

June 2014

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

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18 JUNE 21

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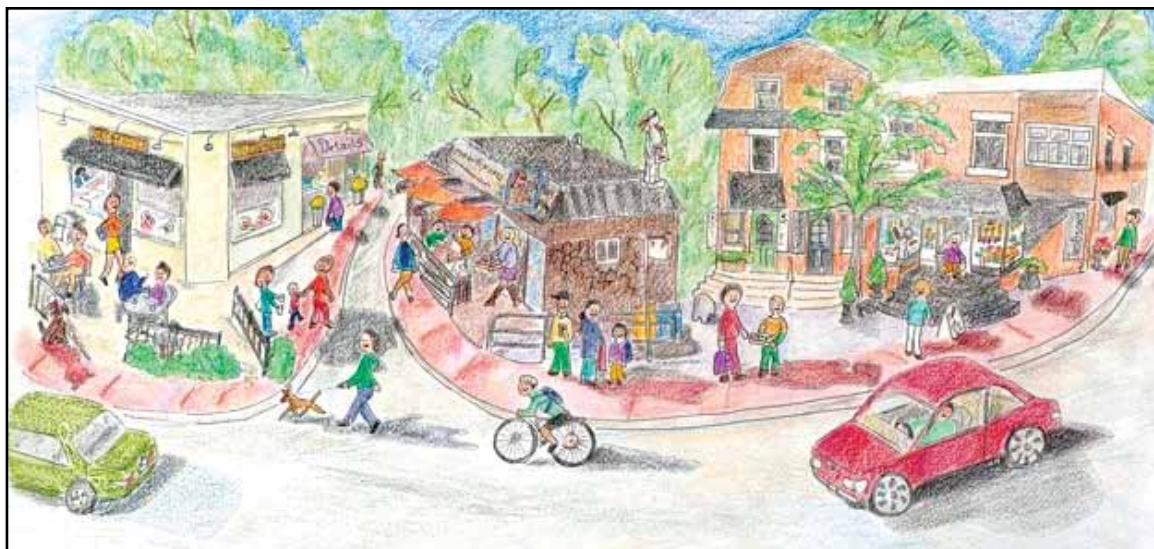
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CRICKTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Community & Family Events



This sketch of Beechwood Avenue by Catherine Willis-O'Connor is one of many that will be available for purchase at the upcoming Beechwood Summer Solstice Stroll on June 21.

Beechwood Tops Agenda at Community Forum

By Christina Leadlay

The Beechwood corridor proved to be what many of the over 60 residents wanted to brainstorm at the New Edinburgh Community Forum on April 27. It was such a popular topic that the group had to split in two.

The three-hour meeting (chaired by Catherine Lindquist and organized by NECA, Nectar and CCC) allowed neighbours a chance to make their views and ideas heard on the issue of our main street and a variety of related topics: traffic and parking, green spaces and waterways, heritage and development, and community engagement. Participants were invited to join a half-hour discussion at one of six tables set up for each aforementioned issue, with a rapporteur pre-

senting their ideas and suggestions at the end of the meeting.

Beechwood's traffic, shopping and esthetics topped residents' concerns. Barbara Laskin, reporting on behalf of the first Beechwood group, noted how the road is dangerous for cyclists and pedestrians. She also offered the anecdotal story of an unnamed resident who is so put off by the main street's lack of attractiveness that she does her shopping elsewhere. Barbara also touched on the group's frustration about ugly and dilapidated buildings, with landlords who hold buildings hostage, and the need to involve artists and architects to make Beechwood a vibrant, welcoming place.

Table Two noted the need to work with neighbouring Vanier to take advantage of any opportunities for Beechwood,

including expanding the shopping more onto Barrette Street. Isobel Bisby presented her group's many blue-skies suggestions for improving the main street, from allowing traffic to turn left from the St-Patrick bridge onto Crichton during construction this summer, to closing Beechwood to traffic for a one-day pedestrian zone, and the need for a European-style village square gathering place, ideally with a fountain.

The issue of traffic was not limited to Beechwood. Anita Szlazak, reporting on behalf of the Traffic and Parking table, aired a laundry list of concerns where parking rules are either not enforced, are unclear, or are non-existent due to lack of signage. She expressed the group's worry about what

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Flood Season 2014: Close Call in New Edinburgh Flood Plain Spurs Community to Action

By Jane Heintzman

For most of the year, the residents of Stanley Avenue and the adjacent streets closest to the Rideau River take delight in their proximity to this splendid waterway and its glorious views. But it's a very different story when spring arrives. As most residents were made forcefully aware by the near calamity this past April, this low-lying area is a flood plain, and as the melt begins and the ice breaks up each spring, residents of the flood zone keep a watchful eye out for warning messages from the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA).

As it is currently drawn (reflecting pre-climate change weather patterns and before topography changes were made in Stanley Park), the flood zone lies within the sector bounded by Sussex Drive, Stanley Avenue,

MacKay Street and Queen Victoria Street, encompassing the majority of the houses in the segment bordered by Stanley, Charles, Alexander and Thomas Streets, and a sizeable chunk of the area bounded by Charles, River Lane and Stanley, almost to Union Street. Interested readers will find a detailed map of the flood plain zone on the community website at www.newedinburgh.ca (search for "flood plain").

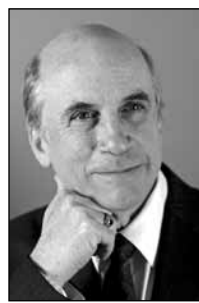
Wake Up Call in 2008

In the event of very high water levels from spring run-off conditions, the houses within this zone are extremely vulnerable to flooding if the river were to breach its banks at the two lowest points in the area, at Charles Street and Stanley Avenue (where the flood wall ends), and in Stanley Park at Queen Victoria Street. In the spring of 2008, when a mas-

sive snow pack began a rapid melt, we came very close to disaster as water levels rose to within inches of the river bank, and the RVCA issued warnings to residents to "activate our response plans". While we dodged a bullet on that occasion, for many of us (my family included) it was a wake-up call that triggered a much more lively awareness of the problem, and of the pressing need for a permanent solution.

As the owner of a large number of the properties in the Flood Plain, including his own home on Thomas Street, Burgh resident and Domicile owner John Doran took the initiative to actively explore means of providing adequate flood protection for this vulnerable area. Working closely with Rick Morris, a Domicile Vice President and a resident of Stanley Avenue, along with

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Report from NECA President Tim Plumptre

The big event for NECA during the past two months has been the **Forum on the Future of New Edinburgh**. We're not sure an event like this has ever been held previously. However, we announced our intention to hold such a forum at our Annual General Meeting last October and at the time, many NECA members indicated their interest in attending.

So we went ahead with our plans, and in doing so, were able to enter into a productive partnership with NECTAR and the Crichton Community Council. But we were never quite sure how many individuals would show up, so it was very gratifying to see about 75 participants in Memorial Hall when the event actually took place last month.

It was one of my hopes when I assumed the presidency of NECA last fall that NECA might be able to achieve two goals: first, to demonstrate through our actions that NECA's mandate embraces the whole of New Edinburgh and

all the issues therein, and second, to try to foster a greater degree of engagement and dialogue with members of the community.

I hope the Forum has provided tangible evidence of our commitment to the first goal.

The latter goal was only attainable if people in the community demonstrated an interest in New Edinburgh affairs, and a willingness to take part in dialogue about our issues and our collective future.

The response of community members in attending the Forum tells us that there is indeed an interest in conversation in and about our community, so it is encouraging for those of us on the NECA board to know that. We will continue to seek ways of fostering that dialogue in future.

Event Coordinator Catherine Lindquist plans to produce a follow up report on the Community Forum for consideration by the Board of NECA, and ultimately for the information of the community as

whole. The completed report will be posted at www.newedinburgh.ca in the course of the coming weeks.

Another important issue facing our community during the last two months has been the imminent threat of flooding from the Rideau River. It is not clear how much NECA may be able to do about this kind of threat. Certainly we can help to disseminate information, and during recent weeks board members were active on the internet to update residents on relevant developments. We will continue to take this kind of initiative in future, and are starting to develop plans for a stronger emergency communications strategy.

However, the bigger challenge with respect to flooding is to determine what steps could be taken to attenuate the threat and provide a greater degree of physical protection for homes and businesses in the community. NECA itself does not have the resources or expertise to address an issue of this scale, but we will be having further discussions about what we might be able to do to promote constructive action by the City and the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority. We will keep you up to date on developments, and would welcome any suggestions from community members as we ponder this matter.

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 at the **NECTAR Centre, 255 Mackay Street**. 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, June 16, 7:30 pm, NECTAR Centre
Monday, September 15, 7:30 pm, NECTAR Centre

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

Deadline

for the next issue of the
New Edinburgh News

→ **SEP 10** ←
newednews@hotmail.com

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From the Editor's Chair

As we come to the end of our production year, and look forward to a summer of fun and frolic, I would like to take this opportunity to offer my heartfelt thanks for the dedicated service provided by our phenomenal NEN team – **Jane Heintzman** (Associate Editor/Senior Writer), **Dave Rostenne** (Production Manager), **Brian Gallant** (Ad Manager), **Louise Imbeault** (Photographer), **Kathryn Sabetta** (Bookkeeper), **Sandra Fraser**, and the Distribution team of **Jonathan Blake** and **David Horley**. With a team as terrific as this one, my job as Managing Editor could not have been easier.

It has been an extremely rewarding nine years at the helm of our wonderful community paper; but like they say, "all good things must come to an end." Although this edition is my last in the role of Managing Editor, I will continue to assist with special projects and as a member of the NEN Advisory Committee.

So, without further ado, let

me introduce you to the new Managing Editor of the *New Edinburgh News*. **Christina Leadlay** is an energetic and very engaged member of the community. Christina brings to the NEN a strong background in print media, having spent four years as Associate Editor at the weekly *Embassy* newspaper, as well as writing and editing experience with a number of other publications. Since October 2013, she has been a parent volunteer with Rockcliffe Park Public School, coordinating the author workshops event, as well as the media and communications for the annual Rockcliffe Park Book Fair, the main fundraiser for our local public school.

Christina has jumped in with both feet and helped to produce the April and June editions and has written a number of articles for both editions. The future for the NEN looks bright indeed! She will be taking over the newednews@hotmail.com email account, so feel free to send her a message of welcome.

Volunteers at New Edinburgh News

In our community of New Edinburgh, there are various situations where volunteers provide a valuable, even critical, service. As you read this newspaper, you are the beneficiary of one of these voluntary services.

Once the *NEN* is edited and printed, the challenge is to efficiently distribute these to commercial outlets, as well as to residences around the neighbourhood.

Traditionally, one or two volunteers deliver multiple copies to a range of shops and other sites, currently a total of 465 of copies over 34 locations. No doubt you have seen issues picked up by interested clients along Beechwood. If you have a suggestion as to where else we might set out copies, do get in touch with us.

For residential deliveries, we currently rely on some thirteen volunteers. As some of you will recall if you had a paper route as a youngster, this entails door-to-door walking, seeing firsthand a variety of entrances and facades.

We feel that these volunteers merit recognition, so in future

editions we shall highlight one or two, with a few details that the individual, our fellow resident, offers about him/herself.

Wanted: Delivery Volunteers

The *New Edinburgh News* relies on volunteers to handle distribution and delivery. Of course, changes in lifestyle, residence or family demands can mean that from time to time a volunteer has to ask to be relieved.

Indeed, presently we need a volunteer to handle the distribution to commercial recipients and another to take on the residential delivery for one of our routes in New Edinburgh.

Can you help, please?

If you are ready to explore either of these possibilities, please contact Jonathan by phone at **613-842-9792** or via e-mail at jjmblake@sympatico.ca.

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newedinburgh.ca

Farewell and Hearty Thanks to Cindy Parkanyi

For close to a decade, our capable Managing Editor Cindy Parkanyi has been at the helm of the New Edinburgh News, taking the lead in the preparation and production of what is arguably one of the finest community papers in the region. With the completion of this issue, Cindy will step down from the job to devote more time to tackling the pressures of her day job at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Development, and to take on other projects in the community. Cindy's successor Christina Leadlay will take over the reins in October, and

Centre) to its new headquarters in New Edinburgh House; a number of serious residential fires, including the near loss of the historic Fréchette House on MacKay Street; and of greatest importance in the annals of New Edinburgh and environs, the tragic fire of March, 2011, when the commercial core of our community was gutted and many well-loved businesses were lost forever.

Cindy's attentiveness to happenings in the community was never more evident than at the time of the Beechwood fire, when she somehow got news of the blaze while on a trip out

by the fire, or taking part in the community effort to revive Beechwood as a lively hub for the neighbourhood. For nine years, she has had her finger on the community pulse, and for much of that time, the pulse has been racing!

Creating an entertaining, interesting and attractive community newspaper is a complex business. There is an intricate calculus involved in providing coverage which is both complete from the perspective of encompassing all the community news, but also lively, diverse and entertaining to readers. In her years as Editor, Cindy has honed that skill to a high art, making sure that each edition of the NEN offers a balanced admixture of hard news, human interest, visual appeal and a healthy dose of humour.

But not only is Cindy a skillful and experienced judge of content: she is equally adept on the technical production side of the business, and has methodically shepherded the NEN into the new era of digital technology, streamlining the production process to a point unimagined in the '90s when the lay out took place on every available surface of the Benois' living and dining room!

Another of her important contributions to the NEN has been the recruitment of a proficient team to handle all aspects of the paper from Production, in which our whiz Production Manager Dave Rostenne now plays a leading role, to advertising, distribution, proof reading, accounting, photography and reporting. Every member of that team comes to the job with an enthusiasm fuelled in large part by the pleasure of working with Cindy, whose cheerful, resourceful and unflappable approach has been a constant source of support and inspiration over the past nine years.

Cindy's extraordinary com-

mitment to the NEN has carried her through numerous challenging circumstances in her Editor's role, ranging from bereavement within her own family to the mounting pressures of work and family, and (I regret to add) more than a few instances in which her Senior Writer was unexpectedly incapacitated by accident or injury to one limb or another very shortly before deadline for an issue. In all these cases, Cindy resolved that the show must go on, and on it went, offering residents of our community an uninterrupted cycle of neighbourhood news and local colour in the proud NEN tradition.

The NEN team wishes Cindy a very fond farewell, and looks forward to her continuing to be an active presence in the community, serving on the NECA Board and spearheading the preparation of an Emergency Preparedness Plan for our neighbourhood—a project long overdue since the wake up calls we received at the time of the Beechwood Fire, and more recently, during this year's nail-biting week spent under the threat of serious spring flooding. Cindy's leadership has brought our community paper to a remarkably high standard of excellence, and we are all the grateful beneficiaries of her nine years of hard work and commitment.



Photo: Louise Imbeault

we wish her a warm welcome and the best of luck in this challenging role.

When Cindy took over from former Editor Carolyn Brereton in October 2005, her initiation into the job was very much a Sink-or-Swim operation. Not only was her predecessor Carolyn not hovering in the background to offer a helping hand in the transition, she was actually out of the country altogether, establishing her family in a new home in Buffalo, New York. Fortunately, Cindy's trademark resourcefulness and determination kicked in, and Swim she did, efficiently turning out the first of the 45 issues she would go on to produce in her nine years in the Editor's Chair.

