

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

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Beechwood Development Update: Steady Progress on All Fronts

By Jane Heintzman
Minto Beechwood Project Still on Target

After the steady stream of dispiriting NEN reports of uncertainties and endless delay in the aftermath of the fateful Beechwood Fire of 2011, readers will be pleased to learn that as things now stand, the Minto Beechwood project remains firmly on target, and the long-awaited launch of construction is expected this fall. **Kevin Harper**, Development Manager-High Rise for Minto Communities, reports that while sales typically taper off over the holiday period, purchaser interest remained steady this year and three more condominiums were sold over Christmas and New Year's, two of them large suites, and the other a smaller unit. Overall sales have now surpassed the halfway mark, and Kevin is optimistic about the prospects for 2014.

The Site Plan Approval process at the City level is now well advanced, and Minto has responded to all of the City's

comments on its original submission. Kevin anticipates that any remaining issues should be ironed out within the next few weeks, and that the City will begin drafting the Site Plan Agreement by late January or early February. And perhaps of greatest significance as a sign of progress towards the project's becoming a reality is Minto's recent launch of work on the Construction Drawings, an 8 to 9 month process involving 4 to 5 months' preparation of the detailed drawings, followed by a 4 month tendering process and the submission of applications for building permits prior to the start of construction.

As readers are well aware, the remaining building shell along MacKay Street will have to be demolished before the start of excavation on the site, a job which Kevin estimates may take a further 6 to 8 weeks to complete. One important aspect of the task will be in the hands of Ottawa Hydro who will need

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By Martha Markowsky.

This painting titled "Burgh Lane" will be one of many of Martha Markowsky's paintings on display in an upcoming exhibition at the Gordon Harrison Gallery on Sussex Drive February 21-23, 2014.

BVA Winter Solstice Social a Success!

By Catherine Lindquist

The **Beechwood Village Alliance (BVA)** Winter Solstice Social on Saturday, December 21, was a delightful event.

Held in the festive lobbies of **New Edinburgh Square**, many turned out to share some real Village style holiday spirit. It was an all ages affair, with senior residents of the home joined by neighbours of all ages.

All were treated to delicious holiday food and drink. Eggnog, coffee, juice and cookies were served up by **New Edinburgh Square**, mini scones and hot cider by **The SconeWitch**

owner **Heather Matthews**, bites including donuts hot off the grill by **Donna Chevrier**, owner of **Ola Cocina**, a new Mexican eatery just opened at 62 Barrette Street, and special candy canes came courtesy of **Susan Jacobson** of **Jacobson's**.

Children quickly got busy colouring pages for display and crafting reindeer candy-cane ornaments, and then entered their names in a draw of four prizes generously donated by the New Edinburgh Pub. Drawing one of the prize winners was the elegant **Connie Elton**, New Edinburgh Square's

eldest resident of 103 years!

A special story time reading contributed by **Books on Beechwood** and a red & green snow sculpture outside were winners too.

Isobel Bisby and Heather Matthews also promoted greeting cards and gift tags for sale in support of **Heartwood House**, a great local holiday cause.

Accompanied by the wonderful playing of the baby grand piano by accomplished pianist **Nick McHaffie**, the assembled company wrapped up the event with some old fashioned Christmas carolling.

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Union Street Fire Destroys Century Old House

By Jane Heintzman

Shortly before Christmas on Saturday, December 14, the century old house at 84 Union Street—right next door to the landmark Fréchette House, ravaged by fire only nine months earlier—was destroyed by a raging fire, possibly attributable to a mishap involving an effort to thaw frozen hot water pipes in the kitchen. The house had incurred serious smoke and water damage at the time of the Fréchette House fire in March 2013, which owners Manuel and Gloria Cardoso had completely rebuilt its interior in the months thereafter.

At the height of the fire, 10 fire trucks were on hand to contain the spread of the flames and protect the surrounding houses, joined by police, paramedics and the RCMP. Thankfully there were no injuries resulting from the fire, and the brand new roof that had just been installed on the neighbouring Fréchette House appears to have been spared any damage.

On September 1, 2013, new tenants Adolfo Navarro Muñoz,

Education Secretary at the Spanish Embassy at 74 Stanley Avenue, his wife Pilar and their daughter Paula had moved into the renovated Union Street house, only to have all of their personal belongings lost in the blaze, and to be forced into temporary lodgings in Les Suites Hotel until new perma-

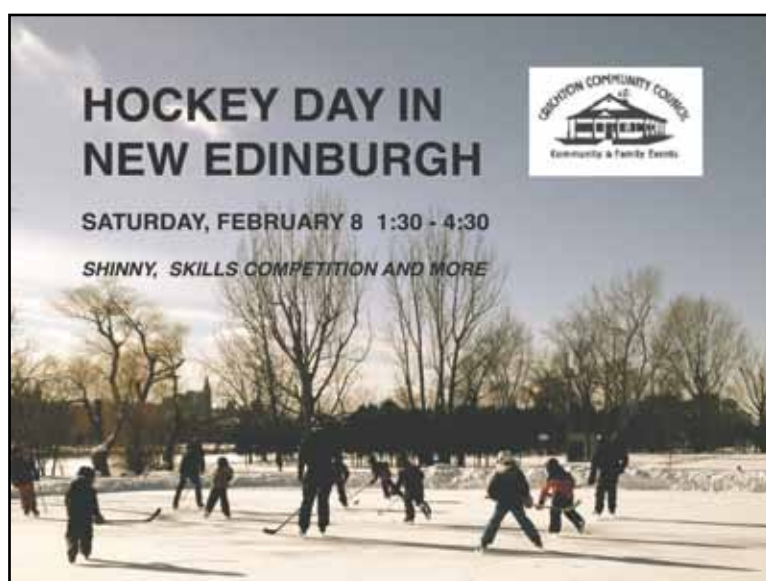
nent accommodation could be found. A NECA representative was in touch with Adolfo shortly after the incident to offer assistance from the community. At that time, the offer was gratefully declined, and Adolfo has since confirmed with the NEN that they have no imme-

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Union Street fire.

Photo: Daphnée Dubouchet-Olsheski





Report from NECA President Tim Plumptre

In my last column, I mentioned the **Forum on the Future of New Edinburgh**, an initiative the NECA board is now working on. In this column, I'll tell you a bit more about how this is evolving, and invite suggestions.

The idea for this Forum emerged from discussion at our annual general meeting last October. NECA members told us they liked the idea of such a forum. We've now created a small task force led by Paula Thompson to develop the idea further.

One of our Board's priorities is to work more closely with other community groups and communities. We are therefore very pleased that the chairs of both NECTAR and the Crichton Community Council have agreed to work alongside us as members of this task force.

Here is how the Forum is shaping up (please note that what follows is still tentative).

We're thinking of holding this event in late April on a Sunday afternoon. We propose to use an approach similar to the consultation NECA organized last year around the plans for the Minto development on Beechwood Avenue.

We would have one or two short presentations at the start, to provide context. Then we'd invite members of the community to get together around smaller tables to discuss selected subjects related to New Edinburgh. Each table would get a chance to tell us their ideas or conclusions, and we'd then discuss all the ideas together in a plenary session.

After the event, NECA would

shape the results into an overall report. I would hope this report would provide the board with a kind of roadmap for future work.

Our preliminary thinking is that some of the conversation might help us to identify issues that should in turn be pursued with candidates from our area for the next municipal election, which is taking place this fall. What might we want from these candidates? What might we want from the City?

Another part of the conversation could take a longer-term view of our community. How could we improve it? Are we paying enough attention to the interests of particular groups, such as seniors or young people or new immigrants? How could we further reinforce its heritage character? Physically, what would we like New Edinburgh to look like in five or ten years?

Perhaps the event will allow us to do a little introspection about NECA itself. How well are we serving the community's interests? Could we engage more residents in our work in ways that they would find stimulating and constructive? Should we be working more closely with other communities?

These and other ideas are still being debated. To try to make sure that we make this event responsive to community interests, task force members will be conducting an informal survey through conversations with neighbours and friends in the next few weeks. We will want to secure views on issues such as the purpose of the forum, areas of particular concern to

residents, or ideas that might improve the community.

We won't be able to talk to everyone of course, so if you have thoughts you would like to share on these or related matters, do send an email to anyone on the board, including myself. Board email addresses are all on the New Edinburgh website, at www.newedinburgh.ca/neca-board-directors, and listed below.

I mentioned the heritage dimension of the community. Some readers may have noticed that more and more of our roads are being graced by attractive new street signs signalling our community's heritage character.

These complement other visual icons that have helped to give New Edinburgh a "brand"—the blue and gray banners on some light standards, the community logo, plaques in two locations at the entrance to the Heritage Conservation District, and historical panels displayed at public events. Much of this emerged from the efforts of former NECA chair, **Joan Mason**. In recognition of her contribution, at our recent meeting, the NECA Board passed a motion of appreciation to Joan for this work.



Photo: Basil Reid, Library and Archives Canada, PA-30209
Skating Party, Rideau Hall 1915.

Historic Places Made for Play! Celebrate Ottawa Heritage Day 2014

Tuesday, February 18, from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm

Jean Pigott Hall, Ottawa City Hall

For the young, and the young at heart, our region's historic places made for play are all around us and ready to be enjoyed! Many outdoor play places have a long history and a treasured place in our hearts and our community. Their facilities and fixtures may have changed over time, but their value remains rooted in our heritage. In these places, experiences are shared and a sense of belonging is created.

Heritage Day is a nationwide celebration encouraging all Canadians to explore their local heritage. On Tuesday, February 28, 2014, His Worship Mayor Jim Watson,

Members of the Ottawa City Council, the Cultural and Heritage Services Branch, and The Council of Heritage Organizations in Ottawa will proudly host the Ottawa Heritage Day Ceremony and Heritage Showcase.

Members of the public will mingle with exhibitors and costumed characters, enjoy live music, and learn about services, public programs and special initiatives offered by local heritage organizations. Mayor Jim Watson will recognize the importance of having fun with heritage as he proclaims 2014 Heritage Day in Ottawa.

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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. During October, NECA holds its annual general meeting (AGM) and a regular board meeting.

Meetings will be held in the Activity Room of the **Governor's Walk Retirement Residence**, located at **150 Stanley Ave.** Meetings are open to all New Edinburgh residents. Anyone wishing to make a presentation to the board should please contact Tim Plumptre in advance to arrange scheduling. Our next meetings are:

Monday, February 17, 7:30 pm, Governor's Walk

Monday, March 17, 7:30 pm, Governor's Walk

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

Your NECA Representatives 2013-2014

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From the Editor's Chair

Help Wanted:

NEN Managing Editor

We are seeking expressions of interest from individuals who are interested in providing part-time services as **Managing Editor** of the *New Edinburgh News*, beginning in the summer of 2014.

The *New Edinburgh News* (NEN) is a non-profit community-based newspaper, published five times a year (February, April, June, October, and December) by the New Edinburgh Community

Alliance (NECA). The NEN exists to serve the interests of the residents and merchants of the New Edinburgh community and environs. Its purpose is to report local news, events, and other content of interest and relevance to New Edinburgh. Working collaboratively with local residents, merchants, and community-based organizations, the NEN publishes their activities and fosters the connections that make a commu-

nity strong and vibrant.

Under the strategic direction of the publisher (NECA), and with assistance and guidance from a NEN Advisory Board, the Managing Editor has operational, editorial and managerial responsibility for the *New Edinburgh News*, a tabloid newspaper that averages 40 pages per edition.

The Managing Editor works collaboratively with a motivated and experienced team that includes the: Associate Editor/Senior Writer; Advertising Manager; Production (Layout & Design) Manager; Distribution Manager; Bookkeeper; as well as the Photographer, Proofreader and Breezy Bits Editor.

The successful candidate should ideally have experience in print media. Previous experience working in a community-based publishing con-

text will be a significant asset. Experience managing a team of volunteers and knowledge of the local community is strongly recommended.

The Editor's primary responsibilities include the following:

- Communicating submission requirements and deadlines to contributors and the community at large;
- Soliciting submissions on specific topics that are particularly relevant to the community (determined with the help of the NEN Advisory Board and NECA);
- Reviewing and copy-editing submissions for length, grammar and appropriateness;
- Assisting with the layout and finalization of the print-ready pdf files;

- Liaising with the Advertising Manager and Bookkeeper on matters concerning advertising;
- Liaising with the Associate Editor on matters relating to content for each edition;
- Liaising with the NECA Treasure on financial matters; and

- Regularly attending NECA meeting and chairing NEN Advisory Board meetings.

Ideally, the new Managing Editor should be in a position to transition into the NEN activities and get to know the team over the summer of 2014. The current Managing Editor will be available to assist during the transition period.

Interested individuals are invited to contact newednews@hotmail.com.

Civic Elections 2014: The Race is On!

As readers may know, the next municipal election will take place nine months from now on Monday, October 27, 2014, and nominations for Mayor, Council and School Board Trustees opened on Thursday, January 2. In some wards around the City, the race for Councillor is already well underway, with several candidates vying for the position. At the time we went to press in late January, there were as yet no officially declared candidates for Council in our own ward, **Ward 13 Rideau-Rockcliffe**, but if the experience of the last civic election

is any guide, it could once again be a crowded field by the time the nominations close on September 12, so be sure to stay closely tuned as the slate emerges in the coming weeks.

In future editions of the NEN, we'll provide readers with background and contact information for candidates as they come forward during the nomination period, and in the interim, you can keep track of the slate of nominees for Mayor and Council on the **Elections 2014 link on the City of Ottawa website: [www.ottawa.ca/en/city-hall/your-city-government/2014-](http://www.ottawa.ca/en/city-hall/your-city-government/2014-elections)**

elections, as well as on the New Edinburgh community website at www.newedinburgh.ca, where local candidate information will be posted on an ongoing basis.

Given the enormous importance of the municipal level of government in our daily lives, both in relation to the issues specifically affecting our community and our individual households, and at the broader policy level as it bears on the future of our city, this election matters greatly to us all. Keep a close eye on the City and community websites, and stay informed as the race unfolds!

Minto Bridge Construction: Spring Reopening on the Horizon

In the interim since our last edition in early December, the major structural rehabilitation of the West span of the Minto Bridges between Green Island and King Edward Avenue has been completed, and that portion of the bridge has been resurfaced with a special epoxy coating that has a load bearing capacity suitable for truck traffic, but considerably lighter in weight than concrete. The new King Edward traffic roundabout is also in operation, and many of us had hoped that with these two projects successfully wrapped up, the whole of the bridge from Union Street to King Edward might be reopened to vehicular traffic. No such luck, however, at least for the immediate future.

While the full rehabilitation of the Centre and East spans of the bridge is not scheduled

until 2016, when the bridge will be closed for another six month period, some interim repair work on these spans is reportedly required before they can be reopened to traffic. Construction is expected to begin within the next few weeks and should be completed by spring, although precisely which end of spring—early in March or later in May—is reportedly dependent on ice conditions on the Rideau River.

If the ice remains solid through February and early March, and capable of supporting construction scaffolding, there's a reasonable chance that the job could be wrapped up and the bridge reopened in March. In the event of an early thaw, however, the process could be significantly more complicated, and completion delayed for another couple of

months (a circumstance which appears to put us all in the anomalous position of hoping for more frigid weather!) One way or another, the bridge will eventually be reopened to vehicular traffic in the coming months, and pedestrian traffic will continue uninterrupted, as thankfully it has throughout the entire rehabilitation process.

We are grateful to Councillor Peter Clark and to Patrick Lewis, Program Manager, Infrastructure Services at the City of Ottawa, for updating the *NEN* on the status of Minto Bridges project. And special thanks to Councillor Clark for his efforts to ensure that the pedestrian walkway across the bridges has been kept ploughed and fully navigable throughout this challenging winter.

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS P.O. Box 74038, Ottawa, K1M 2H9

Publication dates: Oct. 1, Dec. 1, Feb. 1, April 1, June 1

Deadlines: Sept. 10, Nov. 10, Jan. 10, March 10, May 10

The *New Edinburgh News* (NEN) was established as a non-profit community newspaper in 1976 and is published five times a year by the New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA) and supported by its advertisers. The *New Edinburgh News* is distributed free of charge by volunteers to residents of New Edinburgh as well as to area schools, libraries and local businesses. Views expressed in the NEN are those of contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editorial staff, the publisher or the advertisers.

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Submission Guidelines: Articles, photos and letters to the editor may be submitted to the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit for length, content and legal considerations. Submissions selected for publication will be published in both a hardcopy and an electronic version. Letters to the editor must include the writer's name, address and phone number to be considered for publication.

Electronic publication: The *New Edinburgh News* is also made available online at the New Edinburgh community website: www.newedinburgh.ca.

Printed in Smiths Falls by Performance Printing.

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NECA Goes Social... Media, That Is

New Edinburgh Enters the Twittersphere

In an effort to slowly inch our way into 21st century communications media NECA has established a Twitter account under the handle **@New_Edinburgh**. So if you want up-to-the-minute news and events happening in the neighbourhood come follow us on Twitter.

Listservs in the Burgh

Encouraged by the success of the popular "Moms' List" listserv, two new New Edinburgh listservs have been set up: New Edinburgh Announcements and New Edinburgh Discussions, both hosted by Google Groups.

Many New Edinburgh residents want to have easy access to the latest community news, and be able to discuss these issues with their neighbours. These listservs were set up to do exactly that.

New Edinburgh Announcements, or <new-ed-

info>, is meant to be a low-volume listserv that will not accept reply messages or posts from individual subscribers. The listserv manager will only post announcements from community organisations such as NECA, the NECTAR Centre and the Crichton Community Council.

New Edinburgh Discussions, or <new-ed-talk>, will receive the same community announcements as <new-ed-info>, but subscribers will be able to reply to messages and post their own messages to the list.

Subscribers need only sign up to one listserv, whichever format and/or volume they prefer. Community announcements will be sent to both, as well as to the Moms' list.

Visit **www.newedinburgh.ca** and click on the link under "Stay Connected" to learn how to sign up.

Next Up, Facebook!

From the Mom's List: Stoopers 'n Snoopers

Editor's Note: This is a sample of the funny, yet informative messages that sometimes appear on the Mom's List, a neighbourhood LISTSERV that provides families in the area a place to post and respond to notices of interest. Dave Rostenne, dave@theconsultant.net, has hosted and managed the Mom's list for over a decade.

In honour of the New Year 2014; the poopers and the scoopers...I have just gone outside to my heavily travelled (read "poop central" here) corner of Lampton and Rideau Terrace, and arranged all the stray poopsicles on my lawn into a giant Peace sign.

I was planning on creating either a giant "INNUKSHUK" or a realistic giant pile of "HORSE MANURE" under

my giant wooden horse, but found in both cases I didn't have nearly enough "large breed" crap.

So I suppose the moral of the story is that whether you are gonna leave all that chien-shit on my lawn, or in Stanley Park...you have no excuse for not picking it up unless it is that giant Dino-turd that is so useful for crappy garden art projects.

So please consider yourself warned, as I have just mounted my Xmas gift...the shiny new Sharper Image CrapHurler on my roof. So if little Fluffy dares drop a load on the snowy lawn, BLAM, you may need to rename him Shitstain and give our local doggy detailer a call... Just Sayin'

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The New Year started on a festive note in the neighbourhood. The CCC invited local families and friends to join us for our annual **Winter Carnival** and second annual **New Year's Brunch**. Despite the record-shattering cold (or maybe because of it), over 200 people came out to enjoy the festivities. The Carnival opened officially with the arrival of the sleigh ride and this year's two lovely snow princesses Isla and Augusta, who could be seen later snowshoeing in Stanley Park, still wearing their gowns! Families enjoyed

the delicious lunch prepared by community volunteers and the winter games. Despite the cold, families competed in tug-o-wars, shoot-to-win games, hockey games, tried out snowshoeing, and endured a mighty cold edition of the 10-minute Snowman Challenge, where less than ideal snow conditions required participants to be creative. We cannot think of a better way to ring in the New Year in the neighbourhood and celebrate our community. And we were thrilled this year to have the rinks ready for some on-ice fun.



Photo: Debra Conner

Crichton Community Council volunteers Cathy McConkey, Paula Pincombe, and Michel Giroux ready to serve.

The Crichton Community Council would like to acknowledge the generous support of the **City of Ottawa Civic Events Funding Program**, **Performance Mazda** (www.performancemazda.com) and **Performance Motors Ottawa** (performancemotorsottawa.com), **Prestige Catering**, and **Cundell Stables** for providing the beloved sleigh ride, even in -30c weather. And then there are the numerous community volunteers who decorated, organized, cooked, transported, hosed, cleaned—the people who are willing to do anything to bring our community together: **Debra Conner**, **Paula Pincombe**, **Roxy Clark**, the **DeWolfes** (Abby, Matt and Norah), **Michel Giroux**, **Jerry Turchyn** and **Mary Grainger**, **Caroline Matt**, **Kathryn Verey**, and **Master Hoser Bruce Sherry**.

And speaking of Master Hoser, we had an especially early start to the skating/hockey season. Michel Giroux and his team of volunteers and especially Bruce Sherry, have been working every night and day as they clear the snow and water the rinks. At the moment, the rinks are in really good condition. The Council is very lucky to have volunteers like Michel and his team of **Hosers**. All of the Hosers and rink attendants are very proud of their work they do for the community each winter. The rinks are open seven days a week so come on down and check it out. Conditions are amazing! Michel has asked me to remind everyone that **when**



Photo: Debra Conner

10-minute Snowman Contest Winners and their snow creature.

the sign is up asking that the public stay off the ice during milder temperatures, it would be appreciated if you did. It requires a lot more watering to smooth out the footprints left behind.

We are all anticipating good skating conditions will last until we host **Hockey Day in New Edinburgh**. Debra Conner had such a great time last year; she decided to do it again and is busy planning and organizing the event for **Saturday, February 8, from 1:30 to 4 pm**. Come on down, have a game of shinny and participate in some skills competitions. Hot dogs and drinks will be available to buy as well as the famous **Jelly Bean Count**. Another great family event brought to you by the CCC. See you at the Fieldhouse!!

Other upcoming events to

mark on your calendar include the **Plant Sale**, held at the Fieldhouse on Saturday, May 10, from 8 am to 4 pm. And, of course, always the neighbourhood favorite, the **NE Marathon Cheering Station** will be held on Marathon weekend, Sunday, May 25, early in the morning. Watch for more details!

