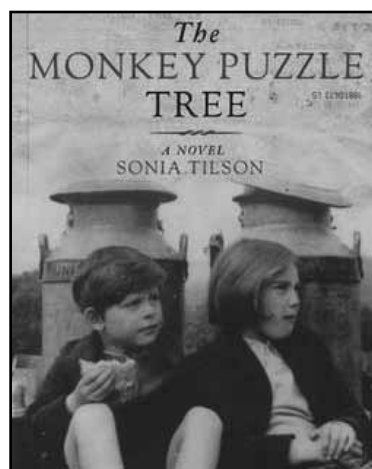
****June Book Events****



Saturday, June 1, from 11 am to 1 pm: **Michael McCann** will be at Books on Beechwood signing copies of his newest mystery novel, *The Fregoli Delusion*. It is the third book

in his Donaghue and Stainer mystery series.

Monday, June 3, at 6 pm: The cross-Canada Fictionistas book tour will be stopping by our store. **Faith Johnston** and **Stella Harvey** will be here signing their books *The Only Man in the World* and *Nicolai's Daughters* respectively. **Sheila Fischman**, the translator of *The Douglas Notebooks* by **Christine Eddie**, will also be here. Local author **Mary**



Hagey (*Castles in the Air*) will be the MC for the event.

Saturday, June 8, from 1 to 3 pm: Local author (and loyal B.on.B. customer) **Sonia Tilson** will be launching her debut novel *Monkey Puzzle Tree*.

Saturday, June 15, from noon to 2 pm: John Kneale will be here to sign copies of his newest book *Volcano Rising: An Ambassador's Diary*.

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The Fight for Good Food Comes to Ottawa Kudos to All Shoe Donors

By Maureen Forsythe

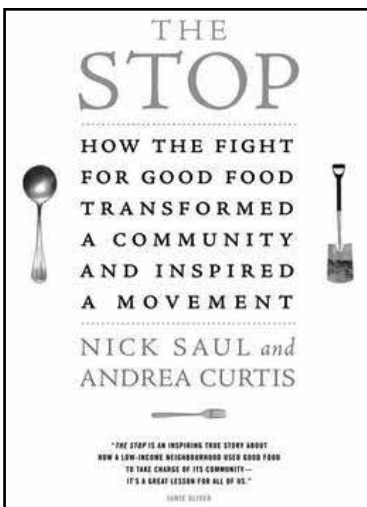
As part of the Ottawa International Writers Festival in April, Nick Saul and Andrea Curtis, co-authors of *The Stop: How the Fight for Good Food Transformed a Community and Inspired a Movement*, shared the remarkable story of how a tiny food bank in Toronto has evolved into a thriving Community Food Centre. Speaking to a packed audience at the Knox Presbyterian Church, the husband and wife duo took turns explaining the challenges of transforming an underfunded traditional food bank, with its “any food will do” approach based entirely on unpredictable food donations, into a community food centre with gardens, kitchens, a greenhouse and farmers’ markets—all designed to support the dignity and health of low-income individuals by bringing people together as active participants rather than passive

recipients of assistance.

At the heart of this transformation is the effort to acknowledge and reclaim the stories of the marginalized and forgotten, and the power of these stories to change the world. A natural storyteller and award-winning writer, Andrea Curtis shares the stories of individuals who turned to The Stop in moments of need and desperation, and who discovered an engaged and welcoming community determined to protect the dignity of vulnerable people.

In discussion with host Joanne Chianello of the *Ottawa Citizen*, the activist couple highlighted the importance of examining social and economic policy that leaves low-income individuals reliant on handouts from food banks, and the need to fight for minimum levels of social assistance that ensure families do not have to choose between paying the rent and providing

their children with something healthy to eat.



In a country with some three million food-insecure citizens who cannot, as journalist Michael Pollan advocates, “vote with their fork”, it is crucial to find ways to engage vulnerable people in Canadian civil society. Andrea notes that “people must fight for change” so civic engagement programs organized by The Stop focus on building the confidence and skills needed for low-income people to advocate more effectively for social justice.

Interested readers can find out more about The Stop at www.thestop.org or drop in at Books on Beechwood to purchase Nick Saul and Andrea Curtis’ new book.

By Alison Wesley-James

In January, 14,000 pairs of gently used shoes arrived in Yemen to be distributed to refugees. Thank you to all donors of shoes to Sole Responsibility and Soles4Souls in Ottawa for helping to make this gift to the refugees possible! In 2012, over 107,500 people arrived along the Gulf of Aden and Red Sea, a record number of persons from the Horn of Africa in search of safety, protection and better economic conditions. As of January 2013, Yemen is acting as host to over 237,000 refugees, of which 226,000 are Somali.

The priority of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Yemen is to provide for a person’s basic needs—shelter, food, water, sanitation and medical care—then address their need for legal protection. That’s why charities such as Sole Responsibility are so highly valued by the UNHCR—the provision of footwear is beyond their financial capability and yet the refugees are so appreciative as they have had to leave their possessions behind.

Gently used shoes will be collected again this year from May 14 to June 15 at Bridgehead Coffeehouse on

Beechwood. The UNHCR will be directing shoe donations to refugees in Rwanda.

Adult and children’s shoes welcome! Please tie each pair together and check that shoes are relatively clean with no tears. We encourage you to donate a toonie per pair in the coin box to help cover the cost of shipping to Rwanda.

Help us to fill the container again with 14,000 pairs of shoes! Volunteers welcome. Call 864-7307.





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IODE 52nd Annual House and Garden Tour - “Rockcliffe Park, Then and Now”

A two-day house and garden tour of five homes and one garden in Rockcliffe Park runs on Friday, June 21 and Saturday, June 22 from 10 am to 4 pm.

This year's two day program is rich and varied. It features homes ranging in vintage from 1907 to 1959, with fine decor, renovations and some fascinating histories:

296 Buena Vista: Built in 1929 it is home to career diplomats and a second generation Rockcliffe family. The house is organized for entertaining and reflects not only a life of travel but also a love of art and colour.

541 Manor Avenue: Built in 1910 has been the home to both Alan Jarvis (Director of the National Gallery of Canada during the 1950s) and Norman Robertson (Undersecretary of State for Foreign Affairs dur-

ing the Gouzenko defection).

419 Acacia: An old house from the beginning of the 19th century, this was once the residence of Prime Minister Robert Borden's brother. When the current owners bought it 1977, it had no insulation and still boasted the original “Octopus” furnace, originally designed to burn coal.

350 Fern Hill: A bungalow built in 1959, the house was occupied at one time by Ethel Perley-Robertson— daughter of Sir George Perley, lumber baron, politician and statesman—and also by Frederick Sherwood, famous as the only Canadian to command a British ship in the Second World War. The house has been recently renovated by two talented designers.

108 Acacia: This home was built in 1907 by famous Ottawa

architect Frank Sullivan. A notable feature is the two-storey portico under a hipped roof supported by splendid Corinthian columns. The present owners have honoured and carefully preserved this designated architectural treasure.

495 Lansdowne Road North: D. Kemp Edwards, a member of Ottawa's lumbering aristocracy built and lived across the street at 494 Lansdowne and when he retired built a second house at 495 Lansdowne where the beautiful garden is being featured.

Free shuttle bus service will be offered along the route of the tour operating on a 15-minute schedule. The program also includes many interesting additional attractions.

At Elmwood School, which

is the central gathering place for the tour, there will be:

- Free Parking
- Complimentary tea and coffee
- Guided tours of the school by New Edinburgh resident Janet Uren
- An audio/visual presentation on the history of Rockcliffe Park
- Walking tours of the neighbourhood, led by heritage expert Sandy Smallwood
- And a presentation—**“Streetcars to the Park: The History of Transport in Rockcliffe”**—by Heritage and transportation expert, David Jeanes on Saturday at 2:30 pm.

Margot Gualtieri will interpret public art in the Village's central gathering place at Springfield Road and Park.

Gardening Expert **Ed Lawrence** will be on hand to answer all your gardening questions.

Julian Armour, cellist, and creator of the Music and Beyond Festival, will play a program of classical music with the Chamber Players of Canada at 350 Fern Hill, presenting highlights from the upcoming festival every half hour both days from 10:30 to 3:45 pm.

Tickets are \$30 and good for both days. They are available now at retailers across Ottawa including Books on Beechwood and Mood Moss Flowers and also online at iode.dreamhosters.com.

The **Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire (IODE)** is a women's charitable organization based in Canada. For more information, you can visit the IODE website or call **Jo Brodie** at 613-842-5304.

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Changing of the Guard at Ashbury College

At the end of this school year, **Tam Matthews**, Ashbury College's ninth Headmaster since the school's founding in 1891, will step down after an outstanding 13-year term as an innovative, energetic and humane leader of this flourishing community institution. In September, Tam will take up a new post, and new challenges, as head of West Point Gray Academy in Kitsilano, Vancouver, where he looks forward to some new opportunities to pursue his former avocation as a world class sailor.

In the course of his tenure at Ashbury, more than 1,650 young men and women have graduated from the school, including his own children Geoff (2004) and Ali (2006). Throughout those years, the school's campus was progressively transformed, and under Tam's leadership, Ashbury pursued an ambitious expansion

program which included the addition of Maclaren Hall; a new double gymnasium; new English classrooms and a new staff room; a major expansion of the Gillin Residence; a handsome new boys' residence; and a new wellness centre. At the same time, plans were laid



Norman Southward, New Head of School, Ashbury College

and a campaign launched to marshal the resources for a new Creative Learning Centre, which is to be the final phase of the campus improvement and the completion of the overall vision for the school developed under Tam's leadership.

In addition to this impressive legacy of physical improvements to the school, Tam is credited with bringing about two enduring and positive changes to the whole culture of Ashbury: the introduction of co-education in the Junior School, and the revitalization of the boarding school program—two measures which have combined to create a more diverse, inclusive and globally-oriented school to the benefit of the whole Ashbury community.

Tam's personal warmth, approachability and genuine interest in the students at Ashbury have inspired respect

and affection throughout the school community, and his enthusiastic participation in school events from charity runs to skits to fundraisers have contributed immeasurably to the positive school spirit that is alive and well on the Ashbury campus today. If ever a Headmaster truly "walked the walk", it has been Tam Matthews!