The years of Cindy's tenure have been extraordinarily eventful ones in the life of our community, encompassing such transformative events as the epic struggle between the former CCCC and the School of Dance over the community's access to the former Crichton Street Public School; the eventual sale of the School and relocation of the CCCC (renamed the NECTAR Centre

of town with her family, and instantly alerted the NEN team who were swiftly dispatched to cover the unfolding tragedy. Throughout the aftermath of the fire, as familiar businesses disappeared from the scene and months went by with few signs of hope for recovery on Beechwood, Cindy kept an eagle eye on the unfolding scene, ensuring in every NEN issue that readers were kept up to date and well informed about the situation, and about the role they could play in helping out those displaced

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Flood Plain...

Continued from page 1

yours truly, John retained the professional services of experienced local consulting engineer **Lawrence Erion**, who undertook a detailed survey of the area in question along the river.

Lawrence ultimately proposed a comparatively simple and cost-effective means of protecting the flood plain. Very briefly, his plan entailed a slight elevation of two sections of the park's bicycle path, totalling about 360 metres in length, between Charles and Queen Victoria Streets. At no point would the elevation of the berm exceed 380 mm (or about 15").

At the time, the NECA Board passed a resolution endorsing continued exploration of this proposal, and John undertook further discussions with the city, the National Capital Commission and the RVCA. However, at the time, only City staff was genuinely receptive to the recommendation (subject to a detailed analysis of its potential upstream impact), and until this year's near disaster, progress on the issue has remained stalled.

Legacy of the Endless Winter

The winter of 2013-2014 was unusually cold, snowy and long. Of perhaps greatest importance from the perspective of flood risk was the fact that in the course of the winter months, there were virtually no significant thaws, so when a gradual melt did finally begin in early April, a substantial snow pack was still intact and the spring run-off once again threatened to reach dangerously high levels.

Based on our nerve-wracking experience of 2008, John, Rick and I began tracking the water levels in late February, adding ourselves to the RVCA emailing list for regular updates on spring flood conditions. As the flooding picture became increasingly alarming, we began active consideration of taking precautionary measures, and having ready a "response plan" along the lines called for by the Conservation Authority as its Flood Watch messages became full scale warnings.

With no clear idea of what—if any—protective measures the City had in mind for our area should the river breach its banks (other than "Call 311," as I was sanguinely advised), we went ahead with the purchase of sandbags, and made arrangements to deploy cement jersey barriers along the shoreline at Charles and Stanley. Despite efforts to keep the

City informed and to obtain its agreement to our proceeding with these emergency measures, and because we only found out at the eleventh hour that authorization would have to come from the NCC, we ultimately ran out of time, and with the impetus of a dire RVCA warning of "Extensive Flooding" over the weekend of April 12, the plan went ahead.

At that time, an imminent rainstorm approaching from the west was expected to dump up to 50 mm of precipitation on our area, with the result that expected flows on the Rideau River below Hog's Back Falls were predicted to reach up to 570 cubic metres per second (cms) to a peak of 610 cms, potentially breaking the record of 597 cms set in 1976. At the low point at Charles Street and Stanley Avenue, capacity level is 533 cms, and considerably lower in the park at Stanley and Queen Victoria, so it's clear that had the rain event materialized as anticipated, a serious flood would have occurred here in the Burgh.

Thanks to the ingenuity, hard labour and military precision of Rick, John and their team of enthusiastic volunteers, an impressive flood wall was erected on Saturday, April 13, and steps were taken to prevent an overflow of flood water into the basements of homes nearby. Those of us "in the zone" were able to breathe more easily for the first time in many days, and while we ultimately dodged disaster when the predicted rainstorm failed to materialize, we remain extremely grateful to the dynamic duo and their volunteers for taking action to protect our houses when local authorities gave no evidence of readiness to step in. And special thanks to engineer **Lawrence Erion** who returned to our area that fateful weekend to give advice on the logistics and design of our emergency plan.

The Next Steps: Time for Teamwork

Few of us in the flood plain would choose to relive this spring's harrowing weeks on the brink of calamity any time soon, let alone every year for the foreseeable future. As John and Rick saw clearly when they first broached Lawrence Erion's proposed flood protection plan several years ago, in the new world of advancing climate change, with its attendant increase in the frequency of extreme and often catastrophic weather events (case in point, last year's epic flooding disaster in Calgary), it's time for the responsible authorities to take

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Photo: Cindy Parkanyi

Neighbours and volunteers came together to erect a barrier along Stanley Avenue to prevent predicted flood waters from inundating homes in the flood plain area.

action to protect flood vulnerable communities such as ours, and help us prepare for the day when our luck runs out.

At the end of April, John and Rick once again made a presentation to the NECA Board

who offered their support of an appeal to the City for a permanent “fix” to the flooding problem. Accompanied by **Paula Thompson** (representing NECA) and myself, they went on to meet with

Councillor Peter Clark to enlist his assistance and support in mobilizing the relevant authorities (City, RVCA and NCC) to collaborate with us in launching the first steps in the process. Councillor Clark was extremely receptive, and swiftly undertook to take the lead in stick-handling the issue at the city level, and in marshalling the necessary resources.

It was agreed that the first step is to undertake an engineering study modelling the flow of the Rideau River to update the 1984 data on which current predictions and analysis are based. In light of the impact of climate change and recent changes in the topography of the park following the NCC’s soil remediation exercise, it’s entirely possible that the scope of the New Edinburgh flood plain may have altered over the past three decades, and

that the “1 in 100 Year Flood” benchmark may have to be redefined.

Rick has since moved ahead to work with water engineering consultants J.F. Sabourin and Associates to establish the study’s terms of reference, and our hope is that the study costs will be covered at least in part by the City, if necessary, with a contribution from flood plain residents, as was the case in the recently approved Britannia Flood Protection Program to which homeowners contributed a portion of the overall project cost. Once the results of the study are available, the next step will involve the formulation of a flood protection plan for our neighbourhood, including an accurate assessment of its potential upstream impact in the light of the new modelling data.

With the building consensus

among authoritative sources, most recently TD Bank Chief Economist Craig Alexander (“Weather Disasters Will Become More Frequent and Costly, TD Says”, Canadian Press, April 15, 2014), governments will remain under growing pressure to upgrade outdated infrastructure to better protect vulnerable areas such as ours, and there are grounds for hope that a New Edinburgh Flood Protection Plan may become a reality soon—preferably before next spring! In the meantime, we all owe a debt of thanks to John Doran and Rick Morris for their effective and valiant efforts to tackle both the short-term threat and the long-term problem. Thanks also to Councillor Peter Clark for responding so swiftly when alerted to the problem, and taking the lead at the city level.

Urban Dispatches from Ms. Newediquette

Ms. Newediquette is an embedded resident of New Edinburgh who is a keen and cranky observer of the NE and broader Ottawa environment. An acute observer, she will report occasionally on issues affecting the life of New Edinburghers.

Dispatch #1: Supermarket Issues: What You, Dear Reader, Are Doing Wrong

patches.

Let’s focus on supermarket issues. We have the Beechwood Metro, a shining beacon of comestibles. The Metro experience could be further enhanced via improved in-store practices of the patrons (yes, this means YOU). I bring to your attention some of the most egregious problems and related solutions. I will only address the experi-

aisles (intended for cart movement) and the sides of aisles which are suitable for parking. Presumably you do not just park in the middle of Crichton street if you wish to nip into the pharmacy and pick up a prescription. This may be a poor assumption. In any case, please pull over and park by the pizza bunker. Of note, do not get between the ice cream bunker, and me otherwise you are really asking for trouble.

Abandoned Items

Shoppers (i.e., you) should reduce wasting both staff time and perishable items by repatriating product to where you got it if you change your mind. Do not deposit packets of ground beef amongst the tinned tomatoes. Do not leave bok choy nestled in with the Fruit Loops. **Solutions:** Readers with children ages 5-10 could arrange for birthday parties featuring a scavenger hunt at Metro. Each child would be given a shopping cart and 40 minutes to collect abandoned (mis-shelved) items. The child with the greatest number of items wins a prize. A variant of this game could include a prize based on greatest cash value of objects retrieved vs. greatest number. Metro may be interested in hosting sleepovers where the children can bed down in the bakery, but really spend the night in revelry restocking the shelves.

The Checkout Experience and Express Cashes

As a general rule, it is a fine idea to collect the items you wish to acquire and then sidle

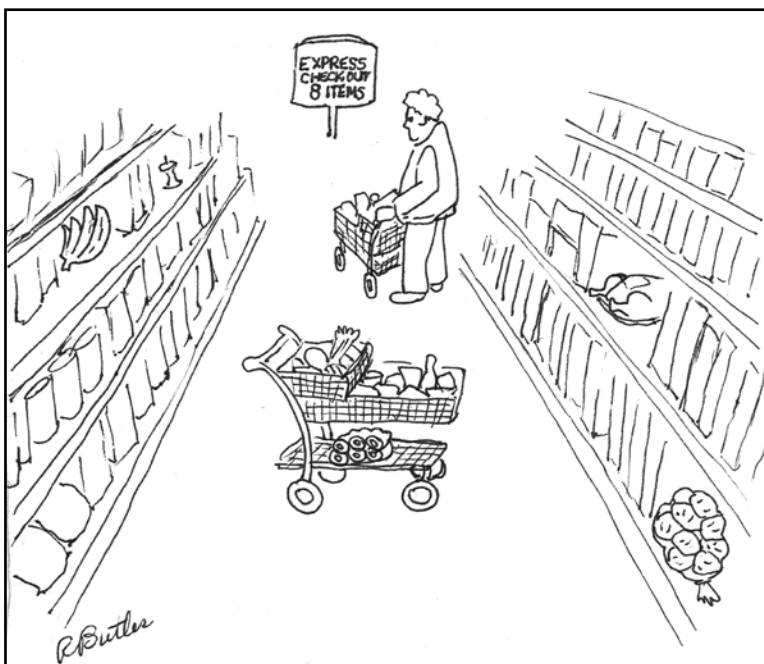
up to a checkout. Do not park at the checkout and then sally forth to collect the final 15 items on your list. Amongst the greatest and most irritating of shopper transgressions occur at the express checkouts. Generally, the cashier will not wish to be rude to a patron abusing the express checkout limits. It is up to us fellow shoppers to do the heavy lifting. The following are approaches which I have tried with marginal success (but they make me feel better). If you are feeling charitable, you can just sympathetically ask the twit (who has unloaded 15 items at the “8 items or less” express) if math has always been a big problem. I have come up with a new tack. You explain to the shopper who is by far exceeding the express checkout limit

that he is perhaps operating under a misconception. He appears to have allocated his grocery items into categories (e.g., fresh produce, frozen food, bakery) and then instead of adding up the total number of items in all categories, he has subtracted the number of items in the lesser categories from the number of items in the largest category.

The above are just a few of the supermarket issues that warrant attention. Ms. Newediquette welcomes reader suggestions at newednews@hotmail.com, attention Ms. Newediquette.

DEADLINE
for Breezy Bits
submissions
September 10

breezybits@hotmail.com



Cartoon by Roslyn Butler

Humans spend an astonishing amount of time acquiring, preparing, and eating food. In this era of advanced technology, it should be possible to meet our nutritional needs by swallowing a small pill daily. This approach could also greatly reduce the number of contaminants ingested and could increase life span. Excessive longevity and inaccurate obituaries are separate problems to be addressed in future dis-

ence once you cross the threshold into the store. I see no hope for the parking lot, which is surely as dangerous as many a war zone and has left me with PTSD; but I digress.

Shopping Cart Operation

Shoppers should not avail themselves of carts if they lack the cognitive and motor skills to operate said cart, and/or if they lack the ability to distinguish between the centre of

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June 2014 Update on Civic Elections

Unless you are a very late returning snow bird, you can't fail to be aware that the next Civic Election is coming up later this year on **Monday, October 27**, and that the campaigns for Council are rapidly picking up steam. As we predicted at the outset, in our own bailiwick, **Ward 13 Rideau-Rockcliffe**, the slate of nominees for Council is steadily expanding, and since the time of our last report in April, three new candidates have joined the race.

You'll find the complete list with brief biographies and contact information on the community website (www.newedinburgh.ca), but in a nutshell, here's the run down to late May when we went to press (*listed in alphabetical order*):

Marc Belisle declared his candidacy for Council in Ward 13 in late March. Marc is the for-

mer owner and founder of Lac Leamy Limousine Service, and has worked as an Information Officer at Service Canada and the Passport Office. Most recently, he was employed as a City of Ottawa Booking Agent and Customer Support Officer for Para Transpo. More details on Marc's background are available at www.marcbelisle.ca, or marc@marcbelisle.ca; Facebook:/VOTEBELISLE; or phone **613-807-6272**.

On February 19, **Cam Holmstrom** officially announced his intention to run as Councillor in Rideau-Rockcliffe. Cam is a former teacher and public servant, and currently serves as Legislative Assistant to an NDP Member of Parliament. You'll find more information by email at info@camholmstrom.ca; by phone at **613-744-0149**; or on Cam's website at camholmstrom.ca.

Jevone Nicholas declared his candidacy for Council at the end of March. He has worked as a Senior Analyst at the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and has a background of involvement in his community of Vanier, where he has served on the Boards of numerous social service organizations and as former President of the Vanier Community Association (VCA). Interested readers can find out more about Jevone at www.jevonenicholas.ca, on Facebook:/electjevone, on Twitter: @jevonenicholas, or by email info@jevonenicholas.ca or phone **613-741-8682**.

Lindenlea resident **Tobi Nussbaum**, the founder and Chair of the Beechwood Village Alliance, stepped up in early February to be first on the slate in this neighbourhood. In his professional life, Tobi has

worked for over 15 years as a diplomat, lawyer and senior public servant in Ottawa, at the United Nations in New York, and in Geneva. Interested readers will find campaign information on the website at www.votetobi.ca, or call **613-604-9858**; on Facebook at /tobinussbaumward13, and on Twitter @tobi_nussbaum.

Penny Thompson officially declared her candidacy for Council in early May. She has a 20 year history of active engagement in her home community of Manor Park and the surrounding neighbourhoods, and recently served as President of Manor Park Community Association. Last fall, she was appointed Chair of the City of Ottawa's Environmental Stewardship Advisory Committee. She can be reached at pennythompson@votePENNYt.ca; on Twitter @votePENNYt; or at **613-866-1369**.

for another term, but readers should be on the look-out for news on that front in the near future. Other candidates are also expected to come forward in the coming weeks, so stay tuned for further announcements on the slate in our Ward.

The New Edinburgh Community website www.newedinburgh.ca will keep readers up to date and informed on the candidates for Council in Rideau-Rockcliffe as they come forward. You can also keep track of the slate of nominees on the Elections 2014 link on the City of Ottawa website: <http://ottawa.ca/en/city-hall/your-city-government/nominated-candidates-2014-elections>.

Candidate Review Coming Up in October:

We'll bring you a complete rundown on the full slate of candidates and their respective backgrounds in the October edition of the *NEN*, but in the meantime, please keep an eye on the evolving election scene and stay informed: this is a critically important choice for our community!



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Our incumbent Councillor **Peter Clark** has not yet confirmed that he intends to run


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Ottawa City Councillor Peter Clark Reports

Heritage Conversation Districts

It is accepted "that a heritage district is a cultural landscape" (Heritage Matters, Volume 11, Issue 2, May 2013). Designation protects these landscapes by "describing that area's dynamic prevailing character and sense of place." Built form and surrounding features such as trees and vegetation are included.