Council meets the second Monday of the month, 7:30 pm at the Fieldhouse. If you are interested in joining or volunteering please drop by. We meet again Monday, February 10, at 7:30 pm. The Fieldhouse is available for rent for your next event. Please email nefieldhouse@gmail.com with your request giving dates and time and we will be able to reserve the Fieldhouse for you.

Stanley Park – First Ice Rinks Up and Running in the City!

By Bruce Sherry

Taking quick advantage ("ice diem") of a late November snowfall of 20cm followed by a quick cold spell, our New Edinburgh hosers were able to begin flooding and became the first public skating rink in Ottawa to be available for December 1.

Members of the Ottawa East Atom B "The Giants" spent a day shovelling snow and scraping to smooth out the rough edges to give the skating rink a very skateable surface.

Thanks to Michel Giroux for getting the snow-blowing artillery ready, despite being sick with the flu and as well to Rockcliffe Landscaping for loaning out not one, but two

snow blowers after the Centre's own snow blower had a temporary "meltdown." Such generosity allowed the hoser team and rink attendants to continue clearing snow through our recent snow and rain storms.





And a special thanks to "JAMES BOND", the Airedale canine, owned by Bill Langdon, who digs out pucks lost in the snow: he has already found 13 of 'em.

There is still a need for more hosers, as we flood nightly in teams of three.



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Revue de l'année 2013 In Review

Looking back, we can see that some notable initiatives were undertaken last year. Here's an overview of some of 2013's achievements and issues, as well as what may be expected in 2014.

Un regard sur l'année dernière montre que des initiatives notables ont été prises. Voici un survol de certaines réalisations et dossiers de 2013, de même que ce qui est entrevu pour 2014.

Défenseur des coopératives

J'aimerais faire le point sur mon travail en 2013 à titre de défenseur des coopératives pour le Parti libéral du Canada. Ce rôle me permet notamment de poursuivre la lutte pour assurer un meilleur financement des coopératives et le renouvellement des ententes de subventions au logement avec les coopératives d'habitation. À la fin de janvier 2013, le gouvernement a fait connaître sa réponse au rapport du Comité spécial sur les coopératives, dont j'avais proposé la mise sur pied l'année précé-

dente.

Plusieurs des recommandations du comité ont déjà été mises en œuvre. À titre d'exemple, le gouvernement a annoncé son intention de confier la responsabilité des coopératives du Canada, auparavant entre les mains d'Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada, à Industrie Canada. Cela aura pour effet d'en stimuler la croissance et assurera un meilleur appui aux divers types de coopératives au Canada. Qui plus est, compte tenu de la pression exercée par les libéraux au Parlement et ailleurs, le gouvernement conservateur a fait marche arrière et a accepté, en janvier, d'offrir des prêts hypothécaires et des conditions de refinancement raisonnables aux coopératives d'habitation.

Au cours de l'année, j'ai eu l'occasion de participer à diverses activités liées aux coopératives, à Ottawa et à travers le pays. Le modèle coopératif est une structure éprouvée qui offre un grand pouvoir à chaque membre et qui con-

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

jugue à merveille la réussite sur le plan des affaires et la responsabilité sociale, jouant ainsi un rôle important dans l'économie et nos communautés. Nous avons aussi vu la naissance d'une nouvelle coopérative dans Ottawa-Vanier : la Coopérative funéraire d'Ottawa. Félicitations.

Development of the former Rockcliffe Air Base

The development of the former Rockcliffe Air Base is one of the most prominent projects in Ottawa-Vanier. It goes without saying that this initiative must involve the community, business and government in an inclusive debate. This 125-hectare site is a tremendous opportunity to build a new neighbourhood in the heart of our region. My vision for developing this vast tract of land is driven by the need for balance, viability and sustainability, but mainly economic development. One point I continue to insist on, year after year, is the importance of setting aside sufficient land for non-residential use to help create jobs. I have also taken steps to ensure that the Montfort Hospital and the National Research Council of Canada, both next door to the base, are involved in the work of Canada Lands Company (CLC), which owns the site. A final plan should be presented shortly by CLC. Work is to begin in 2014 and the first block of homes will be ready for occupancy in 2017, just in time for Canada's 150th anniversary celebrations.

Le problème des camions lourds au centre-ville

Le 29 novembre, le gouvernement libéral de l'Ontario a annoncé que la province contribuerait à 50 % des coûts d'une étude de faisabilité visant la construction d'un tunnel qui relierait le pont McDonald-Cartier à l'autoroute Queensway, en passant sous la Basse-ville et la Côte-de-Sable. Trois jours plus tôt, le conseil municipal d'Ottawa avait adopté le Plan directeur des transports, lequel incluait la proposition mise de l'avant par le conseiller Mathieu Fleury, réclamant que la ville procède à une telle étude de faisabilité. Si l'étude conclut qu'un tunnel est une solution viable pour faciliter l'accès des camions au centre de la capitale, je m'engage à faire tout mon possible pour obtenir l'appui de mes collègues députés de la région afin de convaincre la Commission de la capitale nationale de collaborer à cette initiative, et le gouvernement du Canada de participer à son financement.

United Way Ottawa's Ambassador of the Year Award

Every year, United Way Ottawa recognizes the achievements of people, organizations, partnerships, agencies or neighbourhood groups that endeavour to make positive change happen in our community, at its Community Builder of the Year Awards Gala. The 2013 edition of this event was held on June 6 at the Ottawa Convention Centre. On that occasion, I received the Ambassador Award for my active role on several community projects over the years, such as Project s.t.e.p., a program designed to improve Ottawa's capacity to support young people battling addiction. Last fall, Maison fraternité finished construction of its youth residential substance abuse treatment facility at 300 Olmstead Street, a project I have supported from the very beginning.

Canada-Afrique

Dans le cadre de mes fonctions de co-président de l'Association parlementaire Canada-Afrique, j'ai pris part, du 30 septembre au 4 octobre dernier, à une délégation de 6 parlementaires (4 députés et 2 sénateurs) sur le continent africain, soit au Maroc et en Côte d'Ivoire - où j'ai eu le plaisir et l'honneur de m'adresser à l'Assemblée nationale. Plus tôt dans l'année, soit du 19 au 26 janvier, j'ai également pris part à une mission bilatérale en République du Kenya et en République du Malawi. L'Association a pour mission de favoriser les échanges entre parlementaires africains et canadiens, de mieux faire comprendre les défis auxquels le continent africain est confronté, de proposer des initiatives susceptibles de faciliter la coopération dans tous les domaines de l'activité humaine.

Three years of fundraising at the All-Party Party

In 2011, 2012 and 2013, I co-chaired the All-Party Party, an annual event with over 2000 attendees to thank the staff of the House of Commons, the Senate and the Library of Parliament who help make Canada's Parliament run smoothly. Money raised at the event these three years has benefitted a number of charities: \$11,000 was split equally among the Prostate Cancer Canada Network, the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation and the Snowsuit Fund of Ottawa-Gatineau (in 2011), \$12,000 dollars to United Way Ottawa's s.t.e.p. project (in 2012), and \$24,000 split equally between United Way Ottawa and

Centraide Outaouais (in 2013).

Travail de représentation sur le terrain

Durant l'année 2013, quelques 900 personnes ont sollicité l'aide de mon personnel du bureau de comté et moi-même pour faire avancer des dossiers individuels de nature fédérale et reliés notamment à l'immigration, à l'assurance-emploi et aux pensions. Qui plus est, j'ai tenu sur une base mensuelle des café-causeries aux quatre coins de la circonscription, afin de rencontrer les citoyens d'une façon informelle pour discuter des questions de compétences fédérales. Par ailleurs, dans le but de rester en contact avec un maximum de résidents d'Ottawa-Vanier, j'ai poursuivi ma participation à de nombreux événements communautaires et initiatives locales. Je m'engage à poursuivre cette tradition de présence et de travail sur le terrain.

Election of the Liberal Party of Canada's new leader

On April 14, 2013, Justin Trudeau became the leader of the Liberal Party of Canada. During the leadership race, he was able to count on my support. Justin Trudeau represents renewal. He is well known for his hard work, sharp intellect and determination to make the Liberal movement a force for renewal in the service of our great country. Since he was elected leader, Mr. Trudeau's hard work has helped him accomplish much more than all the other party leaders. He has already spent about 100 days crisscrossing the country, attending close to 400 events in over 100 ridings, and he has travelled to all ten provinces and to one of the territories. As we saw during the recent by-elections and in Labrador in May 2013, our hard work is beginning to pay off.

* * Some issues to watch in 2014 / Quelques dossiers à suivre en 2014 * *

Locally, a few issues are likely to dominate: the development of the former Rockcliffe Air Base, the municipal elections, and the notion of creating a safe injection site in Ottawa.

Au niveau local, quelques dossiers sont susceptibles de dominer : le développement de l'ancienne base aérienne de Rockcliffe, les élections municipales, ainsi que la notion de créer un centre d'injection sécuritaire à Ottawa.

*Bonne Année!
Happy New Year!
Mauril Bélanger*



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Ottawa City Councillor Peter Clark Reports

Pedestrian Signals

In the City of Ottawa pedestrian signals are timed in accordance with standards recommended by the *Ontario Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices* as well as the *Canadian Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices*. In addition, we employ additional measures at locations where disabled, seniors or young pedestrians are known to cross.

Many pedestrians misunderstand the meaning of the pedestrian signal displays and as a result have concerns that not enough crossing time is provided. Here is a brief explanation of how it works;

The pedestrian signal sequence begins with the "WALK" indication. The duration of this display is not related to the crossing distance of the intersection but many pedestrians assume that they should be able to complete their crossing while and only while the "WALK" symbol is displayed. In fact the WALK display is only intended to indicate that pedestrians may legally and safely begin their crossing. The duration of this display depends on traffic conditions and signal operation mode and is never less than seven seconds.

The flashing/steady "DON'T WALK" signal (sometimes accompanied by a countdown timer) follows the "WALK" indication and is displayed before conflicting traffic movements are permitted to start. The duration of this display is based on the width of the crossing and the pedestrian walking speed and is of sufficient duration for pedestrians to make a complete crossing. This ensures that pedestrians who begin to cross at the end of the WALK display have enough time to reach the other side before conflicting traffic is permitted. Pedestrians who are in the crosswalk when the flashing "DON'T WALK" starts have sufficient time to complete their crossing before green is displayed for the opposing traffic.

Additional crossing time is provided at intersections utilized by a large number of young children, senior citizens or disabled persons.

The steady illuminated "DON'T WALK" signal indi-

cates pedestrians should not enter the crossing. During this indication the cross street traffic has the right of way.

For traffic/pedestrian-actuated signals the "WALK"/Flashing "DON'T WALK" sequence is only displayed if the push button is pressed. If no buttons are pressed, then the "WALK" and the flashing "DON'T WALK" are not displayed. If a vehicle is present and triggers the road embedded sensors then a green signal is displayed for the vehicle only.

For these locations, the side street green time duration is determined by vehicular traffic and it can be significantly lower than the time pedestrians need to cross the roadway. **Always push the button to ensure you have enough time to cross the roadway safely.**

Every intersection is reviewed based on its own to context to determine the most appropriate operation. For locations with high and consistently pedestrian volumes, pedestrian displays are provided automatically (i.e. the core area of downtown Ottawa); but at the majority of intersections in Ottawa the cross street pedestrian volumes are low and not consistent and thus are not suited for automatic activation of the pedestrian displays.

Snow Clearing

Residents are reminded that winter overnight parking restrictions are now in effect. These restrictions ensure that the City's snow-clearing crews are able to keep Ottawa's roads safe and clear for pedestrians, cyclists, public transit and motorists.

Between November 15 and April 1, when 7 cm or more of snowfall is forecast by Environment Canada, overnight parking restrictions go into effect. These restrictions are automatically enacted, unless the City of Ottawa's General Manager of Public Works issues an exemption. The City will announce parking restrictions and inform residents if there is an exemption through ottawa.ca and the City's Twitter account @ottawacity.

When restrictions are put into place, parking will not be permitted on Ottawa streets between 1 am and 7

am. Vehicles parked on the street when a restriction is in effect will be ticketed. Vehicle owners who have a municipal on-street parking permit are exempt from winter overnight parking restrictions.

Sign up to receive email or Twitter notifications of overnight parking restrictions at ottawa.ca. After you sign up, you will receive an email or Twitter alert via @ottawacity, every time a winter overnight parking restriction goes into effect or is lifted. The service is free and you can unsubscribe at any time. You can also find out if an overnight parking restriction is in effect by calling 3-1-1 (TTY: 613-580-2401) or through local media.

When daytime or nighttime snow removal operations are planned, temporary "no parking" snow removal signs will be posted before snow removal begins. Vehicle owners are reminded not to park on streets where temporary "no parking" snow removal signs are placed. Vehicles parked during planned snow removal will be ticketed and towed to a nearby street. This restriction applies to all vehicles, including those with on-street parking permits.

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From the Desk of Mayor Jim Watson



Reflecting on Three Years in Office

It is hard to believe that it has been just over three years since our Council began its term. The time has flown by as my Council colleagues and I have tried our best to work together in a calm and professional manner to move the Ottawa forward on a number of fronts. As we begin the last year of our term, it is worth looking back on what we have accomplished so far.

I campaigned in 2010 on a promise to limit any annual tax rate increase to a maximum of 2.5%. I am proud to say that

we beat that target in each successive year: 2.45% in 2011, 2.39% in 2012, 2.09% in 2013, and just 1.9% for 2014.

While controlling taxes, it is also important that we make the necessary investments in the future of our city. We must constantly upgrade roads, sidewalks, sewers and watermain and at the same time provide the services that everyone demands each and every day—police, fire, paramedics, libraries, parks and recreation facilities and programming, public transit, fresh water, waste



Mayor Watson at LRT announcement.

Photo: Premier of Ontario Photography

removal and recycling, and much more. We have found a balance to do just this and also maintain Ottawa's strong credit ratings.

Over the past three years we have had projects of all sizes get off the ground that taken together are beginning to transform our city for the better.

We managed to freeze recreation fees for four years to benefit young and old across the city and we have invested in libraries across Ottawa. Brand new recreation facilities have been completed in Kanata and Orleans and another is under construction in Barrhaven to better service our growing communities. In addition, the new Sensplex East will open in the fall of 2014 to bolster our city's rink capacity for teams and skaters of all ages. On the larger scale, Lansdowne Park will open in the summer of 2014 replacing 26 acres of asphalt with a new urban park

and mixed-use facility the city can be proud of.

We have invested \$340 million in road, sidewalk, bike lane, sewer and watermain infrastructure through our Ottawa on the Move program. This work has been disruptive for some but it is short-term pain for long-term gain and the more than 400 projects that are part of it will help bring our infrastructure and entire transportation system up to the level needed before the opening of our Light Rapid Transit system (LRT).

The LRT is the single most important infrastructure project in our city since the digging of the Rideau Canal. After years of delay and false starts the mammoth \$2.1 billion 13km project is now under construction with a fixed-price contract and a route that will transform the way people move around our city. We have secured a world-class consortium of

companies to do the work and I know we are all looking forward to the Confederation Line's completion in 2018.

Lastly, we have taken several proactive steps over the last three years to improve the accountability of City Council. We have appointed an Integrity Commissioner and implemented a Council Code of Conduct, set up both lobbyist and gift registries, and made it so that Council expenses are posted online. This package of integrity measures has made us more accountable as elected officials and made us a leader in the province and Canada with regards to transparency at the municipal level. Most importantly, we did it because we wanted to, not because of scandal.

I am proud of what this Council has accomplished in our first three years of this term and I look forward to another great year in 2014.

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BVA Winter Solstice Social...

Continued from page 1

Among those enjoying the Solstice Social were the new **Chair of the Quartier Vanier BIA**, **Mark Kaluski** and his family, **New Edinburgh Pub** owners **Tracy and Paul Williams** and their darling granddaughters, and **Brenda Firestone**.

With the success of their popular Summer Solstice Stroll, **BVA Co-Founder and Chair Tobi Nussbaum** suggested holding the Winter Solstice Social event and recruited a great fast-track organizing committee to help him, including **Maggie Knaus**, **Julie Lapalme**, **Catherine**

Lindquist, **Karina Mullally** and **Dale Smith**. **New Edinburgh Square General Manager Christine Clare** graciously offered to host the event at the **Chartwell** residence, and the **Quartier Vanier BIA** generously contributed the funding for the event supplies and promotional posters, which their new **Operations Manager Sam Stevenson** gamely helped distribute to many Beechwood businesses. Yes Vanier BIA, there Is a Santa Claus!

Editor's Note: Catherine Lindquist serves on the NECA Board of Directors and as its Beechwood Village Alliance Liaison.



Photo: Catherine Lindquist

New Edinburgh Pub's Tracy and Paul Williams with their granddaughters participated in the festivities at the BVA Winter Solstice Social on December 21.

Union Street Fire Destroys Century House...

Continued from page 1

diate need for the community's help.

When we communicated in mid-January, the family was still in Les Suites but hoping to relocate to an apartment in the area as soon as possible. Not surprisingly, Adolfo reports that he and his wife and daughter remain extremely distressed by the tragedy, noting that "we lost a large part of our personal history: clothes, documents, books, gifts, memories..." They are puzzled and perplexed that the pipes in the Union Street house froze on the very first evening of comparatively low temperatures, and at a loss to imagine what might have occurred in the far more frigid conditions of this January. He adds that the only bright spot in the upsetting episode was "the solidarity and affection shown by our close neighbours and some good friends living in this charming neighbourhood."

Adolfo asked that the NEN convey to the community the family's gratitude for the kindness they have been shown.

In addition to the distressing trials of the Muñoz family, Fréchette House owners Tim Plumptre, current President of NECA, and Barbara Laskin also endured a nightmarish ordeal when 84 Union Street went up in flames, and in a ghastly reprise of the night of March 15, they were forced to evacuate their temporary quarters next door at 82 Union Street (home of Ken and Noreen Watson who are currently in Africa), rescuing their valuables as they fled. Fortunately, Sarah Anson-Cartwright and her family were on the scene directly across the road, and offered warmth and shelter to Tim and Barbara while Ottawa Fire Services battled the blaze.

Quite apart from the horror of having to relive the first emergency evacuation of their home,

Continued from page 1

to revise the current, somewhat anomalous arrangement now in place, whereby the Guardian Pharmacy/New Edinburgh Pub building is supplied with power from a vault in the basement of the MacKay Street building. (Many readers may remember the massive generator outside the pharmacy to keep things operating in the wake of the fire!)

Minto Beechwood project architect TACT Architects of Toronto is reportedly still working with the Minto team on measures to add interest and impact to the western elevation of the development (effectively the "Gateway to Beechwood"), and a number of possible solutions are under discussion. Kevin reports that Minto has agreed to TACT's suggested use of different materials to create an articulated appearance in the façade, and another idea of particular interest to Minto would involve the use of lighting, a flexible medium which could be adjusted to reflect seasonal changes. As the project is targeting, at a minimum, a Silver LEED certification standard, the concept of a living wall is also under consideration, although it poses a number of challenges that would need to be addressed, including impact on the masonry and ongoing maintenance.

Shop Talk??

Much as we would love to announce The Big Reveal of the

new merchant community who will occupy the large commercial space in Minto Beechwood, no such luck! Kevin reports that the operatives in his sister company Minto Properties are still in discussion with prospective commercial tenants, and while major progress has been made, they are maintaining a strict cone of silence until all the t's are crossed, the i's dotted, and the retailers themselves have agreed to a public announcement. Needless to say, Kevin's own group at Minto Communities, who handle the residential sales, are as anxious as the rest of us to make known the shops and services that will soon be part of our business community, and he promises to keep the pressure up for as early an announcement as possible. He has, however, offered assurances that the commercial clientele will provide residents of the building and the neighbourhood at large with "contributory uses" that will meet our daily needs and restore our walkable community.

Steady as She Goes at The Kavanaugh:

Domicile Vice-President **David Chick** reports that the company is pleased with progress on all fronts at *The Kavanaugh* project. Condominium sales are continuing a steady pace, with 92 sales now on the books and many more solid prospects under negotiation. As we reported in our last issue, Kavanaugh condo buyers

will be the beneficiaries of a new Extended Warranty program recently introduced by Domicile, extending industry standard coverage from 2 to 4 years.

Construction is proceeding on schedule behind the elegant hoarding along Beechwood, and as anticipated, now that the building process is well underway, Domicile has experienced a sharp spike in enquiries from prospective retail and commercial operations, resulting in numerous pending offers to lease on the ground floor of the development. Sadly (but perhaps predictably), however, there is still no definite news to report on the businesses who are soon to become a part of our commercial landscape, and, we hope, a valued fixture in our daily lives. But stay tuned: we're as eager as everyone else to get the scoop on this all-important aspect of the project, so we'll keep up the pressure for an early announcement!

In the coming months when spring arrives and the warm weather returns, we can look forward to watching a building emerge from behind that hoarding, and rest assured that *NEN* photographer **Louise Imbeault** will be there to help you track progress towards its scheduled completion in mid-2015.

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BURGH BUSINESS BRIEFS

- By Jane Heintzman -

New Year's Resolution: Please Support our Local Small Businesses through the Winter Blahs!

We wish a very Happy New Year to all our readers and advertisers, and look forward to another year of reporting on interesting new developments on Beechwood. As we hunker down for what is shaping up to be a long and strenuous winter, let's all bear in mind that this traditionally "slow season" puts serious pressure on the bottom lines of our local small businesses, and that it's especially important for us to continue supporting them through this seasonal slump. If we want them to be alive and well, and ready to serve us when the weather warms up and our shopping zeal revives, let's do what we can to go the extra mile in the winter weeks ahead, and brave the elements to help tide them over until business picks up this spring.

Compu-Home

Since our first introduction of the **Harding** family's home computer repair service, **Compu-Home**, in October 2012, its client base here in the Burgh, and in nearby Manor Park and Rockcliffe Park, has been rapidly growing, as increasing numbers of area residents reach out for expert, in-home help with the challenges and frustrations regularly confronted in the operation of our computer equipment.