On Friday, May 10, members of the Ashbury community gathered to pay tribute to Tam, and to celebrate his outstanding legacy at a gala evening of cocktails, dining and dancing. All proceeds from the event are to be dedicated to the Creative Learning Centre as the finishing touch on his tireless efforts to create a world class campus. We wish Tam well, and thank

him for his exceptional contribution to the school, and to the community at large.

In late May, Ashbury announced the appointment of Tam's successor, **Norman Southward**, who is currently Headmaster at St. John's-Kilmarnock School in the Waterloo region. Mr. Southward will take over in January 2014, and in the interval between Tam's departure in July and Mr. Southward's arrival early next year, an Interim Leadership Committee, Chaired by Senior School Head Gary Godkin, has been appointed to take the helm. We welcome Mr. Southward and his family to our community, and wish him well in his new role at Ashbury.



Tam Matthews spends time with friends and students.

A Glimpse of our Signature Summer Events






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GREAT GATSBY GARDEN PARTY**
June 20th, 2 to 4pm


**1940's
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August 17th, 5 to 7pm

**1950's
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Please come to our registration week:

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Swim Safe all Summer Long!

The City of Ottawa wants to remind residents to practice safe swimming habits this spring and throughout the summer. As the warm weather approaches and residents head out to lakes, beaches and pools it is important to remember that drowning deaths are preventable. Following these simple steps could save lives:

- Always keep children within arms' reach, in and around the water. Never leave a child alone, whether it is in the bathtub, a swimming pool or any body of water such as rivers or lakes.

- Make sure children and weaker swimmers wear life-jackets or personal flotation devices (PFD) in and around the water.
- Supervise and swim with children only when free of alcohol, drugs and distractions.
- Keep safety equipment and a phone close to the pool.
- Children under the age of five should never use a hot tub—not even with an adult. Hot tubs are too hot for young children, may have high bacteria, and the drain in the hot tub can trap children.

- Make sure you and your family members learn to swim.
- Enjoy safe boating. Make sure that you and your family members always wear a properly sized lifejacket/PFD when in a boat. When not in use, lifejackets/PFDs need to be kept in a dry, ventilated area and out of direct sunlight.
- Know what to do in an emergency, including CPR and calling 9-1-1.

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News from the House

Issue #8



June 1, 2013

NECTAR Centre Renovations: Urgent Appeal for Funds

To comply with the building and fire code regulations imposed by the city and the province, the NECTAR Centre will be getting a necessary facelift this summer, with work slated to start July 2. Highlights of the work being done include construction of a ramp to make the Centre accessible to community members with restricted mobility, and the retrofits required to bring the building up to building and fire codes. So far, funding for the work has come largely from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, which donated \$50,000, and from our Buy-a-Stake campaign.

We are also very grateful that **La Cité Collégiale** will be supporting us with labour and tools for the project. This is

a substantial contribution that provides much needed expertise and manpower. With the help of La Cité Collégiale, the NECTAR Centre has been able to enlist the assistance of suppliers to secure material and product donations. At the same time, we are actively pursuing the possibility of securing a donation of the fire escape, a contribution which would significantly reduce the overall retrofit cost.

Your Help Is Still Needed On An Urgent Basis!

Despite the generous assistance the Centre has received to date, the costs of this retrofit are extremely high, and we are still far short of the funds required to cover these

costs. **An additional \$100,000 is urgently required** if we are to proceed with the planned construction contract, and stay on course to obtain the City occupancy permit, which is a condition of our mortgage agreement.

Despite the fact that the Centre has made enormous progress in establishing its own operations on a solid financial footing, this retrofit is a one-time, daunting expense that would strain the capacities of any small non-profit organization to the breaking point. While for some months we had high hopes of substantial corporate assistance, we regret to say that this has not materialized, and are now in urgent need of community support to keep the Centre alive and thriving.

Please consider a significant donation of \$1,000 to \$5,000, if you possibly can. We're well aware that this is not for everyone, and are grateful for all the gifts—large and small—that you have given over the years by investing your time, talents, enthusiasm and financial resources in the Centre's development. But if you are able to seriously consider such a donation to secure the future of our much needed community and arts centre, we urge you to do so and sincerely Thank You in advance!

To donate, please call **Melanie Davis at 613-745-2742** or **donate online at www.nectarcentre.ca**. Click on **Support** for the drop-down menu, go to **Donate Now!** and make your contribution through CanadaHelps.org. Tax receipts for the full amount of your donation will be provided.

Have Unused Building Materials?

In addition to the cash required to undertake the renovation, we are reaching out to see if you

can help by donating unused building materials (lumber, paint, fire rated drywall, doors, plumbing, etc.). Or if you happen to know of a source where we could get hold of such supplies, preferably at no cost, please let us know! We still have some way to go, and have a few things on our wish list. Any little bit helps: you'll find a complete list of materials on our website at www.nectarcentre.ca.

Jane's Walk

The NECTAR Centre's own **Isobel Bisby** was one of the principal organizers of this year's **Jane's Walk**, along with the **Beechwood Village Alliance (BVA)** and **New Edinburgh Community Association (NECA)**. The NECTAR Centre wishes to thank Isobel for all her hard work and enthusiasm for this project. We were thrilled with the turnout and enjoyed collaborating on the event with so many community groups... BVA, NECA, Manor Park, Lindenlea, and Quartier Vanier BIA included.

Special thanks to our speakers, **Tobi Nussbaum** and **Julie Lepalme** from Beechwood Village Alliance, who provided a rich educational experience; **Bruce White** from the Bytowne Cinema remembering bygone film eras; **Bruce Grant**, now esteemed local

storyteller; **Mark Kaluski** from the Vanier BIA; and **Councillor Peter Clark**. Thanks also to Bruce Grant for his interesting article elsewhere in this edition, expressing his thoughts on the significance of the event and the ongoing relevance of the legacy of Jane Jacobs. **Sue Hall** from the NECTAR Centre provided fantastic staff support, picking up and returning the sound system and getting the coffee set up. **Roxie Clark** provided extra help with details and kept us all on course. **Bridgehead** coffee, as always, was much appreciated. We would also like to thank the following merchants on Beechwood Avenue for offering a 10% discount to all Jane's Walk participants: **Books on Beechwood**, **The Scone Witch**, **Da Bombe**, **ZaZaZa Pizza**, and **Nature's Buzz**. Thanks to all of you, Jane Jacobs' vision lives on!

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BVA: Art in the Park

The Beechwood Village Alliance (BVA) and the NECTAR Centre will be hosting the second annual Art in the Park event on **Saturday, June 22**. The event will be held in the heart of Beechwood (specific location to be determined: stay tuned for more details on the community website at www.newedinburgh.ca). It will feature a variety of artistic experiences for all ages including music, spoken word, visual arts and crafts.

According to **Julie LaPalme**, founding member of Lemonjellow productions and one of the artists who participated last year, the goal of the inaugural event was to rally the community to get involved in beautifying the neighbourhood.

"It was a tremendously successful event last year," says **Dale Smith**, a member the Beechwood Village Alliance steering committee. "Several hundred people came out and enjoyed what was really a

community party for the five neighbourhoods that connect around Beechwood (Vanier, New Edinburgh, Lindenlea, Rockcliffe Park and Manor Park). There were activities all day long, including arts and crafts, activities for kids, live music, and refreshments that were generously donated by local businesses, including **Fraser Café**, **Arturo's**, and **Second Cup**."

Adds LaPalme, "We want to build on the momentum we created last year. A lot has happened over the past year. People loved that we did this, and we want to keep that going. There has been a lot of progress and this event was a big part of kicking that off."

For more information, follow the Beechwood Village Alliance on Facebook, and to volunteer your time to help out with the event, or to become involved with Beechwood Village Alliance, please contact Dale Smith at dale@dale-smithgallery.com.

The Summer Agenda

It is going to be a busy summer at the New Edinburgh Community & Art Centre (NECTAR), with numerous community events and projects kicking off, and an action-packed start to the season with a full day of events at New Edinburgh House on Saturday, June 1.

Community Garden

The NECTAR Centre is issuing an open invitation to friends, neighbours and local gardeners to attend a consultation about the Community Garden at New Edinburgh House (NEH) on **Saturday, June 1, at 1 pm**. Everyone in the community, young, old, green thumb or horticultural green horn, is invited to attend the meeting and to join with us in planning the design and purposes of our NECTAR Centre garden.

"We have some important decisions to make about the garden and we hope to get ideas and advice from anyone in the community who has an interest in gardening and natural landscapes, or who might have expertise in garden design, horticulture and organics," says Melanie Davis, Executive Creative Director of NECTAR Centre. "Even if you're not a gardening expert, we'd love to hear from you if you're able to help us plan and create a beautiful, fertile space on NEH property."

"This will be a resource and space for the community so we are hoping the community will come out and let us know what their preferences are. Will it be a floral space, a vegetable space, a space for serenity, or some magical combination of all of the above?"

The consultation will be hosted by **Local Eco-Action Families (LEAF)**, which we are pleased to report has agreed to partner with the NECTAR Centre to create the garden. LEAF was formed in 2008 by residents of Lindenlea, Rockcliffe Park and New Edinburgh who wanted make an environmental contribution to the area by helping people to reduce their carbon

footprint, increasing environmental awareness, and promoting change that will lead to a healthier world. We are also thrilled to have **Ferme Lève-tôt** on board as well. They hope to bring education and workshops into the garden as it grows.

Due to the renovations at the NECTAR Centre planned for this summer, the Community Garden will be constructed in two phases. Eventually the garden will completely surround NEH, but the first phase of development will begin this year at the front of the building, which faces MacKay Street. Next year, development will begin at the rear of the building, which backs onto Avon Lane.

Wanted: Donations of Tools or Garden Supplies! If you happen to be downsizing and moving into a gardenless condominium or apartment, or if you've just acquired a sleek new set of garden tools and are prepared to pass on your old ones to a community enterprise, the Centre would warmly welcome donations of tools or gardening supplies to help with the launch of this exciting project.