In New Edinburgh, we need to continue to press for an update of our Heritage Conservation District (HCD) Plan as our current plan is inefficient and outdated by new provincial legislation. This will require public consultation and engagement; it is not sufficient to presume the level of commitment in the community.

My sense of this is that we are, as a community, pleased with our cultural landscape and the HCD would reflect the community consensus.

The HCD designation has a positive impact on property values, and provides a planning tool for managing change. It does not, however, define a straightjacket to freeze properties in time.

The economic and tourism benefits of Ottawa's HCD's have been demonstrated in many studies. In this city we need to use this to our mutual advantage.

This update is scheduled for 2014. Staffing restrictions in

the City's Planning Department are compromising this progress. Your comments on keeping this contract would help.

Beechwood (MacKay to Vanier Parkway)

This section continues to clog in both directions. My colleague Councillor Fleury and I have been discussing possibilities to ease some of this pressure, and hopefully some progress can be made.

Construction Woes

The New Edinburgh community will face significant obstacles with the 2014 road projects:

- St. Patrick's resurfacing is planned for early in the construction season. It will constrain traffic.
- Sussex Drive (part of Confederation Boulevard) is in progress and constraints will continue until late December.
- Minto Bridges have deteriorated to force closure. Reconstruction will take place in 2015.
- Rideau – The project is in final stages, but constraints, including southbound accesses off Rideau will be in place all summer.

From the Desk of...



Mauril Bélanger
Member of Parliament for
Ottawa-Vanier



The Fair Elections Act (Bill C-23)

Loi Sur L'intégrité Des Élections (Projet De Loi C-23)

In my spring 2014 *Info Ottawa-Vanier* issue, I reported that I had strong objections to that bill. Since its introduction in early February, the Government had been under growing pressure to amend or withdraw the bill. That pressure came from Canadians throughout the country, from well-known individuals such as Preston Manning, former Leader of the Reform Party of Canada, and Sheila Fraser, former Auditor General of Canada. It also came from Provincial Election Officials and consultants, from non-governmental organizations, newspapers editorials and columnists and, of course, from numerous Parliamentarians. In the end, the Government did introduce amendments to many of the proposals in the bill.

Despite these amendments however, it is my view that the bill still weakens the authority of Elections Canada, the Chief Electoral Officer and the Commissioner of Canada Elections, who is the individual responsible for investigating possible electoral fraud. All

opposition MPs (NDP, Liberal, Bloc and Green) and all independent MPs, save one, voted against the bill at third and final reading on May 13. The bill was nevertheless approved by the conservative majority and will likely be approved by the conservative majority in the Senate.

Should the Liberals form a government after the next general federal election, we are committed to reversing the restrictions imposed by this bill on Elections Canada and its officers.

Dans le numéro du printemps 2014 d'*Info Ottawa-Vanier*, j'ai fait part des fortes objections que j'avais à l'égard de ce projet de loi. Depuis le dépôt de celui-ci au début de février, les pressions s'intensifient sur le gouvernement pour qu'il le modifie ou le retire. Ces pressions sont venues de Canadiens dans tout le pays, de personnalités comme Preston Manning, ancien chef du Parti réformiste du Canada, et Sheila Fraser, ancienne vérificatrice générale du Canada. Elles ont

également été exercées par des fonctionnaires électoraux des provinces et des experts-conseils, et par des organisations non gouvernementales, des éditoriaux de journaux et des chroniqueurs, ainsi que par de nombreux parlementaires. Au bout du compte, le gouvernement a accepté de modifier bon nombre des éléments proposés du projet de loi.

Il reste qu'à mon avis, le projet de loi, même modifié, affaiblit le pouvoir d'Elections Canada, du directeur général des élections et du commissaire aux élections fédérales, la personne chargée de faire enquête sur les cas possibles de fraude électorale. Tous les députés de l'opposition (NPD, Parti libéral, Bloc et Parti vert) et tous les députés indépendants, sauf un, ont voté contre le projet de loi à l'étape de la troisième et dernière lecture, le 13 mai. La majorité conservatrice a néanmoins adopté le projet de loi, qui sera sans doute sanctionné également par la majorité conservatrice au Sénat.

Si les libéraux devaient former le gouvernement après la prochaine élection générale au niveau fédéral, nous nous engageons à annuler les restrictions que ce projet de loi impose à Elections Canada et à ses fonctionnaires.

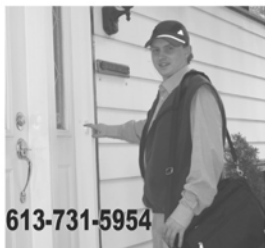
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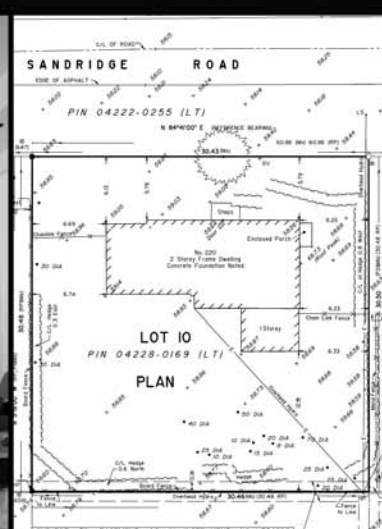
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From the Desk of Mayor Jim Watson



Lansdowne Park

Since long before I ran for City Council in Capital Ward in 1991, people had been asking what we should do with Lansdowne Park.

It was a historical landmark, on that everyone could agree. But should it be preserved as it is? Should it be renovated? Should it be torn down? These were some of the many questions that were asked about Lansdowne, without answers, from before my time as a Councillor right up until only a few years ago.

It was clear that the status quo at Lansdowne was not sustainable. A crumbling stadium surrounded by a sea of asphalt was an eyesore for the city especially when the beautiful Aberdeen Pavilion sat in the middle of it. But what to do?

This council inherited a plan that would see Lansdowne Park transformed into a mixed-use facility. The plan needed work and we worked hard to not only improve it but also to get shovels in the ground and implement it so that years of indecision would be behind us.

Some people raised concerns about our plan for Lansdowne and I agree that neither the process by which it came about nor the plan itself is perfect. But perfection is the enemy of getting things done. Our plan means a significant improvement and revitalization of Lansdowne and I am thrilled that it is almost complete.

On July 18, we will welcome the Ottawa REDBLACKS to the CFL at TD Place for their home opener. The long wait

for CFL football to return to Ottawa is now over and I can't wait to be there to cheer on our team as they push for the Grey Cup. TD Place will also play host to the Ottawa Fury soccer team whose season is already underway as they do our city proud in the North American Soccer League.

In August, we will open the urban park at east end of Lansdowne that will see three times more green space (18 acres) than was previously there, four times more trees, 7.2 kilometres of sidewalks and pathways, and five pieces of public art. Lansdowne Park had always been a misnomer because there had never been much park space in it. Now, there will be ample space for people to have a picnic, throw a Frisbee, or just enjoy our beautiful city outdoors.

And finally this fall, our retail shops will open. A mix of stores and restaurants both familiar and new will make up this site that will serve to bring people to Lansdowne year-round in addition to providing great options for before and after a game or concert.

This promises to be an exciting summer and fall for Lansdowne and for our city. It has been a long time coming but I am happy that Lansdowne Park will once again be a place that Ottawa residents can be proud of.

Watch for the official park opening where we will pay tribute to Lansdowne's past with a community celebration on Saturday August 16.

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Minto Beechwood: Demolition Coming Up in Late Summer

By Jane Heintzman

It's full steam ahead on the Minto Beechwood project, with sales remaining strong despite the interminable winter, and Site Plan approval for the new development expected imminently, probably before the end of May. As those who have engaged in this exacting process are well aware, Site Plan approval entails a lengthy back-and-forth exchange with the City on the nitty-gritty of the project, including such details as sidewalks, landscaping, bike racks and lighting. The end is in sight, however, and once the approval is obtained later this month, the project team will concentrate its energies on the completion of the working drawings and the submission of applications for building permits.

Minto's **Kevin Harper, Development Manager-High Rise**, reports that the schedule for submitting the applications for building permits (originally targeted for July) has been bumped up to June in order to secure the permits before the hefty 30% increase in development charges recently approved by the City kicks in in the Fall. Needless to say, Minto won't be alone in the queue as other developers fast track their applications to avoid this major hit to their project budgets, but we wish

them luck in getting in under the wire. Kevin notes that one especially puzzling aspect of the changes to development charges- and one which will have a significant impact on another Minto project in the West end- is the cancellation of the Transit Credit for developments built close to transit stations, a measure originally intended to reinforce the intensification of neighbourhoods around public transportation nodes.

Summer Schedule:

Readers can expect to see action on the Minto site later this summer, with preliminary site work scheduled to start in August. At the end of August, the Beechwood Sales Centre will be shut down and relocated to a new site (yet to be decided, but all options are currently on the table), and in September, the remnant structure on MacKay Street, along with the Sales Centre building, will be demolished. Minto is targeting LEED certification for its new Beechwood development, and in order to secure a credit towards this standard, 85% of the waste material from the demolition must be diverted from the landfill. As a result, the steel, masonry and other materials in the building shell will all be recycled for other uses, while the decora-

tive cornice on the front of the building is to be dismantled and returned to former owner Helene Carter, as per the sales agreement.

Needless to say, the start of demolition/construction will have an impact on the surrounding area, and Minto is currently drawing up a detailed Construction Management Plan to ensure that the work proceeds efficiently and with a minimum of disruption. As primary access to the site for construction vehicles and equipment will be via Beechwood, Kevin thinks it probable that the curb lane on Beechwood may need to be taken over for the duration of the project, so the block may be temporarily a no-go zone for parking purposes, and as for the traffic situation- well, the less said, the better!

As many readers recall from the time of the 2011 Beechwood Fire, the power supply for the pharmacy and the New Edinburgh Pub is located in the basement of the MacKay Street building, and will have to be relocated when the demolition takes place. The details of the move are still being worked out, but we hope for the sake of all concerned (not least the teams at the pharmacy and the pub, and their loyal clienteles) that the transition goes as swiftly and

smoothly as possible.

As we've mentioned in previous progress reports on Minto Beechwood, the Minto team has been at work addressing the most effective means of adding animation and interest to the west facing wall of the new development (what we've dubbed the "Gateway to Beechwood"). In addition to the architect's original proposal for the use of different materials to add texture and visual interest to the previously blank wall, Minto is now honing in on the imaginative use of energy efficient LED lighting to further enhance its appeal. Kevin stresses, however, that his team is well aware of the need for any such installation to be subtle and tasteful as opposed to a garish intrusion on our peaceful village, so readers who were cringing at the prospect of Vegas on Beechwood can breathe more easily!

Commercial Tenants: Plenty of Progress but Still No News!

Kevin reports that negotiations with prospective occupants of the commercial spaces have made significant progress since the time of our last report, and are very close to completion. Competition for a number of the spaces has been lively, and Minto is currently within sight of confirming arrangements for a full house on the commercial floor. By now, we're all inured to the regrettable reality that the identity of these businesses will remain shrouded in mystery for some

time to come. However, if it's any consolation, the NEN is assured by Kevin Harper that the retail uses now on the list are all in "high demand" in our neighbourhood, and in keeping with the needs of both community residents and those dwelling in the building itself. Stay tuned for breaking news, but in all probability, the best we can hope for, given Minto's targeted June 2016 occupancy of the building, is probably mid-to late 2015 before announcements are made about our new commercial neighbours.

Community Contact during Construction:

Once the show is really on the road later this summer, Minto plans to assign a **Senior Project Manager** as a contact point for the community during the construction process. This should be enormously helpful in dealing with the inevitable day-to-day issues that may emerge during construction, and avert the need to go the circuitous route through City officialdom. Readers should watch for details on the community website at www.newedinburgh.ca, and we'll bring you a full update in the first issue of the NEN after the summer (October 1st). Minto is also planning to provide construction updates on the NEWS link on its project website:

(<http://www.minto.com/ottawa/New-Edinburgh-new-condos/MintoBeechwood/main.html>)

New Ed Forum...

Continued from page 1

parking issues the new Minto development will bring to the neighbourhood, and called for driving speeds to be reduced on Beechwood. She also noted that a pedestrian crossing at Stanley Park would be a welcome idea.

The green spaces and waterways group's Bob Burchill said that this past spring highlighted the need for a new flood plain assessment, and called for a community-based emergency response plan in case of future flooding from the Rideau River. He also noted the group's desire for clearer rules on off-leash dog areas at Stanley Park, the need for a commitment from the NCC to preserve green spaces along Sussex Drive, and how the community can support residential landscaping efforts by creating an inventory of trees available for planting on personal property.

Paula Thompson reported on the heritage and development

group's session, noting in particular how infill will happen in New Edinburgh, but how that's not necessarily a bad thing. She said participants want to have better relations with the City of Ottawa and developers, and desire early input on issues of building scale, materials, greenspaces and set back. She also touched on the issues of expanding commerce beyond Beechwood, and the problem of derelict buildings, calling for an architecture review board. The group hoped that by 2015, the city would be upholding its infill guidelines.

City councillor Peter Clark was on hand for the start of the meeting, calling on participants to seize the opportunity to think about what rules they would like to see when council goes to beef-up the heritage designation (conservation?) rules. Many other candidates for Mr. Clark's position were present at the meeting. Mr. Clark remained non-committal as to whether he would be seeking re-election this fall.



NECA President Tim Plumptre addresses the crowd at the recent New Edinburgh Forum.

Photo: John Arnold

BURGH BUSINESS BRIEFS

- By Jane Heintzman -

CORRECTION: New Edinburgh Pharmacy to Remain in the Guardian Family

As its management was quick to let us know, the New Edinburgh Pharmacy is NOT, as incorrectly reported in the April edition of the NEN, in the process of transition to the Medicine Shoppe chain. Our local pharmacy will remain under the Guardian banner, albeit with the new lines of Atoma and Diem products replacing Rexall as the pharmacy house brands. Our apologies to the Tonons and the pharmacy staff team for the inadvertent error, and very best wishes to Matthew Tonon and his fiancée Hannah on their forthcoming wedding in early fall.

Creative Biographic: Multi-Media Memoir Service

We wish a warm welcome to new advertisers **Elizabeth La Forest** and **John McKay**, founding owners of **Creative Biographic**, a new service offering an artful blend of traditional and digital media to help individuals, families, corporations and other organizations record their stories in a compelling form that will resonate with their audiences now and in the future.

The initial inspiration for Creative Biographic is rooted right here in our community, taking shape last summer at Bridgehead Coffeehouse on

Beechwood, where Elizabeth and John met for a round of brainstorming. Both have aging parents and grandparents, and were concerned to ensure that their personal stories were not lost to posterity, and both had a wealth of complementary skills and professional experience to bring to bear in recording these stories.

interest in delving more deeply into the many stories she encounters, particularly those of individuals with only limited resources to shape and record their personal histories.

John has been a partner in communications and public relations enterprises which are national in scope, and has special expertise in the skilful use



Photo: Daniel La Forest

Creative Biographic founders/owners **Elizabeth La Forest** and **John McKay** plot their next move at Bridgehead Coffeehouse.