If you haven't yet encountered

the Harding family trio who run the business, son **Malcolm** is currently the owner, having taking over ownership from his father **John**, Compu-Home's original founder, and is the primary service provider on home visits, as well as the resident expert on hardware, software, networking and the internet. Malcolm is a graduate of Algonquin's Computer Service Technician program, and has been an avid and intrepid computer aficionado since his elementary school days. Father **John Harding** remains very much involved in the business, handling some house calls, providing one-on-one instruction to clients and contributing an informative blog on Compu-Home's website at **compu-home.com/blog**. Also at the ready to receive



Matt McCarthy, Compu-Home Technician serving New Edinburgh Area.

your calls for assistance, and handle scheduling and office organization is John's wife **Fran Harding**.

The Hardings are happy to report that a new associate has recently joined Compu-Home to help deal with the fast growing clientele in our area. **Matt McCarthy** has many years of experience dealing with technical computer issues, and is steadily building a clientele here in the Burgh where he is able to respond to calls for assistance on a timely basis, (in some cases within 24 hours, and reliably within 48 hours). As Compu-Home is well aware of the critical need not to leave clients with computer crises in the lurch, particularly those with home-based businesses which could grind to a halt in the face of an electronic meltdown, Matt's arrival has afforded a welcome boost to the speed and efficiency of their service in our 'hood.

Compu-Home's services run the e-gamut from soup to nuts. **Internet and Security services** include email set up and maintenance, connectivity problem resolution, WI-FI and wired home network set up and assessment of security requirements to guard against viruses, spam, spyware and malware. **Hardware Support** includes repair, upgrading, diagnosis and repair of system slowdowns, and maintenance or repair of associated equipment such as cameras and print-



Esthetician Sylvie Sauvé of Manor Park.

ers. **Software Support** covers file cleanup and organization, operating system upgrades, data backup solutions, software recommendations and coaching in the use of software packages. **Purchase Advice** involves recommending both new and refurbished options to those in the market for computer equipment.

The Hardings report that keeping up-to-date with changes in both software and hardware can be a challenge for many computer users, noting that old standards such as Windows 7 have been replaced by programs that expect the user to adapt quickly to very different systems. According to John, "we understand that it's not easy, but we've found a few work-arounds for clients who would rather not have to relearn a system. For the more adventurous, however, we're happy to do a little coaching to help clients learn how to use the new programs."

Not all the calls received by Compu-Home require a scheduled home visit to resolve the problem in question. In the case of repeat clients whose computer set up is familiar to the Hardings, they will first take pains to ferret out the reported problem and if possible, to suggest solutions over the telephone, and in these cases, the consultation is completely free of charge.

Interested readers with frustrating computer queries and/or challenges can get in touch with Compu-Home at **613-731-5954** from Monday through Saturday from 9 am to 7 pm, or by e-mail at **info@compu-home.com**. Most service calls are scheduled from 1 pm to 8 pm (Monday through Saturday), in some cases running into the early evening to accommodate those with demanding work schedules. In our area, however, Matt is also available for morning appointments beginning at 10 am, a time slot which better suits many retirees who may

be at home during the day.

You can find more details on the Hardings' services on their website at **compu-home.com**, and while you're at it, check out John's blog, which currently includes a fascinating and timely posting entitled *When is a Tablet Like an Automobile?* We wish the Harding family continuing success in providing their very valuable service to our computer-dependent community, and thank them for their ongoing support of the *New Edinburgh News*.

Sylvie Sauvé - Esthetician, Electrologist: Massage Now Available!

Manor Park esthetician **Sylvie Sauvé** needs no introduction to our community where, for many years, she has been serving clients in her fully-equipped, home-based studio at 54 Dunvegan Road in Manor Park, and advertising faithfully in the **New Edinburgh News** throughout that period. Sylvie has been in the esthetics business for well over three decades, and has worked hard to keep up with the continuously evolving techniques and treatments in that field. Her "regulars" include both men and women of all ages, as well as teens who may be grappling with the chronic skin problems that are part and parcel of adolescence. (The younger set apparently tends to come in a steady stream on PD days or holidays, cheerfully greeting one another as they cross paths at the studio!)

Many of Sylvie's regular clients have come to depend on her special expertise as an **Advanced Podologic Footcare technician**, treating a broad range of troublesome conditions such as ingrown nails, fungus, warts, and the many special needs of her older and diabetic clients. Regrettably, some of these conditions may progress to an acute stage before clients take steps to address them, and in

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these circumstances, Sylvie's expert services are often called upon on emergency basis.

Her menu of esthetics treatments covers a full range of services from electrolysis to pedicures; full body waxing for both women and men; facials; skin care, including special treatments for the eye area, neck, and upper lip; treatment of acne and oily skin for her younger adolescent clients; eyebrow and eyelash tints; ear piercing; hygienic ear care; permanent make up, and manicures which now feature long-lasting Shellac Nails, a popular product that resists chipping and peeling for at least two weeks.

Vanier

In our last issue, we welcomed new advertiser **Erin Mansfield** and her studio, **Bytown Highland Dancers**, which was on the point of a move from its former headquarters on Bronson Avenue to **196 Jeanne Mance Street** (close to McArthur and Vanier Parkway) in nearby Vanier. Erin reports that the move has now been successfully completed, and that classes got underway in the new studio starting in early December, continuing after the holidays in January.

As we reported in December, Bytown Highland Dancers is among the top schools of high-

land dance in the Ottawa area, focusing on traditional highland and national dances, as well as original, award-winning choreography. The dancers perform regularly at local events and celebrations, and are active on the competition circuit, participating in both local competitions such as the Maxville Highland Games and the Montreal-based Scotdance Canada Championship Series, and on the international scene in the Loch Lomond Highland Games in Scotland.

Bytown's dancers range in age from 5 to about 40, and while the majority are girls and young women, Erin is delighted to report that she is now working with two 9-year-old boys who have joined the team. Starting this spring, she expects to add introductory courses for 3-4 year olds on a trial basis, as well as beginner courses for older age groups if the demand warrants. While annual examinations are by no means mandatory for Erin's students, many of them do choose to track their progress through the successive examination levels, and to benefit from regular feedback from an outside, independent examiner. A significant number of students also try their hand on the competitive circuit, and while they do this independently of the school, they are required to register for competitions under the auspices of the Bytown studio.

Unlike many of the sports and activities in which kids are currently engaged, Erin stresses that the "kit" required for highland dancing is relatively simple: just gymnastic shoes or flexible ballet shoes, as the pricier *ghillies* or highland shoes sported by the professionals are by no means required at the learning stage. Nor is it necessary to go in search of an expensive (and soon to be outgrown) kilt in order to participate in Bytown's program. The studio has a collection of stand-by kilts should the occasion require one, and also helps families locate second hand kilts if they choose to purchase.

Erin now works with five regular instructors, all of whom are fully accredited, certified teachers and who are active and successful on the competition circuit. Classes take place after school hours on weekdays and on Saturday mornings, and should you be daunted



Photo: Louise Imbeault

Studio One; intern Trevor McMahon and owner Craig Adams (right) are having an Open House February 22nd.

by the skill and athleticism you may have observed in highland dancing displays, Erin is firmly of the view that "anyone can do it," regardless of size or shape, so why not take the plunge and give it a try! Interested readers will find a full profile of Erin and her team of instructors, along with details related to class schedules, on the studio website at **bytownhighlanddancers.com**. You are also welcome to give her a call at **613-864-5761** to find out more about Bytown's programs.

Upcoming Events: Any readers who are interested in having a first-hand look at this amazing art form should mark their calendars for two upcoming events:

- A performance by students of the Bytown Highland Dance Studio right here in our neighbourhood at **Governor's Walk**

Retirement Residence, 150 Stanley Avenue, Friday, February 7, at 7 pm; and

- A Highland Dance Competition on Family Day weekend, taking place at **Immaculata High School, 140 Main Street** beginning at **9 am on Saturday, February 15 and Sunday, February 16**. Admission is free, and on Saturday you'll be treated to traditional highland and Scottish national dances, with original choreographies (solos, duets, trios and groups) coming up on Sunday. You'll find all the details at **ohda.ca**.

Studio One PT: Open House, Saturday, February 22, noon - 3 pm

In the seven months since we first introduced Studio One PT in this column last June, owner and certified Personal

Continued on page 12



Photo: JCC Photography jccphoto.ca

Bytown Highland Dance Recital 2013.

In January 2014, Sylvie joined forces with esthetician/electrologist **Brigitte Gagné** who now works with her at the Dunvegan Road studio/spa. She is delighted to report that Brigitte is also a **massage therapist**, so clients can now look forward to adding a relaxing massage to their customized esthetics treatment program when they visit the studio. And conscientious spouses and partners should take note: Valentine's Day is rapidly approaching, and should you be seeking an alternative to the time-honoured flowers and chocolate formula, a Gift Certificate to Sylvie's studio for a restorative esthetics treatment and massage could be the ideal solution. Just give her a call at **613-748-0352**.

Bytown Highland Dancers: Now Up and Dancing in

land dance in the Ottawa area, focusing on traditional highland and national dances, as well as original, award-winning choreography. The dancers perform regularly at local events and celebrations, and are active on the competition circuit, participating in both local competitions such as the Maxville Highland Games and the Montreal-based Scotdance Canada Championship Series, and on the international scene in the Loch Lomond Highland Games in Scotland.

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Continued from page 11

Trainer **Craig Adams** reports that his new Personal Training business at 1 Springfield Road (above **The Second Cup**) has been warmly welcomed in our community, with numerous local residents signing on as clients and many others taking the time to express their appreciation for his efforts to provide the neighbourhood with a first class facility for maintaining health and fitness. In fact, according to Craig the majority of his clients are now locals who are taking advantage of the studio's proximity to walk to their classes, adding both an exercise and an environmental bonus to their regular workout routines.

In case you missed our initial report in June, Craig has transformed the former clothing and accessories emporium above The Second Cup into a fully-equipped, air conditioned gym/exercise area, complete with full bathroom, shower and changing rooms. He also now works with his colleague, certified Personal Trainer **Rebecca Nicklin**, to offer customized workouts, as well as lifestyle and nutritional counselling, to individuals, couples or small groups. While the studio operates exclusively on an appointment basis, as opposed to being a drop-in exercise facility, Craig reports that this *modus operandi* is well understood and appreciated by his clients, who are delighted to undertake their exercise routines in a comparatively private setting, and under the expert guidance of Craig or Rebecca.

Building on the success of his first six months in business at Springfield and Beechwood, Craig has a number of new plans in the works for 2014, most notably the conversion

of one of the two large, but virtually unused, changing areas into a **cardio room** complete with treadmill, rowing machine and elliptical machine. Between sessions with Craig or Rebecca, clients will be able to schedule independent workouts in the new cardio room at no additional cost, and from Craig's perspective, the system will also have the advantage of helping him keep closer track of each individual's efforts to make progress towards their fitness goals.

A second innovation at Studio One is planned for late March and April when Craig will be joined by **Trevor McMahon**, a student from Algonquin College's Health and Fitness Promotion program. Trevor has been Craig's workout partner in recent months, and has greatly impressed him both as a person and as a knowledgeable trainer with an impressive background in the field acquired in the Algonquin

he now needs, and they benefit from his freshly-acquired expertise in training approaches and techniques. For readers who may be toying with the idea of working with a Personal Trainer but who are perhaps reluctant to make the financial commitment before assuring themselves of the benefits, this could be the ideal way to ease into the routine while sparing the pocketbook and helping out an aspiring student.

Craig is well aware that the start of a new year is often a time for embarking on ambitious New Year's resolutions with bold fitness and/or weight loss targets. Based on his experience with younger clients, however, he warns against starting out too fast and running the risk of injury (not to mention discouragement) before the body has learned how to recover from the rigours of a strenuous workout. By starting more gradually, and training muscles and joints to recover

slower than they might wish.

Winter conditions can be especially hazardous for the older crowd, and Craig works with a number of clients to improve balance and stability, and thus to avoid falls. He strongly advises taking it slowly in slippery, snowy conditions, and resisting the powerful temptation to focus on one's feet at the expense of staying aware of one's overall surroundings. Another caution he offers is to beware of over-dependence on canes, which bear a significant amount of weight and can prove extremely hazardous should they slip on an icy surface. A preferable option would be a pair of walking poles, which bear less weight and afford better overall stability.

Interested readers will find details of Studio One's packages and rates on their website at **studioonept.com**; but for a first-hand look at the facilities and to meet Craig and Rebecca in person, you are warmly invited to drop in at an **Open House, on Saturday, February 22, from noon to 3 pm**. If you're a fan of Second Cup coffee (and who isn't), you can also enjoy a steaming brew during your visit. We wish Craig continuing success in his new Burgh-based business, and health and happiness in 2014, when he and his wife Leslie will welcome their first child, expected this May!

Magpie Jewellery: Online Store Does Booming Business

From its modest one-store roots in the early 1990s, **Magpie Jewellery** has blossomed over the course of the past two decades into a thriving three store operation, with outlets in the Rideau Centre, at 799 Bank Street in the Glebe and at 430 Richmond Road, where Magpie maintains its administrative headquarters as well as the jewellery workshop where master goldsmith **Walter Van der Molen** (recently made a partner in the business) expertly practices the jeweller's art. In addition to its three Ottawa locations, Magpie has a rapidly expanding online jewellery store at **magpiejewellery.com**, which owner **Martin Wright** reports has been booming this past year, reflecting an overall trend toward online browsing and purchasing.

Back in November, Martin, his wife **Erin** and the rest of the Magpie team celebrated the 10th anniversary of Magpie's Bank Street store in the heart of the Glebe (between 3rd and 4th Avenue, beside The Body Shop). The history of the Glebe location is at least partly a matter of serendipity, coming

about as a consequence of Erin and Martin's habit of regular excursions to that legendary neighbourhood simply for a change of scene from their former home in the market area. In the course of these excursions (via OC Transpo, as they were then carless), they fell in love with the area, and when a retail space opened up beside The Body Shop, they took the plunge and launched a second Magpie outlet which continues to thrive a decade later.

In the coming months, Martin reports that Magpie's flagship Rideau Centre store will be moving down the hall into a somewhat larger space next to the Second Cup. The Rideau Centre location is currently featuring **Alex and Ani Designs**, a striking new eco-friendly jewellery line, hand-made in the U.S. and created by New York designer Carolyn Rafaelia. And if you happen to be in the market for a special piece of jewellery as Valentine's Day approaches, Magpie boasts a long and impressive list of designers from which to choose, ranging from **Anne Sportun to Pyrrha, Thomas Sabo, Tashi, Georg Jensen, Hilary Druxman, Alexis Bittar, Matsu** and many more (check out **magpiejewellery.com** for the complete line up).

Back in the late fall, Magpie took part in **Support Local Month**, hosting a successful **Benchworks** event at its Richmond Road outlet. Eight local artists were invited to design a piece of jewellery, three copies of which were created by Magpie's jewellers and distributed to each of its three locations where they remained on display and orders were taken throughout the month of November. Ten percent of the profit from each piece sold through that period was then donated to the Ottawa Food Bank, along with ten percent of sales from Benchworks' Opening Night on November 6. Martin was delighted by the event's great success, and is looking forward to a repeat performance in 2014.

ZaZaZa Pizza: Supporting Philippine Typhoon Relief Effort


On December 3, ZaZaZa Pizza teamed up with Block Love, a Kitchissippi neighbourhood holiday party organized to support UNICEF's typhoon relief work in the Philippines. The gala event was held at the Orange Art Gallery and featured music, food and displays of art. The event attracted a sizeable crowd, including Mayor Watson and such civic luminaries as Max Keeping, to



Martin Wright at Magpie Jewellery's Glebe Location.

program. Throughout the five week period of Trevor's co-op assignment at Studio One, clients will be able to work with him at no cost while he gains the hands-on experience

from exercise, the risk of pain and injury is minimized, and in Craig's experience, clients find it easier to maintain their motivation to stick with a program, even if progress is a little



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Photo: Anna-Karina Tabuñar
The ZaZaZa Pizza team on Putman: Michelle Lapalme, Craig MacLeod (middle) and Jeremy Owen.

celebrate and raise much needed funds for the relief effort. ZaZaZa's Brand Manager **Kelsey Cuddihy** reports that the restaurant offered free garlic kimchi aioli dipsters to any participants who donated a minimum of \$5 to the Typhoon Relief Fund, and when the final tally for the event was in, the Block Love party had raised an impressive overall total of \$13,000, with the impact doubled by a matching donation from the federal government.

As most readers are aware, ZaZaZa owner and creator **Ion Aimers** has a long history of supporting community and charitable causes ranging from the Ottawa Food Bank to the Snowsuit Fund, the Ottawa Heart Institute, the Ottawa Regional Cancer Centre, the United Way, the Royal Ottawa Hospital Foundation's "Do it for Daron" initiative and most recently, the local Pizzas for Penny campaign to raise funds for the Women's Breast Health Centre at the Ottawa Hospital. Coming up in the month of February, ZaZaZa's will offer a specially created new "heart healthy" pizza (the precise formula was still in the works when we went to press), with a dollar of the proceeds from every pizza sold to be donated to the Heart and Stroke

Foundation.

Ion is, of course, also well known as a brilliant restaurateur with an eye for a winning formula, and it seems clear that ZaZaZa's distinctive thin crust "pizza with pizzazz" brand, first introduced here in the Burgh at 143 Putman, has now caught on throughout the city, with two new locations—one in the Glebe at 915 Bank Street, and the other in Hintonburg at 1079 Wellington Street—currently operating at full tilt. If you haven't dropped in lately, Kelsey reports that there are two recent ZaZaZa menu additions that are soaring in popularity: a tasty beet salad with pecans, goat cheese, arugula and cherry tomatoes, and (for the not-so-vegetarian) the Sicilian sizzler, featuring savoury meatballs on a sizzling tray with garlic bread- perfect fare for a cold winter's night!

Conscientious

Craftsmanship: Designing New Work and Repairing Old

The NEN team welcomes new advertiser **Richard Albert**, who introduced his **Conscientious Craftsmanship** business in our last issue in December. Richard has over four decades of experience designing and building custom interiors, with special expertise in the realms of cabinetmaking, carpentry, wood finishing and high quality restoration work on kitchens, doors, windows, furniture and staircases.

While he grew up in Ottawa and graduated from Carleton University, at the age of 21, Richard moved to England where he lived and worked for the next 23 years, both in and around London and later on the south coast. Much of his training as a craftsman took place in London, and he now boasts the intriguing (and, in the North American context, rare) distinction of being a graduate of The Worshipful Company of Carpenters and Joiners, an educational institution with its roots in the medieval guild system.

In both his personal philosophy and his professional practice, Richard is a strongly committed to the principles of the Arts and Crafts Movement pioneered by William Morris in the late 19th century. The central thrust of that movement was to counteract the growing separation between the intellectual and aesthetic act of design and the manual act of fabrication, a separation which its adherents perceived as both aesthetically and socially harmful in its effects.



Richard Albert, Conscientious Craftsmanship.

In his own practice, Richard places significant emphasis on the primary importance of good design closely linked to skilful craftsmanship, drawing on such classic design principles as proportion, balance, simplicity, unity, space and movement to create new work or restore existing interiors and furnishings. Interested readers will find a photo gallery showing samples of his fine work at **conscientiouscraftsmanship.ca**. He takes particular pride in a stunning mantelpiece, the proportions of which are a direct reflection of the classic design principle of the Golden

Continued on page 14

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Since returning to Canada in 1994, Richard has acquired clients throughout the city, as well as across the river in Chelsea, Wakefield and beyond. In some cases, repeat clients have engaged his services to handle a succession of projects in their homes over a 15 or 20 year period. His aim is to connect with those who share his appreciation for excellence in both design and craftsmanship, and before taking on a project, he makes a special effort to get a clear sense of what a client is seeking, and whether he is the man for the job. Interested readers with interior renovation, restoration, repair or building projects on the agenda can reach him at **613-315-5730** or **alextech@magma.ca**.

Todric's Fine Dining and Catering

In our December 2013 issue, the NEN welcomed new advertiser **Todric's Fine Dining and Catering**, a well-known local business which has been operating nearby at **10 McArthur Road** (close to River Road) since 2002, starting initially as a catering business and later launching its dining room in 2007. Todric's is co-owned by **Eric Patenaude**, Executive Chef and Manager of the restaurant/catering operation, and **Todd Christopher**, who is principal stylist at the duo's other business, **Toss Hair Salon** on Gilmour Street.

In addition to its 40-seat restaurant, where brunch and lunch are offered from Wednesday through Sunday and a Bistro Menu Supper is served from Tuesday through Sunday beginning at 4:30 pm, Todric's features a Boutique along one wall of the restaurant where clients can purchase



Eric Patenaude, Executive Chef/President, Todric's Catering with A Channel Interviewer.

frozen entrées from the bistro menu, along with savoury pies, soups, sauces, and made-from-scratch bottled chutneys, jams, relishes, apple butter and other home-made treats from the kitchen. You can also order fresh meals-to-go from the bistro menu, and Todric's takes particular pride in its healthy, balanced, additive- and chemical-free fare.

Catering services at Todric's range from large cocktail receptions to cocktail/buffet suppers and smaller sit-down dinners. All orders are freshly made for the event in question, and Eric notes that his kitchen is entirely flexible about making recipe modifications to its standard menu items to accommodate food sensitivities or special preferences. Typically, Todric's catering jobs in the months between now and mid-April are large corporate events or smaller in-home private dinners, but come spring, the season of wedding parties takes over and is going strong until the end of August. As a feature of its full service catering business, Todric's arranges all rentals and service for the event, and provides referrals and recommendations for aspects such as flowers and décor, often

turning to their own client base (including our own local bridal wear specialist **Kimberley Wilson**) as wedding suppliers.

And if life wasn't lively enough running a fine dining restaurant, a gourmet take-out boutique, and a busy catering business, Eric also offers **group Cooking Classes** both on a small scale (4-6 participants) in clients' homes, and for larger groups (16-22) in the spacious kitchen at the restaurant. Eric reports that in recent months, the latter have become particularly popular, and in these cases, he begins the evening by welcoming participants with an ice-breaking drink and then divides the group into teams. He then divvies up the food preparation tasks among them, acting as a roving supervisor to oversee the work of each team, and share his expertise by suggesting techniques and tricks to facilitate the process.