Community Art Fence

Also taking place at New Edinburgh House on **Saturday, June 1, from 10 am to 4 pm** is an old-fashioned worker bee Fence-Raising party to build the art fence that will surround the community garden. If you have already purchased and painted a stake, or had one painted by our on-site experts, be sure to bring it along and hammer it in to take its place in the colourful ranks lined up around the garden. If you haven't yet bought a stake (or two), there's still plenty of time. Construction of the fence will continue throughout the summer, so drop by NEH or call us at **613-745-2742**. The Buy-a-Stake campaign is now half-way to its goal of \$15,000, and we need your help to reach our target, or better still, to push us over the top!

Lumière Festival Tenth Anniversary

This year's annual Ottawa Lumière Festival will kick off on July 29, and will culminate with a packed line-up of performances for **The Evening of Light celebration starting at 5 pm on August 17**. In the course of those action-packed three weeks, New Edinburgh will host hundreds of artistic presentations and workshops for visitors of all ages.

Lumière, which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year, marks one of the high points of Ottawa's festival season. Once again, Stanley Park in New Edinburgh will be the heart a multicultural carnival of light featuring a rich variety of artistic performances, presentations and events. Set against a natural backdrop, Lumière artists project light and imagery onto water, trees and fields, transforming the park itself into one large performance space filled with acrobatics, dance, music, film and visual arts.

"Lumière embraces all different types of artistic expression, inviting artists from all over the National Capital Region to come together and collaborate through photography, film, performance and visual arts and create something unprecedented," says Melanie Davis, Executive and Creative Director of the New Edinburgh Community & Arts Centre (NECTAR), which presents Lumière each year with the support of numerous prominent local artists and arts groups.

The NECTAR Centre, which is home to 25 working artists and employs more than 120 Ottawa artists annually, is New Edinburgh's creative centre, offering exciting performing, visual, media and literary arts experiences for all ages. NECTAR, says Davis, exists to strengthen artists and to enrich audiences through high quality arts experiences and community arts engagement programs.

For **Gitana Georgia**, a veteran of hundreds of performances, the Ottawa Lumière Festival is particularly poignant. "It was my (late) grandmother's favourite festival," says the 34-year-old Osgoode resident. "She used to go every year, so for me, performing there (is) very special."

Along with partner **Istvan Betyar**, Georgia performs **Fire and Flamenco** – an eclectic fusion of dance, music and circus featuring Flamenco, fire dancing, sword swallowing and fire eating. It is a perfect fit for Lumière, a mix of cultures, styles, art forms and light that draws audiences in and holds them captivated.

"I absolutely love the Lumière Festival," adds professional fire dancer **Sophie Latreille**, who has been performing at Lumière for nine years. Like Georgia's Fire and Flamenco, Latreille's **Fire Weavers** are in the 2013 line-up and she is looking forward to unveiling new elements. "There is a special ambiance there. It really is magical."

Roger D. Wilson, principal of the **Windows Collective** and film curator for the 2013

celebrates our creative spirit. Lumière tears down the fourth wall and provides a dynamic creative experience for everyone."

To **Juliana Dobos** Lumière is more than just an enjoyable time out with her five-year-old daughter, **Parissa**. The New Edinburgh residents have been attending the annual festival for several years and Dobos says it is a fantastic way to connect with the community.

"We meet up with friends



Passion at its fiery best at Lumière 2012. Photo: Andrew Alexander

Lumière Festival, is also planning something totally new and unique for this year's event.

Formed in 2008, the Windows Collective consists of six Ottawa artists who create independent films that explore the creative and subversive possibilities of alternative and transient venues for artistic expression. All six members of the collective will be presenting work at Lumière.

For this year's event, Wilson is building a bicycle-powered projector which will show a three-minute film loop on a screen. Audience members directly participate in the presentation by riding the bike. "They'll be able to alter and control the experience by speeding up or slowing down on the pedals," says Wilson, adding that other members of the collective are looking into using the park's natural settings and projecting films on bushes or rocks or even a floating screen on the water.

Wilson and the Collective last performed at Lumière in 2010 and are happy to be back this year. "It's all about light and that's exactly what film makers are all about. We capture it and release it again (in interesting ways)."

"Lumière is not your typical static audience experience," says Davis. "It invites participation, exploration and

in the community," she says. "You also see people you know but you don't see everyday. This gives you a real sense of belonging."

Originally from Romania, Dobos is pleased that Parissa has access to the kind of multicultural events that weren't available to her when she was growing up. In Romania, the events are more limited in focus, often based around museums or religious art, she says.

"One year (Lumière featured) something regarding people with reduced mobility and (how they can express themselves) with dancing and music. For me it was an extremely important opportunity to educate my child about how there are different people in society and how they are integrated."

Dobos says she and Parissa are already looking forward to this year's festival. "Every year there is a new element that keeps drawing you back. Last year (Parissa) was mesmerised by the fire and flamenco dancing. That was the big thing that captivated both of us. We still talk about it a year later."

For more information about the Ottawa Lumière Festival, or to volunteer, visit www.lumiereottawa.com or email volunteer@nectarcentre.ca.

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Nectar Centre: After-School Program and Summer Camp

Are you a busier-than-ever parent? If so, you may be very interested in our expansion that includes a new, stimulating after-school program that is one of a kind! With everything from enriched arts programming, to fun and games, to support with reading, this unique program runs from 3 to 5:45 pm, Monday through Friday, and provides one-stop programming. By providing educational and fine arts activities on site, it frees up valuable family time on

evenings and weekends. We have space for only a limited number of children in age appropriate groupings, so **early registration is recommended** to avoid disappointment. For more information about this program, please visit us online at www.nectarcentre.ca or call us at **613-745-2742**.

We are also pleased to offer two weeks of **summer camp** for kids aged 5-12. This year we have two weeks of camp. Campers can join us for

one or both weeks. We are so pleased to be offering the camp in collaboration with the Crichton Community Council which has graciously offered up the Fieldhouse to serve as the home base of our camp. Interested families can check the NECTAR Centre website for all the details. We look forward to all the fun and sun!

Please bookmark our new website www.nectarcentre.ca so you can see how our programs and our Centre is developing in the coming months and we invite you to 'like' us on Facebook!

See back cover for details on the summer camp.



Open Doors comes to New Edinburgh House on June 1.

Doors Open at NECTAR / New Edinburgh House

The NECTAR Centre (formerly the Crichton Cultural Community Centre) is again participating in Doors Open Ottawa, for the fourth year in a row. This year we will be throwing open the doors of New Edinburgh House on the **Saturday only, June 1, from 10 am to 4 pm**. Come and visit this lovely Victorian house, which has been the home of New Edinburgh's own community centre since the summer of 2011. The house was built in 1894 by Henry Avery, who was originally the cabinet maker for Thomas MacKay. MacKay's grand-daughters were its first residents, and

they donated it to MacKay United Church, who then used it as a manse, before it was purchased for the community in the summer of 2012.



As noted above, June 1 will

be a busy day at the NECTAR Centre. We will be building our beautiful and colourful Community Arts Fence in the garden, made up from cedar stakes that have been painted by local artists and families. There will also be performances and open rehearsals by several of our Artists in Residence, notably the **Ottawa Stilt Union** (pray for good weather so that they can perform in the garden rather than taking out the light fixtures in the Community Room), along with both our contemporary dance groups, **Connect Dance** and **Collective (gulp) Dance Projects**. Many of our resi-

dent artists will be opening the doors to their studios and they will, as always, be happy for you to look at their works in progress and chat to them about art. The **New Edinburgh Community Gallery** on the first floor of New Edinburgh House will also be showing a colourful exhibition by the **Ottawa Eight**.

There will be refreshments, with drinks and nibbles being generously provided by the **New Edinburgh Square Retirement Residence**.

Fence building, dancing, art and refreshments—it will be a fun-filled and busy day. Hope you can join us!

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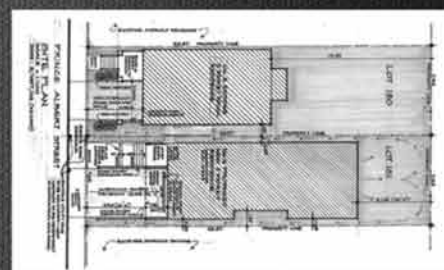
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Cultural Interpretation Services for our Communities: 20th Anniversary Celebration

June 5, 2013 marks the 20th anniversary of the establishment of Cultural Interpretation Services for Our Communities (CISOC), a local non-profit, charitable organization that provides round-the-clock translation and interpretation services in over 60 languages and dialects to new immigrants in our community. The organization is run by a volunteer Board of Directors and an in-house management group, and coordinates a team of more than 160 professional translators and interpreters from a broad range of backgrounds and professions. Of special interest to the NEN is the fact that former **Bread and Roses** staffer **Candice Pouliotte**, with whom many readers will have become acquainted in the course of their trips to the bakery, is now Office Administrator for CISOC, and a strong advocate for its important work supporting new immigrants.

Candice reports that the services of her organization are in constant demand to help, often on a subsidized basis, with the translation of Citizenship applications, permanent residency cards, academic transcripts and other official documents. At the same time, CISOC is called upon for both language and cultural interpretation services by a wide range of organizations

and businesses in the community, including social services agencies, healthcare providers, insurance companies, law enforcement agencies, government departments, schools and colleges. Needless to say, the need for these services can crop up at any hour of the day or night, and CISOC is accordingly geared to respond 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.

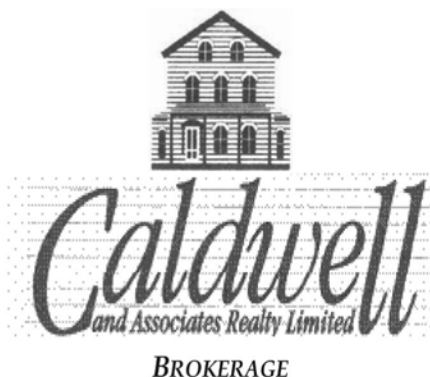
CISOC's two decades of service to the community will be celebrated at a gala reception at City Hall on the evening of June 5, when the Mayor, local MPs and other dignitaries will gather to pay tribute to the valuable work of this organization in serving a growing community of aspiring new Canadians. We thank Candice for staying in touch, and alerting us to the important role of her new place of employment.