Elizabeth has over two decades of experience in the field of communications, including writing, editing, research, media relations and strategic planning, working with a variety of clients ranging from corporations to local organizations and federal government departments. Throughout her working life, she has always harboured an

of digital technology to add a multi-media dimension to the age-old art of story-telling, enhancing the ability of client corporations and other organizations to engage with their audiences. Like Elizabeth, however, he felt strongly that individuals should have the same kind of support and assistance in telling their own personal tales and reinforcing

their ties with family, friends and future generations.

Thus it was that three months later, Creative Biographic was launched, and Elizabeth and John now work with a team of graphic designers, multi-media producers, writers, publishers, genealogists and researchers to offer a suite of services to both individuals and organizations. In the case of individuals, these services include memoir writing, planning and coaching; writing and editing of family histories; tributes or records of special events; genealogical and historical research; and multi-media services such as digital audio-video interviews and editing, audio-video transfers, and e-book design and publishing. The Creative Biographic team can also help with the challenging first step in the process, which often entails the laborious task of organizing old photos, slides, journals, recordings and keepsakes, selecting those of most enduring significance to a personal history, and creating digital copies to preserve these for posterity.

Those interested in exploring the services of Creative Biographic are offered a free introductory interview to discuss their specific objectives and determine what role the company could play in facilitating their personal project. Elizabeth and John take pains to draw prospective clients out on what they would like to achieve in telling their stories, and to familiarize them with the tools at their disposal, including both traditional writing and editing assistance, and the use of digital technology to add a multi-media dimension to the historical record.

Visit the Creative Biographic website at www.creativebiographic.com or call 613-702-5556 to arrange an introductory interview. There is no shortage of fascinating stories and colourful characters in our neighbourhood, and we welcome Elizabeth and John's new service as another valuable means of bringing those stories to light for the generations to come.

Ferme Lève-Tôt: It's CSA Sign-Up Time!

The energetic young organic farming duo, **Charlotte Scott** and **Richard Williams**, owner/operators of **Ferme Lève-tôt** in Low, Quebec, are no strangers to our community. For several years, Charlotte and Richard have operated a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program, delivering weekly supplies of farm-fresh organic produce to area residents at local drop off locations—ini-

tially at 42 Crichton Street, and now at New Edinburgh House at 255 MacKay Street.

Each year, CSA registrants purchase a share of the harvest at the start of the season, and from June to mid-October, receive a weekly or bi-weekly basket of produce representing a mix of greens and veggies ranging from lettuce, spinach, arugula, mesclun and kale to root vegetables, herbs, tomatoes, peppers, broccoli, cauliflower, peas, squash and many more. The system enables city dwellers to play a role in supporting sustainable local agricultural production, while enjoying the fruits of the fields throughout the growing season.

This summer, Charlotte and Richard are targeting 100 CSA registrations, and while the list was rapidly filling up at press time, there may still be a few available openings. Interested readers can sign up at fermelevetot.ca/sign-up/ or check out the website for more details on the basket options and the range of organic produce on offer. In New Edinburgh, deliveries take place in front of the NECTAR Centre at **255 MacKay Street on Thursdays from 4 to 7 pm**. CSA partners bring their own bags and carriers as the produce is presented in bulk, "market-style", as opposed to pre-packaged in boxes or baskets. Each week, you'll receive a CSA newsletter to preview the contents of the basket, and to offer recipes or storage tips for less well-known veggies. If you happen to miss a week because of a holiday, you can pick up your basket later at one of Ferme Lève-tôt's Farmer's Markets, provided you give them 48 hours advance notice (**819-422-2329** or fermelevetot@gmail.com).

Aside from the prospect of an abundant harvest, the farm's big news this year is the imminent arrival of Charlotte and Richard's second child, expected at the end of May. This joyous event has occasioned careful advance planning to cover Charlotte's temporary absence from the front line work team, and two full-time workers and one part-timer (all with prior CSA organic farming experience) have been hired to take over for the season.

Charlotte reports that the farm is still accepting new **work-share partners** this summer, and welcoming back at least one from last year's growing season. Workshare positions allow participants to receive a significant reduction in the costs of a weekly or family-

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Photo courtesy of Ferme Lève-tôt
Richard Williams delivering weekly CSA produce baskets at the NECTAR Centre.

sized basket in exchange for a commitment of volunteer work on the farm, taking on shifts of either four hours per week or eight hours every two weeks. The farm also welcomes volunteers on a more casual basis, so CSA partners are free to lend a hand in the fields from time to time, and generally come away with an extra bag of goodies as a reward for their labours.

Ferme Lève-tôt will also be involved at the NECTAR Centre's Community Garden, where they hope to offer garden workshops, and a special series on fermenting such edibles as kimchee, sauerkraut and kombucha. We look forward to news of the arrival of Charlotte and Richard's new baby, and wish them a long and fruitful growing season this summer and fall.

Studio Kim Hairstyling: Shiatsu Shine Treatment for Spring

Last year we introduced musician **Kim Kaskiw's** home-based hairstyling salon which operates at **101 ½ Marier Avenue**, offering affordable precision cuts, styling, blow drying, and colouring (using high-end Schwarzkopf and Wella products), as well as regular monthly specials, which clients can follow at **www.kimkaskiw.com**. At that time, Kim was preparing for a final round of surgery to fully restore her eyesight, and we're delighted to report that she now has 20/20 vision with the help of her prescription.

Since then, Kim has been gratified by her steadily growing clientele of regulars from a variety of ages, and including many young families who bring the kids along for a trim. Her regulars love the convenience of her walkable, bike-able location, sparing them a construction-plagued drive downtown, and offering the added convenience of early appointments beginning at 7am. With the imminent arrival of a potential new client base once *The Kavanaugh* is open in 2015, Kim looks forward to another significant boost to her roster of regulars.

This spring, Kim's alluring special is a **90-minute Shiatsu Shine treatment** to address the ravages of a long, harsh winter on both hair and spirits. While your crowning glory undergoes a special conditioning treatment to restore its lustre and vitality, you receive a relaxing shiatsu massage of head, shoulders, neck, arms and upper back to relieve the accumulated tensions of a six-month winter, along with the associated aches and pains by which so many of us are afflicted (particularly those whose working lives are spent glued to a computer screen!) And at a grand total of \$40 for the whole restorative package, not only is it affordable, one can't afford NOT to take advantage of it! Interested readers can reach Kim at **613-747-8835** to book an appointment.

Kim's musical activities as an accomplished jazz singer

and instrumentalist have been on hold as she gradually recovers from the recent loss of her beloved partner **George**, who died in February after a six year struggle with cancer. During this period, her regular clients have circled the wagons to offer an outpouring of sympathy and support, which has done much to sustain her as she dealt with her painful loss, and she is extremely grateful. As she regains her bearings, her plan is to ease back into the musical world, but for the moment, there are no firm plans on the horizon. Stay tuned though, as Kim and her sextet have long been popular fixtures on the Ottawa jazz scene, performing at last summer's Ottawa Jazz Festival, and if all goes well, another gig may soon be in the cards. We extend our sincere sympathies to Kim on the loss of her partner, and wish her well as she continues to pursue her twin vocations as the self-described "Barber of Seville," working hard in the hairstyling and musical domains.

Epicuria: Expansion Plans

Like every successful entrepreneur, **Epicuria's Tracey Black** is always on the lookout for imaginative ways to enhance the scope, diversity, capacity and efficiency of her popular fine food and catering operation, and to improve the working environment for her dedicated staff team. Even before the Beechwood Fire of 2011, when Epicuria was displaced from its original headquarters on Mackay Street, Tracey's planning and interior design

skills were frequently brought to bear in the upgrading and rearrangement of her retail, kitchen and basement office spaces. And of course, after the fire, when she was obliged to move her entire operation to her new location on St. Laurent Blvd., these well-honed design skills kicked in once again in a dramatic and challenging overhaul of her new premises.

and catering operations centre. Extra storage space and a lunch room for staff are an added bonus resulting from the expansion, and clients will be delighted to find that thanks to the creation of a new loading dock at the side of the building, more parking spaces will now be available directly in front of the store.

According to Tracey, the extra

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Photo: Louise Imbeault

Epicuria's Tracey Black is in high gear once again.

Tempting though it might have been to rest on her laurels after an exhausting two-year relocation, Tracey's planning genius is in high gear once again. When her former neighbour **Tao Crystals** vacated the adjacent premises at the end of February, Tracey was swift to take over the space for Epicuria's use as an additional prep kitchen, board room

space will have the benefit of accommodating a restructured food production process with special emphasis on the CFIA's Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) food safety protocols, as well as allowing for increased capacity in Epicuria's catering operations, which are currently in high demand. She emphasizes,

Continued on page 12

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however, that “food service and quality are our priorities, so you won’t see us turning into a high volume catering business anytime soon!”

Her plans for the existing retail storefront include the addition of some new décor details, along with a reorganization of some of Epicuria’s tempting product offerings. Stay tuned for news of an Open House to show off the latest changes once the process is completed later this spring, and bear in mind, when it’s too hot to cook in the coming months, you’ll find no shortage of tasty prepared meals ready and waiting at 357 St. Laurent.

Special kudos to Epicuria’s culinary wizards who pulled off a ground-breaking double win at the 8th Annual Soupe-Splash at this winter’s Maple Sugar Festival in Richelieu Park. Epicuria’s Maple Bourbon Baked Bean and Ham soup topped all other contenders for the best maple-inspired soup, taking the top prize in both the popular vote and culinary jury categories.

Ottawa New Edinburgh Club (ONEC) Summer Camps

The Ottawa New Edinburgh Club (or ONEC) is among the oldest sports clubs in the city, originally established as the “Ottawa Canoe Club” in 1883, and reborn as ONEC in 1965. The club is now the home base for active programs in tennis,

rowing and sailing, offering full day summer day camps for children and youth in all three sports. ONEC’s picturesque boathouse on the Ottawa River, constructed following the First World War in 1923, has recently undergone a major repair and renovation, and is now back in action as popular venue for weddings and social events.

If you’re interested in engaging your offspring in a few weeks of healthy outdoor physical activity, ONEC’s summer sports camps offer an attractive and convenient local option. The Club’s **Summer Tennis Camp** is open to young folks from ages 7 to 16, and certified instructors work with the campers on all key elements of the game: stroke basics, footwork and game strategy. Campers are grouped by skill level at the start of the program, so your budding Milos Raonic can progress at his or her own speed through the drills, while enjoying a daily break for a variety of off-court activities such as Frisbee, golf and capture the flag. For working parents, ONEC offers the convenience of pre- and post-camp supervision from 8:30 am to 5pm. Visit the ONEC website at www.onec.ca for more details.

Summer Sailing Camp at ONEC is open to youth ages 9 to 16, and features an

introduction to sailing skills, safety practices and seamanship. Campers’ skill levels are assessed at the start of the program as the basis for assigning the type of sail boat in the club-owned fleet that is best suited to their abilities. All ONEC instructors are certified through Sail Canada, and the program is geared to both recreational sailing and racing. Campers are offered instruction in CANSail qualifications for levels 1 through 4, and are able to progress through these levels as they build their skills in the course of the summer. The Club’s website has all the details for kids and parents attracted to this elegant and challenging sport, and you’ll also find a description of a typical day at sailing camp.

Rowing (Sculling) Skills Day Camp at ONEC runs through July and August, and is open to campers at all skill levels ages 12 to 19. The program is unique in the National Capital Region because of its specialisation in the art of sculling, a low impact, symmetrical sport with legendary fitness benefits. Class sizes at the ONEC rowing camp are small, with a maximum of 10 campers instructed by a certified coach and a coach’s assistant. The program is focused on the technical skills of balance, proper stroke action, even hand levels, and efficient manoeuvring, along with the essential protocols for water safety and boat handling. For safety reasons, campers are instructed in the club’s touring and recreational boats, and those who reach the intermediate level enjoy excursions to such destinations as Rideau Falls, Upper Duck Island and the Gatineau River. You can check out the details at www.onec.ca, call the club at 613-746-8540, or email onecadmin@gmail.com.

We wish the ONEC team and all its campers fair weather and smooth sailing in the summer of 2014. After this past winter, we deserve it!

Ola Cocina: Plan Your Paella Party!

When **Donna Chevrier** first opened the doors of her Mexican eatery **Ola Cocina** in mid-December, she may not have anticipated the harsh, interminable winter that immediately set in, forcing many area residents into a state of virtual hibernation which slowed commerce to a trickle and imperiled the bottom lines of small businesses throughout Ottawa. Fortunately, in recent weeks, the pace of activity at Ola Cocina has picked up sig-



Photo: Louise Imbeault
Ola Cocina owner Donna Chevrier and Chef Matt Herbert serve up fun with their Mexican food offerings.

nificantly, with residents from all the surrounding communities—New Edinburgh, Vanier, Rockcliffe Park, Lindenlea and Manor Park—turning up in increasing numbers to savour the tasty Mexican fare in the cosy restaurant at 62 Barrette Street, or to take home a prepared feast of the family favourites.

Donna is extremely gratified by the strong support of the locals, some of whom were no doubt clients of Ola Cocina’s predecessor **MITLA**, but also notes that her orbit is now expanding to include diners from as far afield as Kanata, Barrhaven and the Glebe, as well as a smattering of celebrity visitors such as Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau and his family—including new baby Hadrien—who stopped by recently to enjoy a hearty Mexican meal. It seems safe to say that Ola Cocina is now well on its way to successfully establishing itself as a destination business on the culinary map in Ottawa!

If you haven’t yet had a chance to drop by the store at Barrette and Loyer (right behind Metro), you can check out the complete menu at www.olacocina.ca, or have a look at a sampling of the enthusiastic online reviews which give high praise to both

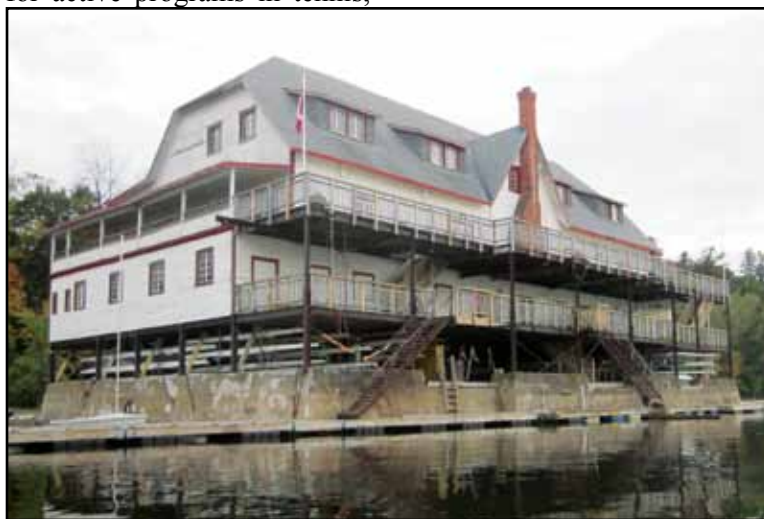
the cooking and the friendly service. Donna is currently working with a team of five, including her indispensable second-in-command **Matt Herbert**, to keep up with the demand, and to produce a daily round of freshly-made specialties such as handmade tamales, duck confit tacos, as well as tacos with pulled pork, chicken and chorizo filling, Mexican quesadillas, tortilla soup, empanadas and churros. For those with food sensitivities or special diets, Ola Cocina also offers a range of gluten free, vegetarian and vegan options.