Once the feast has been cooked, the group sits down to savour their handiwork and no doubt to exchange tales of their struggles at the cutting board. Cooking class clients choose in advance from a selection of culinary themes such as The Asian Tour, The Caribbean

or The Corporate Class, and the cost per head covers all ingredients, instruction, cooking time and the time to share the meal in a leisurely fashion. (Interested readers are welcome to give Eric a call for more details at **613-321-0252**, or check the website at **todrics.com**.)

Like many of our local businesses, Todric's is generous in its support of community and charitable causes, focusing its efforts on four major annual events: the Carefor Chocolate Competition in support of health and community services for seniors; the Vanier Soup Splash competition, held each year in conjunction with the Maple Syrup Festival; Bon Appétit, a major gourmet event in aid of local charities promoting poverty relief, with a focus on children and the elderly; and Swirl and Twirl, a major fundraising event of which Todric's is a lead sponsor and sole food provider for the evening. Eric reports that they are also open to offering reduced catering rates to a variety of community events where they feel that the cause

on Rideau Street, awarded by Mayor Watson and Councillor Mathieu Fleury in a ceremony last fall.

Riccioli Salon now has two locations, one at **372B Rideau Street** (close to Loblaws, between Nelson and Friel) and a second in trendy Westboro at **1267 Wellington West**. Its services include both the full range of hairstyling treatments from cuts to styling, colour, highlighting, conditioning treatments, hair extensions and bridal preparations, and a comprehensive menu of esthetics treatments, which now includes botox and fillers (at the Rideau Street location only).

Riccioli owner and master stylist Danny Gerges has had a life-long interest in fashion, and retains a lively sense of the importance of a healthy and attractive head of hair to his clients' sense of wellbeing and self-esteem, priding himself on "catching the vibe" of each individual to determine exactly what their preferences are. After moving to Canada from Lebanon in 1991, Danny worked in salons throughout



Mayor Jim Watson and Councillor Mathieu Fleury present certificate of recognition to Danny Gerges Riccioli Salon.

in question particularly merits their support.

Riccioli Salon: 15th Anniversary on Rideau Street

We wish a warm welcome to **Danny Gerges** and his team at **Riccioli Salon** who joined our advertising roster for this inaugural issue of 2014. And a special word of thanks and welcome to Riccioli stylist **Nicole White**, a resident of the Burgh where she has lived for close to nine years with her spouse and three children. Nicole was the resourceful intermediary who established the salon's connection with the NEN, and alerted us to Danny Gerges' recent distinction as the recipient of a certificate of recognition for Riccioli's 15 years in operation

the city before achieving the dream of establishing his own business in 1999, where he now works with a team of over a dozen other stylists.

Danny makes a special effort to keep abreast of the latest styles and techniques, travelling regularly to such international style hot spots such as New York City, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Spain and Toronto to get fresh inspiration for his local clients (many of whom have been with him through the 15 years of Riccioli's operation). He is by no means, however, a promoter of fads in the hair business, advising his clients to "keep it natural," and rejoicing in the cleaner lines and more natural hair colouring that is currently emerging as a strong style trend.



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Danny is committed to a regular routine of community outreach at the salon, actively participating each spring in a "Cuts for Cancer" event at the Wellington Street location in support of the Breast Cancer Foundation, and creating a Mitten Tree each winter for donation to the Snowsuit Fund. He looks forward to 2014 as a hopeful "New Beginning" for us all, and we wish Danny, Nicole and whole Riccioli team the very best as the salon launches into its 16th year.

Dr. Susan Kelen, Registered Psychologist: Individual, Couple and Family Therapy

We welcome new NEN advertiser **Dr. Susan Kelen**, a registered clinical psychologist offering counselling and psychotherapy to individuals, couples, teenagers and their families. Dr. Kelen freely admits that she has chosen our community paper, along with the *Manor Park Chronicle*, in order to keep her clientele focused in and around her own neighbourhood of Manor Park, and we look forward to helping her achieve that very practical objective as we benefit from her welcome support of our paper.

Dr. Kelen is originally from Montreal, but received her Masters of Education and Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the University of Ottawa. She has a wealth of experience, having worked in the mental health field for over three decades, including a stint as a clinical psychologist at the Royal Ottawa Hospital Mental



Dr. Susan Kelen, Registered Psychologist.

Health Centre. In her current practice at her office at 117 Murray Street, she deals with a host of widespread psychological ills, including anxiety, depression, low self-esteem (sadly endemic among young women and girls), work stress, family conflict, divorce, drug abuse, addictions, and bipolar disorder.

Many of her clients are teens (aged 11 and up) who are facing the daunting challenges and pressures of adolescence in a fast-paced, wired world, and in these cases, her efforts are directed to helping both the troubled individuals and their families to arrive at a better understanding of the problems to be tackled, and to work together in a co-operative spirit to solve them. In her experience, the process of talking issues out in therapy, with her practiced facilitation as a neutral and objective third party, helps her clients to arrive at an improved perspective on their

situation, and enables them to respond more effectively to the challenges it poses.

Interested readers can reach Dr. Kelen at **613-562-0118** or **susankelen@aol.com**. No physician referral is required for consultations, except in the case of those with coverage from extended health plans.

Burgh Business Bits

ICL Language Academy: New Location in New Edinburgh Square, 35 Beechwood Avenue

For close to two decades, **ICL Language Academy** has been operating in our community, where it offers French language instruction, as well as personalized services for Spanish, Arabic and Mandarin language learners, and English

as a second language (ESL). As an important aspect of its small group and individual coaching services, ICL also offers tutoring programs for students and young people.

As we reported in our recent profile of New Edinburgh Square Retirement Residence, last spring ICL moved from its original New Edinburgh headquarters above the Bank of Montreal at 14 Beechwood into the New Edinburgh Square building at 35 Beechwood, where it currently operates in more spacious quarters on the third floor. As a consequence of a significant growth in its clientele—which now includes diplomats, foreign students, government employees and other small businesses—ICL

also opened a second downtown location at 85 Albert Street.

We look forward to providing a more detailed profile of ICL and its owner/manager **Antoine Gebelli** in the *NEN's* next issue in April. In the interim, interested readers can reach the school at **613-233-8360** or **info@iclademia.com**, or check out the website for information on their services at **iclademia.com**.

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MPP Ottawa-Vanier Madeleine Meilleur Reports

Delivering Real Progress for Ontario

Since last February, Ontario has seen purposeful, progressive and practical solutions and a government intent on making the legislature work. Trust with teachers was restored and extra-curricular activities returned to schools. A sustainable future was secured for horse racing and the many communities who depend on it. Jobs roundtables were held in communities across Ontario, talking to real people about how to grow the economy and create jobs.

As we approach the end of 2013, the economic plan is beginning to bear fruit. Jobs were up in November and economists are predicting Ontario's economy will grow by 2.6 percent in 2014, the fastest growth rate in four years. And on December 13, a partnership with Cisco Canada was announced, that is the largest job creating investment in the history of Ontario's tech sector.

The economic plan is focused on investing in people, building modern infrastructure and supporting a dynamic and innovative business environment. This has positioned our economy for healthy growth in 2014 and made measurable by helping people in their everyday lives.

This year, a budget that is fair to everyone was introduced. It shows a government prepared to live within its means but committed to taking care of people first and to building a brighter future.

A deliberate decision was made to invest in you and build on your strengths because we believe people are Ontario's number one asset. Access to health care was expanded. The Youth Jobs Strategy was launched to put 30,000 young people into good jobs.

By building modern infrastructure such as: roads, transit, hospitals and schools; we are connecting communities and making sure you can get home quickly and safely at the end of the day.

And the government continues to attract businesses and support their growth. That's why taxes were lowered for 9 out of 10 - 60,000 small businesses across the province.

There's a lesson in the year that was: never underestimate the power of collaboration. The results speak for themselves.

Des progrès tangibles pour l'Ontario

Depuis le mois de février dernier, l'Ontario a été témoin de solutions expéditives, progressives et pratiques et d'un gouvernement déterminé à faire fonctionner l'Assemblée législative. La confiance a été rétablie avec le corps enseignant et les activités parascolaires ont repris leur cours dans nos écoles. Un avenir durable a été assuré aux courses de chevaux et aux nombreuses collectivités qui en dépendent. Des tables rondes ont été organisées sur l'emploi aux quatre coins de l'Ontario et nous avons parlé à des gens sur les mesures à prendre pour stimuler l'économie et créer des emplois.

À l'approche de la fin de l'année 2013, le plan économique commence à porter fruit. Le nombre d'emplois était en hausse en novembre et les économistes prédisent que l'économie de l'Ontario croîtra de 2,6 % en 2014, le taux de croissance le plus rapide en 4 ans. De plus, le 13 décembre, le gouvernement de l'Ontario a annoncé un partenariat avec Cisco Canada, un investissement qui générera le plus grand nombre d'emplois de toute l'histoire du secteur de la technologie en Ontario.

Notre plan économique consiste principalement à investir dans la population, à bâtir une infrastructure moderne et à soutenir un milieu d'affaires dynamique et novateur. Ceci contribuera à la croissance saine de notre économie en 2014 et deviendra mesurable en aidant les gens dans leur vie de tous les jours.

Cette année, nous avons présenté un budget fondé sur des principes équitables envers tous les Ontariennes et Ontariens; il révèle un gouvernement qui est prêt à vivre selon ses moyens, mais qui s'engage à prendre soin des gens d'abord et avant tout.

Le gouvernement de l'Ontario a délibérément pris la décision d'investir dans vous et de miser sur vos forces parce que nous croyons que les gens sont le meilleur atout de l'Ontario.

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

L'accès aux soins de santé a été élargi. Une stratégie d'emploi pour les jeunes a été lancée afin d'offrir à 30 000 jeunes individus de bons emplois.

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En outre, le gouvernement continue d'attirer les entreprises et appuie leur essor. C'est pour cette raison que les impôts de 9 entreprises sur 10 en Ontario ont été réduits, soit 60 000 petites entreprises partout dans la province.

Il y a une leçon à tirer de l'année qui s'achève : il ne faut jamais sous-estimer le pouvoir de la collaboration.



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Editor's Note: Lindenlea resident Gaye Taylor is a member of the Climate Reality project, a major international environmental education and advocacy movement inspired by former U.S. President and Nobel laureate Al Gore. She has been active in a wide range of local environmental projects in our area, and in early December, 2013, gave a thought-provoking presentation on Climate Change to a community gathering in Lindenlea. We look forward to receiving reports on her work with the Climate Reality project for future editions of the NEN.

Because "We are Winter," the Battle Against Climate Change must be Canada's Fight

By Gaye Taylor

By the time this article is in general circulation, the 2014 Olympics will have begun in Sochi. For the sake of all participants, it is to be hoped that the weather in this characteristically balmy city on the Black Sea will have miraculously provided sufficient snow. Should this essential element of winter be rather thin on the ground, however, perhaps Canada's Olympic Team will have been able to conjure forth a blizzard or two. After all, according to the multi-million dollar ad campaign launched by the Canadian Olympic Committee on the last day of

December---in partnership with Twitter---we (not just the athletes, but you and I, as well) are the thing itself. That is, "#WEAREWINTER."

Yes: the message put forward in a memorable five-week campaign by way of print and transit ads, billboards, pre-show videos in Cineplex theatres across Canada, and on Twitter, is that we Canadians are the indomitable people of the North. Certainly, this is the impression created in the video which shows bobsledder Kaillie Humphries striding across a forbiddingly empty snowbound vastness, as a slightly spectral voice-over

intones lines from Canadian Frederick George Scott's poem "In the Winter Woods" (1906):

"With a meaning, strange and deep, / As of visions seen in sleep. / Something in my inmost thinking / Tells me I am one with you."

Less portentous, but equally memorable, is the minute-long video clip released during the CBC's showing of the NHL Hockey Classic on New Year's Day which celebrates not just Canadian athleticism in winter, but the central place of the season in our collective psyche. For those who missed the original video (and decline Twitter), I provide the full text of the accompanying voice-over from Steve Yzerman

(former captain of the Detroit Red Wings and currently executive director of the Canada Men's Hockey Team) below. As you read, picture Canadian skiers, bobsledders, skaters, snowboarders doing their powerful, and beautiful, best on snow and ice:

Winter. It knows us better than we know ourselves. It shapes and forges us into who we are and what we can become. And it knows we can accomplish great things. Winter is where we take flight. Where we find our power. Our balance. And where we search for the crucial seconds that will lead us to greatness. It was there for our first steps. It will be there for our last. Winter gives us everything. And expects us to give it all back. We are Canada. We are winter.

(#WeAreWinter: Team Canada's 2014 Winter Olympic journey — Steve Yzerman)

As a paean to Canadian winter sport, the first half-minute of the video is straightforwardly inspiring. It is self-evidently true that winter does "forge" the balance, power and flight paths of our skaters, skiers and snow boarders. But at around the 35 second mark, when Yzerman proclaims that winter "was there for our first steps. It will be there for our last," the ad is no longer just celebrating the glorious jumps of athletes like freestyle mogul skier Mikaël Kingsbury. Suddenly

pitching viewers forward into the future when the athletes, and we ourselves, will be taking our last steps, it addresses all Canadians alive today. But what is the message? That is, what are we being told about the future of winter given the irrefutable evidence (so eloquently outlined in the pages of this paper for the past six years by Hugh Robertson) that the planet is rapidly warming, and that we are warming it?

Being a determined optimist, and believing that many of the young people now representing Canada in Sochi, do have an abiding love for, and an active commitment to, winter, I take the last seconds of the Canadian Olympic Committee's video on New Year's Day as a promise. That is, I understand them as promising you and me that the winter that many of us knew as toddlers will still be present, in all its savagery, splendor, and serenity, when we ourselves finally release the last of our own internal heat, and pass away, leaving all that snow and

As an indomitable, patient, adaptable, and generous people, Canadians will rise to challenge of climate change.

ice, whether as a playground or as an essential landscape for daily life, to those who come after.

I hear such a promise because I refuse to believe that this powerful anthem to winter, and to Canadians as the people of winter, was just a cheap advertising ploy, or, much worse, cynical lines in an increasingly desperate narrative of misinformation and distraction on the subject of climate change. Surely the COC is not saying that winter will always be with us because, well, you know, climate change just isn't happening? Surely, the COC is alive to the bitter contradiction in having Canada flex its muscles as the incarnation of winter during an international sporting event, when in all other international forums in recent memory, it has behaved as though an Earth without winter (which will be, amongst other terrible things, a flooded Earth), were a matter of supreme indifference?

As the Olympic Games play on, and we watch speedskater, Chris Hamelin, freestyle half-pipe star, Roz Groenewoud, and captain of the Canadian Women's Hockey Team, Hayley Wickenheiser, do their indomitable best, let us all think hard and long about what winter means to us, as Canadians, and as citizens of Earth. If enough of us—even those who,

frankly, could do without winter, thanks very much—were to consciously decide to self-identify as "a people of winter," we might find ourselves beginning to write a story that differs markedly from the one presently being written for us, by individuals and groups who may not have our best interests (especially long-term ones) at heart. Such a story might begin with how Canadians, even though we live in a cold country, even though our economy depended significantly on the extraction and export of fossil fuels, even though we knew that substantial sacrifice would be required of us, decided as a people to do, quite simply, the right thing. And, as it happens, the *smart* thing.

Climate change, left unchecked, will destroy winter, and much else that is familiar in, beloved of, and necessary to our lives in this wonderful country. As Robertson observed in the December 2013 issue of the New Edinburgh News, if we do not very soon begin to take the crisis of climate change seriously, we are on track to become bit players in a real-life enactment of Cormac McCarthy's *"The Road."* But it does not have to be this way.

As a people of winter, Canadians, both those born here, and those who have adopted Canada as their home, will be, indomitable, at heart. And as a winter people we will also be, at our best, patient, adaptable and generous. As an indomitable, patient, adaptable, and generous people, Canadians will rise to challenge of climate change. We will turn down our thermostats, leave our cars at home, invest in renewable energy programs, buy local, and above all else, actively demand of our leaders that they help us make the big changes that are necessary to avoid catastrophic climate change. Using the power, balance, and timing that winter teaches us, the very qualities that our athletes will display in Sochi, we will be helping to preserve for ourselves, and for all generations to come its lessons, and its gifts: bitter cold, aloof silence, treacherous ice, brutal dark, glorious brightness, sweet snowmen, the sharp crack of the puck hitting the boards, the long scrape of skates on ice, the whisper glide of cross-country skis, perfectly waxed, the adrenalin that rises at the top of that black diamond run, and the sense of peaceful playfulness that attends each snowflake's slip-sliding fall from the sky.

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Durham-on-the-Rideau

Paul McConnell

Walking along Union Street towards the Minto Bridges, you might spot a house bearing a neat plaque, “*Dunelm*”. A pleasant name in itself, but this is also the Latin codeword for Durham, the historic cathedral city located up in the northeast of England.

The connection between New Edinburgh and Durham is homeowner, Gavin Murphy, who is an alumnus of Durham University. In December, Gavin hosted a reunion of several other Durham alumni from the Ottawa area. They are part of a larger group in Eastern Ontario that, for reasons lost in time and over-refreshment, is officially entitled “LLADS” (Liquid Lunch Alumni of Dunelm Society). Despite ten years of reunions, the group still has not managed to meet up for lunch. No matter, the twice-yearly get-togethers provide an opportunity to keep in touch and reminisce about a special time and place in their lives.

Although not well known outside the U.K., Durham is an absolute gem and well worth a visit. “I don’t know a place that manages to be so inti-

mate and infinite at once,” said Bill Bryson, the author and former Chancellor of Durham University. He called Durham “a perfect little City”. Indeed, Durham enjoys such fine architecture, historic relevance, and a dramatic panoramic location atop a promontory that it has been designated by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. The designated area encompasses Durham Cathedral and Castle, which are described as being “among the greatest monuments of the Norman Conquest of Britain”. Spectacular Durham Cathedral, completed in 1133, is identified as “one of the finest examples of Norman architecture in Europe”; in 2013, it was voted the U.K.’s number one landmark attraction in a TripAdvisor survey. Durham Castle dates from 1072 and was the seat of the powerful Prince-Bishops who, in late medieval times, ruled over much of the wild North of England. The castle is now home to one of the University’s 14 colleges at the Durham campus.

In medieval times, Durham became one of the England’s leading centres of scholarship, along with Oxford and

Cambridge. Indeed, three of the colleges at Oxford University were founded from Durham in the 13th century (Balliol, University, and Trinity). However, political rivalries prevented Durham from receiving its own university status until 1832. I gradu-

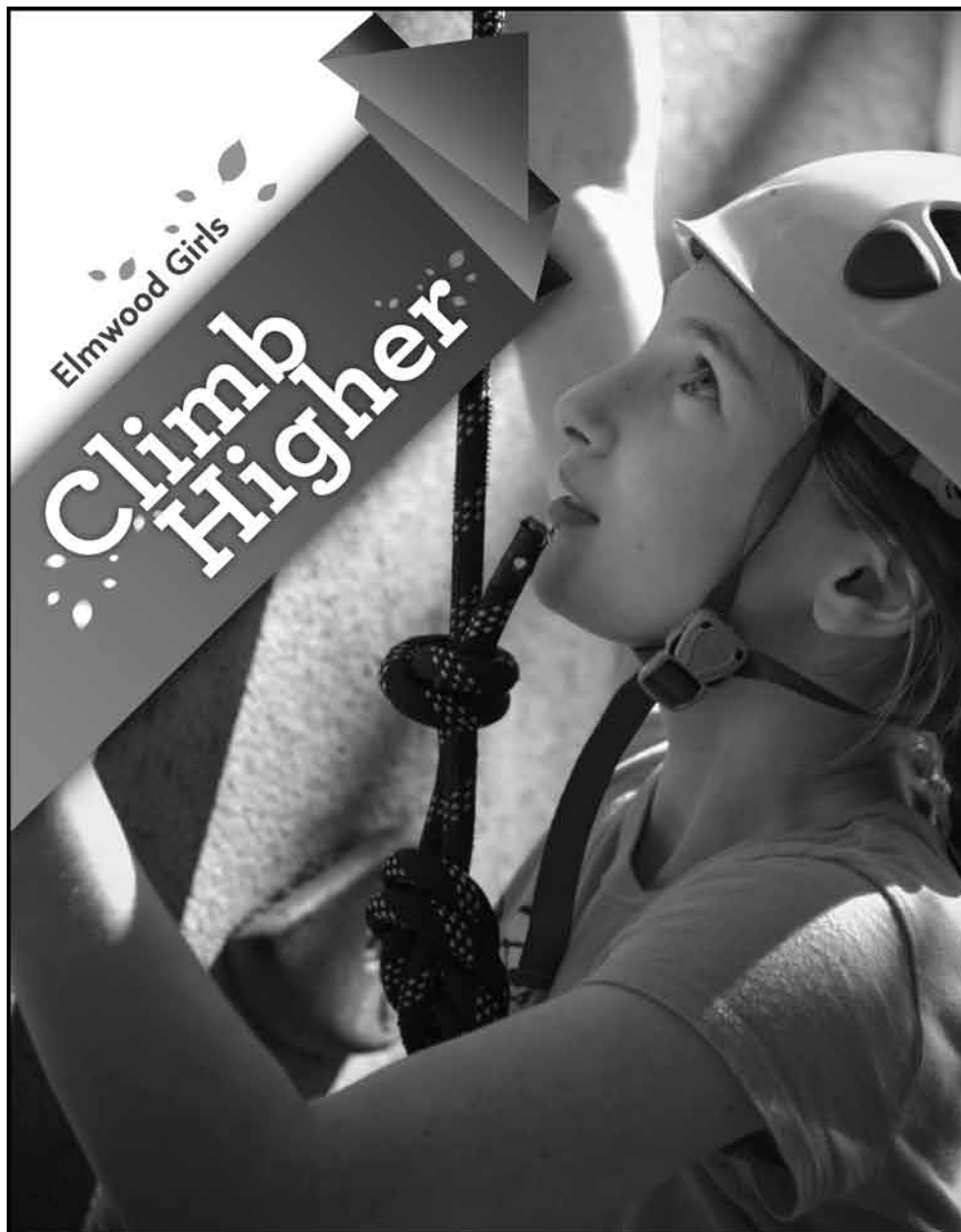
ated somewhat later than that. The first Durham University alumni group was formed in May 1866, and LLADS now continues the tradition in this part of the world, which brings us back to Gavin Murphy’s “Dunelm”. The next local reunion is likely to take place

in May, when the mothership is hoping to pull off a worldwide Durham alumni celebration. Who knows – we may finally meet up for lunch. For further details, or to make contact with LLADS, Durham alumni can contact Gavin at gmurphy@dunelm.org.uk.