Photo: Louise Imbeault
Candice Pouliotte.

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Security Measures Will Slow John Street: May–November

By David Sacks

Residents and motorists who use John Street are advised of possible occasional traffic delays. From now through November, an RCMP-run "security screening" site has been erected alongside John, between Thomas Street and Sussex Drive, on what had been a 30-by-30-metre patch of grass next to the little Government of Canada parking lot. The newly fenced-in site will be used to security-check a parade of construction vehicles—such as cement trucks, flatbeds with caterpillars, etc.—that are due to spend the next six months on a project along the Ottawa River escarpment beyond Sussex. According to the National Capital Commission (NCC), which is coordinating the project, the RCMP will have to security-clear all construction vehicles and crews when they arrive for work

daily, then escort the vehicles across Sussex Drive, onto the grounds of a certain "official residence".

NCC spokesperson Émilie Girard-Ruel declines politely to specify which official residence this might be, citing national security concerns. However, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency website reports that the NCC had proposed "an escarpment rehabilitation project on the shoreline of the Ottawa River behind 24 Sussex Drive, to repair/replace the retaining walls that support the terrain" at the river's edge. Presumably that is this project.

The John Street RCMP site will operate on the following schedule, according to the NCC:

- **June:** 9-to-5, Monday to Friday
- **July and August:** 7-to-7, Monday to Saturday
- **September** through

Art Auction for Cuban Animals a Great Success!

By Kiki Cliff

On Saturday, May 4, an art auction and was held to raise funds for APAC-Varadero (All for Progress in Animal Care). APAC is a relatively new Canadian not-for-profit that seeks to raise money to buy much-needed veterinary supplies for animals in Cuba—primarily anaesthetics that can be used in spay/neuter clinics.

Many local artists donated one or more pieces for the live auction. Every single piece sold, with some creating quite the bidding war, and many, MANY people went home happy with a beautiful piece of art (or two) under their arm! APAC, on behalf of the strays of Cuba, would like to extend their gratitude to **Lauri Anderson, Susan Ashbrook, Margot Blackell, Sarah Doll, Rah Eleh, Carol Froimoitch, John Jarrett, Daniel Martelock, Mique Michelle, Luis Enrique Oliver, Zaneta Pernicova, Judy Tanguay and Irene Tompkins**, who all donated some of their work to the auction, and to **Christine and Murray Short**, who donated two pieces from their own collection.

Our Cuban bar was also a great success—the Mojitos and Piña Coladas were so delicious that hardly anyone touched the wine and "cervezas" that were also on offer. Many thanks to **Jacqui Anderson and Kathy Chandroo** for their intoxicat-

ing work!

Most exciting of all were our Cuban visitors—four legged ones, naturally! Lily Wodzak came all the way from Burlington with her Canadian sister Buffy and her mum Lynne. My own Cuban rescue dog, Mojita, livened up the proceedings by running around greeting everyone and generally not behaving herself. She had a reunion with one of her own puppies when Freddy Bourse-Milne showed up with his parents Mara and Chris.

In the end just over \$3,000 was raised—which translates to up to 500 cats and dogs being spayed or neutered in Cuba. So, many thanks to everyone who came and to everyone who donated. See you next year (maybe!)

For more information about APAC, go to their website

apacvaradero.blogspot.ca.



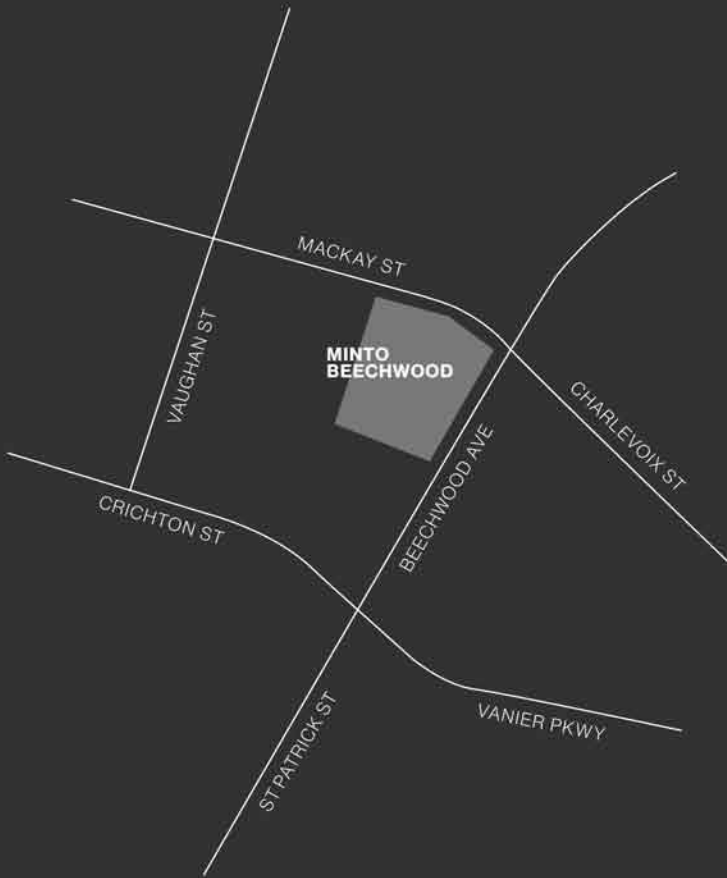
Dame Buffy of Burlington graced us with her regal presence.



Many wonderful pieces of art on display before the auction.

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A Call for Dog Diligence

By Carolyn J. Strauss

As I write, how encouraging it is to once again see signs of life in the park. True, mud is at the forefront of the harbingers of spring. Speaking of mud, it has been noted that dog owners are presently allowing their dogs to run in the field closest to the homes on Stanley Avenue and not in the designated 'under-control' area. This happens when existing soft ground turns to mud from the pawing of happy pups in the area; however, it is very temporary and we really should put on our wellies and have an extra towel at hand once we reach home to wipe off our dogs no matter what size they are. **We should also not block the recreational pathway to other users by standing about to chat, while allowing the dogs to run free.**

As a dog owner, I don't want to lose the privilege of having our dogs off-leash and under control in Stanley Park. I am sure fellow dog owners also appreciate how terrific it is to have an entire field at our disposal. Please let's all use the designated field and not run the risk of being banned from Stanley Park. And by the way,

every season is the season to pick up after your dog. Please **pay attention to your dogs and be on the lookout for their poop!** Let's not be told there are complaints before we act.

Editor's Note: Regardless of whether you view the Stanley Park off-leash dog run area as a right or a privilege, the use of that amenity comes with some basic responsibilities, notably:

- **Always pick up after your dog(s);**
- **Always ensure that your dog is under control; and**
- **Always respect the boundaries of the off-leash area and keep your dog(s) well away from the recreational bike path and children's playground.**

Dog owner Carolyn Strauss is concerned that these responsibilities are being dangerously neglected; making the park a less pleasant place for everyone, and potentially putting at risk the freedom we currently enjoy to allow our dogs to romp in the off-leash area. Carolyn is the owner of Boo Bo, the rescued Cairn Terrier and Bertie, the wire-haired Dachshund.

Redevelopment in the Offing for Tea Tyme

For the past 12 years, the quaint white house at the corner of Beechwood and Langevin Avenue has been home to **Tea Tyme**, an intimate little tea room operated by **Philomena (Philly) Kingsley-Perry** as a quiet haven in which local residents can gather for tea, scones and light sandwiches. For eight of those years, **le Centre d'artistes Voix Visuelle**, a gallery dedicated to showcasing contemporary art and promoting the work of local franco-phone artists, has occupied the second floor of the century-and-half-year-old building.

Plans are now afoot for a major expansion of 81 Beechwood, not simply to upgrade and enlarge the tea room facilities, but also to construct a purpose built hall which would be available to the community for presentations, lectures, meetings and social gatherings of up to 50 people. **The Malcolm B. Perry Hall** is to be dedicated to Philly's late husband, a distinguished scientist associated with the Institute for Biological Sciences at the National Research Council, and a specialist in the fields of biochemistry, analytical chemistry and stereochemistry. Philly has

decreed that when the hall is erected, her husband's name is to be permanently inscribed in cement as an enduring tribute to his memory.

The objective of the new development is to create a hall that is fully accessible, as functionally large as possible, and equipped with upgraded washroom and kitchen facilities to support community events. Architect **Don Brown's** original design also envisages a glass walled "lantern lobby" on the west corner to add visual interest and catch the eye of passers-by as they get a glimpse of activities within. While Philly's tea room and series of evening video presentations and lectures will continue in the immediate future, when she ultimately elects to retire from her current activities, the ground floor will be designed for adaptive reuse as a restaurant, coffee bar or retail outlet.

Following preliminary consultations with the City, Don Brown has been asked to revise his original proposal, and to retain and incorporate the original 1867 building into the new development. When we went to press, he was in the process

of making the requested modifications to the plan, as well as devising an alternative proposal which would involve a complete overhaul of the existing structure, but carried out in the late-nineteenth century style and spirit of the original. A complicating factor imposing some unanticipated constraints on both the scale and design of the new development, is the City's planned widening of Beechwood which requires 5 metre clearances from the curb edge. Work on the project design is moving ahead, however, and as the architect does not plan to seek any variances, there are grounds for optimism that the redevelopment could proceed without undue delays.

Stay tuned for more news on this project, which we hope will be another positive step in the unfolding rejuvenation of Beechwood, offering much-needed community gathering space and future opportunities for new retail ventures.



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Si Quieres, Pueden Reir

By Joyce Dubuc

"Do you have your will written?" was one of the first questions an acquaintance asked when she learned I was going to Nicaragua. Well, yes, my will is prepared, but that really wasn't my first concern. (When I related this to some of my Nica friends they roared with laughter.)