A recently introduced catering menu highlight is freshly made paella, which you can order for take-out (with 24 hours advance notice) and is available in quantities sufficient for a party of 10-12. According to Donna, the fish for the paella, which comes from the Pelican Fishery and Grill on Bank Street, is the freshest in the city, and now that the word is out, it’s a fair bet that paella parties will be popping up all over our neighbourhood this summer!

In the plans this season are the installation of a bike rack and awning at the restaurant, along with the addition of outdoor seating for up to 12 people. Donna is also toying with



ONEC’s Summer Sailing Camp offers a fun and a healthy alternative to youth ages 9 to 16.



The ONEC Boathouse has undergone major renovations and is now available for special events.

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the possibility of hosting a pig roast later in the summer. We wish Donna and her team fair weather in the season ahead, and continuing success in their lively operation on Barrette Street.

Vinci School: New Private School for Ages 3 to 8

A new private school has recently opened its doors at **149 St. George Street**, offering a Reggio-inspired Montessori learning environment geared to gifted children from pre-Kindergarten (age 3) to Grade 3. The Overbrook-based school is the brainchild of local scientist/inventor/entrepreneur *extraordinaire* **Dr. Dan Yang**, and is one of four model schools currently being launched in Canada and the United States. Vinci School Vice-Principal is **Susan Kelly**, an experienced educator, and known to many in our community as the former principal of **St. Laurent Academy**.

Dr. Dan, a specialist in Optics and Photonics, founded AFC Technologies in the late 1990s and is credited with the invention of the L-band amplifier, as well as a Broadband Source (BBS) which is now standard equipment for component manufacturers. After selling AFC in 1999, she shifted her focus to Dowlake Microsystems



Vinci school opens in Overbrook. Photo: Courtesy of Vinci School

where she continues to serve as CEO, and subsequently turned her attention to educational technologies, founding Rullingnet Corporation and creating Vinci Learning, with the Vinci Tablet at its core. The tablet is a state-of-the-art learning tool based on developmental science, technology and other key components of early education. Perhaps not surprisingly, Dr. Dan was listed among Forbes' Magazine's Top Female Entrepreneurs in 2011!

Dr. Dan's most recent project, the Vinci Schools, emerged from her conviction that gifted children are underserved by existing educational structures,

and unable to achieve their full potential in an increasingly fast-paced and competitive world. Drawing on best practices throughout the world, she has undertaken to create an ideal learning environment for bright kids, cultivating the skills of analysis, evaluation, problem solving, planning and creativity that they will need to survive and thrive in the 21st century economy and society.

The Overbrook Vinci School will formally open in September 2014, but is currently running a pilot project and accepting registrations for a summer institute which will run through July and August. The school building (formerly

Overbrook School and later Counterpoint Academy) has been fully renovated, and features large bright classrooms, a state-of-the-art science lab, a Creative Learning Centre, a gym, a large playground equipped with a pirate ship, and a bistro-style cafeteria serving a carefully planned menu of nutritious fare. There will be no shortage of extra-curricular activities for Vinci School students, with special classes offered in art, dance and robotics, as well as math tutoring and outdoor sports such as soccer on the field at the nearby Overbrook Community Centre.

While there are no formal entrance requirements, those interested in applying for the coming year will have a preliminary meeting with school administrators when their children's responses to the school's learning materials will be observed and assessed, and parents will be interviewed to ensure their engagement as active partners in the educational process. Interested readers who are parents of lively 3 to 8 year olds can find more details about the school and its philosophy, facilities and teaching methods, on the website at www.vincischool.org, or by contacting Vice-Principal

Susan Kelly at **613-852-7557**.

Bread and Roses Bakery: Coming Back into Bloom

With the gradual arrival of spring, and with it the renewal of outdoor life and activity, the pace of business at **Bread and Roses Bakery** has picked up considerably in recent weeks, and thankfully, the store is steadily emerging from the perilous winter slump. Owner/Master Baker **Chris Green** is both relieved and grateful that area residents have been returning to the bakery to try out his new line of breads, stock up on his legendary sweet treats and savoury pies, or simply relax at the tables by the sunny front windows with a coffee and a freshly made sandwich.

In addition to his own creations, which include whole wheat and oat bran loaves, sourdough and traditional baguettes, country white round and egg bread, Chris now has in stock an ample supply of Pete's Amazing Sandwich, Pumpernickel and Light-rye gluten-free loaves baked by Finally Gluten Free Foods, as well as gluten-free scones and sweet treats by OWMA Bakes. Do-It-Yourself Pizza fanciers will also find Pete's GF Frozen Pizza Crusts in the

Continued on page 14

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Lobsterfest
June 16 - 22

Live Entertainment Saturdays at 9 pm

Continued from page 13

bakery freezers, so if gluten is your Achilles' heel, you'll find all you need to stock your larder at 323 St. Laurent. That said, Chris has recently posted a defence of carbs (including gluten) and their health benefits on the B&R Facebook page, so if you're gluten-averse by choice rather than medical necessity, you might want to check out the other side of the story: (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bread-Roses-Bakery/204436976237875>).

Many local mums may have been the beneficiaries of Bread and Roses' fulsome offering of special Mother's Day treats, which ranged from croissants and sourdough baguettes to a host of irresistible sweets such as chocolate éclairs, mini raspberry white chocolate cheese-cake, mini Belgian chocolate mousse and Mother's Day cookies.

In the coming weeks, the patio furniture will be back in operation at the front of the bakery, so you can enjoy a cooling glass of lemonade or a snack in the open air. With the opening of the Dairy Queen across the street, pedestrian traffic in the immediate area

will pick up considerably, and should give a further boost to B&R's business, as will the launch of the soccer season, bringing regular hordes of young players and their families to the field directly behind the store. Chris is currently mulling over the options for attracting this hungry and thirsty group, possibly through special offerings of cookies and orange wedges. Also in the plans as a much-needed amenity for parents who regularly congregate at the bakery is the installation of a baby change table in the washroom.

Keeping a small business like Bread and Roses on a financially sustainable footing is a constant challenge, and over the past three years, Chris' investment of time, energy, imagination and sheer hard labour has been admirable. Happily, it is also beginning to bear fruit as community residents become aware of the importance of supporting small local suppliers and reward his efforts with more regular visits. If you have suggestions about improvements to B&R's products or services that you think would add further appeal for clients, please email Chris at info@bandrbakeryottawa.com or drop in at the store for a face-to-face chat about your ideas. Happy summer to all at Bread and Roses!

Aladin Childcare Services: New Location on Beausoleil Drive

The NEN welcomes new advertiser **Aladin Child Care Services**, a bilingual, private, non-profit registered charity which has offered childcare and early learning services throughout Ottawa for the past 30 years. Since its incorporation in 1984, Aladin has steadily expanded to establish locations at 2240 Russell Road, where it acquired funding for a new standalone building in

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

the early 1990s; at Hawthorne School on St. Laurent Blvd; at Pleasant Park School in Alta Vista; in Old Ottawa South at Bank and Riverside Drive, and most recently, at École Ste.-Anne at 235 Beausoleil Drive in Lowertown, where a new campus will officially open up in August to serve New Edinburgh, Sandy Hill, Lowertown and the University of Ottawa community.

Executive Director **Michel Laflamme** is enthusiastic about the new location, which will offer childcare and early learning services for toddlers, pre-school, kindergarten and school-age children, providing structured activities and field trips; outdoor play, including excursions to the nearby splash pad, soccer field and skating rink; afterschool snacks for all ages, and a morning snack and hot lunch for the toddler and pre-school crowd. While the Ste.-Anne campus will operate exclusively in French, all families are welcome, including those who are eager to take advantage of the opportunity for an early, stress-free French immersion environment for their children.

Registration for the new Lowertown location is ongoing, and interested readers will find all the details on the school's website at www.aladin.pw. You can also reach Michel Laflamme directly at 613-733-0553 or michel@aladinchildcare.com.

Louis Hutchison Property Improvement Services

In an earlier issue of the NEN, we introduced our community's former furniture repair specialist **Louis Hutchison's** new business in the domain of home improvement services, offering a broad range of upgrades from flooring to ceramics, doors, windows, decks and dry walling, along with routine maintenance and repairs, including small electrical and plumbing jobs. Louis also services a number of investment properties, and prepares houses for the sale market. He is firmly committed to the view that "equal to curb appeal and decorating, good home maintenance and quality improvement play a vital role

in the value of your property." Check out the full range of Louis' services at www.louishutchison.com.

2014 has been a busy year for Louis, beginning with a major contract to transform an empty concrete shell with exposed beams and duct work into a finished, livable basement. In the course of three months, Louis and a friend (who is the owner of the property) went about the business of framing, dry walling, tiling, painting, installing new flooring, doors and a false ceiling, and carrying out minor electrical work. By the end of the process, the ugly duckling had been transformed into an elegant swan in the form of a comfortable and attractive family living area with a full bathroom and shower, an extra bedroom, a large family room with a separate office space, and a utility room. Louis is justifiably proud of the job, which has not only greatly enhanced the livability of the house for its owners, but also given a significant boost to the property value.

Louis' ongoing projects include deck repairs (a biggie at this season), replacement of bathroom fixtures, painting and tiling, and new clients are coming on board as the spring unfolds. As a special promotion in this busy season, he is offering a 15% discount on any project valued over \$2,500, so if a reno or repair is on your task list, you may want to give Louis a call at 613-850-6707.

In the years since he began advertising his services in our neighbourhood, Louis has been gratified by the strong support he has received, and the valuable word-of-mouth recommendations which have done much to build his client base and help him to maintain a successful business. He looks forward to meeting new faces and reconnecting with some familiar ones as the summer unfolds.

New Edinburgh Pub: Lobsterfest is Coming Soon!

For many New Edinburgh Pub regulars, the summer really begins with the Pub's annual Lobsterfest, when seafood lovers gather on the rooftop at Crichton and Beechwood to

June 2014

savour a mouth-watering meal of fresh lobster and share summer holiday plans with their friends and neighbours. This year's Lobsterfest will take place from **June 16 through 22** so enthusiasts of the colourful crustacean should mark their calendars and get the gang together for a lively evening.

And another New Edinburgh Pub annual summer tradition is now on the books for 2014: the **Annual Charity Golf Tournament** will take place on **Sunday, July 27**, at the Haute Plaine Golf Club in Gatineau. (You'll find a map and directions to the club on the Haute Plaine website at en.hautesplaines.clublink.ca) Proceeds from the tournament will go to support the programs operated by the **South East Ottawa Community Health Centre**, for which Pub owners **Tracy and Paul Williams** raised a record-breaking \$18,750 at last year's remarkably successful event.

Last October, Paul and Tracy had just received the good news that they were cho-



Paul and Tracy Williams receive Community Builder Award.

sen to receive a **United Way Ottawa Community Builders Award** in recognition of their longstanding record of outreach to both our local and the wider Ottawa community. Over the years, countless community and charitable enterprises have benefited from their extraordinary generosity, including many in our neighbourhood such as the Stanley Park Fieldhouse operated for the community by the Crichton Community Council (CCC), and the Beechwood Fire Fund administered by the former CCCC (now the NECTAR Centre) following the tragic fire of 2011. Earlier this year, Paul and Tracy received the award at a gala awards ceremony, and as a community, we should raise a glass to salute them for this well-deserved honour.

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Burgh Business Bits**Kelly's Barber Shop Now Offers Ladies' Hair Care Services:**

Owner/operator **Kelly Riley** is delighted to announce that her bustling business, **Kelly's Barber Shop** at 121 Beechwood Avenue, now offers styling, colour and cuts for the women. Kelly's new full time staff member **Bailey Vieau** has taken on the newly-introduced hair care services for women, and is currently offering a 25% discount on all colouring services for first-time clients. Please call ahead for an appointment **(613-745-9623)**. To keep up with the demand for her traditional barbering services for men and boys, Kelly has also hired a second new staffer, **Joy Illman**, who is happy to be back in our community, where she grew up and attended school. Many readers will remember Joy's mother, former Crichton Community Chair **Kim Illman** who for many years was a pillar of the community, and principal organizer of a host of neighbourhood celebrations and events. Welcome back to the Burgh, Joy, and best of luck to Kelly and her busy team at the Barber Shop.

ZaZaZa Pizza: Me Tarzan, You Jane

Regulars at **ZaZaZa Pizza** at Putman and Beechwood may be feeling a little extra pressure at the waist-line if they had indulged in the fundraising special that was on offer throughout April. **ZaZaZa** owner **Ion Aimers** is a strong supporter of a wide range of community causes, and special new concoctions are created on a regular basis to serve as fundraisers for a particular charitable activity. As a longstanding enthusiast for the work of internationally-renowned primatologist **Jane Goodall**, **Ion** undertook to honour Dr. Goodall's 80th birthday on April 3 with the creation of a "Me Tarzan, You Jane" Dessert Pizza consisting of a honey and oat crust topped with Nutella, fresh bananas, brown sugar, cinnamon and oats, Reese's peanut butter pieces and a dollop of honey and whipped cream—yikes!! One dollar from every sale of this caloric juggernaut was donated to the Jane Goodall Institute of Canada, with the donation to be matched by **McEwen Petroleum**. We're hoping that this imaginative venture gave a boost to our local dentists and personal trainers, as well as to a worthy cause, and look for-

ward to forward to **ZaZaZa's** next culinary flight of fancy in support of the charitable community.

25 Year Milestone!

Coming up this September, **Alex MacDonald**, the leading light of our local fitness community, will celebrate a remarkable 25 years of teaching her legendary Stretch and Strength and Dance Fit classes in and around our neighbourhood. Over the years, **Alex** has built up so faithful a clientele that it would scarcely be an exaggeration to imagine that they'd follow her to Iqaluit and beyond, were she to relocate her studio. Fortunately for all concerned, however, she has remained loyal to the community, and currently teaches her full-to-capacity classes in the Auditorium at Memorial Hall. More remarkable still, some of her current clients took part in her very first classes 25 years ago, staying with her throughout the quarter century of her teaching career. Watch for news of a special celebration in September for all those who have participated in **Alex's** classes over the years. Congratulations **Alex**, and best wishes for the next 25 years!

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By Sean Flynn

Chair, NECTAR Centre Board of Directors

As some of you may know already, I am a four-season cycling enthusiast who uses two bicycles as a primary form of transportation: a winter bike with studded winter tires and a Chariot attachment, and an unusual looking Dutch three-seater cargo bike that I ride in spring, summer and fall. For the most part, my cycling adventures take place in the wonderful city of Ottawa, as I brave my commute to Bell's Corners and run errands in and around the neighbourhood (taking the kids to and from their activities, and grabbing groceries and whatnot). However, my wife Nancy and I have recently discovered the convenience of bringing the big Dutch bike on family vacations/road trips, adding a whole new dimension

of adventure to our journey and experience.

This was certainly the case during a recent trip to New York City, when my two boys and I signed up to participate in the annual **NYC Five Borough Bike Tour**. After having discovered that it's barely a seven hour drive from Ottawa to NYC, our family has enjoyed travelling down there once or twice a year to shop, take in new sights, and explore the city. During one of our first trips to New York a few years ago, I noticed the extensive biking infrastructure added throughout Manhattan and Brooklyn. Since then, we've made a point of bringing the big bike with us, since it's a much more convenient (and quicker!) form of transport than even the subways or taxis.