Durham Cathedral towering above the River Wear.

Photo: Paul McConnell



E

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Thanks to all who responded to our call in December for fetching Fido photos with which to create our inaugural Pets in the Burgh page in this month's issue. We were happy to receive a wealth of entertaining submissions capturing many of the Burgh's canine companions in a variety of poses, ranging from perfectly posed portraits to full-on, exuberant action shots from the off-leash area in Stanley Park.

For this Pets in the Burgh page début, we have selected primarily clearly identified solo shots submitted by pet owners with accompanying bios, as opposed to group shots in which the pooch and owner IDs are a little uncertain. The only exceptions to this guiding principle are a couple of fine captures by Daphnée Dubouchet-Olscheski, who managed to get the names of her canine subjects, but missed the owner IDs thanks to frigid conditions during her photo shoot.

And if perchance your beloved companion doesn't appear in this issue, rest assured that his or her turn will come in future editions!

Drum roll...Introducing our loveable lineup for February:

Gracie

Seven-month-old German Shepherd Gracie poses demurely with a life-size monument at the WWI War Animals Dedication in Confederation Park. Gracie visited the monument in the week of Remembrance with her owner Shalindhi Perera, who worked on the Dedication project. Shalindhi reports that Gracie is "a loving addition to my family...making all sorts of friends, both four-legged and two-legged, in the neighbourhood."

Ceilidh

Here's wheaten terrier Ceilidh Metcalfe-Orchard enjoying her trip with owner Vicki Metcalfe to Books on Beechwood, where she was happy to meet NEN photographer Louise Imbeault.

Zoe

Zoe Surkes Lithwick is pictured in her element, cross-country skiing along the shore of the Rideau River with her mum, Dara Lithwick. Zoe lives on Crichton Street with Dara, her other mum Marci Surkes, and her baby brother Jake Surkes Lithwick. We're guessing she'll be glued to the Nordic events at the Sochi Olympics this month!

Marty

Name: Marty
Nickname: Moo-Moo or Martman
Birthdate: March 30, 2010
Measurements: 34-16-10
Pet Peeve: Squirrels, remote control cars and vacuums
Favourite food: ham
Favourite Celebration: National meat week
Dream job: CFIA (Canadian Food Inspection Agency)
Crimes: underwear chewer and food burglar
Favourite cousins: Parker and Chloe

Barney Davis

Black Labrador Barney Davis is engrossed in digging up a dirt pile known as "the holy hill" in Stanley Park. Barney's owner is Ann Davis of Crichton Street, who must have her hands full cleaning up muddy paw prints on her carpets!

Hariot

Six-year-old Black Labrador Hariot Reid sits regally in a comfortable armchair in the middle of Stanley Park. The chair apparently appeared during the Nuit Blanche festivities, and was adaptively reused by Hariot as a convenient resting place between bursts of play in the park. Hariot's owners are Alex and Isabelle Reid of Crichton Street.

Olivia

Rottweiler Olivia strikes a regal pose in the park. Olivia's owner is Eileen Olexiuk of River Lane.

Coco and BigMac

Labradoodles Coco and BigMac live on Noel Street and have brought great joy to the lives of Aynslee Kyte and Michael Burchill. Seven-year-old BigMac likes to relax in the afternoon shade in Stanley Park.

Becky and Atticus

Yellow Labradors Becky (left) and Atticus (right) are in their element in the Georgian Bay, as are their owners Ralph and Jane Heintzman of Stanley Avenue.

Sugar

Miniature pinscher Sugar is bundled up against the cold. Sugar is the best friend of Daphnée Dubouchet-Olscheski.



Hera.



Reyna.

Photo: Daphnée Dubouchet-Olscheski



Gracie and monument.



BigMac in Stanley Park.

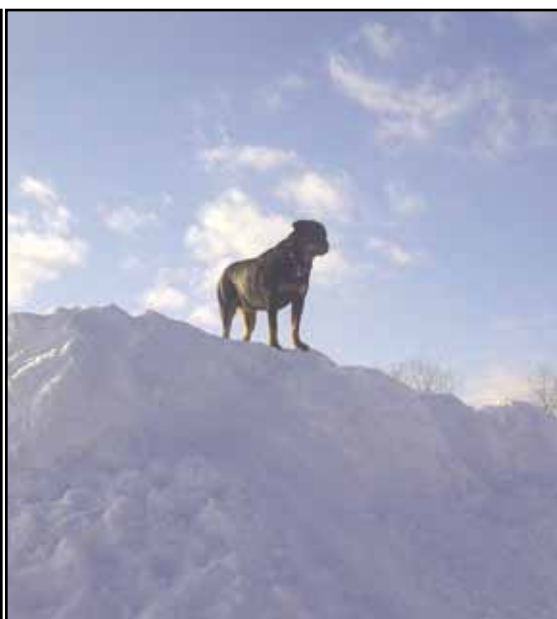


Photo: Aynslee Kyte Olivia Olexiuk.



Marty Moo-moo.

Sam by D.

Sugar by D.



Becky Heintzman.



Atticus Heintzman.



Barney Davis and the Hill.



Daphnée.



Daphnée.



Keiser, Leo and Zoe.

Photo: Daphnée Dubouchet-Olsheski



Coco the Labradoodle.

Photo: Aynslee Kyte



Zoe Skiing.



Ceilidh.

Photo: Louise Imbeault



Hariot Reid.



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Les Terrasses Lansdowne, des maisons en rangée protégées pour les générations à venir

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

Le quartier New Edinburgh compte quelques maisons historiques protégées, mais un seul ensemble de maisons en rangées, les Terrasses Lansdowne, situées au 157-167, rue MacKay, est inscrit au *Registre des biens patrimoniaux de l'Ontario*.

Un bel ensemble architectural

Construites en 1876, ces élégantes maisons en rangée se comparent très bien aux Terrasses Philomène qui se trouvent au 363-383, avenue Daly, dans la Côte-de-Sable. Ces dernières, érigées à la même époque et aussi désignées monument historique par la Ville d'Ottawa, sont toutefois en pierre.

Le bâtiment patrimonial en briques rouges s'avère imposant avec ses lucarnes à pignon, ses frontons et ses clefs en bois qui reflètent bien l'influence de style classique anglais dans la capitale fédérale à la fin de la période victorienne. Notons aussi les chaînes d'angle en briques blanches qui ressortent des murs à placage en briques

rouges. Tous ces attributs confèrent un style géorgien au bel ensemble architectural.

L'inscription «Lansdowne Terrace»

L'inscription «Lansdowne Terrace» jette un doute sur la date réelle de construction de ce monument historique. En effet, le marquis de Lansdowne (1845-1927) devient gouverneur général du Canada qu'en 1883. On peut certainement penser que la plaque en pierre a été ajoutée après la construction de 1876 et que les propriétaires ont voulu rendre hommage au vice-roi du

Canada entre 1883 et 1888.

Quoi qu'il en soit, cette incertitude importe peu et il faut plutôt mettre l'accent sur le fait que ces remarquables maisons en rangée sont désignées en vertu de la Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario et protégées pour les générations à venir.

Michel Prévost offre des visites guidées pour les groupes de 10 personnes et plus du patrimoine bâti franco-ontarien. Vous pouvez réserver au 613-562-5825 ou par courriel à michel.prevast@uottawa.ca.



Photo: Louise Imbeault

Les Terrasses Lansdowne sont situées au 157-167, rue MacKay.

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MacKay Concert Series: A French Landscape

By Carolyn Bowker

On March 1, at MacKay United Church, concert-goers are in for a rare treat—the harp and piano duo of Caroline Léonardelli and Parv Eshghi.

Concert harpist Caroline Léonardelli is an accomplished soloist, chamber musician, orchestra musician and teacher. Her solo recording “El Dorado” received a 2010 JUNO nomination in the category of Classical Album of the Year

with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, Opera Lyra and the National Arts Centre Orchestra, among others. Caroline performs in various chamber ensembles, including the Four Seasons Harp Quartet, Para Arpa Harp duo with Caroline Lizotte, and in duo with Julie Nesrallah and also with Matthew Larkin. She also appears with various choral ensembles, including the

recitals as a soloist and chamber musician at the Château Laurier, the National Gallery of Canada, the Ottawa Chamber Festival, and the Canadian Museum of Civilization, as well as in the concert series of St. Brigid’s Church, First Unitarian Congregation of Ottawa, and MacKay United Church.

As a versatile and multifaceted musician, Parv has been a vocal and instrumental coach for professional musicians for 20 years. She has had extensive training in solo singing and has conducted choirs at St. Brigid’s Catholic Church—where she programmed many fundraising concerts featuring choir and guest soloists—All Saints’ Anglican Church, and MacKay United Church.

Parv is heard frequently in Ottawa as a soloist and ensemble pianist. She collaborates frequently with mezzo-soprano Julie Nesrallah, and for the last three years has performed as pianist for the exciting modern rendition of *Carmen on Tap* directed by Brent Krysa, starring Julie Nesrallah, Maghan McPhee, Richard Troxell and Benjamin Covey. Last fall Parv and Ottawa soprano Tracy Whalen recorded a CD of Irish, English and Scottish folk songs by Benjamin Britten, Roger Quilter, and others. The CD will be released this spring.

In developing their program, Caroline and Parv strove to find selections that would bring out the soul of their instruments. In a sense, both instruments are string instruments (look inside a piano and you will see a harp). Their similarity and difference combine to create a very interesting and unique blend of sound.

In *A French Landscape*,

the audience will hear both solo and duo works. Parv will play piano selections from Debussy’s *Preludes*, and Caroline will play *Rhapsodie* by Grandjany, *Impromptu* by Roussel and *Ballade #2* by Renié. As a duo, Caroline and Parv will perform Ravel’s *Ma mère l’oye*, and Debussy’s *Petite Suite* in arrangements for harp and piano.

For Caroline and Parv this is a special concert; it is their first performance together, although they have known each other for over 20 years. They hope that the program they have chosen will inspire the audience through the beautiful display of sound colours and the dreamy manifestations of the music, to further appreciate their own observations of life and the beauty in nature that surrounds them.

Tickets for *A French Landscape* (\$25 for adults and \$20 for seniors and students) will be available at Books on Beechwood, or through MacKay United Church (613-

744-1544) and on March 1 at the door, 39 Dufferin at MacKay St. Concert time is 7:30 pm.

The final concert in the MacKay 2013-2014 series takes place on **June 8**, with music by Schumann and Stenhammer performed by pianist Dina Namer and the Silflay String Quartet (Leah Roseman, Mark Friedman, Paul Casey and Karen Kang).



Caroline Léonardelli.

solo or small ensemble. Her latest recording “Légendes-Harp & Organ” with Matthew Larkin has received exceptional critical acclaim in *La Scena Musicale* and the *Harp Column Magazine*.

In 2012, Caroline received a Canada Council for the Arts, Mid Career award to develop a new program with Kathleen Bride at the Eastman School. Caroline has recently signed with NAXOS for worldwide distribution of recordings on her artist label.

Born in France, Caroline graduated at the age of 18 with first prize harp from the Paris Conservatoire under the guidance of Jacqueline Borot. She then went on to advanced study with Judy Loman through the McGill University School of Music. In France, she also studied with Lily Laskine, one of the most celebrated harpists of the 20th century.

Her recordings and live performances have been featured on CBC Radio Two, Espace musique, Classical 96.3 Toronto and classical music stations in the U.S.

She is principal harpist with the Ottawa Symphony Orchestra and the Gatineau Symphony Orchestra, and has appeared as guest artist

Ottawa Children’s Choir and the Ottawa Bach Choir.

Parv Eshghi, a highly acclaimed Ottawa pianist, has studied with illustrious Canadian pianists, including Jean-Paul Sevilla, Andrew Tunis, Louis-Philippe Pelletier and Richard Raymond. She has been heard on CBC Stereo Ottawa and has recorded for the Jeunes Artistes program on CBOX-fm, Radio-Canada. She has earned high acclaim for her



Parv Eshghi.

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For the Birds



February 2014

By Jane Heintzman

So far, this grueling roller-coaster of a winter has severely tested the mettle of the overwintering bird population, and with each blast of arctic cold, blowing snow or freezing rain, my admiration for these hardy little creatures reaches new heights. Surprisingly, however, despite the harsh conditions, birders from around our area have been reporting the presence of numerous migratory species that should long since have departed for warmer winter habitats, including **white-crowned** and **white-throated sparrows**, **song sparrows**, **American tree sparrows**, **clay coloured sparrows**, **Carolina wrens**, **northern flickers**, **European starlings**, **red-winged blackbirds**, **hermit-and varied thrushes**, **golden-crowned kinglets**, a **yellow-bellied sapsucker** reported in Rockcliffe Park, a few lingering **great blue herons**, and even a **black-throated**

gray warbler. Large numbers of **American robins** are also still around despite the bitter cold and thick snow cover, but as long as the crabapple and berry supplies remain abundant, they can survive handily and are likely to stay with us. Interested readers can keep up with interesting sightings in the Ottawa area online at ofnc.ca/breports.php.

In our own garden, we began the winter with a predictable collection of regulars at the feeders and foraging below on the frozen ground. This cast of characters included **house finches**, **goldfinches**, **black-capped chickadees**, **Northern cardinals**, **blue jays**, **European house sparrows**, **European starlings** in their heavily speckled winter plumage, and **American robins**, which descended in large numbers to feast on the still abundant crop of mountain ash berries. In recent weeks, however, the finch population has dwindled to a paltry few, and despite my best efforts to lure this crowd back to the nyjer feeders by replacing the crusty old feeders with brand new ones and purchasing fresh seed, these rather pricey avian eateries have been all but abandoned.

Beginning in mid-December and continuing on an almost daily basis to the present in mid-January, mixed flocks of **Bohemian** and **cedar waxwings**, often accompanied by a single extraordinarily fat **American robin**, have descended on our mountain ash tree to pick off the remaining berries (frozen solid though they must be) and retreat to the safe haven of our cedar bush to consume them. *Ottawa Citizen* birding guru **Bruce Di Labio** reports that Bohemian waxwing numbers in the Ottawa area are significantly down this year, so I believe we're lucky to have attracted this crew to our garden, though my unscientific tally of the flock so far suggests that the cedar waxwings in the group significantly outnumber their Bohemian cousins.

Waxwing Who's Who

While they have numerous similarities, these two strikingly handsome waxwing species, bearing the weighty Latin monikers *Bobyccilla cedorum* and *Bombyccilla garrulous*, have a number of readily observable differences that make them comparatively easy to tell apart. Here are a few tips to help with their identification:

Similarities:

- Both have waxy red blobs or secretions on their secondary feathers which are

the basis for the "waxwing" name;

- Both have yellow-tipped tails (which can reportedly be closer to orange when the bird is consuming a heavy diet of orange berries);
- Both have shaggy crested heads and dark bandit-like masks; and
- Both have a strong predilection for berries and fruit as the staple in their diets.

Differences: Size and Plumage

- Bohemian waxwings are larger (about an inch longer), chunkier and brawnier, weighing almost twice as much as their sleek, streamlined cedar waxwing cousins;
- The silhouette of the Bohemian has been described as "looking as if it shops from the husky rack at JC Penney" while that of the cedar appears "as slim as a Victoria Secret model" (wonderful images);
- The undertail of the Bohemian waxwing is a deep rusty, chestnut colour, in contrast to the plain white of the cedar waxwing;
- The Bohemian's chest and belly are a uniform grayish-beige, while the cedar has a brownish chest and a clearly visible yellow wash on its belly;
- The wing feathers of the Bohemian are considerably

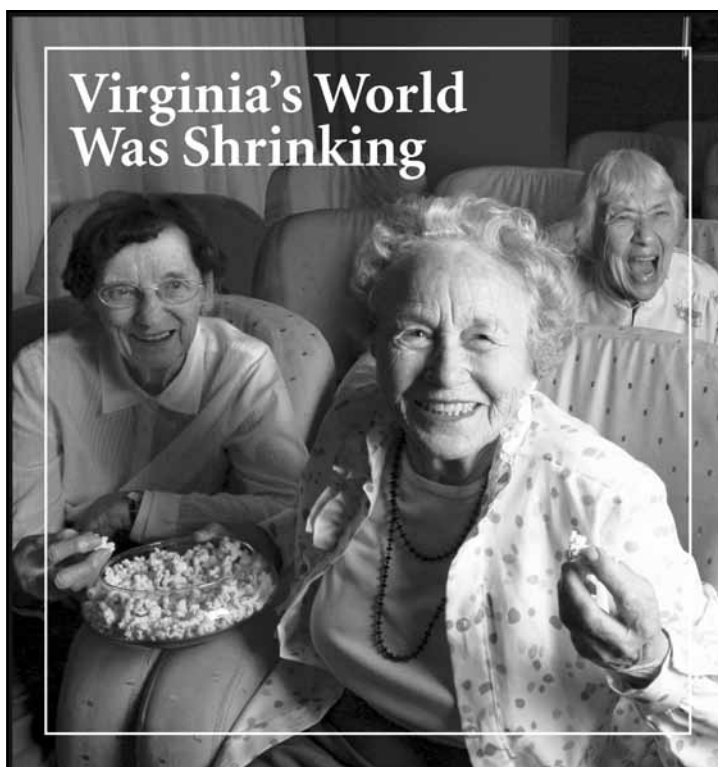
more strikingly coloured with golden yellow and white, and white on the upper wings, vs. the plainer gray of the cedar waxwing; and

- The cedar waxwing has a white upper border to its mask which the Bohemian lacks.

Another very simple rule of thumb is that in seasons *other than* late fall or winter, any waxwing you encounter is certain to be of the **cedar waxwing** variety, as the Bohemians spend much of the year and the breeding season in the far north.

Raptor Regulars:

Heavily frequented bird feeders, our own included, are a convenient and readily available smorgasbord for the local population of birds of prey such as **Cooper's hawks**, **sharp-shinned hawks**, **merlin**, **American kestrel**, **Northern goshawks**, **red-tailed hawks** and **Northern shrikes**. In the decade since we established our feeding stations, several of these predatory species have turned up to try their luck, including both **Cooper's** and **sharp-shinned hawks**, and a couple of pesky **Northern shrikes**. In recent years, our feeders appear to have been under constant surveillance by a hungry pair of local **sharp-shinned hawks**, which has already made two spectacular



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appearances this winter, and will no doubt be back for more.

On the first occasion, the immense female of the sharpie pair (she is almost twice as large as the male) descended on one of my feeders where she proceeded to sit and wait, still as a statue, while I looked on, asking myself what bird in its right mind would be foolish enough to approach the jaws of death just for a few sunflower seeds. As it turned out, none did (thankfully) and after 25 minutes of providing me with the photo opportunity of a lifetime, the female sharpie lost patience and took off. Only minutes later, her smaller male partner swooped in dramatically, but proved much cannier about disguising his presence, burying himself in the thick foliage of a ewe tree where he lurked for some time, ready to strike should some unfortunate diner return to the feeders.

On that occasion, he had no better luck than his mate as our garden remained a ghost town for some hours, but several days later, he struck again and bagged an enormous pigeon insouciantly filling its face under the sunflower seed feeder. And in contrast to previous "take downs" in our garden when the sharpie flew off with the carcass, feathers flying, to consume it at leisure, this guy hunkered down on the spot and consumed the creature with impressive speed, leaving nothing but a few downy feathers as evidence of the kill. Moral of the story: if you have busy backyard bird feeders, you're almost certain to attract predators, so it's important to ensure that the feeding stations are positioned with ready access to sources of shelter such as bushy evergreens.

Cold Shoulder from Irruptive Species

As we reported in our December issue, Ron Pittaway's annual Winter Finch Forecast predicted low numbers of "irruptive" species such as **common** and **hoary redpolls**, **pine siskins**, **pine grosbeaks** and **purple finches** in our area this winter, and so far, the forecast appears to have been borne out by the notable absence of this group. There have, however, been isolated reports of **red-breasted nuthatches** at feeders in the vicinity so I remain on the lookout for a visit from one of these intriguing elfin characters.

The red-breasted nuthatch is a close cousin of the much more common **white-breasted nuthatch**, but is smaller (about 4 in long vs. 5.5-6 in), plumper and more barrel-chested, with a short tail, a long hooked

bill, a boldly striped head and a rusty-coloured chest and belly. Should you encounter one of these characters, you're most likely to hear it before you actually spot it, as you can't fail to notice its noisy "yank, yank, yank" call, a nasal blast that has been likened to the sound of a tiny tin horn.

Like its white-breasted cousin, the red-breasted nuthatch can be found creeping up, down and sideways along the trunks and branches of trees, picking away at the bark for an insect meal. In winter, they may also be active customers at backyard feeders where they reportedly favour the highest fat fare such as peanuts, suet and sunflower seeds. Despite its comparatively diminutive size, the red-breasted nuthatch is noted for its feisty character, and can be extraordinarily aggressive both in breeding season and at bird feeders where it handily dominates much larger birds.

Snowy Owl Invasion:



Male Cooper's Hawk.

Canadian Tire Centre, perhaps waiting to be first in the gates at game time.

Snowy owls are diurnal birds of the Arctic tundra where they hunt throughout the 24 daylight hours of the Arctic summer, living on a diet of lemmings, ptarmigan, small birds (which they can pick off in flight), rodents, hares and squirrels. In years of a lemming population boom, snowy owl numbers may double or triple in lockstep. Bruce Di Labio speculates that this winter's near record irruption is a direct result of an exceptionally successful snowy owl breeding season that drove the immature owls south after "eating themselves out of house and home" on the tundra.

The snowy owl is the largest North American owl by weight (the **great-horned owl** is comparable in length and wingspan but much lighter), and is distinguished by its cat-like yellow eyes, its smoothly rounded, un-tufted head, and

Birding Highlight of Winter 2013/2014

As many readers may already have learned from the numerous *Ottawa Citizen* reports provided by birding columnist **Bruce Di Labio** over the past month, this winter has brought the largest irruption of **snowy owls** in over four decades to the Ottawa area and Eastern Ontario. At last count in mid-January, over 130 of these impressive creatures had been spotted in the environs, marking the largest winter invasion of owls since **great gray owls** wintered here in 2004-2005. Snowy owl sightings have been reported throughout the Ottawa area, particularly in the south-western and eastern ends of the city where they have been spotted atop telephone poles, fence posts, trees and in one case, on the roof of the

above all, by the snowy white plumage of the adult male. Both the female and the immature male snowy owl are barred with dark brown, though in the case of the male, the bird becomes steadily whiter as it matures, in contrast to the female, which remains quite heavily barred throughout its life. If you haven't yet spotted one of these beauties, keep an eye on Bruce Di Labio's weekly column for reports of local sightings, or check the Ottawa Field Naturalists' website at ofnc.ca/breports.php.