I spent over a month in Nicaragua in 2012 and, as I was traveling alone this year, I decided to return to a familiar spot, Granada. Last year, I spent two weeks at a Spanish school there, before my travel buddies arrived. I loved Casa

Xalteva, a non-profit school that helps neighbourhood kids stay in school. I also loved my home-stay family. While the house is not up to North American standards, it was only steps from the school, my (younger than me) "Mom" was wonderful, and where else can you get complete room and board for \$90 a week??

Granada is a colonial city of about 110,000 people. It is very picturesque, with a lot of beautiful colonial buildings and an interesting history. Due to a lot of political problems and natural disasters, Nicaragua is second only to

Haiti as the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. One main way this is reflected is in their poor education system. While school attendance is mandatory, children are required to have shoes and their own school supplies to attend school. One of the schools we have helped has a number of parents who work in the garbage dump, searching for recyclables. After a long, hot, dirty day working in the dump, they may earn about \$1. With school supplies for the children costing \$5 for each semester, you can understand why school supplies are hard to come by.

A previous Canadian student at Casa Xalteva learned of the difficulties of obtaining school supplies and started a small charity, "SI Quieres, Pueden Reir" (if you want, they can laugh), also called The Nicaraguan School Project. For the last five years, she has been raising money and going to Granada twice a year to supply 600 kids (two schools) with school supplies. As she is no longer able to do this, she asked that I help out, and I happily agreed.

By just asking everyone I know, family, friends, neighbours, my book club, MacKay church members, I was able to raise enough for my first school supply trip. With the help of Casa Xalteva staff



Nicaraguan students receive school supplies. Photo: Joyce Dubuc

(who have been helping since the charity started), I was able to buy the supplies, participate in the work party making up the packages, and, of course, deliver the packages to the schools. The excitement at the schools was palpable, as a group of us pulled up in a truck loaded down with the "paquettes." For most of the kids, receiving school supplies is one of the very few times they will have anything new.

PLEASE help these kids by donating....Si Quieres,

Pueden Reir cannot supply tax receipts, but another charity in another part of Nicaragua does, and will pass the money on. **ALL of the money raised goes directly to the children.** The two small expenses (gas and plastic bags) are paid for by me.

Please check the web page nicaraguaschoolproject.org, or like our Facebook page Si Quieres, Pueden Reir. Feel free to email or phone me with any questions: jdubuc93@gmail.com or 613-745-9904.



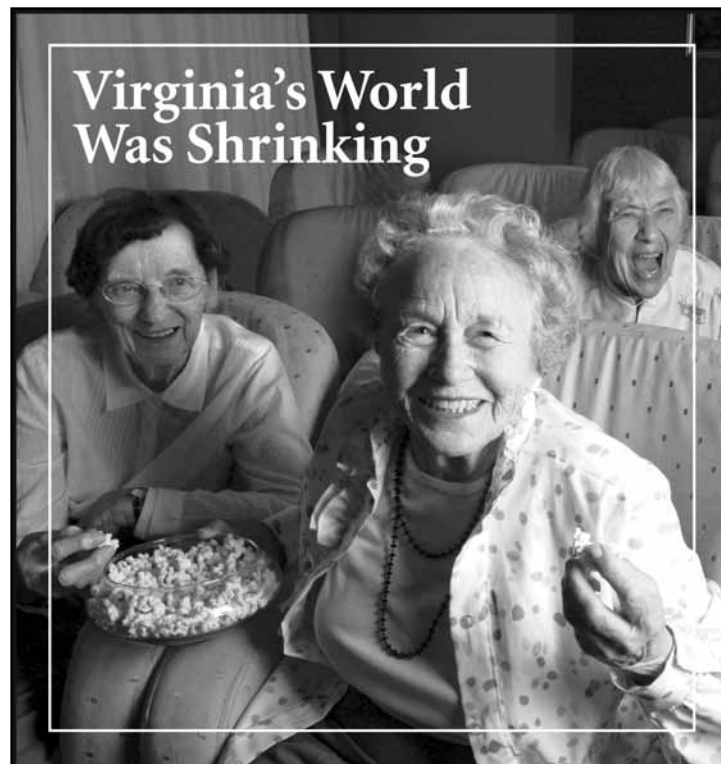
Omar, the driver, helps Joyce pronounce names in Nicaragua.

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By Liba Bender

Better weather means people move around a lot more and may not take as many precautions.

Your vehicle is a good example of this: get in and go. Get out. What about protecting it from theft? Although vehicle thefts occur all year, they are highest during June, August, September (peak) and October. There are more than 5,000 reported vehicle thefts a year in Ottawa. Although they can take place anywhere, most occur in parking lots, private driveways and on residential streets. That includes our neighbourhood.

In July 2011, based on the Edmonton Police Service/CAA

concept, Ottawa Police initiated a theft prevention campaign by handing out yellow **All Valuables Removed** cards to remind vehicle owners they should secure their belongings and to deter thieves.

This tool can work. But the vehicle owners who are concerned about thefts must take an active part to prevent crime.

What attracts thieves and vandals? Anything in plain view.

The yellow warning cards are available at all Community Police Centres and by request at pia@ottawapolice.ca and are to be used as a crime prevention tool. They raise awareness about vehicle theft. However, to work they must

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

be combined with enforcement, community awareness and prevention programs such as Neighbourhood Watch.

On the back of the cards are six theft prevention pointers:

- Don't leave personal identification, vehicle registration, insurance certificates or credit cards in your vehicle.
- Remove valuables and shopping bags from view. This includes loose change and

electronic devices.

- Never leave your vehicle running and unattended.
- Always close windows and lock all doors.
- Never leave your car or house keys in your vehicle.
- Park in well lit areas with pedestrian traffic.

Get involved in crime prevention. Use these tips to help prevent vehicle theft and theft from vehicles. For additional safety tips, please visit

ottawapolice.ca or contact your Community Police Centre.

In the end, the card should definitely remind all of us how to prevent theft. Maybe it will also advise would-be-thieves not to bother breaking into the vehicle.

Remember, Ottawa Police cannot be everywhere. They need us to play a role in crime prevention. Please do your part and take all precautions.

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For the Birds



By Jane Heintzman

After the long winter's avian drought, the migrant bird population has at last returned to our area, beginning with a gradual trickle in late March and steadily escalating to a full-blown torrent in late April and May. Those of us who await this annual pilgrimage with eager anticipation bear no resentment for the morning hours of lost sleep occasioned by the lusty chorus of bird song outside our windows on these soft spring mornings.

In and around our garden, the first of these carollers is the **American robin** (an early riser, normally in full throat before 5 am), followed by a swelling choir of **song sparrows**, **white-throated sparrows**, **black-capped chickadees**, **Northern cardinals**, **American goldfinches**, **house finches**, **dark-eyed juncos** and (annoyingly) noisy **black-birds** such as **common grackles**, **red-winged blackbirds** and the ubiquitous **American crow**. Across the street on the Rideau River, the symphony is often punctuated by the companionable quacking of **mallard pairs** or the signature squawk of **Canada geese**.

The first signs of returning bird life occurred in our garden over the Easter weekend, when the winter-long desert around our feeders gave way to an influx of mixed flocks of **American goldfinches**, **house finches**, a spectacular **purple finch**, **dark-eyed juncos**, **Common grackles** and **European starlings**. On the last day of March, I spotted my first **American robin** and first **song sparrow**, followed shortly thereafter by a somewhat less welcome **red-winged blackbird**. In the same week, things livened up on the rivers, where I sighted a flock of **turkey vultures** flying over the Ottawa, as well as pairs of **wood ducks**, **mallards**, **hooded mergansers**, **common goldeneye**, and a solo **great blue heron** on the Rideau.

In the second week of April, a **common redpoll** invasion began in our garden, and persisted throughout most of the month to the point that I was hard-pressed to keep our feeders replenished. It seems safe to say that 2013 can be counted

a redpoll "irruption" year of epic proportions, as these hungry little finches swamped the backyards and bushes of the community, elbowing other contenders out of the prime feeding spots as they bulked up for the trip to their breeding grounds in the subarctic regions.

These hardy northern finches are noted for their high energy metabolisms and can withstand frigid temperatures of up to -65°F by tunneling into snow banks to stay warm at night. They are especially efficient eating machines thanks to their throat pouches, where they can store seed for later consumption. Worldwide, their numbers are estimated in the tens of millions, a figure which seems entirely plausible given the thousands that have turned up this year in our community alone!

Another highlight of early April was the return of large flocks of **tree swallows**, which

bank-, **barn-** and **cliff swallows** among the dominant tree swallow flock. Thanks to the expert in our community who reported that interesting ID!

April 17 was a memorable day in my spring birding season. Along with the **song sparrows**, **dark-eyed juncos**, **American robins**, **goldfinches**, **house finches** and **common redpolls**, which had been around since early in the month, I encountered my first **white-throated sparrow**, my first **warbler** the gregarious **yellow rump**, a **brown creeper**, an **Eastern phoebe** pair, **chipping sparrows**, several **white breasted nuthatches**, a beautiful rusty brown and gray **fox sparrow**, a lovely pinkish **mourning dove**, pairs of **double-crested cormorants**, **black ducks** and **wood ducks** on the Rideau, and literally clouds of **ruby-crowned** and **golden-crowned kinglets**, which were suddenly in evidence throughout the community, flitting among the upper branches of trees and shrubs, continuously flicking their tiny

on Jill's knee), Jill watched in fascination as they hungrily devoured her supplies of seed before departing as swiftly as they had arrived.

Later in April, an **American tree sparrow** joined the throng at our backyard feeders, devoting much of its time to foraging on the ground but also taking a few passes at the nyjer feeder, which is normally reserved for the finch population and not a favourite in the sparrow world. The tree sparrow takes a little work to identify, but has a number of distinguishing features, including a clear gray breast with a central black dot; a rusty red crown and thin rufous eye-line, and a two-toned bill which is black on top and yellow below. Like many of the migrant song birds that are around at this time of year (including the **fox sparrow**, **white-throat sparrow** and **white-crowned sparrow**), American tree sparrows eventually head north to breed in the subarctic regions.