The Five Borough Bike Tour proved to be an ideal opportu-

nity to explore NYC, traveling on roads and bridges that typically aren't accessible to cyclists/pedestrians (the city closes down many roads during the tour). Case in point, I managed to take a bunch of hilarious selfies of the boys and myself biking on the FDR and Brooklyn-Queens expressway, with vehicle traffic screaming by in the opposite direction. The tour itself is about 40 miles in length, but has a good number of rest stops and music bands along the way to keep everyone entertained. It is important to note that it isn't a race and is open to cyclists of all ages and abilities.

The tour all starts off at the tip of Manhattan in Battery Park, snaking its way through to midtown Manhattan before entering the picturesque and serene Central Park (which at the time was filled with trees resplendent with their colourful spring blossoms). After that, you make your way through historic Harlem with its wide tree-lined boulevards and fascinating landmarks. Following a brief detour through the Bronx, you are ushered on to one of the most interesting parts of the tour (for me at least), the chance to bike on the FDR expressway back towards the eastern edge of Manhattan. The expressway takes



Selfie taken on the FDR expressway.

Photo: Sean Flynn

you across the incredible Queensboro Bridge (where I managed to sneak in an illicit photo of the boys and me, despite the no-photos-on-the-bridge-policy). The portions through Queens and Brooklyn were quite lengthy, but featured a couple of nice rest stops where we stopped to fuel up on bananas, bagels and Gatorade. Saving the best for last, the final leg of the tour takes you across the enormous Verrazano Bridge that links Brooklyn to Staten Island. Greeted with the infamous "Leaving Brooklyn... *Fuhgeddaboudit*" sign along the last leg of the Brooklyn-Queens expressway, the weary cyclists on the tour (yours truly included) faced a daunting uphill ride across this majestic

bridge. Undeterred and receiving supportive high-fives and nods from fellow cyclists (as I was lugging a 70-pound bike with 100 pounds of kids on the back), I managed to cross the finish line and arrive in Staten Island in one piece!

I do have to give credit to my two boys (ages 6 and 8) who were a source of moral support throughout the 3-4 hours it took to complete the tour, and featured in numerous photographs taken by participants who were intrigued by our bike and its two little passengers. There were a few "are we there yet?" moments for sure, but they soldiered on and stuck through the tour right to the end.

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

Fieldhouse Manager

This is a part-time seasonal position (6 weeks, 33.5 hours/week) for July and August. The Fieldhouse Manager will oversee the facilities at the Stanley Park Fieldhouse, as well as plan and implement community events including the New Edinburgh Picnic and weekly children's activities.

Successful applicants must be:

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

For further information or to submit an application, please email nfieldhouse@gmail.com. The application deadline is Monday, June 9.

This job is generously funded by the Canada Summer Jobs Program. Members of visible minority communities are encouraged to apply.



Our 14th Annual New Edinburgh Plant Sale was a great success. We had sunshine and warm weather, a perfect day for neighbours to meet and pick up a few annuals to spruce up their gardens. Thanks to all our neighbours for supporting this spring event. Thank you to our supplier **Denis and Nicole Lemieux** from Hammond for their hale and hearty annuals and also thank you to our many volunteers, **Bruce Sheery, Cathy McConkey, Charlotte McKinnon, Caelan McLaurin, Denise, Jerry, Martina, Matt De Wolf** with **Nora and Nathaniel, Paula Pincombe, Roxie Clark and Pascal Dubuc**, and **Tasha Diaczky**. I also want to give a special thank you to Tasha who ordered, organized and laid out a wonderful breakfast supplied by **Performance Mazda and Performance Motors Ottawa**, at 6 am. Thank you to all, now just get the annuals where they need to be! As a special note please see the article on this page by **Jaida and Ally Wilson** who participated in the Plant Sale this year. Thank you for your contribution girls and we all hope to see you next year.

This summer we are once again hosting the **Neighbourhood Annual Community Picnic**. Mark **Saturday, July 12**, for our first ever **all day** event. This year we are featuring a **Scavenger Hunt** from 9 am to noon and then the **Family Picnic** from noon to 3 pm. Those interested in taking part in the event could contact Tasha Diaczky or me. Volunteers most welcome. Let's all hope for great weather!

As the *New Edinburgh News* goes to print, we are happy to announce that the Fieldhouse will, again, be accessible to the community this summer.

We have received confirmation of our **Canada Summer Job Grant** and will be hiring a summer student. For the past four years, the CCC was able to have the Fieldhouse opened for use because we had a summer student. If you are a high school student (16+) and interested in applying for this position, please contact nfieldhouse@gmail.com for further information.

Crichton Community Council's Annual General Meeting will be held **Monday, June 16 at 7:30 pm** at the Fieldhouse. Come on out and meet the other members of the CCC's and who knows, you might meet a new neighbour and forever best friend. All are welcome!!

The **New Edinburgh Garage Sale** will be held **September 20, 9 am – 3 pm** (always the third Saturday in September). Rain or Shine! Please contact Cathy at 613-746-0303 if you have any questions.

For anyone interested in renting the Fieldhouse or volunteering at any of the above events please contact Crichton Community Council at nfieldhouse@gmail.com, or you can check out www.newedinburgh.ca for more information on our and other community groups and events. Have a great summer everyone!



Photos and collage by: Louise Imbeault

A Plant Sale for All Ages

By Jaida and Ally Wilson

As we were walking to the plant sale, we noticed that there were already a lot of people carrying plants back from the sale, which made us worried that the best plants had been taken. After we got to the plant sale, we were most definitely proved wrong; all the plants were colourful and healthy. In fact, we saw somebody replace a customer's plant because one of the leaves was dead. I was at the plant sale for over an hour and never got bored. It was really fun to be able to look at all the beautiful plants. We both got a flower for our mom for Mother's Day and she loved them. I think that it was a really neat experience and we can't wait for next year's sale!



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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at**

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À la découverte des joyaux du patrimoine d'Ottawa: Portes ouvertes Ottawa, le 7 et 8 juin 2014

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

Les treizièmes Portes ouvertes Ottawa se dérouleront cette année durant la fin de semaine du 7 et 8 juin. Plus de 120 bâtiments et sites seront ouverts de 10 h à 16 h, le samedi et le dimanche. Il faut toutefois vérifier auprès des participants afin de connaître les dates et les heures d'ouverture car certains lieux ne sont pas accessibles pendant les deux jours.

Portes ouvertes Ottawa se veut une fin de semaine consacrée à la découverte de notre patrimoine. Des immeubles d'importance historique et architecturale ouvriront gratuitement leurs portes au public. Notons que plusieurs d'entre eux, notamment les ambassades, ne sont habituellement pas ouverts.

Les origines des Portes ouvertes

Les Journées Portes ouvertes voient le jour en Europe. Depuis, cet événement

connait un grand succès dans une quarantaine de pays où des millions de personnes y explorent des joyaux du patrimoine historique et architectural. Au Canada, les Portes ouvertes sont organisées pour la première fois à Toronto, en 2000. Depuis, plus d'une cinquantaine de municipalités de l'Ontario y participent à chaque année.

Plus de 700 000 visiteurs à Ottawa

Les Journées Portes ouvertes se tiennent pour la première fois à Ottawa en 2002. Le succès est instantané et se renouvelle à chaque année. En effet, des milliers de personnes, soit un total de plus de 700 000, ont visité pendant deux jours les divers lieux accessibles au public. On estime qu'environ 60 000 personnes participent à chaque année à cet événement du patrimoine qui s'avère le plus populaire de la capitale.

Une centaine de lieux à explorer

Cette année, plus d'une

centaine de bâtiments dispersés partout en ville seront ouverts. Notons que certains des endroits les plus intéressants se trouvent dans le secteur New Edinburgh et Ottawa-Est, notamment Earncliffe, la résidence officielle du haut-commissaire britannique, l'édifice Lester-B-Pearson, le studio du peintre paysagiste canadien Gordon Harrison, le pavillon Crichton, la résidence officielle de l'ambassadrice de la Norvège, et bien sûr Rideau Hall, la résidence officielle

des gouverneurs généraux du Canada depuis 1867.

Parmi d'autres lieux historiques à visiter, soulignons plusieurs églises dont Sainte-Anne, St-Andrews, Saint-Paul et Saint-James, ainsi que de nombreuses ambassades notamment celles de l'Angola, de l'Arménie, de la Croatie, du Japon et des États-Unis.

L'ambassade d'Algérie (Maison Fleck-Paterson)

De notre côté, le samedi nous offrirons en collaboration avec la Promenade de Jane une visite guidée en anglais à 10 h 30 et une autre en français à 14 h 30 de l'ambassade de l'Algérie, qui loge dans un véritable petit château Queen Anne au 500, rue Wilbrod, dans la Côte-de-Sable. Exceptionnellement,

l'intérieur et l'extérieur de ce bâtiment historique sont protégés à vertu de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario*. Il s'agit vraiment d'un joyau à explorer.

Pour la liste complète des lieux à découvrir, voir le site WEB de la Ville d'Ottawa : www.ottawa.ca/portesouvertes. Vous pourrez également consulter les encarts distribués dans journaux. Renseignements : Mme Amy Kudrinko, tél. : 613-580-9674, courriel : portesouvertes@ottawa.ca.

Pour avoir plus de renseignements sur les visites guidées de l'ambassade d'Algérie, vous pouvez me joindre au 613-562-5825, ou par courriel à : michel.prevost@uottawa.ca.



Rideau Hall, la résidence officielle des gouverneurs généraux du Canada.

Photo: Louise Imbeault



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Editor's Note: Manor Park environmentalist **Hugh Robertson** is well known to NEN readers as the author of a thought-provoking series of articles on climate change published in earlier editions of the News between 2007 and 2013. The following article on the proposed Northern Gateway Pipeline (NGP) project, scheduled for final decision by Cabinet in June, is a very brief summary of the core arguments in Mr. Robertson's much more extensive analysis of the project, which interested readers will find at <http://forourgrandchildren.ca/2014/northern-gateway-a-plea-for-the-future>. In a nutshell, Mr. Robertson argues that there are compelling reasons to reject the NGP, relating not only to its environmental impact and risk, but also to resource economics and energy security. He concludes that in the final analysis, the decision on whether to proceed with the NGP must be a moral choice based not on short-term economic or political considerations, but on the consequences for future generations. Mr. Robertson's message was echoed in a recent appeal by **Archbishop Desmond Tutu**, published in the *Ottawa Citizen* ("Opposition to Pipelines is a Moral Imperative", Saturday, May 10, 2014). Archbishop Tutu calls on Canadians to "draw the line and take a stand. It is time to move away from polluting fossil fuels towards a safer, cleaner energy future."

Northern Gateway: A Plea for the Future

By Hugh Robertson

The Joint Review Panel (JRP) was established by the National Energy Board (NEB) and the Minister of the Environment in December, 2009 to evaluate the Enbridge Northern Gateway Project (NGP). The three member panel was mandated to conduct a review of the environmental effects of the project and to determine if it was in the public interest. As part of the process, the JRP was required to consider comments from the public as well as groups with intervenor status, such as First Nations' communities, government participants and the Northern Gateway consortium who will build the project.

The NGP involves constructing two pipelines between Bruderheim, AB and Kitimat, BC, a distance of 1,177 kms. The larger pipeline flowing west from Alberta would carry

over 500,000 barrels per day of diluted bitumen. The smaller line from Kitimat flowing east would carry imported condensate, a lighter petroleum product needed to dilute the viscous bitumen for easier transit. The two pipelines would cross one thousand streams and rivers en route to the coast. In most cases, the pipelines would be buried beneath the water courses, but in a few instances the lines would pass overhead. In addition, two tunnels would be drilled through the mountains for the passage of the pipelines.

The diluted bitumen ("dilbit") would be loaded on to large tanker ships at the Kitimat terminal. These would then have to traverse the 90-km-long, tortuous Douglas Channel, cross the inside passage and follow the narrow inside coastal water route north or south before emerging in the shal-

low, turbulent Hecate Strait. The tankers would then have to navigate either the northern or southern route around Haida Gwaii before finally reaching open water and heading across the Pacific to Asian ports.

On December 19, 2013, after extensive hearings, the JRP recommended approval of the NGP subject to 209 conditions. The panel concluded that the Enbridge project would be in the public interest and that the potential benefits for the country outweigh the burdens and the risks. Supporting reasons for the decision and details of the conditions were laid out in two large illustrated volumes, entitled *Connections and Considerations* (see gateway-panel.review-examen.gc.ca).

The decision to approve the recommendations of the JRP or to reject the NGP will be made by the federal Cabinet in June 2014. Before the passage

of Omnibus Bill C-38 in 2012, the decision in a project of this nature would have been made by the NEB. But the outcome is no longer determined by an impartial board; it is now a political decision that will be made without the approval of Parliament.

The fundamental question is whether a government representing a minority of voters and facing an election in fifteen months has the moral authority to approve a project of such magnitude, and with such potentially damaging long-term environmental consequences, without even a parliamentary discussion.

The terms of reference establishing the Joint Review Panel explicitly centred on the evaluation of the **environmental effects** of the Northern Gateway project. Yet inexplicably, in the final report that recommended approval of the project, the emphasis shifted to the short-term economic and social benefits. The environ-

mental concerns were minimized.

The assessment of the pipelines was studied through the prism of the present. There was no in-depth analysis of the potential impact on future generations. Are our offspring not part of the "public interest"? We may inherit the short-term "benefits" but they will inherit the long-term burdens of this risky project. Sadly, the JRP review of the Northern Gateway pipelines has failed the future.

Northern Gateway should not be an issue driven by economic ideology and partisan politics; it is an issue of ethics, equity and social justice focused on the needs of the future. The decision on the merits of the Northern Gateway pipelines should not be a political decision, or primarily an economic decision – it is above all a moral decision of a significance which warrants a full and thoughtful parliamentary discussion, not resolution by executive fiat.



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“Sing for the Climate”

By Gaye Taylor

In February, 2014, UNICEF released a study which confirmed that the world's children, and especially those in developing countries, are in the cross-hairs of climate change.

“We are hurtling towards a future where the gains being made for the world's children are threatened and their health, wellbeing, livelihoods and survival are compromised ... despite being the least responsible for the causes,” said Samson Muradzikwa, UNICEF Chief of Social Policy. “We need to listen to them.”

Here in Canada, the idea that our children (at least those living in its southern parts) are

directly threatened by climate change might seem alarmist. However, as a Globe and Mail report in early May made clear, Canadian children and youth are certainly beginning to feel the psychological heat of climate change.

According to Dr. Anthony Levitt, director of research in the department of psychiatry at the Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, “the climate problem” is making many teenagers very anxious. And my own recent experience speaking about climate change with elementary school children in classrooms around Ottawa confirms that our kids have heard of climate change and

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

some are very worried, indeed. Which leaves me, as a parent, heart-sick and, frankly, angry. In failing to act collectively to prevent climate change from getting any worse, we are failing our children and all generations to come. And what a trust we are breaking.