Reports from Our Readers: St. Laurent Academy's **Mike Leveillé** reported a variety of interesting visitors to the Macoun Marsh over the Christmas period, including an immature **red-tailed hawk**, a **Cooper's hawk**, a **hermit**



American Robin.

Photo: Sami Zeitouni

thrush, Bohemian waxwings, an American robin, a white-throated sparrow, American goldfinches, Northern cardinals, hairy- and downy woodpeckers, dark-eyed juncos and black-capped chickadees.

From her new home in Val des Monts, former Union Street resident and birding enthusiast **Amy Jane Lawes** reports that the cast of regulars at her bird feeders has included 3 **hairy woodpeckers** (2 male and 1 female); a "small rabble of **blue jays**", which despite their stunning beauty, apparently tend to be "far too rowdy in the mornings when we fancy a lie-in"; 6 very bold **black-capped chickadees**; feisty **red-breasted nuthatches**, including a particularly aggressive male that "chases off any and all challengers"; and from time to time, **American goldfinches** and **purple finches**.

White-breasted nuthatches are also around in Val des Monts, though not at Amy's feeders (perhaps daunted by the presence of their pushy cousins), and on her dog walks, she has regularly encountered a small group of lingering **mallards** on an open spot on the river, and numerous **common ravens** overhead. Her single most exciting birding encounter of the winter was a brief crossing of paths with an immature **snowy owl**, which flew in front of her car as she was returning home along highway 50.

My neighbour **Philip MacAdam** seems to have a lock on the local finch population, as he reports numerous **American goldfinches** and **house finches** at his well-

stocked Avian Bistro, while our garden in general, and our nyjer feeders in particular, have been a finch free zone for several weeks. Other regulars at Philip's bistro have included **Northern cardinals**, **white-breasted nuthatches**, **black-capped chickadees** and a **downy woodpecker**.

Roving birding reporter **Vicki Metcalfe** is once again off to Jekyll Island, Georgia, in late February, so we look forward to her annual fulsome report of the migratory bird population en route through that area. In her local dog walking excursions earlier this winter, Vicki had hoped to have spotted a relatively rare **Barrow's goldeneye** amid a flock of **common goldeneye** and **hooded mergansers** on the Rideau River. In the end, however, she was unable to nail down a positive ID, and in my own experience, this can be devilishly difficult in the case of diving ducks, which tend to disappear below the surface of the water before you can get them into clear focus.

Our Alberta birding reporter **Dave Collyer** has been under siege in the harsh winter of 2013/2014, but at last report sent word of **maggies**, **black-capped chickadees**, **dark-eyed juncos**, and **hairy woodpeckers** at his feeders, along with **white-breasted nuthatches**, **common ravens**, a **bald eagle** and a **golden eagle** in the area.

We welcome the wonderful photographic contributions of **Sami Zeitouni**, an avid bird photographer who has generously agreed to allow the *NEN* to share some of his fine work with our readers.



Bohemian Waxwings.

Photo: Sami Zeitouni

News from the House

Issue #11



February 1, 2014

Report from the Board:

We wish a very Happy New Year to all our partners, our neighbours and our friends, and welcome the community to another full year of programming and fun at the NECTAR Centre.

To start the New Year, we thought we'd give you a behind-the-scenes look at what we have been up to at the Centre as we prepared for the achievement of a new milestone in 2014.

Someone once said that it takes three full years to implement enduring organizational change. In the first year, you learn all the things that need changing (this is often painful and almost made us run for the hills); in the second, you knuckle down, invest in and

implement the changes (both for better and worse); and in the third, you evaluate and fine-tune the changes you've made, and with good luck and good management, you hope to finally get it right.

In 2012/13, the Centre made critically important steps towards its primary goal of becoming an organization that truly interweaves art, community and education. In the course of these two years, we learned what we needed to change to achieve that goal, arrived at some often difficult decisions, and implemented those decisions to set us on the right course. According to the plan, 2014 is the year in which the NECTAR Centre will begin to evaluate our efforts, fine-

tune the systems to make it all work, and, we hope, finally see the fruits of all the hard work invested in our organization by our dedicated staff, Board of Directors and countless volunteers from the community.

As we launch into the New Year, we are thrilled to say that we are on target! Getting to this critical turning point has required a tremendous amount of creativity, dedication, resourcefulness and resilience in the face of the inevitable challenges and reversals we've encountered along the way. We have our Executive Director, Melanie Davis, our Board of Directors, our staff, our Advisory Council, and the many volunteers who serve on our working committees, at our events and in our facilities, to thank for this. As Cathy Welch, one of our valued volunteers and supporters, recently observed: "It's amazing to be behind the scenes at the Centre, and to feel the tremendous creative energy and 'can do' outlook of all who come here—I'm sure some of it is rubbing off on me!"

During the past three years, we have worked hard to keep the interests of the community paramount in our decision-making, and to take these needs, interests and comments on board in our decision

making. In 2012, we invited the community to respond to a survey designed to create an accurate profile of what those needs and interests are, and once again, two years later, we are keen to capture your views, good and bad, about how we are doing. We'd really like to know how successful you think we've been, and how we can continue to improve the range and quality of the services we offer. Stay tuned for our survey, which will be available on our website at nectarcentre.ca and through our mailing list.

At the same time, the Board and its various sub-committees have been actively working on a number of initiatives that we plan to roll out in 2014, including initiatives related to programming, marketing and branding of the organization, human resource planning and Phase 2 of the retrofits of New Edinburgh House. We will also be maintaining and sharpening our focus on the essential tasks of achieving ongoing operational efficiencies, and building a sustainable organization for the coming years.

In the next couple of months, the NECTAR Centre will invite community members to attend focus group meetings to discuss a range of issues on the Centre's agenda in the coming

year. Your views are important to us, and are a vital part of our organization's relevance and health. We hope you can take the time to respond to our survey and if possible, to attend a focus group: we look forward to hearing what you have to say!

Sean Flynn

Chair, NECTAR Centre

Introducing our 2014 Executive Team

Sean Flynn – Board Chair

Born and raised in Ottawa, Sean has strong personal and family ties to our Nation's Capital. Sean graduated from the University of Ottawa's Computer Engineering program and has since taken on a diverse set of challenging Engineering and R&D roles in Ottawa's Telecom, Aerospace, and Defence sectors. After living in a variety of neighbourhoods in Ottawa, Sean and his family have settled in New Edinburgh, where he became acquainted with the very active community groups in the area, and eventually honed in on the NECTAR Centre because of its diverse program offerings. He regards his involvement with

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the Centre as a perfect opportunity to help young families such as his own, and looks forward to contributing to the health and sustainability of the organization in the years to come.

Isobel Bisby – Vice Chair

A retired Executive Director, teacher, adult literacy specialist and community developer, Isobel is now an active community volunteer, and spends her time supporting the NECTAR Centre, Beechwood Village Alliance and Heartwood House. Isobel has a particular interest in social justice issues, and the development of healthy communities. In her work at the NECTAR Centre, she is currently coordinating the New Edinburgh Community Choir, and playing a central role in the planning and organization of events such as the annual Family Zumba Night, and Family Movie Nights.

Cindy Ryley – Secretary

Cindy has been an active member of the community for thirty years. She was co-owner and the creative force in a small business, Ryley MacLachlan Fine Caterers, which expanded to become a thriving New Edinburgh-based enterprise with 25 employees. Since retiring from the business, she has been involved as a volunteer at the Ottawa Art Gallery and participated in numerous classes at the NECTAR Centre. Most recently, Cindy authored a cookbook on her years as owner of a food store and catering business.

Bethann Robin – Treasurer and Past Chair

Bethann Robin has been on the NECTAR Centre Board of Directors since the inception of the organization nearly 14 years ago. Starting as its inaugural Secretary, her dedication over the subsequent decade led to her role as its eventual Chair—a position she held for two terms. She now sits on the Board as Treasurer and Past Chair, and is greatly valued by the organization for her corporate knowledge, keen eye and detail-oriented presence. Her current position with the Canadian Revenue Agency helps to keep our organization on the straight and narrow! Bethann is an active supporter of community where she works hard to promote equal opportunity for all to contribute, play and live together in harmony.

2013–It's a Wrap!

2013 ended with a lively community **Holiday Party in New Edinburgh House** in early December. The event

was a terrific success, greatly enhanced by the eye-catching "That's Life" figure drawing art exhibition in the Community Gallery, which provided a much-admired and diverting backdrop to the festivities. Every guest commented on the fabulous food, most of it provided by NECTAR Centre Board member and chef *extraordinaire*, Cindy Ryley, and some waggish participants were heard to suggest that the event could have been billed as "Nudes and Nibbles"!

Many thanks to **Epicuria, New Edinburgh Square** and **The Rockcliffe Retirement Residence** for their contributions to the festive fare, and to the local businesses who donated raffle prizes: **The New Edinburgh Spa, Touchette's Garage, Da Bombe, Mille**

us with our graphics, branding and new logo.

Volunteers at New Edinburgh House:

Readers will remember that we put out a call for volunteers in the last edition of the NEN to support our Executive Director and staff. *Ask and Ye Shall be Given!* We are delighted that our morning, three afternoon, and one evening "friendly face" slots have now been filled by wonderful friends and neighbours who welcome visitors, answer the phones, and ensure that we always have coverage in NEH for safety and security purposes.

Join the volunteer team of Friendly Faces at New Edinburgh House! We continue to seek help from more friendly faces to sit in our office

and greet visitors, register program participants, respond to drop-in visitors' inquiries, answer the telephone, and assist with some minor administrative tasks. The three available time slots are **Monday to Saturday, 9 am to noon**, and **Monday to Thursday, 4:30 to 6:30 pm**, and **6:30 to 8:30 pm**. We would like to build a roster of "regulars" for each of the time slots, but we are also looking for a back-up list of volunteers who could be called on occasionally, so there's a role for anyone interested, regardless of your schedule.

Our volunteers say:

"What could be better than having a great time greeting old friends and meeting new neighbours as you do a 'good turn' for this extraordinary

neighbourhood of ours?"

"It's not hard work at all—greeting old friends, welcoming new neighbours and learning first hand about the myriad of activities for young and old which take place daily in this historic house."

It Takes a Village to Operate a Community Centre: We Need Your Time and Talents!

In the last issue of the NEN, we put out a call for volunteers of all ages, stages and talents to fill a variety of roles that are crucial to the successful operation of the Centre.



Greeting guests at Winter Party.

Photo: Melanie Davis

Fiore Florists, NE Pharmacy, Kelly's Barber Shop, Monson's Dry Cleaners, Beauty Mark Esthetics and Nature's Buzz. We raised much-needed funds while strengthening community ties and having a great time! **Thank you!**

The Centre is most grateful to **Jocelyn Sigouin** for the donation of a refrigerator which is now in constant use to keep the snacks fresh for our After Four Program, as well as serving many other purposes. We also tip our hat to the moving company **Two Small Men with Big Hearts** who kindly carried the fridge over the snowbanks and installed it in Memorial Hall. Many thanks also to **Nicole Vallée** of Domino Creative who has generously volunteered to help



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Interested readers will find a more detailed description of all those volunteer positions on our website at nectarcentre.ca but to give you an idea of the opportunities available to contribute to our shared community life, here's a sampling of the options:

- **Assistance at Special Events** (movie nights, vernissages, performances etc.)
- **Playgroup Animator** to work with small fry at our Monday to Friday Playgroup
- **Grounds Assistant** to help keep New Edinburgh neat, trim and accessible during the winter storms
- **Home Deliveries** of our Program Guide in December, February and August
- **New Edinburgh House Caretaker/Handyman**
- **Community Notice Board Caretaker**
- **Marketing and Graphic Design Assistance** to help us add punch and appeal to our posters, notices and messages to community about NECTAR Centre events and activities
- **Program Assistants** to support our After School and Camp program leaders, and
- **SPECIAL REQUEST for Volunteers at Snow Lantern-Making Workshops**

Contact Us:

If you have a few hours to spare, either on a regular weekly basis or on an occasional basis, please contact **Jenni Barbarie** at anghiari@hotmail.com/613-747-6967, or **Isobel Bisby** at ibisby@gmail.com/613-747-3871. You'll also find an online Volunteer Application at our website nectarcentre.ca, or you can call the Office at 613-745-7242.

NEW NECTAR Centre Programs

What's Cooking at NECTAR

Food Talks, Cooking Classes

To help chase away the winter doldrums in March, **Cindy Ryley**, founding partner of Ryley MacLachlan Fine Caterers and cookbook author, and **Joseph Cull**, event chair for the YM/YWCA Just Dance Spring Extravaganza and creator of the Food Boutique for Homes for the Holidays, are working on plans for a two-part series of **Food Talks**. They will host a special guest and discuss his or her professional relationship to food. The guest might be a restaurant owner, a chef, a food critic or a cookbook author. These sessions will provide a golden opportunity to get the inside scoop on the guest's approach to food. There will be plenty of time for questions and the evenings are certain to be entertaining and informative!

To help plan these talks, your suggestions would be welcomed. Would sessions of this kind appeal to you? Have you other ideas and suggestions that Cindy and Joseph could put into the hopper? Interested readers should check the website nectarcentre.ca for specific dates and details as plans unfold.

We are pleased to announce that we are now working with **Cary, Julie** and **Nina** from **Upbeet Nutrition**, a locally based business offering **classes in food and nutrition-related topics** for all ages. Their philosophy: healthy foods and

healthy lives. They offer cooking classes (see examples listed below) or would be pleased to tailor workshops at your request.

Beyond Pizza and Pop: a learn to cook course for young adults

Bring it Home: meals cooked from scratch to bring home to your freezer

Gluten-Free Workshops: learn how to make delicious gluten-free baked goods

Snack Attack: healthy snacks for pre-school children

Teen Cuisine: a series of internationally themed menus for teens

It's Your Call, Foodies! Please let us know as soon as possible what types of class would be of most interest to you or your group. We look forward to hearing from you very soon!

For information and further details on the Food Talks or Cooking/Nutrition classes, or to contribute your ideas and suggestions on possible food-related classes or discussions, please contact **Cindy Ryley** at **613-749-2400** or by email:

cindyry@sympatico.ca.

New Edinburgh Community Choir:

A Chance to Harmonize with Your Friends and Neighbours!

To all you closet crooners and divas out there, here's a golden opportunity to harmonize with your neighbours and practice your vocal technique in a relaxed and congenial setting—a giant step up from the confines of your shower, but with not a whit more performance pressure to take the fun out of it!

You are warmly invited to join our new **Community Choir on Monday evenings at New Edinburgh House from 7:15 to 8:15 pm**. An amazing 16 participants turned up for our first session on Monday, January 13, so please come out in the weeks ahead and add your voice to the angel throng of friends and neighbours!

Our talented and enthusiastic choir leader, **Erin Puttee**, is all set with an eclectic repertoire to appeal to a wide range of musical tastes, including songs by Herman's Hermits, Leonard Cohen, and countless others, along with classical standards such as *Dona Nobis Pacem* (Grant Us Peace), and the haunting South African hymn, *Siyahamba*, a favourite in many North American choirs since the 1990s.

Erin has impressive musical credentials, having graduated *summa cum laude* with a Bachelor of Music in Opera Performance, and completed a Master of Arts degree in Musicology at the University of Ottawa. She is currently on staff in the music department at St. Lawrence College in Brockville where she trains

students in musical theatre. Erin now has a studio at the NECTAR Centre where she offers private voice and piano lessons.

Erin is welcoming people of all talents to our new Community Choir, so whether you can read music or not, please don't be shy: drop in on Monday evenings and Sing Out! Contact **Isobel Bisby** **613-747-3871** ibisby@gmail.com.

Photo Marathon Program:

The NECTAR Centre is pleased to offer a New Edinburgh Photography Program to local photo bugs this winter. The program offers an inspiring mix of photo assignments, feedback and skill development. Each week, participants will be given new photo assignments and will have an opportunity to share their work, take part in mutually constructive critique, and benefit from expert advice from professional photographers **Martin Lupin** and **John Arnold**.

Artist-in-Residence Program:

In light of the remarkable success of last year's Artist-in-Residence program, the Centre will remount the program in 2014, but this time with a slight twist. We are pleased to announce that in 2014 the NECTAR Centre residency program will focus exclusively on **Theatre Arts**. The residency program has two interrelated program goals: 1) to support creative artists by offering them the time and space to create new work; and 2) to develop programming in which artists-in-residence collaborate with our local community. The official Call for artists will be announced in the coming weeks. If you are interested in receiving a copy of the call for artists, or if you have suggestions of others who might be, please contact

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Event Listing

January 31, February 28, March 28, 2014: NECTAR Centre Family Movie Nights – Looking for a night out for the family? Join us for Family Movie nights the last Friday of each month through the winter at New Edinburgh House. Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult. Popcorn and juice are free with a donation. 7 to 9 pm.

February 7, 21; March 7, 21; April 4, 18: Board Game Nights — Join your neighbours in a social evening of playing Board Games at New Edinburgh House. *Settlers of Catan, Torres, Puerto Rico, Quir' Le, Boardwalk, Labyrinth, the Walking Dead, Scategories, Dixit, Mille borne, Go* and much more! 7 to 10 pm.

February 1 – 16: Lumière Ottawa Snow Lantern Installation – Join the NECTAR Centre/Lumière Festival at WINTERLUDE 2014 as we create our first ever Snow Lantern installation in Confederation Park. The Centre is inviting everyone to participate, and help us to light up the dark winter night in the park. With the winter season in full swing, building a Snow Lantern and creating a magical illuminated world promises to be a fun and imaginative way for kids and parents to make the most of the cold winter days. Activities and Snow Lantern-making workshops will take place on **weekends from noon to 9 pm**.

Children's Programs:

Malachi Handler is our



Photo: Isobel Bisby

NECTAR's Acrylic or Oils class takes place at New Edinburgh House on Thursday afternoons.

new Children's Program Coordinator who oversees the After School Program at the NECTAR Centre. Malachi has a wide range of experience working with youth and families in a variety of contexts, most recently as the Director of Youth and Family Programming at the Agudath Israel Congregation. He has also spent nearly a year as a Teaching Assistant while posted to Dakar, Senegal.

We are very fortunate and grateful to have Malachi on our staff team, and are all looking forward to working with him in the New Year, especially the children in our After School Program where he is already a popular presence. Malachi reports that "it is with great anticipation that I take on this role, and I am especially excited to be working for an organization that is such a valued part of the New Edinburgh community. I come to this job after many years of experience as an educator and a youth director, and I am looking forward to continuing to build up the established programs here

at the NECTAR Centre."

This January, our **After School Program** was successfully re-launched following its inaugural term last fall, and we are happy to welcome our new Early Childhood Educator **Laura Yates**. Laura comes to

our program with a wealth of experience, having worked with school-aged children for close to a decade, most recently as Assistant Director at the Greely First Steps Daycare, and her depth of experience, skills and knowledge has already helped to enrich our program. Along with Laura, we are delighted to have **Lee Benson** joining us again as our Program Assistant this semester. Our current program offers a diverse array of activities from arts to athletics, drama, educationally-based projects, reading and homework time.

After School Program Participants Strap on the Blades! Children in the After School Program are having a special treat this winter. On Friday afternoons, weather permitting, Malachi, Lee and Laura take them skating on the wonderful outdoor rink in Stanley Park, and there's

plenty of hot chocolate to go around when small noses and toes are feeling the chill. Parents are invited to meet up with the group at the Church or the Fieldhouse, and join in the fun for the late afternoon.

The NECTAR Centre has other youth-based events to get excited about in 2014! We are especially pleased to have a wide offering of classes and programs, including:

- our **weekly Playgroup** for children 4 and under;
- our **K-2 Martial Arts** class;
- **Theatre Making and Creation** class;
- A **World Apart Art** class for children ages 5 to 9; and
- **Mixed Media and Art Journaling** workshops for teens.

For details, please check out our website at nectarcentre.ca or call our office at 613-745-2742.

Go to www.nectarcentre.ca for more information





WINTERLUDE 14

LUMIERE

Presents

Snow Lantern Installation

Help us to light up the dark winter night in Jacques Cartier Park.

With the winter season in full swing, building a Snow Lantern and creating a magical illuminated world promises to be a fun and imaginative way for kids and parents to make the most of the cold winter days.

Activities and Snow Lantern-making workshops will take place on **weekends January 31 – February 17 from 12 noon – 6 pm**.

Lanterns will be lit nightly.

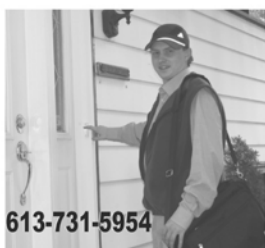
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EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS

Revenues from Lloyd George Knew My Father

Martha and I have no money at all to realize this book, which is okay when it comes to donating our time, but will become problematic when we arrive at the stage of buying images and so on. We will certainly be looking for grants and sponsors as we move forward. Last October, however, I offered to donate half the ticket price for the annual Linden House show from residents who wanted to support the project. Six people took me up on the offer, and I thank them sincerely. The \$75 we raised as a result is being used for printing, paper, etc., and is much appreciated.

New Edinburgh History Book Presses On

By Janet Uren

Martha Edmond and I are working away on the history project and will continue to report progress in subsequent issues of the *New Edinburgh News*.

We circulated a questionnaire in October to 391 houses in the Heritage Conservation District (thanks to **Simon Ford** for the footwork). We have received in the order of 50 completed forms, some of them very detailed. This is a 12 percent response, which we consider to be very high and, indeed,

well beyond expectations. Thanks to everyone who filled in the document. We are now in the process of analyzing the information received and beginning a database, which will continue to grow as we do more research. Hopefully, that database will be useful to the community in the future as a historical resource.