In the third week of April, Stanley Park was alive with **warblers**, primarily the **yellow-rump** variety but also the **palm warbler**, a colourful creature with a bright chestnut cap, yellow face and the habit of wagging its tail to display its bright yellow tail feathers. The palm warbler pair I spotted was, however, overwhelmingly outnumbered by the dozens of yellow rumps that had collected in the trees by the river, flashing their bright spring plumage of charcoal gray, yellow, black and white. In addition to their remarkable swiftness and agility, yellow rumps are noted for clinging to the bark surface of trees as they forage for insects.

Toward the end of April, the **redpoll** population thinned out as flocks headed north for the breeding season, and the **dark-eyed junco** took over as the dominant species at our backyard feeders and throughout the community. With its tidy gray plumage and flashing white tail feathers, the junco is easily identifiable and ranks among the most abundant forest birds in North America, with recent population estimates exceeding 600 million.



Photo: Louise Imbeault
Juvenile Cooper's Hawk.

While they seem to co-exist comfortably with the **finches**, **white throats** and **song sparrows** in our garden, juncos are less compatible with **white-crowned sparrows**. As I write, the first contingent of **white-crowns** is arriving for its annual stopover en route to the Arctic, and I'm guessing that the juncos will soon be muscled out of the garden until the white crowns have had their fill and moved on.

A regrettable development of recent days has been an influx of **blackbirds**, including **red-winged blackbirds**, **common grackles** and a **brown headed cowbird**. These pushy creatures are anything but model visitors at our feeders, and indeed have managed to ravage our supplies of sunflower seed at a rate unequalled even by the squirrel pests that haunt the garden. In their bright breeding plumage, both the male grackle, with its glossy green cap and iridescent black body, and the red-winged blackbird, with its signature red and yellow shoulder patches, are admittedly handsome brutes despite their lack of "table manners".

The **brown headed cowbird** has no such distinction, however, and is a menace to other species due to its parasitic habit of laying its eggs in others' nests and abandoning its young to be "fostered" by other birds. **Yellow warblers** are frequently among its chosen victims, and while they apparently recognize the



Photo: Mike Leveillé

Golden-crowned Kinglet at the Macoun Marsh.

I spotted on several occasions wheeling and diving in pursuit of insects over the Rideau River close to the falls. These handsome creatures have deep blue iridescent backs and clean white throats and breasts. Difficult as it is to catch their distinguishing features as they careen in perpetual motion, you may be able to spot their long pointed wings and short, slightly notched tails. My birding neighbour Amy Jane Lawes and I both noticed that the swallow flocks over the Rideau included some individuals not quite fitting that description, but neither of us was expert enough to identify the outliers. As it turned out, the Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club Birding Report for that week (www.ofnc.ca/breports.php) recorded a mixed swallow group at the Rideau Falls, including small numbers of

wings.

A week earlier, I received an early warning of the arrival of the **kinglet** population from Jill Hardy, whose home on MacKay Street was once again a staging point for a large flock of **ruby-crowns**. While it was too cold for the Hardys to sit out on their patio as they did last year when the flock arrived, (prompting one bold little critter with its mohawk-like ruby crown to light briefly



Phoebe.

Photo: Amy Jane Lawes

eggs as alien, they are too tiny to pitch them out of their nests. Their ingenious fall back option is to build another nest on top of the cowbird eggs in which to lay and incubate their own clutch.

Needless to say, the continuous action at our backyard feeders is a magnet for the raptor population, and on one occasion, we watched in mingled horror and fascination as a **sharp-shinned hawk** swooped in to bag a pigeon about five feet from our sunroom window. The hawk proceeded to peck the squirming victim until it eventually succumbed, and was consumed with remarkable efficiency as we sat down for our own evening meal trying to avert our gaze from the gory spectacle.

The End of an Era: Farewell to Elizabeth Le Geyt

At the end of March, renowned *Ottawa Citizen* birding columnist Elizabeth Le Geyt retired from her post after 39 years, and at the venerable age of 98! Like me, most readers of this column have undoubtedly been regular devotees of Mrs. Le Geyt's wonderful weekly columns reporting on birding encounters throughout the area. The breadth and depth of her knowledge and experience in the identification, habits and distribution of birds is extraordinary, but from my perspective, of even greater importance is her genuine love for

forward to continuing excellent coverage of the avian beat under his watch.

Reports from Our Readers:

Not surprisingly since our regular "beats" are virtually identical, my close neighbour **Amy Jane Lawes** has an early spring list of bird sightings which closely resembles my own. She too has encountered large **tree swallow** flocks over the Rideau River, along with plenty of **ruby- and golden-crowned kinglets**, a **brown creeper**, an **American tree sparrow pair**, a **palm warbler pair**, **song sparrows**, **yellow-rump warblers** and even a **belted kingfisher** flying over her house on Union Street. In an excursion to Gatineau Park, Amy also spotted an **Eastern phoebe** and a **pine warbler**, and while visiting the Pontiac, she had the good luck to see (and photograph) an **Eastern bluebird**. Among the species she encountered on an outing to Shirley's Bay, Amy reported seeing her first **fox sparrow**, as well as a group of **buffleheads**.

Philip MacAdam, owner/operator of **Phil's Avian Bistro**, has had a busy spring attempting to keep up with the finch feeding frenzy at the bistro. Throughout April, Philip's feeders were inundated with **common redpolls**, **house-**, **gold-** and **purple finches**, along with **dark-eyed juncos**, **sparrows** (including a **swamp**

birding code of ethics and respect these birds. Give them space and don't push them." In particular, he noted that it's not uncommon for young owlets to fall out of the nest, and cautioned readers to leave them alone in their parents' care and not attempt to "rescue" them.

The **black-backed woodpecker** is relatively rare in our

- easy pickin's at the thousands of backyard feeders now in operation. The male of the species has a blue-gray back with buff-coloured under parts, while the female is predominantly brown. As in the case of most raptors, the female is considerably larger than her mate, a clever physiological adaptation which allows the



Female Pine Warbler at Macoun Marsh. Photo: Mike Leveillé

area, preferring burned-out sites and following infestations of the wood-boring beetles that are its staple diet. Its singular foraging habits involve stripping large chunks of bark off trees, as opposed to simply boring holes to unearth its prey. The male of the species has a black back, barred white and black sides, a white chest and belly, and a distinctive yellow cap.

Over at the **Macoun Marsh**, St. Laurent Academy science teacher **Mike Leveillé** has reported a number of interesting spring visitors, including **golden-crowned kinglets**, **dark-eyed juncos**, **common redpolls**, a **pine warbler** and a **merlin**. The **merlin** is a small (9-12") falcon, now common in urban areas where it preys on small birds and pigeons

male and female to hunt different prey and thus decrease the size of the territory required to feed a mated pair.

Dave Collyer, our Central Alberta correspondent, has had an action-packed spring from a birding perspective, recently reporting an influx of **snow geese**, **mallards**, **American shovellers**, **Northern pintail**, **Franklin's gulls**, **Bonaparte's gulls**, **bufflehead**, **common goldeneye**, **white-fronted geese**, **coot**, **Hudsonian godwit**, **blue-winged teal**, **sandhill cranes**, **American avocets**, **mountain bluebirds**, **tree sparrows**, **song sparrows**, **greater yellow legs** and **willet**. Earlier in the spring, he encountered **trumpeter swans**, a **bald eagle**, **northern harrier**, **American robins** and **horned larks**.

Our versatile NEN Photographer **Louise Imbeault** spotted and photographed a number of spring arrivals, including **red-winged black birds**, **chipping sparrows**, **Canada geese**, and **juncos**. Louise also encountered a very large (probably female) **juvenile Cooper's hawk** which seemed unperturbed when she came within a few metres of its perch, and posed obligingly for a series of marvellous photographs.

Daphnée Dubouchet-Olscheski had a close encounter with two **red-winged black-birds** on Parliament Hill. She watched in delight as the two birds appeared to communicate with one another, lifting their wings as they sang.

Back to the Books:

As the spring unfolds, we can look forward to the arrival of more than 250 species moving through eastern Ontario, including up to 24 species of **warblers**. Now's the time to assemble your field guides to help with those tricky identifications as these beauties flood into our area. If you're just starting a birding reference library, here are a few suggestions:

Bruce Di Labio's Picks:

- *The Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Eastern North America*, by David Allen Sibley
- *National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America*, Sixth Edition, Fully Revised and Updated, by Jon L. Dunn and Jonathan Alderfer

My Personal Pick:

- *Stokes Field Guide to Birds: Eastern Region*, by Donald and Lillian Stokes.-



Pine Warbler.

Photo: Amy Jane Lawes

the bird population and profound concern for its welfare.

She takes real delight in the quirks and often comic aspects of bird behaviour, and never failed to remind her readers of the importance of doing all that they can to protect this vulnerable population, rather than cause it harm through carelessness, neglect or overzealous invasion of bird habitat in relentless pursuit of "photo ops". Mrs. Le Geyt's sage and delightful columns will be greatly missed, and we wish her continuing enjoyment of the birds in her garden during her well-deserved retirement.

Well-known local naturalist, consummate bird photographer and birding guide **Bruce Di Labio** has taken over from Mrs. Le Geyt, and we look

sparrow) and **Northern cardinals** foraging on the ground below, or sampling his new menu option—a safflower/berry mixture—on a hanging tray feeder. In his rambles through Rockcliffe Park, Philip has logged a number of other notable sightings, including a **Northern flicker**, a rare **black-backed woodpecker**, a strangely coloured (predominantly gray and white-possibly albino?) **wild turkey**, and a **great horned owl**, which he encountered in Pine Hill woods.

In a recent *Ottawa Citizen* birding column, **Bruce Di Labio** issued a special caution about approaching **great horned owls** during this critical breeding season, urging readers to "keep in mind the

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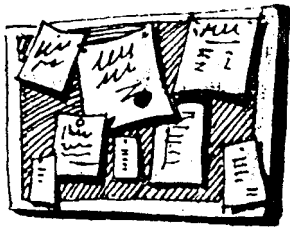
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JUNE

Sat, Jun 1, 8:30 am - noon
Manor Park Garage Sale - Scouts BBQ and more! Manor Park Community Centre, 100 Thornwood Road.