But here is the wonderful thing. Our children aren't taking climate change lying down. At least not the hundreds of children with whom I have spoken throughout the spring. While climate change certainly prompts anxiety amongst our children, it also fires their imagination, their curiosity, their ingenuity, their determination, and, above all, their compassion. (Feelings enabled, in part of course, by the special power of a child to live both in the everyday and in completely other-worldly worlds.) As adults, we grow so used to saying “no, it can't be done because of x and y.” Trouble is, we can't say “no” to action on climate change. We have no choice but to say “yes.”

Any time any of us feels that inclination to say “no, it can't be done,” we need only to look at our children to remember why “no” just isn't an acceptable answer. And looking to our children will help us remember how exciting and interesting it can be to say “yes,” and work onward from there.

It was with the affirmative, and therefore *transformative*, power of children in mind that a group of Ottawans (including parents, grandparents, and young people) recently founded **Cool It for the Kids.org**, an educational non-profit dedicated to helping children and youth educate themselves, each other, and especially us less optimistic adults, about climate change. Children will yet prove the best advocates for, and champions of, our beleaguered planet home.

“Sing for the Climate” Rally, Saturday June 7, Parliament Hill

To celebrate the transformative power of children, but also to give them the chance to sing out, speak up and be listened to, **Cool It for the Kids** is organizing a “Sing for the Climate” Rally on Parliament Hill, on Saturday, June 7, 10 am till 12. An event for, and significantly by, children, the Rally will be great fun, and absolutely non-partisan, its purpose being to use the power of music to celebrate and inspire the optimism, enthusiasm, and compassion we will all need in our still winnable battle against extreme climate change.

A number of talented local children and youth musicians



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will be performing, along with the *Boys' and Girls' Anglican Cathedral Choir*, Ottawa gospel choir *Big Soul Project*, and up-and-coming Toronto hip-hop artist *Gaiasis*. (YouTube videos of all of the songs to be performed are available for viewing at our website at coolitforthekids.org and on our Facebook page. Check them out. And be ready to sing along!)

Other children and youth from local elementary and high schools in Gatineau and Ottawa will speak about the urgency to act on climate change. (Adults will be seen, but not heard from much on the day!). After an hour or so of music and speeches, we will then all march from Parliament Hill down Elgin Street to the Human Rights Memorial at the corner of Elgin and Lisgar. There is a plan to have food-carts gather on Elgin to help refuel tired marchers. Check out our website for confirmation of this critical element!

Failing this, you will all want to bring a picnic, and lots of water.

The tag line for *Cool It for the Kids* is “Because a hot planet won't be a cool place to live.” This is a serious understatement, but also strikes to the heart of the matter, and in a child's idiom. Life on earth is pretty “cool.” And all of this very “cool” life hangs in the balance as we dither about action on climate change. If you and your family are free on Saturday morning, June 7, please consider coming to the Hill, and bring along other family members, and your friends and their children and grandchildren. We are running out of time to act to prevent catastrophic climate change. But the political will to act will only come if we, the public, show that we care. Our children do care about this issue. And the June 7 rally on Parliament Hill gives them a forum to be heard. Please come out and listen to them.



From Stanley Street.

Sketch by Martha Markowsky



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For the Birds



For birding enthusiasts, the months of April and May are among the most rewarding of the year, as the avian famine of the winter gives way to a feast of bird song, brilliant colour and feverish activity in the bird community as mating pairs are established, breeding territories defended, and nests constructed in readiness for the broods to come as the summer unfolds.

Although the tenacious winter and slow-emerging spring have delayed the arrival of many returning spring migrants, as I write in early May, our formerly deserted garden is now alive with lustily singing **American goldfinches**, **house finches**, **purple finches**, **song sparrows**, **white-throated sparrows**, **American robins**, **dark-eyed juncos**, **black-capped chickadees** and a solitary, chestnut-capped **chipping sparrow**. The morning chorus outside our window begins at about 4:30 a.m. (with the energetic robin) and builds to a crescendo

several hours later, frequently punctuated by the quacking of a mallard pair which has taken to waddling into our garden to root around in the flower beds.

Despite the inhospitably cool temperatures, the first signs of returning bird life in my bailiwick appeared in early April when a song sparrow pair returned to its accustomed spot in our euonymus hedge, regaling us with its distinctive song, while fat **American robins**, noisy **red-winged blackbirds** and flocks of **European starlings** and **common grackles** descended on the lawn. Even in the blackbird community there is clearly a pecking order of sorts, and I watched with interest as the starling group was summarily driven off the grass by the more aggressive contingent of grackles.

Fickle Finches:

At about the same time that the first migrants were arriving in early April, our long abandoned backyard feeders were suddenly swarming with brilliant yellow male **goldfinches** in their newly minted breeding plumage, along with rosy **house finches** and a couple of spectacular **purple finches** energetically tackling our safflower seed



Palm Warbler.

supply. In the course of the winter, this crowd of finches was nowhere to be seen on our property, but regularly frequented the "Avian Bistro" of my neighbour **Philip MacAdam** whose feeding stations are situated close to warmth of his house and in a dense stand of cedars affording protection from the elements. Now that the weather has warmed up, the perfidious house and purple finches appear to have abandoned the bistro in favour of the open spaces of our garden. Apologies Philip: I'm sure they'll be back!

Hideous though they are, **turkey vultures** are among the earliest returning spring migrants and have been spotted in our area since the beginning of April. I encountered one at close range while enjoying a stroll through the Rideau Hall grounds, and looked on as it energetically devoured a squirrel carcass in the middle of the road leading to the Governor General's residence. They are enormous, bare-headed creatures- over two feet in length with close to a 6' wingspan- whose brains are equipped with an enlarged smell detection capacity, enabling them to spot a ripe animal carcass a mile away. Needless to say, given their chosen eating habits, they too can have a powerfully pungent odour!

In our spring rambles through the neighbourhood, we have encountered a steadily growing cast of characters, including large numbers of **dark-eyed juncos**; a frenetically active and vocal contingent of **downy**-, **hairy**- and **pileated woodpeckers**; several **Eastern phoebes** (never in pairs, as they're fiercely solitary, even in breeding season); **white-throated sparrows**; flocks of **chipping sparrows** filling the air with their throaty trills; **golden-crowned** and **ruby-crowned kinglets**; a **common raven** foraging in the damp grass; a **gray catbird** pair and a stately **great blue heron**, which appeared on its accustomed perch in the middle

of the Rideau River in front of our house, and looked on with interest as the neighbourhood banded together in mid-April to build a flood wall against the dangerously rising waters. Shortly before we went to press in May, I spotted a tiny **northern parula warbler**, a first for me and, I hope, a harbinger of the warbler season to some.

Sprightly Spring Sparrows:

I heard my first **white-throated sparrow** of the season in Rockcliffe Park in mid-April, and have since encountered significant numbers of this iconic "patriotic" vocalist, well

opposite morph, males of both types preferring white-crowned females, and both white and tan females preferring tan-crowned males.

In the third week of April, as *Ottawa Citizen* birding guru **Bruce Di Labio** reported an influx of **sparrows** into the region, including **savannah**-, **vesper**-, **swamp**-, **chipping**-, **tree**- and **fox sparrows**. Along with the earlier arriving **white-throated** and **song sparrows**, we had a fleeting visit from a large, rusty-coloured **fox sparrow** which spent the afternoon beneath our cedar tree, methodically scraping at the ground to uncover some delicacy or other. Fox sparrows are strikingly handsome birds, almost as large as a thrush, and comparatively easy to identify by their bold rufous colouring, streaked breast and gray-capped head.

Recently arrived in our garden is a group of **white-crowned sparrows**, a species which traditionally touches down at about this time in mid-May, and stays around until early to mid-June when they head north to their breeding grounds on the Arctic tundra.



Ruby-crowned Kinglet.

Photo: Mike Leveille

known here in eastern Ontario and throughout Canadian Shield country for its signature "Oh sweet Canada, Canada, Canada" song. In recent weeks, we have played host to a flock of 6 white throats in our garden, and I've had a chance to admire their fine black- and white-striped heads and yellow *lores* (or eyebrows) at close quarters as they root around in the flower beds under the safflower feeders.

There are in fact **two forms of white-throats**, the well-known **white-crowned** variety (not to be confused with the **white-crowned sparrow** which is larger and lacks the yellow eye brow patches) and a more subdued **tan-crowned** version. Both morphs survive because individuals of the species prefer to mate with the

Once they appear, the **juncos** and **chipping sparrows** in the garden swiftly make themselves scarce, as the bossy white-crowns are notoriously ungenerous about sharing space with most other species. White crowns are energetic ground foragers, and traditionally do an admirable job of cleaning up the seed spills in our garden after the winter.

Ruby-Crowned Kinglet: The Feathered Charged Particle

Several years ago, **Jill Hardy** (a long time resident of MacKay Street until her departure for Orleans last year) reported the spring arrival of a large flock of **ruby-crowned kinglets** which made themselves at home in her garden, and boldly darted around in search of food, undaunted by her presence in their midst. At

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the time, she was fascinated and charmed by their bright red "Mohawks", the distinctive identifying feature of the kinglet male but only visible when the bird is excited or agitated.

Perhaps because Jill is longer in residence to receive what became an annual visit from the kinglets, the ruby-crowns turned up in our garden this year, honing in on our Northern spy apple tree where they spent a day flitting in perpetual motion from one branch to another. In fact, had it not been for a tell-tale flash of a bright red, combined with the incessant flicking of the wings which is characteristic of the species, identifying these frenetic little acrobats would have been all but impossible.

Rose-Breasted Grosbeak:

Late breaking news from our garden was the fleeting visit of a striking male **rose-breasted grosbeak**, which aggressively grappled with our safflower feeder before disappearing into the shrubbery. This was a first in my birding career, and proved to be a gratifyingly simple ID thanks to the bird's bold black and white colouring and the brilliant red triangular patch on its breast. No need for binoculars to nail down this guy!

Duck Days of Spring:

Life has also returned to the river with the arrival **mallards** in large numbers, **ring-billed gulls**, **common goldeneye**, **hooded mergansers**, a **wood duck** pair, **common mergansers**, **double-crested cormorants** and **buffleheads**. And yes, **Canada geese**, though thankfully they have not yet entirely taken over the neighbourhood with their raucous and less than sanitary habits. The **bufflehead** pair on the Rideau was a first for me, and it must be said that the species is challenging to spot because of its penchant for abruptly vanishing below the surface, and popping up only briefly before heading back down. At 14" in length, they are North America's smallest diving duck, and if it stays in view long enough, you can readily identify the male by its large rounded head marked by a bold white wedge at the back.

Buffleheads nest in old woodpeckercavities, preferably those made by **Northern flickers** which are too small to accommodate other duck species. Interestingly enough, on the day that I spotted the bufflehead pair, a Northern flicker appeared in our garden to forage under the feeders. Apart from its substantial size (about 13"), the flicker

can be easily identified when it takes off in flight by the yellowish colour on its wings and its bold white rump. It's not your average woodpecker, preferring to forage on the ground for ants and beetles as opposed to hammering on tree trunks to unearth its next meal.

Canadian Lakes Loon Survey:

If you're lucky enough to be around a lake this summer, you may want to take part in the Canadian Lakes Loon Survey, a volunteer-based program run by Bird Studies Canada which has been in operation since 1981, tracking the reproductive success of the Common loon population. Participants dedicate three days to the survey over the course of the summer, one in June to determine the presence of common loon pairs on the lake in question; a second in July to investigate whether chicks have hatched; and a third in August to see whether the nestlings have survived long



Photo: Amy Jane Lawes
Purple Finch.

enough to successfully fledge. Sharp-eyed readers may have noticed a recent front page story in the *Ottawa Citizen* reporting on the discovery that loons adopt different "dialects" which vary from one region to another, so if you sign up for the survey, be sure to take note of the characteristic argot of your particular lake! Interested readers can check the website for details: <http://www.birdscanada.org/volunteer/calls/> or call 1-888-448-2473 or e-mail volunteer@birdscanada.org.

Reports from Our Readers:

Macoun Marsh:

St. Laurent Academy's **Mike Leveillé** has encountered a wealth of bird life at the Macoun Marsh this spring, and

managed to capture some outstanding photographs of his avian visitors, perhaps most notably, a close up of a **ruby-crowned kinglet** preening its feathers in an all too rare moment of stillness. At the



Robin.

Photo: Louise Imbeault

time of Mike's last report in May, the cast of characters at the Marsh included **palm warblers**, a **black and white warbler**, **brown creepers**, **hermit thrushes**, **Northern flickers**, **golden- and ruby-crowned kinglets**, an **American bittern**, **white-throated sparrows**, **chipping sparrows**, **song sparrows**, **tree sparrows**, **juncos**, **red-winged blackbirds**, **black-capped chickadees**, **Northern cardinals**, **blue jays**, **common grackles**, **American goldfinches**, **white-breasted nuthatches**, **hairy- and downy- and pileated woodpeckers**, **mourning doves**, **mallards**, **American crows**, **wood ducks**, **Canada geese**, **ring-billed gulls**, and a **great blue heron** flying overhead. (And if you're an amphibian lover, you'll be interested to know there are also plenty of **blue spotted salamanders** and **painted turtles** sharing the marsh with the feathered crowd).

Amy Jane Lawes: The View from Val des Monts

Our Val des Monts birding reporter **Amy Jane Lawes** was delighted to spot the first signs of spring in early April when a flock of 20 plus **swallows** flew over a barn on the roadside as she was en route home. More recently, she's been enjoying the return of large numbers of **white-throated sparrows**, reportedly "hobnobbing with the **dark-eyed juncos**" in the area. She also managed to track down the source of the incessant drumming close to her home, discovering a colourful **yellow-bellied sapsucker** as the culprit behind the local sound effects. Amy has been honing her skills as a nature photographer, with recent captures including a **purple finch**,

a **ruffed grouse** and a **golden-crowned kinglet**.

Phil's Avian Bistro:

At the start of the spring, **Phil's Avian Bistro** was still playing host to significant numbers of **American goldfinches**, swift-

this spring, he has spotted a **great blue heron** flying overhead towards the Ottawa River, a group of **swallows**, a pair of **hooded mergansers** close to the Minto Bridges, and a beautifully camouflaged **brown creeper** on the Rideau Hall grounds where he watched as it crept up the trunk of a tree in nuthatch fashion.

Dave Collyer:

With the arrival of spring in central Alberta, **Dave Collyer** reports the return of large flocks of water fowl, including **Northern pintails**, **mallards**, **shovelers**, **red-breasted Mergansers**, **coots**, **redheads**, **trumpeter swans**, **white pelicans** and **snow geese**, with **blue phase geese** included in every flock. On April 9th, Dave also spotted his first **mountain bluebird** of the season.

Vicki Metcalfe: Report from Jekyll Island Birding Paradise

Once again this year, local birding enthusiast and *NEN* travel reporter **Vicki Metcalfe** spent a portion of the winter in the more hospitable climate of Jekyll Island, Georgia, a beautiful spot situated on the Atlantic Flyway which is a bustling avian highway during the Spring and Fall migrations. Over the 6 weeks of her southern sojourn in March and early April, Vicki tallied a remarkable 113 species in the course of her bird-watching excursions, many of which were undoubtedly in transit to northern breeding grounds, including the Ottawa/Gatineau region. You'll find an engaging account of Vicki's Jekyll visit in our **Travel Tales from the Burgh** column elsewhere in this issue.



Ruffed Grouse.