We realized, however, that we could broaden our reach – and especially to other side of Dufferin – by mounting the questionnaire online, which we are now proceeding to do. We

will advertise this with posters throughout the larger community as soon as the online document is up and ready. And thanks to **Anne-Sophie Belzile**, we will be able to present the questionnaire in both English and French.

Meanwhile, a number of people who responded indicated that they had documents to share or other information or, indeed, would like to tell us their stories. We have taken note and will be in touch as and when we can.

Also, a number of people have volunteered to help with the project. We have written to them with suggested meeting times and look forward to learning what their interests are and to seeing how we can jointly work together to move the project forward.

As for the book itself, Martha and I have developed an outline and are working on a research plan. So it's off and away on a most exciting project.

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Photo: Louise Imbeault

Bruce Patterson, Deputy Chief Herald of Canada, unveiling Joyce Bryant's Coat of Arms.

Slender Threads: Burgh Resident Joyce Bryant's Charming Memoir Recently Reprinted

Longtime New Edinburgh resident **Joyce Bryant's** memoir *Slender Threads*, originally published in 2008, has recently been re-released, and interested readers will find copies available at Books on Beechwood. Mrs. Bryant's memoir is a lively account of her life and eventful career as private secretary to the Right Honourable Vincent Massey, the first Canadian-born Governor General, and later in the secretariat of the Order of Canada where she served throughout the tenure of five Governors General.

While much of Mrs. Bryant's adult life was spent here in the Burgh, where she continues to live as a well-known presence at *The Edinburgh Retirement Residence*, she was born in

Winnipeg to an English immigrant family in the early 1920s, enduring the hardships and struggles of the Depression and the premature death of her father. During World War II, Mrs. Bryant served overseas in the RCAF-Women's Division, and was later awarded the British Empire Medal in recognition of her wartime service.

After returning to Canada, Mrs. Bryant worked for 14 years as the private secretary to Mr. Massey, both at Rideau Hall during his tenure as Governor General, and later at Batterwood, the Massey residence in Port Hope to which Mr. Massey moved following his retirement. She has fond memories of Mr. Massey, with whom she travelled some 150,000 miles in the course

of his wide-ranging tours of Canada, and goes to some lengths in the book to reveal the warmth and engaging sense of humour beneath his rather austere surface manner.

Following Mr. Massey's death, Mrs. Bryant went on to become the first permanent employee of the secretariat of the Order of Canada where she served for a further 14-year period, playing an important role in the development of Canada's national honours system. In 1974, she was invested as a member of the Order of Canada in recognition of her many years of dedicated service at Government House.

When *Slender Threads* was first released in 2008, it was warmly received by the community, including Mrs. Bryant's many friends and acquaintanc-

es, who took special pleasure at this window into her interesting life and adventures, and rapidly snapped up the 300 copies in the first print run. We congratulate Mrs. Bryant on this new release, and hope that many others take advantage of this opportunity to read about her memorable life and career.

In keeping with her life of commitment to the traditions of the Crown in Canada, Mrs. Bryant commissioned a special Coat of Arms, which was made for her by the Herald of Canada. The Coat of Arms was unveiled in a ceremony at *The Edinburgh* on January 21, with Clair Boudreau, the Chief Herald of Canada, Bruce Patterson, Deputy Chief Herald of Canada and Darrel Kennedy, Assiniboine Herald, in attendance.

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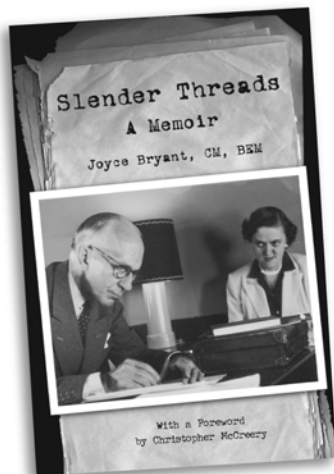
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Books on Beechwood News and Reviews

By Jane Heintzman

Books on Beechwood finished off 2013 in spectacular fashion, with outstanding sales in December affording a welcome boost to the store's bottom line for the year. Many of us took advantage of the fulsome crop of interesting late fall book releases to cover our Christmas lists in our favourite neighbourhood haunt, sparing ourselves the torment of struggling through a crowded mall, and at the same time, contributing to the ongoing financial health of a much valued institution in our community, so nearly lost to us only a year ago.

On the website, you'll find a fascinating list of B on B's top sellers in the month of December, which includes a healthy mix of fiction, biography, politics and of course, mystery. Topping the list is **Joe Clark's** recent release, *How We Lead: Canada in a Century of Change*, and it's encouraging to note that the first 15 of the leading sellers are Canadian titles, including local authors such as **Victoria Abbott, Robert Sibley, Charlotte Gray, Denise Chong, Paul Wells, Susan Delacourt** and **Robert Fontaine**.

In mid-January, B on B held a major inventory sale in preparation for the annual inventory review on January 26, when staff will undertake the laborious but essential task of individually counting some 8,000 publications. Undoubtedly many readers took advantage of the 20% discount on everything on the shelves to stock up for the many "indoors, by-the-fire" days we are likely to face as this rigorous winter grinds on.

Plans are currently in the works for a continuation of the popular **Books 'n Brew** series launched last fall in collaboration with the **Clocktower Brew Pub**, but at press time, there were as yet no details on the authors and dates on the agenda. Interested readers can keep an eye on the B on B website at booksonbeechwood.ca or drop in at the store for news on the resumption of the series in the coming weeks.

Upcoming Events: Coming up in February, there are a number of events on the bookstore's calendar, and undoubtedly more to come as the winter unfolds. Here's the lineup so far:

Saturday, February 8, noon to 2 pm Margaret Singleton

will be at B on B to sign her new book, *The Box in the Closet: My Journey to Claim Who I Am*.

Saturday, February 15, noon to 2 pm Beth McKenty will be on hand, signing copies of her latest novel, *Pages from a Prairie Saga*.

Saturday, February 22, noon to 2 pm Willow-Marie Power will be in the store signing her new book *Real: Coming of Age - Keeping Your Soul*. She will also be doing a reading at **1 pm**.

The **Books on Beechwood Book Club** is still going strong, with two monthly sessions available to accommodate readers' schedules.

Session 1 will meet on **Wednesday, February 12, 7:30 pm** and **Wednesday, March 12, 7:30 pm** on the **2nd floor of the New Edinburgh Square Residence at 35 Beechwood Avenue**.

Session 2 will be meeting on **Wednesday, February 26, 7:30 pm** and **Wednesday, March 26, 7:30 pm** in the **Penthouse of The Edinburgh Retirement Residence at 10 Vaughan Street**.

The books up for discussion in February and March are *The Imposter Bride* by **Nancy**

Richler in February, and *The Monkey Puzzle Tree* by **Sonia Tilson** in March.

Book Reviews of Recent Titles

If you've had occasion to explore the Books on Beechwood website, booksonbeechwood.ca, you've undoubtedly come across a number of the Book Reviews contributed by Rockcliffe resident **Anne McDougall**, an avid reader with experience as a reviewer, and a lively interest in keeping up with new titles. There are currently several of Anne's reviews of recent releases posted on the website, including a snapshot of **Margaret MacMillan's** remarkable new historical work, *The War that Ended Peace*, a highly readable account and analysis of the complex forces in play which led, perhaps inexorably, to World War I.

Here's a sample of what you'll find on the website, perhaps to inspire you to the discovery of new reading material:

Road Ends, by **Mary Lawson**, Reviewed by **Anne McDougall** Mary Lawson has been called an old-fashioned storyteller. Her ability has won many prizes for her first two novels. She has done it again with her new

book, *Road Ends*.

Born in a small farming community in Ontario, Lawson grew up with winter storms such as we're getting this year in Ottawa. You get a vivid picture of families buried in deep snowbanks. She also has a strong feeling for these families, one in particular, and for the tragedies, for the shocks, for the capable family members and for the ones that let everyone down. Part of the story takes place in London, England, where Lawson herself is living now. The daughter who has left home finds her way in swinging London of the 1960s, and tension builds as she has to choose her own future. Mary Lawson's first novels were *Crow Lake* and *The Other Side of the Bridge*. In the new work, you get a real feeling for life in Canada where she still spends a lot of time. *Road Ends* made a good Christmas page-turner.



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Sandy Hill Construction Owner Active in Global Outreach Program in Southern India

For some years, **Sandy Hill Construction** owner/operator **John Wenuk** and his wife **Cathy** have been active members of *Canadians Sharing Globally and Locally*, of which John is now Executive Director. The organization is dedicated to providing disaster relief and alleviating the effects of poverty in Southern India, and in recent years, John and Cathy have made a number of excursions to isolated communities in that part of the world. John reports that they are actively fundraising for the organization, and by late fall had raised \$10,000 towards the annual budget of \$50,000. This year, their fundraising efforts are specifically directed to covering the costs of five dialysis machines and three hospital beds.

Last October, John and Cathy

visited a remote community in Southern India where they distributed 600 rain jackets to local school-aged children, many of whom had never seen such a garment, and had no idea



In October 2013, John Wenuk and his wife Cathy drove into a remote area in south India and distributed around 600 rain jackets to native tribal children in grades 1 – 10.

what to do with it. As the area is cool and damp, and many of the children were reportedly suffering from cold symptoms, the jackets were undoubtedly a helpful source of protection against the inclement weather. We commend the Wenuks for their dedication to this charitable work, and look forward to hearing more from them about the educational, environmental and medical assistance programs undertaken by *Canadians Sharing Globally and Locally*. Interested readers can find out more about the organization at canadianssharing.org.

Editor's Note: *Sandy Hill Construction* has been a long-standing advertiser in the *New Edinburgh News*. Owner John Wenuk recently received the *Renovator of the Year Award* from the *Greater Ottawa Home Builders' Association* for his major renovation project on *Charles Street*.

In the Bleak Mid-Winter: Thoughts of Summer on Stanley

In the weeks ahead, when you find yourself holed up in the house as the blizzard rages and the arctic chill sets in, or navigating the ice and slush on treacherous sidewalks after another blast of freezing rain, you may be tempted to think back wistfully (or to look ahead hopefully) to the lazy, warm and leafy days of summer here in the Burgh.

Local resident and budding photographer **Daphnée Dubouchet-Olsheski**, whose work has appeared in numerous previous editions of the *NEN* and whose shots of the Union Street fire are included in this issue, has assembled a charming collection of her

work entitled *Summer on Stanley*, a series of evocative images of life on Stanley Avenue and in nearby Stanley Park in the summer months of 2013. Daphnée's collection was exhibited at BMO Bank of Montreal on Beechwood and at the New Edinburgh Salon and Spa on Crichton Street, and can now be found online at summeronstanley.tumblr.com.

If you're in need of a little fresh hope to boost your spirits as the winter drags on, check out this lovely reminiscence of halcyon days past, and glorious things to come when spring and summer roll around once again.



Tour de Stanley.

Photo: Daphnée Dubouchet-Olsheski

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From the Archives

A Business Retrospective: Beechwood Avenue from 1890 to 1950

Editor's Note: The following article appeared in the December 1998 edition of the *New Edinburgh News*.

By Marc S. Lowell

Beechwood Avenue has a century-long history as a commercial street. It appears on the Gloucester Township map of 1879 as a country road

its first appearance in a City of Ottawa Street Directory in 1890.

On the Burgh Side

The first business to appear on the Burgh side of Beechwood was Moreau's Grocery in 1891 at the corner of Springfield. The street numbering system,

Street Directory only once, and the property then appears to have been vacant until 1905, when Whelan Furriers set up shop there. (Patrick Whelan, who assassinated Thomas D'Arcy McGee in 1868, had a brother who was a furrier. We do not know whether this was the same family. The fur-

Morris Altow Tires opened at #21,

The Sproulx family reappeared in 1935, now as the firm Sproulx and Sons Cabinetmakers at the National Woodworkers site, and the following year the Burgh got its first beauty parlor, the Claude Beauty and Parlour Shop at #19. With beauty came fashion, and New Edinburgh Tailoring opened at #21 in 1937. In 1938, Mr. Rogers became the new proprietor of the local drug store.

By 1940, the Jolicoeur family was the biggest business presence on Beechwood, anchoring the Crichton-MacKay block with three stores: a butcher at #23, a hardware store at #25 and a grocery at #27.

The forties began with a growth spurt. In 1941, Gerald's Restaurant and Bilodeau Service Station opened between Chapleau and Putman, and Butternut Sweets at the corner of Butternut Terrace. The remainder of

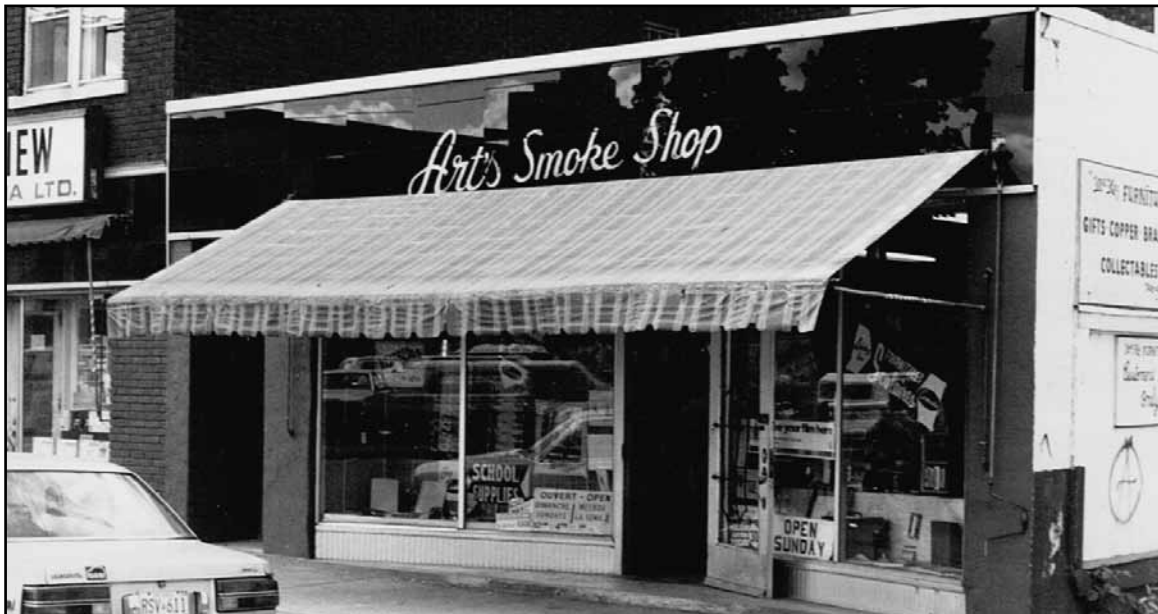
and remained a Burgh fixture until the late eighties. Groups Brothers Butchers took over from Jolicoeur, and Rolly's Family Restaurant opened up the street at #141.

Clarkstown-Eastview Side

This side of Beechwood got an early start in the grocery and restaurant business, beginning with the appearance of Beaudoin's Grocery in 1890. In 1891 an Oil Warehouse and a hotel sprang up. The hotel was known as Isaac's. Two more grocers moved onto the street in the following year: Therien Grocer and Jolicoeur Grocer.

At this point the east side of Beechwood disappears from the Ottawa directories until World War I, at which point we find the River Hotel thriving at the corner of McKay (now Charlevoix).

In 1930, the Lingsam Chinese Laundry is shown at #12, Bessin Dry Goods at #30 and the National Bank of Canada at #38 (the two latter in the pres-



Art's Smoke Shop was once a mainstay on Beechwood.

running from the St. Patrick Street bridge to Beechwood Cemetery. At that time it separated two villages.

The village of Gloucester extended from Beechwood to Dufferin (then the boundary of New Edinburgh). It occupied all the land between Clark Street (now Crichton) and Rideau Road (now MacKay).

On the Vanier side was the hamlet of Clarkstown, beyond which lay Clandeboys (up towards the cemetery) and Janeville (at the east end of Cummings Bridge). These communities east of Beechwood would become part of the Town of Eastview in 1912.

Beechwood Avenue is not listed in the 1888 Fire Insurance Atlas, Volume One. It makes

introduced in 1903, changed several times. The grocery was #74 in the early 1900s. In 1923 this side of the street became odd numbered. Moreau's Grocery was taken over by the Jolicoeur family in 1901, the Lynch family in 1906, and the Lafontaine family in 1907.

Until 1905, it was the only business on this side of the street, although a number of houses were built, beginning at Douglas and spreading back south to Springfield and north to Chapleau and Butternut Terrace (now Acacia).

The first business to open at the present New Edinburgh Pub corner (at that time conveniently close to the railway tracks) was O'Leary and Robillard Contractors (at #1, although all the other numbers on the street were even). It appeared in the

rier shop remained in business until 1913.)

In that year, two more businesses opened. Sproulx's Office Fittings & Furnishings was located in the MacKay-Springfield block and remained in business until 1922. A Chinese laundry (Lingsam's Laundry) is listed at #12 on the Burgh side for many years, and then, still as #12, on the Vanier side beginning in 1930.

In 1923, a spate of new businesses arrived. Barrette Drug Store opened at #15, Loyer Plumbing at #21, and Beechwood Service Station at #27. National Woodworkers Ltd. found a home at #31 in 1931. In 1934 there was a change of ownership, and the Barrette Drug Store became Belanger's. At the same time,



Linden Theatre circa 1947.

Photo: Archives of Ontario

the war years were stable, except for changes in ownership of the service station, from Bilodeau's to Montpetit's to Viau's. Then came another boom in 1947, focused on the Crichton-MacKay block: Campbell's Taxi at #5, the Linden Ice-Cream and Soda Bar at #7, Altow's Menswear (a big change from tires!) at #9, Majestic Cleaners at #11, and Beechwood Electrical Shop at #21. St. Michael's Home at #37 also opened this year. The half-century ended with four new stores in 1949. Beechwood Home Pastry took over Altow's Menswear. Art's Smoke Shop opened at #13

ent Metro block). From there east, this side too was solidly residential.

During the 1930s, however, development on the east side outstripped that on the west. In 1933, Beauchamp Furniture Store and Frank Jenzen's Shoemakers appeared as #28 and #28 1/2 respectively. Way out by the cemetery, Cunningham's Riding Stables (later Kavanagh's Esso) served a clientele that enjoyed recreational riding in the Rockcliffe Annex (Mile Circle and later Manor Park). In 1934, the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company settled in at #30, the St. Armour Restaurant opened

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New Edinburgh Pharmacy moving day in 1992.

its doors at #50, and a chimney sweepers installed itself at #61.

The Beechwood Hotel, which opened at #2 in 1935, may have been a reincarnation of the old River Hotel. It was in any case short-lived, since the property was vacant again in 1937. Just up the street, beside the Chinese Laundry, a barber set up shop at #12 1/2.

In 1937, Frank Jenzen Shoemakers disappeared from #28 1/2 and Imperial Shoes appeared at #20. Riverdale Sausage Manufacturers took over the old Beauchamp Furniture Store at #28. Fitness became part of the local business scene with the opening of the Central Amateur Athletic Club at #4. People could go there to work off the meals they had eaten at the new Charles Street Restaurant at #22. Cunningham's was still going but now called itself the Rockcliffe Riding Club & Stables. The following year McKay Smelting Laboratories, perhaps taking advantage of the proximity of the railway line, opened at the old hotel site at #2.

In 1940, the commercialization of Beechwood took another great leap forward. South of McKay was mainly residential, except for the Lingsam Chinese Laundry (#12) and the Bylo Shoe Repair (formerly Imperial Shoes, at #20). North

of McKay lay the St. Charles Cafe (#22), Chummy's Barber Shop (#26), a dry goods store (#28 1/2), a vacant store, various houses and apartments, the National Bank of Canada (#38A) and Dr. Bedard's office (#38B). The first hint of a future of increasing urban density came this year too, with the opening of the Beechwood Apartments. Businesses in the next block included Chummy's Restaurant (#50), another Jolicoeur Grocery (#54) and Ottawa Chimney Sweepers (#62). The Arbours Service Station stood at the corner of Marier.

To Cunningham's establishment at #170 had been added the Cardinal Riding School and Stable at #162, an enterprise that became the Jones Riding School in 1941 and then the Capital Riding School in 1943. An enterprising florist, Frith's Flowers, had set himself up at the cemetery entrance at #200.

Two more businesses opened in 1941-42: the Garneau General Store at #30 and the Beechwood Tea Room at #48. The opening of the Clarkstown Post Office at #54 helped anchor the commercial enterprises along the street.

The Claude Hotel, which opened at #48 in 1943, continued to provide a refuge for men in search of an authentic tavern experience well into the 1980s.

Perhaps on their unsteady way home the hotel's earliest patrons window-shopped at Beechwood Machinery Ltd. (#10), which also opened in that year. Discaire Restaurant, opening at #180, presumably served the riding school crowd.

The late forties were a period of overall decline. While three new businesses opened (Beechwood Radio Service at #26 in 1945, Star Cleaners at #28 in 1947, and Beechwood Market Grocer at #72 in 1949), the street lost its only doctor, and Lingsam's Chinese Laundry, the east side's oldest business, cleaned its last load.

We welcome corrections, additions, recollections and old photographs of Beechwood businesses for publication in future issues.

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Travel Tales from the Burgh

Last winter, Morna Patterson, owner of CELADON Salon and Spa, and a frequent contributor to the NEN, traveled with her husband Jeff Arron to the warmth of southern California for a holiday, a highlight of which was a tour of mid-century modern architecture in Palm Springs. Morna's report and Jeff's photos make me long for warmth in this long, hard winter and the beauty of the houses is amazing.

Morna's engaging account of their trip is the fifth article in the NEN's Travel Tales from the Burgh series launched last spring. It has been a fascinating experience to receive the reports of so many intrepid travelers in our community, and I hope readers are enjoying others' adventures as much as I am. New contributions are always welcome, so please keep us in mind when you embark on your next excursion. If you're uncertain about having the time to prepare an article yourself, we can work on it together. Please email me at 46metcalfe@sympatico.ca or call 613-747-0714 with your ideas.

PALM SPRINGS.... Mecca of Mid-Century Modernism and Serious Sun!

By Morna Paterson

As lovers of mid-century modern design and architecture, my husband (an architect himself) and I finally realized our dream of seeing the celebrated architectural landmarks of Palm Springs, California.