Sat, Jun 1 & Sun, Jun 2, noon - 5 pm
11Th Annual Garden Exhibit at Gordon Harrison's John Street studio - Rain or shine, there will be wine, appetizers and of course art-work! 81 John Street. Call 613-746-6983 for more info.

Sat, Jun 1, 10 am
Curvy Girls Scoliosis Support Group Of Ottawa is holding its 2nd annual Scoliosis Awareness Walk to raise awareness of Scoliosis in the community and schools, to educate children and families

and to promote early diagnosis. Curvy Girls Scoliosis Support Group of Ottawa (the first in Canada) is a peer-led support group for pre-teen, teens and families of those diagnosed with scoliosis. Scoliosis is an abnormal curvature of the spine affecting approx. 1 million people in Canada. Girls are seven times more likely than boys to develop a curve requiring some form of treatment. The walk will start at Stanley Park; the length is 3KM. For more information email us at curvy-girlsottawa@gmail.com or contact **Andrea Lebel** at 613-795-2144.

Tue, Jun 4, 4:30 - 9 pm
Emerald Ash Borer Info Session presented by City of Ottawa staff at Jim Durell

Recreation Centre, Ellwood Hall, 1265 Walkley Road.
www.ottawa.ca.

Sun, Jun 9, 2 - 4:30 pm
Beechwood Cemetery's Annual Historical Walking Tour - This year's theme is the War of 1812. The tour includes five stops at the gravesites of men and women who participated in the war or were instrumental in recording it. The tour will include war veterans Sgt Andrew Hill and Maria Hill and military historian and WWI veteran Brigadier General Ernest Alexander Cruikshank. Costumed actors will bring these historical figures to life.

Don't miss this stroll through beautiful and historic Beechwood, the National Cemetery of Canada. For more information call Nicole at 613-741-9530 ext 121, or by email: foundation@beechwoodcemetery.com. The event is outdoors. Refreshments will be served after the tour. Enter by Beechwood Avenue entrance. Tour and parking are free. Wear good walking shoes.
www.beechwoodcemetery.com.

Mon, Jun 10, 7 - 9 pm
Open House On Rideau River Crossing presented by the City of Ottawa at the Overbrook Community Centre, 33 Quill Street. www.ottawa.ca.

Mon, Jun 10, 7:30 pm
Annual General Meeting - Crichton Community Council - at the Stanley Park

Fieldhouse, 193 Stanley Ave. All are welcome.

Mon, Jun 17, 7:30 pm
Neca Board Meeting at St. Bartholomew's Church on MacKay. All welcome.

Fri, Jun 21 & Sat, Jun 22, 10 am - 4 pm
52Nd Annual Iode Laurentian House And Garden Tour - A tour of the homes and gardens of Rockcliffe Park. Tickets will be available at retailers across Ottawa as of mid April. For more information contact: Jo Brodie at 613-842-5304.

Fri, Jun 21, 6 pm
Child Haven International is hosting its 28th annual fundraising dinner in Ottawa at Tudor Hall, 3750 Bowesville Rd. Child Haven operates homes for over 1,000 children and assists 150 women in India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Tibet in China. For tickets and info contact Linda Uhryniuk at 613-730-5412 or Child Haven at 613-527-2829 and www.childhaven.ca.

Sat, Jun 22
Art In The Parking Lot Join in a lively celebration of Beechwood. Location to be determined. Check the community website www.newed-inburgh.ca for updates.

Jun 26 - 30, 7:30 - 9 pm
RCMP Musical Ride Canadian Sunset Ceremony at the RCMP stables at St. Laurent Blvd and Sandridge Road. Admission is free, but donations accepted with all funds going to the RCMP

Foundation. Bring a blanket or lawn chair.

JULY

Sat, Jul 6, 2 - 3:30 pm
Annual Strawberry Social at Governor's Walk Retirement Residence, 150 Stanley Ave. Join us for an afternoon of great music and strawberry delights. To RSVP call 613-564-9255 or email gwactivities150@gmail.com.

AUGUST

Sun, Aug 11, 4 - 8 pm
Penny-Palooza - Bring out the family and friends for an afternoon/evening of toe-tapping live music, food and fun in Anthony Vincent Park! Penny-Palooza will feature great live musicians/bands, delicious BBQ fare, and other fun surprises!

Penny-Palooza is organized to raise funds for the Ottawa Hospital Women's Breast Health Centre. We look forward to seeing you all on August 11!

SEPTEMBER

Mon, Sep 16, 7:30 pm
Neca Board Meeting at the Stanley Park Fieldhouse, 193 Stanley Avenue. All welcome.

Sat, Sep 21, 9 am - 3 pm
New Edinburgh Annual Community Garage Sale - You have all summer to collect up stuff and get ready for the big sale. Your donation of 10% of sales goes to support community events and the Fieldhouse. For more info contact Cathy: 613-746-0303.



Classified Ads

RATES: \$10, first 25 words; \$5, each additional 25 words, payable on submission of ad. Public service ads (such as lost & found) free. Call Cindy Parkanyi, 745-8734 or email newednews@hotmail.com.

Dog/Cat Walking and Sitting Your house plants are also safe with me!. Emergency and regular daily walking. References. Liba Bender: 613-746-4884.



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Local Resident Hits the Big Stage for Carousel

By Alison Foley Howard

Annie Marland, a New Edinburgh resident, has spent most of her life so far in activities that have prepared her well for her first role with Orpheus Musical Theatre Society. Annie will be singing, dancing and acting as part of the ensemble for Orpheus's production of *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Carousel*.

A grade 11 student at Ashbury College, Annie has spent nine years in the professional program at The School of Dance, spent two summers at a ballet program in Boston, played violin since age four and is in a string trio with her two sisters (The Savvy Strings). Clearly, it's a musically talented family. It's been great fun for Annie working with a very talented cast and crew that ranges in age

from 8 to over 60.

The story in *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Carousel* revolves around carousel barker Billy Bigelow, whose romance with millworker Julie Jordan comes at the price of both their jobs. He attempts a robbery to provide for his family, but it all goes wrong. He dies, but later is given a second chance to make things right. The show includes such well-known songs as "If I Loved You," and "You'll Never Walk Alone."

This Orpheus production will be a revival that is appealing and relevant to a 2013 audience. It will be true to the story, but approach the characters differently; emphasizing the strength and power of the women; and shifting the focus from one man seeking redemp-

tion to a generation of individuals seeking understanding and to be understood.

You can see Annie in *Carousel* from May 31 to June 9 at Centrepointhe Theatre. Shows begin at 7:30 pm Tuesday to Saturday and at 2 pm on Sundays.

Tickets for *Carousel* are available at **orpheus-theatre.ca, 613-580-2700** or at the Centrepointhe Box Office. Adults: \$40/\$37, Seniors (65+): \$37/\$31, Children(0-12): \$25/\$20.

High School students can purchase \$5 eyeGo tickets with valid student ID. Post-secondary students can purchase \$10 rush tickets with valid student ID. Tuesday and Wednesday rush tickets can be purchased ahead of time, all others on the day of the show.

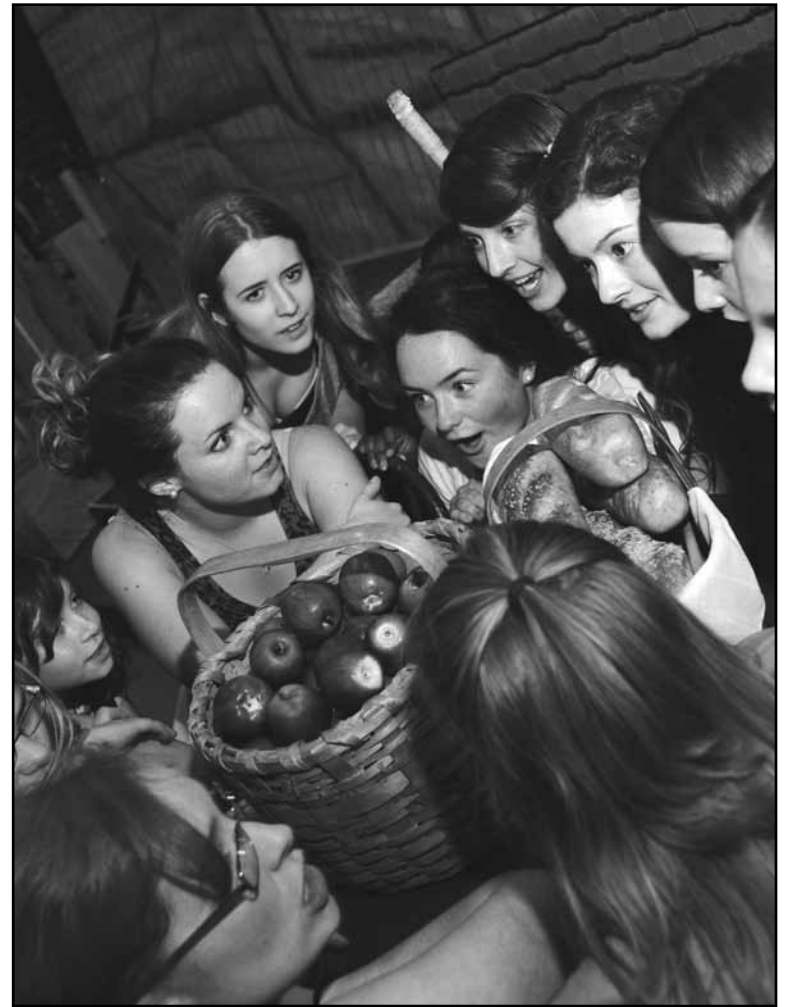


Photo credit: David Pasho / Production Ottawa
Annie Marland (centre, left of bread basket) at rehearsal for *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Carousel*.

Update on "The Invisible Lane"

In our February 2013 edition, we featured a report from Vaughan Street resident **David Mennier** on a controversy surrounding the fate of a long untraveled laneway abutted by 24 properties in a slice of the neighbourhood bounded by Ivy Crescent, Bertrand Street, Vaughan Street and Putman Avenue.