Just a two hour drive from Los Angeles and boasting serious amounts of sunshine, blue

skies and palm trees, Palm Springs has a remarkable portfolio of mid-century modern design – an architectural style that flourished from the 1930s to the 1960s, and known for its low, sleek lines, glass walls and durable natural materials.

Palm Springs was most notably the second home for celebrities like Frank Sinatra, Elvis

Presley and Bob Hope. Many of the houses were designed by visionaries like William



Mailbox in a desert garden with Morna.

Photo: Jeff Arron

William Cody's Glass House.

Much to our delight, there was also a vintage car and trailer show, including many

Brandon, Manitoba, my home town, in the sixties.

If you are a nature lover, the desert with its cacti, canyons and marked hiking trails is your mecca. The Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, the earliest inhabitants of the region, call Tahquitz Canyon home. The canyon contains a spectacular 60-foot waterfall, rock art, wildlife, plants, house pits and foundations.

An hour in the other direction is Joshua Tree National Park, full of giant cacti and granite monoliths. If you are short on time, and even if you are not, a must-see within the city limits is The Living Desert with its zoo and botanical gardens.

If the heat becomes unbearable, an escape to the mountains is only 10 minutes away via the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway, which provides a panoramic view of the Coachella Valley as far away



Living room interior - the ultimate of cool.

Photo: Jeff Arron

Cody, Richard Neutra, Donald Wexler and Albert Frey.

Driving into Palm Springs, the first piece of architecture you see is the Albert Frey-designed visitors' centre, a former gas station. Other standouts are everywhere from the Wexler designed airport to bank façades and houses spread across the town and into the foothills of the San Jacinto Mountains.

Modernism Week is held annually in February and highlights the design, architecture and culture that originated in Palm Springs in the 1940s, 50s and 60s. The works of these visionaries are celebrated through lectures, films, educational events, parties, and tours of private residences such as

early restored examples of the famous cigar-shaped Airstream trailer that I used to see in great convoys heading along the TransCanada north of



Airstream in Palm Springs.

Photo: Jeff Arron



Frank Sinatra's piano-shaped pool.

Photo: Jeff Arron

as Catalina Island or Las Vegas on a clear day.

And if you are feeling weary after a long day of walking or shopping or golf, Palm Springs and the surrounding towns like Palm Desert and Indian Wells offer a wide array of spas, including the hot springs sacred to the Cahuilla Indians at the Spa Agua Caliente.

We liked it so much we're headed there again this year. We're especially longing for the desert heat this cold winter.

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Awesome Authors Youth Writing Contest

On your mark! Get set! Write!

The Ottawa Public Library invites you to participate in the 19th annual Awesome Authors Youth Writing Contest, a contest for aspiring young poets and short story authors. **Submissions will be accepted until February 9, 2014.** Participants can win lots of awesome prizes!

- Contest open to youth between the ages of 9 and 17
- Participants must have an OPL card.
- There is a limit of one (1) entry per person, per category.
- No co-written entries will be accepted.

Poems and short stories must:

- be 1000 words or less
- be submitted electronically or computer-generated
- be one side of an 8½" x 11" page
- include the title of the piece on each page
- be new, original, previously unpublished work
- be in French or English.

Submitting your work

- Submit it online (form below) or in person at your local branch (Print off this form if you choose to drop off your work in person.)
- Do not put your name on your work.
- Include one entry form per poem or story submitted.

Entries will not be returned. All winning entries will be checked for plagiarism. Using someone else's words or ideas

and passing them off as your own it is considered plagiarism and is strictly prohibited. Entries that are plagiarized, previously published or that do not follow guidelines will be disqualified.

Local authors Tudor Robins, Michel Lavoie and JC Sulzenko will judge the submissions.

Contest judges will be offering writing workshops

- Poetry workshop: Ages 13-17 Ages 9-12
- Short story workshop: Ages 13-17 Ages 9-12
- Ateliers pour écrivains: 13 à 17 ans 9 à 12 ans

If you do not receive confirmation that your entry has been received, please contact Sheri Riviere at Sheri.Riviere@BiblioOttawaLibrary.ca or 613-580-2424 x32163.

International Women's Day Luncheon at Earnscliffe

Mrs. Gill Drake, the wife of British High Commissioner, Howard Drake, is graciously hosting a **buffet luncheon**, sponsored by the Rideau Grandmothers group, at **Earnscliffe on Thursday, March 6, 2014, at noon.** This will be an opportunity to recognize **International Women's Day** and raise funds for the **Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign** run by the **Stephen Lewis Foundation**, which helps support grandmothers in Africa looking after children orphaned by AIDS.

Since the movement was

founded in March 2006, more than 240 Grandmother groups across Canada have raised an astonishing \$16.5 million to help these valiant African women who display astonishing reserves of love, courage and emotional resilience, even while grieving the loss of their own adult children. Resources from the campaign are invested directly at community level, via grassroots organizations in fifteen African countries that provide a broad range of support, including food, educational fees and supplies, medical care, HIV counselling and testing, adequate housing and

bedding, counselling and support groups, home visits, and much more. Further details of the Campaign can be found on the website at www.grandmotherscampaign.org.

Lunch will be prepared by the Rideau Grandmothers and there will also be an opportunity to buy beautiful Kazuri jewellery, handmade by women in Kenya.

For more information and tickets, which are \$30 each, please call **Jennifer Barbarie** at 613-747-6967 or email anghiari@hotmail.com.

Think Spring! Books—DVDs—CDs—Vinyl Wanted for April Library Book Sale!

By Jane Dobell

Volunteers are already hard at work culling, sorting, pricing and storing your donated books and audio/visual material in preparation for this year's Rockcliffe Park branch Public Library Book Sale on April 12 and 13, 2014.

If you are not a seasoned volunteer from the book sale, you might be surprised at the behind the scenes work which goes into preparing for the library sale.

Books that are not in good condition have to be culled; decisions have to be made about the relevance of books containing mainly out-of-date information, about the best way to classify and display our material; and of course there are spirited discussions about prices.

Display equipment has to be located; preparations must be made to rent a tent and a storage pod close to the event; ads to

publicize the sale must be strategically placed; arrangements must be made to transport the books to and from the storage space as there is little room to store books at the community hall. Arrangements have to be made with the central Friends of the Ottawa Public Library to take our unsold books for their book sales.

Three generous sponsors have been found to help defray this year's expenses: Joan and Brian McGarry on behalf of McGarry Family Chapels, Minto Beechwood, and the Rockcliffe Retirement Residence.

So now it is up to you.

To attract dealers and collectors we need to be able to advertise that we have over 10,000 books sorted into 30 categories with a collectors table for nostalgia and rare books. We hope we can count on you to help us reach that goal again this year.

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By Liba Bender

Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator for New Edinburgh

Now that the season of joy, more joy and shopping is somewhat over, shoplifting, car break-ins, fraud and burglary all decrease, right? Wrong.

For the most part we try hard to protect our properties. If we think like a thief, we may be able to protect them better. If a burglar were to give you some helpful hints, these would be some of them:

- I actually do my best to not look suspicious like a crook. Many times I pretend to be

a service man or a person wanting work around your house. Sometimes I even carry a clipboard.

- For sure I look for newspapers piled up on the front steps. Maybe I would even leave a flyer on your porch to see when it is removed.
- Facebook? Anyone who says they're on vacation or posts pictures from "away" could just about ask for trouble. Very easy to find an address.
- An open window, for some fresh air on the ground floor, tempts me to enter your

house.

- Could be I was here just last week delivering some goods, looking for work or doing something you actually hired me to do.
- And having used the bathroom while I was doing your yard work, I might have unlatched the window so I could let myself in later.
- When I look at some of the expensive toys on your front lawn, I wonder what kind of gaming systems there are inside.
- Fresh snow drifts in the driveway are a dead giveaway that you are out of town.
- I look for footprints to and from the doorway and car tracks in and out of your garage.
- If I can see that the alarm pad is set from just looking

through your front door it is obvious to me you are not home.

I don't take a day off because of poor weather, so if you forget to lock the door because you are trying to shake off your umbrella be prepared.

- For sure I knock before entering. And if you answer, I'll probably ask for directions somewhere or offer to do a small job around your house.
- Of course I look in your sock drawer. That is where most women hide their jewellery. In addition I go through bedside tables and medicine cabinets.
- Usually I do not enter children's rooms.
- If your safe is not bolted down, I could just take it. Forget about trying to open it up.

Adapted from information pro-

vided by Chameleon Associates, a security consulting and training firm.

My suggestion? Think like a thief...then defend against it. "If you think your security is foolproof, then you have failed to appreciate the ingenuity of fools."

Neighbourhood Watch Meeting Feb 2

There will be an **intra-neighbourhood watch meeting on February 2** at 255 Mackay Street from 12:30 to 1 pm. People from our surrounding neighbourhoods will also be invited. Come and express your concerns, learn about how we can make this neighbourhood safer and see how you can be involved. Let me know if you are planning to attend. Some refreshments will be served. libabender@yahoo.ca.

Visit The Burgh Online!

For the most up-to-date news of the neighbourhood
newedinburgh.ca



BVA Update for February 2014

By Tobin Nussbaum

The first (annual?!) **Beechwood Winter Solstice Social** took place on December 21 to celebrate the holidays and bring people together. A lively account of this successful event is provided by **Catherine Lindquist** in a separate article in this issue. Suffice it to say that the inaugural solstice social was a great chance to take a break from Christmas shopping, and other last-minute running around, and much fun was had by all. Thanks to our sponsors the

QV BIA and Chartwell, as well as to our supporters at the **New Edinburgh Pub, The SconeWitch and Books on Beechwood**. Like all of these events, volunteers made it happen, so hats off to **Maggie Knaus, Julie Lapalme, Catherine Lindquist, Karina Mullally and Dale Smith**.

In other news, we've been advancing on our **Gateway Project** to design a public process to finance, design and build public art fixtures at either end of the street. In order to support the project, we applied to the Ottawa Better Neighbourhoods program for a community grant, building on the over \$5,000 we have already raised, thanks to support from the Fulbright Program. Our hope is to be able to define the street, give

it character and help beautify it through the celebration of art.

Last fall, City Council approved an application initiated by Vanier resident Mike Steinhauer to grant heritage status to **St. Charles Church**. A constructive discussion between the Archdiocese and the community could conceivably help move the sale of the site forward. Many ideas abound. From an RFP process combined with a design competition, to efforts to maintain a community use to the site, to developers who are contemplating creative uses of the church and surrounding lot—there seems to be no shortage of proposals. It will ultimately be up to the Archdiocese to determine how it wants to proceed, but we hope that no matter what course of action it chooses, the site will soon become a locus of energy and activity, and contribute to the

Beechwood's overall revitalization.

With the completed sale of the **Caisse Desjardins** (formerly la Caisse populaire Saint-Charles) to Claridge Corporation, the mid-portion of Beechwood could soon become a place of new development, following the lead of *The Kavanaugh* and the *Minto Beechwood* projects at the two extremities of the street. It's exciting to contemplate the beginning of a contiguous mainstreet that draws us from one end to the other if these sites are constructed with proper mainstreet principles in mind, as we hope and anticipate that they will be with the help of active input from the community at large.

For updates on meetings and events, please visit our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/MakingBeechwoodBetter.



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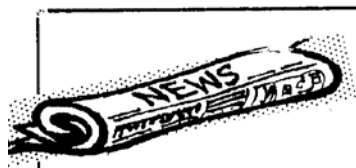
February

Fri, Feb 7 and 21, 7 – 10 pm
NECTAR CENTRE BOARD GAME NIGHTS - Join your neighbours in a social evening of playing Board Games at New Edinburgh House. Settlers of Catan, Torres, Puerto Rico, Quir' Le, Boardwalk, Labyrinth, the Walking Dead, Scategories, Dixit, Mille borne, Go and much more! Visit www.nectarcentre.ca or call the Office at 613-745-

7242 for more info.

Sat, Feb 8, 1:30 – 4 pm

HOCKEY DAY IN NEW EDINBURGH at the Stanley Park rinks - Come on down, have a game of shinny and participate in some skills competitions. Hot dogs and drinks will be available to buy as well as the famous Jelly Bean Count. Another great family event brought to you by the Crichton Community Council.



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.

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LANGUAGE LESSONS WANTED - I'm looking for someone in the neighbourhood to teach me Italian. If you're interested, please call 613-220-2547 and we can discuss.

Feb 1 - 16

WINTERLUDE 2014 LUMIÈRE Snow Lantern Installation. See announcement on Page 29.

Until Tue, Feb 18

EXHIBITION by Thérèse Guy, Les mécanismes trompeur, at Centre d'artistes Voix Visuelle - With this project, the artist examines the contiguity between photography and new imaging technologies. She gets her inspiration from the news that inform us of the state of the world and make us assimilate the information from all sources. What can be done with all the images thrown at the world day after day on the screen? With the help of her computer, the artist creates large format digital works that carry signs and shapes through which multiple realities exist. The gallery is located at 67 Beechwood Avenue and is open from 11 am to 4 pm, Tuesday to Saturday. Information: Shahla Bahrami, 613-748-6954 or info@voixvisuelle.ca.

Fri, Feb 28, 7 – 9 pm

NECTAR CENTRE FAMILY MOVIE NIGHTS – Looking for a night out for the family? Join us for Family Movie nights the last Friday of each month through the winter at New Edinburgh House, 255 MacKay Street. Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult. Popcorn and juice are free with a donation. Visit www.nectarcentre.ca or call the Office at 613-745-7242 to find out what's playing.

March

Sat, Mar 1, 7:30 pm

MACKAY CONCERT SERIES – A French Landscape, takes place at MacKay United

Church. See article on Page 23 for more details.

Thu, Mar 6, noon

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY LUNCHEON at Earncliffe. Tickets are \$30 each. For more info call Jennifer Barbarie at 613-747-6967 or email anghiari@hotmail.com. See article on Page 37.

Sat, Mar 29, 10 am – 3 pm

USED BOOK DROP OFF – for Friends of the Farm Used Book Sale to be held in June. No magazines, encyclopaedias, or textbooks please. Bldg. 72, Experimental Farm, Arboretum, east off Prince of Wales roundabout, 613-230-3276, info@friendsofthefarm.ca, www.friendsofthefarm.ca.

April

Sat, Apr 12 and Sun, Apr 13

BOOK SALE at Rockcliffe Park branch Public Library. Mark your calendars now.

Sun, Apr 27, 2014, 3 pm

OTTAWA BRAHMS CHOIR - The Great Schubert Mass in G Major at St. Thomas the Apostle Anglican Church, 2345 Alta Vista Drive.

Ongoing

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

for Local Food Program - The Rideau-Rockcliffe Emergency Food Program is looking for longterm volunteers (3 hours a week, 5 to 6 month commitment). Our food program operates on Wednesday's and Friday's and serves over 11,000 people in this community. If you are interested in helping contact tracy.moore@crcrr.org or 613-745-0073 x126.

COME SING WITH US! After a successful Christmas concert, the Ottawa Brahms Choir welcomes new members for the 2014 singing season to prepare for the spring concert on April 27. Rehearsals start January 6, from 7 to 9:30 pm, at the Parlour Room (2nd floor) of Southminster United Church at Aylmer/Bank Street. For further info please consult our website www.ottawa-abrahmschoir.ca, or call Leo at 613-749-2391 or Sieglinde at 819-568-8169. Sopranos, Basses, Tenors especially welcome!

FLU SHOTS AVAILABLE at New Edinburgh Pharmacy, 5 Beechwood Avenue. By Appointment. 613-749-4444 (Pharmacist Matthew Tonon). Ontario Health Card Required.

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Not intended to solicit properties currently listed for sale.

La présente n'est pas destinée à solliciter les propriétés qui sont actuellement inscrites avec un agent immobilier.



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Welcome

We want to wish a warm welcome to **Laura Thorsell** and family to Crichton Street and the Mom's List! We are looking forward to seeing little **Emma** at the Stanley Park playground come spring.

Wasn't that a party!

Owner **Bill Ross** reports that **Da Bombe's** annual Christmas dinner was a *huge* success, with over 50 people arriving on Bill's doorstep on Christmas Eve to enjoy an evening of warm hospitality and abundant, delicious food, including the traditional turkey and all the trimmings. Congratulations and thanks to Bill and his hard-working team for brightening the lives of so many in the community who were in need of Christmas cheer.

Condolences

Our condolences to **Barbara Mendel**, her husband **Bob Paquin** and their children **Nicholas** and **Annie Paquin**, on the recent death of Barbara's father **Gerald Mendel**. Mr. Mendel served in the Canadian Army in World War II, and took part in the D-Day operation and the Liberation of Europe. He went on to pursue a long career in the federal Public Service, and for over

three decades, was also an active volunteer with St. John Ambulance, admitted as a Commander of the Order of St. John by the Governor General in 1975. He will be sorely missed by his family and friends.

We extend our deepest sympathies to **George and Cindy Parkanyi** and their family on the death of George's father **Béla Parkanyi** in early January, two days after the 59th anniversary of his long and happy marriage to his beloved wife **Magdolna**. Following a lengthy technical career at Canada Post, Béla retired to pursue his many interests, including astronomy, classical music, cottage life and travel. He was greatly loved by his family and friends, and his loss is deeply felt.

Congratulations

...to Bread and Roses Bakery owner **Chris Green** and his wife **Emily Chan** on the safe arrival of their second daughter **Kaiya Elizabeth**, a beautiful baby sister for two year old **Ella Jade**. Life has been lively in the Green household in recent months, as Kaiya's arrival at 5:09 am on November 24 came very shortly after the family's move to a new home in Kanata where Chris undertook major renovation work in

his "free" (!!) time away from the bakery's new St. Laurent Blvd. location. Emily reports that she and Chris are certain that Kaiya "will be punctual (she escaped one day early) and considerate (she decided to meet us all on daddy's only day off)"!

... to New Edinburgh's well known historian and author **Charlotte Gray**, whose most recent book, *The Massey Murder: A Maid, Her Master and the Trial that Shocked a Country*, is one of five short-listed finalists for this year's \$25,000 Charles Taylor Award for Non-Fiction. Many Burgh residents had the pleasure of hearing Charlotte discuss *The Massey Murder* in the pre-Christmas Books 'n Brew series organized by Books on Beechwood in collaboration with the Clocktower Brew Pub on MacKay Street, and the book was a leading seller at B on B in December. Well done Charlotte: our fingers will be crossed when the prize winner is announced on March 10!

Fare-thee-well

We wish a very fond farewell to **Leo La Vecchia** who is packing up his scissors and sewing machines for the last time at the end of January, and closing the doors of his custom tailoring shop on Springfield Road after more than forty years in business in our community. Leo would like to thank his many valued friends and clients for their friendship and loyalty over the years, and as a community, we in turn express our gratitude to him for providing such a high quality service to so many residents of the area over several generations. Very best wishes for a happy and healthy retirement, Leo: Beechwood won't be the same without you!

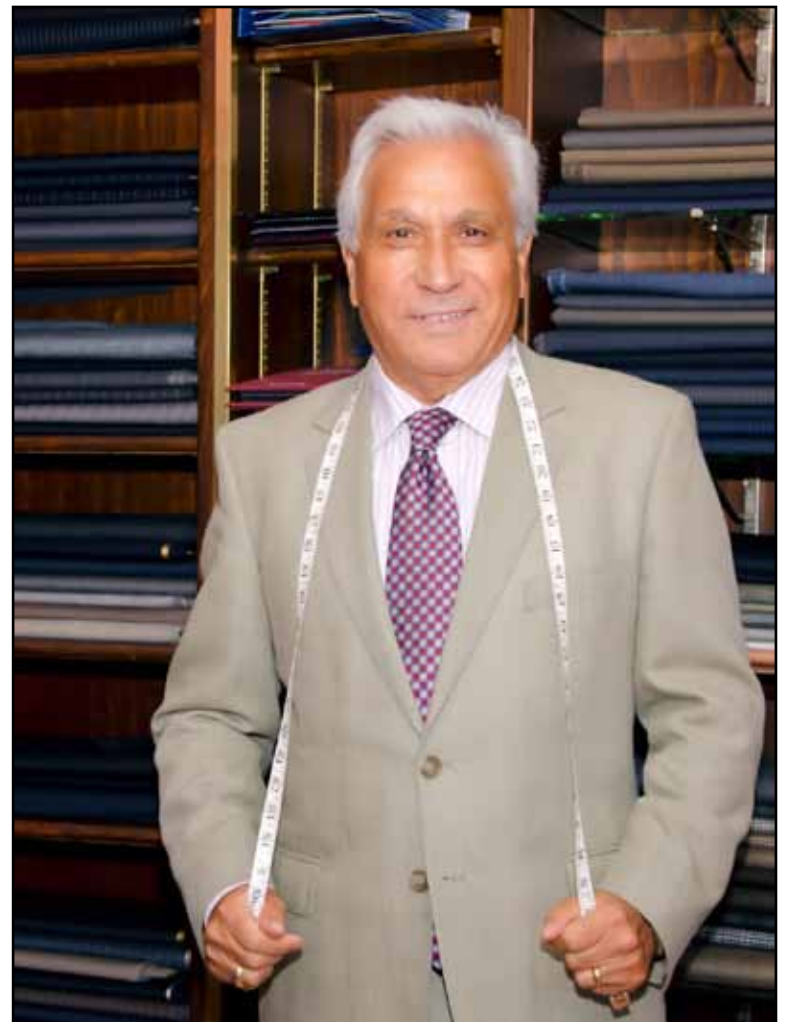
Announcements

Calling all parents of children 0 to 4 years: **Graeme Danko**, an accredited Music Therapist, will facilitate music activities and lead a group song circle during PLAYGROUP at New Edinburgh House on Monday and Friday mornings. For more information please call NECTAR at 613-745-2742.

The Edinburgh Retirement Residence invites neighbours to participate in the Roman Catholic Mass, celebrated every Saturday at 1:15 pm in the penthouse (10 Vaughan Street). Please contact Luisa Romero, Director of Recreation for more information. Tel 613-747-2233.



Local photographer Gavin Murphy snapped this shot of a festive bicycle on Noel Street this past December.



Leo La Vecchia.

Photo: Louise Imbeault

Pets in the Burgh



Zowsie is frequently found horizontal, this time he is "relaxing" on the couch. More pets can be found on P.20!



Photo: Jasmin Mori, Joy in Motion Photography
Kaiya Elizabeth Green.