The problem arose when the new owners of 169 Ivy Crescent applied for and were granted permission for rear access to their property via the theoretically "open" but largely invisible lane, in order to park and recharge their electric car. This raised the spectre of a wholesale reopening of a lane which, for decades, had been unused as a vehicular passage, and which residents of the abutting properties had long since taken over for a variety of purposes, including cultivated gardens, mature trees, sheds and other backyard amenities.

At the time of his report in February, David and a group of neighbours also affected by the possible reopening were considering an application to the City to purchase and permanently close the portion of the lane between the soon-to-be-created 25 metre southern access to 169 MacKay Street, and an existing opening at the north end providing access to 99 Putman Avenue.

David now reports that, in the end, the group was unable to muster the full support of the residents affected, and decided not proceed with the application. In subsequent consultations with **Alain Miguez** of

the City Planning Department, they were advised that such an application was unlikely to have been successful in any event, since the effect would have been to "land-lock" properties in the central portion of the lane, and dead-end those at either end. As things now stand, except for the 25 metres about to be opened at the south end for rear access to 169 Ivy, the rest of the lane remains status quo.

To lighten the load on the three property owners immediately affected by the reopening of the southern portion of the lane, David's group offered to help clear out their encroachments on the laneway to avert any by-law infraction issues and make way for the grading of the designated 25 metre stretch. In two of these cases, however, he reports that the residents have tackled the job themselves, while in the third case on Vaughan Street, the offer of assistance has been accepted, and a date is to be set to get on with the work.

City Framework Policy on Lanes Approved by Council April 24

The recent laneway struggle in our neighbourhood was just one instance of a city-wide problem resulting from the lack of a coherent policy framework applying to the management of the 65 kilometres of lanes within city boundaries. In an attempt to address this, City staff undertook an exhaustive analysis and review of the patchwork of existing policies, and produced a comprehensive set of recommendations to Planning

Committee on the management of urban lanes. The resulting report was ultimately approved by full Council on April 24, and interested readers can find the related documents at <http://ottwatch.ca/meetings/City%20Council/2474> (See **Sections 8: Urban Lanes-Management Policies and Standards, and 12: Urban Lanes-Encroachment Policies.**)

The principal issues addressed in the staff reports include two with direct bearing on the recent controversy in our community, viz.:

- The piecemeal closure and sale of portions of lanes that leave landlocked parcels inside blocks with no access or dead-ends the portions that remain open; and

- The perception by property owners that about the lanes of inconsistent City responses to applications for closures or of utilization of lanes for parking access.

As David and his neighbours had been alerted in consultations related to their possible application for a partial closure of the laneway, the new policy framework expressly opposes any application that would result in land-locked properties, as would have been the case in this instance. Nor would the environmental benefits of such "encroachments" on unused lanes, such as mature trees and cultivated green spaces outweigh the perceived advantages of reopening lanes for vehicular access.

According to the staff report: "Staff is of the opinion that the environmental trade-

off between the loss of vegetation and the benefits to the neighbourhood of improved streetscape conditions...(with) equivalent opportunities for front yard vegetation...and the strengthening of a pedestrian-supportive environment along a sidewalk by minimizing curb cuts, may often be in favour of making use of the lane."

On the question of existing encroachments on unused lanes, such as those which have been a feature of the landscape in the Ivy/Bertrand/Vaughan/Putman quadrant for decades, Council has approved a recommendation specifying that where such lanes "have been occupied by abutting owners over the years and there are no immediate plans to use them as public highways or gain access to them for the purpose of utility maintenance or repairs, the City (will) not proactively pursue the removal of encroachments, but rather, charge a **nominal encroachment fee** when such encroachments are discovered. This fee is not meant to be punitive or unnecessarily onerous, but to serve as a record of the encroachment."

One of the principal concerns of David and his neighbours throughout this episode involved a failure of communication on the part of the City, which had neglected to regularly inform (or remind) the abutting property owners of a laneway encroachment issue,

or to engage them in consultations prior to the approval of the application to reopen the south end of the lane.

David believes, however, that there are now grounds for optimism that the City has got the message about the need for improved communication, noting a provision in the new policy framework specifying that "Property owners abutting a Type 6 lane (one occupied by abutting owners) may request that the City consult with them prior to changing the status of (that) lane.... notably in cases where access is to be re-established. Since there is no statutory trigger for such a consultation mechanism, a targeted information campaign is proposed to inform...(abutting owners) about the existence of such a lane, and provide information about urban lanes management policies, and the process to request a lane closure."

Now that the rules of the game with respect to city lanes have been clearly established, and the City has recognized its obligation to apply its policies consistently and to communicate regularly with the residents of abutting properties, let's hope there will be no repeat of this difficult, and for some distressing, episode in the life of our community. Many thanks to David Mennier for his balanced reporting on the story as it unfolded.

Burgh Breezy bits

DEADLINE: SEP 10

breezybits@hotmail.com

FARE-THEE-WELL

We wish a fond farewell to Stanley Avenue resident **Bill Fleury**, who retired from the federal Public Service this spring, and is moving to Toronto. Bill's friends, colleagues and tennis partners recently gathered at the home of the Heintzmans just down the street on Stanley Avenue to salute Bill, and to celebrate his eventful decades in Ottawa.

Douglas Avenue will be sorry to see **Jenny and Felix** leave the street to return to Germany. We will miss them, their kids **Gretha, Anton and Charlie**, and their pets **Rosie and Tigger**. They plan to celebrate Canada Day before leaving though!

BUSINESS BITS

Calling all SENIORS in New Edinburgh! Would you like **Ivania Morales**, a licenced hairdresser, to come to your house to cut, set and/or perm your hair? Ivania works out of Governor's Walk Retirement Residence and is happy to provide this service in your home. Call 613-255-0557.

CONDOLENCES

Dorothy Hupp, a long-time resident of New Edinburgh, passed away on May 2. She lived on Dufferin Road all her life until the last few years at the New Edinburgh. She and her sisters were known by so many people in the community. She will be sorely missed by those at St. Luke. Dorothy died quietly in her sleep on Thursday, May 2, 2013, in her 91st year. Born in Ottawa January 17, 1923, to Elsie and Charles Hupp, she was the eldest of four sisters. Dorothy worked for the Canada Senate Finance Department until her retirement. She was a life-long member of St. Luke Lutheran Church in Ottawa and assisted with the church's financial

accounting for more than 40 years, as well as in many other activities. Dorothy was preceded in death by her mother, Elsie Hupp nee Desens, father, Charles Hupp, and sisters, Eileen Hupp, Noreen Hupp and Eleanor Fritz nee Hupp. Visitation will be Thursday, June 5, from 2 to 5 pm and her funeral service will be at St. Luke Lutheran Church, 326 MacKay St. on June 6, at 10 am.

Our condolences to **Mary Sherwood** and her family on the recent death of her husband **Lt. Cdr. Frederick Sherwood**, a retired naval officer with a distinguished record of service in World War II. The Sherwoods have been longstanding residents of The Edinburgh Retirement Residence on Vaughan Street.

CONGRATS

Welcome to the neighbourhood to baby boy **George Henry** (he will be going by Harry), a first child for **Geordie Montgomery** and **Naila Parsons** of Dufferin. Harry was born a couple of weeks early but just in time to be a wonderful Mother's Day surprise.

Congratulations to **Lisa di**



Photo: Louise Imbeault
Maurice Martin and Lori Brethour-Coulter hosted a successful "His and Hers" vernissage on April 27, at Gallery 200.

Lorenzo and John-Paul Gouett on the birth of their daughter **Beatrice**. By all accounts, big brother **Arthur** is responding beautifully to the arrival of his baby sister.

Congratulations to local artist and PTI Pilates instructor **Sarah Wallace**, whose work was featured in a three-person exhibition, intriguingly entitled *Autopoiesis*, at the Koyman Galleries on St. Laurent Blvd in early May. You can check out Sarah's work, including her signature Home Portraits, on her website at www.sarahwallace.ca.

Vaughan Street artists **Maurice Martin** and **Lori Brethour-Coulter** hosted a successful "His and Hers" vernissage on April 27, at Gallery 200.

Congratulations to the "**Ottawa Ice**" Competitive **Midget A Girls Hockey Team** who were the Bronze Medalist winners in the Ontario Girls/Womens Hockey Provincials held this year in Ottawa. New Eddy residents **Martina Turchyn** and her mom, Trainer **Mary Grainger**, as well as friend and teammate **Corinne Desjardins** of Manor Park were among the proud hockey players and trainers who worked hard all season and had a lot of fun too. Way to go gang!

THANK YOU!

A very successful 25th Annual Ivy Street Party was held May 19, with spectacular fireworks thanks to Ivy residents **Michel's** pyrotechnical abilities in the air and **Johan's** annual fabulous schoolhouse burning finale on the ground! Thanks too to **Josée, Mike, Gillian** and **Abby** for organizing the many details required to pull things together. Despite the rainy weather, there was an excellent turnout.



Photo: Louise Imbeault

Lindenlea residents and dedicated moms - Abby Fyfe and Elisabeth Fowler are actively fundraising for Autism by putting on a garage sale Saturday, June 8, at the corner of Springfield and Lindenlea Roads. Please help support this worthy cause and find great deals and treasures in the process.



Photo: Louise Imbeault

NECA Board of Directors member Roslyn Butler (centre) was one of many who attended the recent T.I.P.E.S. fundraiser tea at Elmwood on May 11. **Elizabeth Heatherington** (on left) was one of the organizers of the event. See article on page 19.

New Edinburgh Community & Arts (NECTAR) Centre Summer Camp

This is an art mash-up! Summer campers will develop their creative skills through visual art, drama and music activities. Co-operative games, outdoor play and the like. This year, two consecutive camps are being offered starting:

July 15th - 19th and July 22nd - 26th, 2013.

Cost: \$200.00 per child per week
Where: Stanley Park Field House (193 Stanley Ave)
When: 8:30am - 4:30pm, July 15 - 19 & July 22 - 26

REGISTER TODAY!

BY PHONE: 613-745-2742
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New Edinburgh Community & Arts Centre
Centre communautaire et des arts de New Edinburgh