Photo: Amy Jane Lawes

TIPES Shamrock Tea a Great Success

By Ward Heatherington

On Sunday, May 4, through the kindness of His Excellency Ray Bassett, Ambassador for Ireland, and Mrs. Patricia Bassett, a fundraising tea was held for TIPES (Thinking In Pictures Educational Services). Despite the rain, this well-attended event was a great success, with participants enjoying a cheerful afternoon of Celtic music featuring the **Acacia Lyra** harp duo of **Susan Sweeney Hermon** and **Janine Dudding**, and PEI Juno-nominated singer **Teresa Doyle**. A fine tea and cookie combo was delivered by local caterers "Goodies". There was a superb silent auction with

donations from many generous local businesses, including **Bread and Roses Bakery**, **Za Za Za Pizza**, **Books on Beechwood**, **New Edinburgh Spa** and **Mood Moss Flowers**.

The program included remarks from municipal **Councillor (Kanata) Allan Hubley**, His Excellency **Mr. Ray Bassett**, and of course, the founders of TIPES, **Deborah** and **Jennifer Wyatt**. A letter of support was read by both **Emilie Montour** and **Katherine LeMay** from the **Office of the Honourable Mike Lake, MP, PC**. Thanks to the generosity of our gold sponsor **the Karson Group** and our guests, TIPES raised over \$9,000 for

school services. All proceeds of this event went to support extra tutoring hours for the students.

Thinking In Pictures Educational Services is a non-profit educational and therapeutic service for children, teens and young adults who have developmental conditions including Autism Spectrum Disorders and related / additional exceptionalities. TIPES is a professional service that provides affordable ABA therapy, social integration, family relief and tutoring services, and training courses for parents and professionals. For more information, visit <http://www.tipes.ca>.

2014 Rockcliffe Park Public Library Spring Book Sale celebrates 17 years of success!

By Claire Schofield

Enthusiastic volunteers, long line-ups of eager buyers and near record sales were the secrets to another successful Spring Book Sale, staged at the Rockcliffe Park Branch of the Ottawa Public Library (OPL) on April 12 and 13, 2014.

and services. These include "express reads," activities such as authors' readings, and more children's books and magazine subscriptions."

Increased operating costs necessitated sourcing additional sponsorship for the 2014 Spring Sale. The RPRA is



Eager buyers at the Rockcliffe Book Sale. Photo: Claire Schofield

Despite a chilly start to the first morning, book lovers queued patiently, waiting for the 10 am start. As the doors opened, there was almost a stampede and the hunt for treasure was on! Over 10,000 books as well as DVDs, videos and vinyl were up for grabs – and grabbed they were with happy purchasers taking home bags of booty for just a few

greatly indebted to Joan, Brian and Sheetza McGarry, Marlene Borsboom representing Minto Beechwood, and Catherine Strevens-Bourque, Marketing Director of the Rockcliffe Retirement Residence, for their generous support.

Jane Dobell also thanks her dedicated group of helpers who worked tirelessly for six



Organizing team of May 4th TIPES Fundraising Tea at the Irish Embassy.

Photo: Lois Seigel



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Photo: Claire Schofield

Rockcliffe Park Public Library Spring Book Sale celebrates its 17th year! (l to r) Marlene Borsboom, Manager Sales and Marketing, Minto Communities; Catherine Strevens-Bourque, Marketing Director, The Rockcliffe Retirement Residence; Jane Dobell, Chair, Library Committee of the Rockcliffe Park Residents Association and organizer of the Rockcliffe Park Public Library Spring Book Sale; City of Ottawa Mayor, Jim Watson; Brian Dickson, President, Rockcliffe Park Residents Association; Brian McGarry.

dollars.

Once again, New Edinburgh residents supported the sale in force. "We cannot thank them enough," said Jane Dobell, Rockcliffe Park Residents Association (RPRA) Library Committee Chair and book sale organizer. "Proceeds from their purchases mean that this small OPL branch can continue to offer additional programs

months before the sale - advertising for donations, culling, sorting and pricing, and then running the event. "It's a huge undertaking which entails hundreds of hours," she said. "We now have more than 40 volunteers, several of whom have been involved since we started 17 years ago! Quel esprit de corps – this Book Sale would not happen without them."

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Travel Tales From The Burgh

Readers of the New Edinburgh News may remember that I travel every winter to Jekyll Island, Georgia. This was year eight. It's a tradition that started with my late husband's love of golf and one that I've continued. When Dennis was golfing in past years, I started my career in birding.

Although this article is about my birding adventures, I can recommend Jekyll Island and its surroundings for anyone interested in a holiday. The island itself is a state park but offers hotel accommodation ranging from a campground to luxury hotels. The Jekyll Island Club Hotel was originally a getaway for America's richest families and offers history galore. Jekyll Island is 20 hours' drive from Ottawa but en route are Washington DC, Charleston, South Carolina, and Savannah, Georgia – great cities all. And for those who prefer nature to cities, the drive can take you oceanside through the Outer Banks of North Carolina (essentially long sandbars extending into the wild Atlantic) or west to Skyline Drive and the Blue Ridge Parkway that wind along the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia and North Carolina.

Birding in Georgia 2014

By Vicki Metcalfe

2014 was a pretty good year for birding on Jekyll Island: my tally over five weeks was 113 species, with three life birds. (A life bird is one that you haven't seen before.) My birding on Jekyll consists of just looking as I walk the dog and bike around the island, just Thursday outings with Lydia Thompson. Lydia is astonish-

ing. She lives and breathes birds and translates what she sees into wonderful drawings and prints. (I own several of her works.) I've seen Lydia work with a visiting ornithologist and with people who've never held binoculars. She treats everyone with respect and loves to have us learn. After all these years, I never fail to learn something when I'm with her.



Photo: Vicki Metcalfe

Tidal marsh on Jekyll Island.



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Jekyll Island is rich in bird-life because of its benign winter climate and its varied habitats. There are long stretches of beach where shorebirds stop to rest and feed on their way north. Any given day on South Beach can yield sightings of different terns, sandpipers and plovers, black skimmers, pelicans, ruddy turnstones, and so on and on, and with luck oystercatchers and the avocets in their spring cinnamon colouring.

There are also maritime forests where the warblers gather in transit north, and freshwater ponds where the herons, egrets and wood storks roost en masse. A huge part of the area, though, is tidal marsh. Reaching and leaving Jekyll Island means driving across a six-mile causeway. There are rivers and lakes in the marsh that drain completely when the tide is out so the view is never the same twice.

This year I had three day trips for birding – to Little Saint Simons Island (LSSI) with the Atlanta chapter of the Audubon Society, to Okefenokee Swamp, and to the Harris Neck National Wildlife Refuge just south of Savannah. LSSI is privately owned and offers rustic luxury (yes, it's an oxymoron) accommodation for those with deep pockets, but also welcomes day visitors on occasion. This was my third visit and it's one of my favourite spots in the world. Visitors are driven around the island by young naturalists who know all the best spots for sighting birds and other wildlife. We sit on padded benches in the back of pick-up trucks, and climb in and out, in and out, all day. The northern tip of the island is where the Altamaha River enters the ocean, carrying rich soil and nutrients that nourish birdlife.

Okefenokee Swamp straddles the Georgia – Florida border and is known to some of a certain age as the home of Pogo and his friends, cartoon animals who often represented social and political satire. (Creator Walt Kelly depicted the infamous Joseph McCarthy as an ugly pig.) Pogo is long gone, but the swamp remains as a National Wildlife Refuge with vast areas of water – both natural and canals dug to harvest peat, as well as semi-dry areas they call prairies, and dry "islands" where the farmers lived. Descendants of the original homesteaders take visitors on guided tours, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service maintains one of the homesteads in its original form. Birders like Oke for its



Photo: Vicki Metcalfe

800-year-old live oak in Brunswick (live meaning evergreen).

red-cockaded woodpecker and I got a good long look at one this year. (Oddly there's only a tiny dot of red on the bird; a better name would be the white-cheeked woodpecker.) Oh, and there are countless numbers of alligators.

Harris Neck National Wildlife Refuge offers great birding opportunities. It's the site of a wartime military airport that has been allowed to return mostly to nature. A visit in spring is obligatory because the Fish and Wildlife Service has built artificial nests for egrets and wood storks: the view of a quarter-mile band of white feathers, with many of the birds doing their wonderful courtship dances, takes the breath away.

Of course not all my time on the island – from the first of March through to April 8 this year – was spent birding. There was reading, and watching old movies, and walking the long deserted beaches, and touring the historic city of Brunswick (based on the same urban plan

as Savannah), and shopping the box stores along with the many upscale shops on Saint Simons Island... Through the years I've also built great friendships with people from Oregon, Virginia, Ontario, and other states and provinces so there's no shortage of socializing too.

And a plus for the bird list – on the way home through the Outer Banks of North Carolina, I got my first very good look at the Eastern Meadowlark and I was able to confirm an earlier sighting of the Red-throated Loon (a tentative sighting in the same place in 2009).

But enough about my travels. I'd love to hear about your experiences and so would your friends and neighbours who read the New Edinburgh News. Contributions are always welcome. If you're not sure you would be able to write an article yourself, we can work on it together. Please email me at 46metcalfe@sympatico.ca or call at 613-747-0714.



Photo: Vicki Metcalfe

Driftwood Beach in an area that was once a forest.

In the News:

Local Stories You May Have Missed

By Christina Leadlay and Jane Heintzman

Farmers' Market on the Horizon?

There have been numerous reports that a new farmers' market may be coming to Beechwood this summer, starting in early July. The CBC, Ottawa East News and the Manor Park Chronicle have reported on plans to locate the market at 99 Beechwood Ave., the former **Caisse Desjardins** site, now owned by **Claridge**. The firm apparently had no immediate plans to develop the property, and was open to considering a proposal from **Chris Penton**, an experienced market manager, to animate the empty lot through the operation of a farmers' market during the growing season. Since the **Quartier Vanier Market** was cancelled last year, both local residents and participating growers have expressed enthusiasm for the restoration of an alternative market in our area. At this point, we're advised that Claridge, the market's official sponsor, is not yet ready to unveil the project details, but stay tuned for more news in the weeks ahead.

Ion Aimers Awarded for Good Samaritan Role

ZaZaZa Pizza owner and Ottawa restaurateur **Ion Aimers** recently received an Ottawa Police Community Award for his role in the dramatic rescue of a driver trapped in a burning car following a crash on Navan Road. Braving the perils of the blaze and the threat of an imminent explosion, Ion and five other "angels" pulled out all the stops to extricate the badly injured driver, freeing him from the wreckage just instants before a fire ball and explosion consumed the car. Ion modestly declined the label of "hero" following the incident, describing himself as "just a guy who came upon an accident and did what needed to be done." But in our books, "hero" fits the bill: well done Ion!

Money Questions at St. Luke's Church

On April 23, **St. Luke's Lutheran Church** on MacKay St. filed a claim alleging that **Barton Burron** embezzled thousands of dollars from two church bank accounts between 2009-2013. According to a May 10 *Ottawa Citizen* article,



Ion Aimers

Burron is a chartered accountant who used to work for the auditor general, and had served as St. Luke's treasurer for 30 years. The church's claim alleges he "embezzled over \$600,000 from (the church) and used those embezzled proceeds to buy real and personal property, either directly, or indirectly by paying off mortgages or charges against the said real and personal property." The property in question is at 13 Montcalm St. The claim states he was the sole signatory on many of the church's accounts and financial records, and that his role as treasurer ended earlier in 2014. On May 9, the church's lawyer, **David Debenham**, filed a notice of intent to defend. It is uncertain whether the case will proceed to court.

Wine Store Coming to Beechwood?

Tired of driving to King Edward Ave. or Montreal Road for your wine? The **LCBO** has tapped New Edinburgh and Vanier as ideal locations for its new grocery store kiosk scheme. The Ontario government is planning a seven-store pilot project for "underserved" locations, starting at the end of 2014, according to an April

3 story in the *Ottawa Citizen*. The new liquor store kiosks would be inside existing grocery stores, have their own opening hours, and be staffed by LCBO employees. There are two Metros, a FreshCo, a Farm Boy and a Your Independent grocer in the area that would qualify.

River Rescue from St. Patrick Bridge

Ottawa police officers learned first-hand just how quick and cold the Rideau River was on the evening of April 14, when they were called to the Cummings Bridge on Montreal Road at 9p.m. According to CTV, a young woman followed through on her threat to jump into the river. With no time for Fire Services to launch a boat, Constable **Colin Bowie** raced down to the St. Patrick Street bridge at Beechwood, where he jumped into the water, with the rear seat of the police cruiser as a floatation device. Cst. Bowie located the woman and with the help of Cst. **Pat S. Lafrenière** and Cst. **Kristina Correa**, they were able to pull the hypothermic woman to safety.

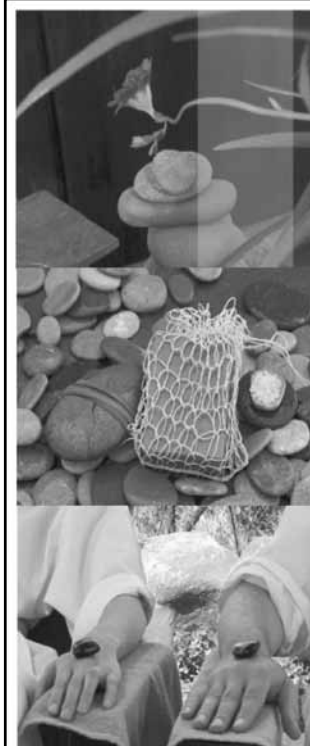
12 Years for Stanley Ave. Murder

CBC reported on April 3 that **Jennifer Bird** was sentenced to 12 years in prison for the death of **Simon Hubbard**. Mr. Hubbard was stabbed in his basement apartment on Stanley Ave. on New Year's Day, 2011, and bled to death outside. Ms. Bird pled guilty to manslaughter, and is serving her sentence, minus four years for time served. She has been in custody since her arrest on Jan. 2, 2011. The 43-year-old Mr. Hubbard was a musician who had studied electrical engineering.

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12th Annual Canadian Landscape Exhibit at Gordon Harrison's New Studio in New Edinburgh - June 6 - 8, 2014

Rain or shine, mark your calendars and take a stroll down the hood to Rideau Terrace and discover Gordon Harrison's latest collections of Canadian landscapes. The City of Ottawa has once again invited our Canadian landscape artist to take part in Doors Open Ottawa 2014.

Gordon will meet you at the door of his new studio (formerly located on John Street) and walk you through his latest collection of Canadian land-

scapes while listening to live jazz music from Rene Lavoie and Tim Bedner. Within seconds, you will be met by his partner Phil with a glass of wine and hors d'œuvres by mon cuisinier Chef Christian.

Exhibit dates: Friday, June 6, from noon to 8 pm; Saturday, June 7, and Sunday June 8, from 10 to 6 pm.

Studio address: 67 Rideau Terrace

This year marks another exceptional year for Gordon—

he has been selected as one of the 20 grand Canadian master painters to open the Rêves d'Automne Art Symposium in Baie-Saint-Paul, Quebec. In addition, his collection *Rouge enchanté* has received an award for the National competition in Baie-Saint-Paul and will be on display at the cultural art center.

For more information call **613-746-6853** or visit **www.gordonharrisongallery.com**.



Reves d'automne by Gordon Harrison.

Another Bloomin' Art Show at The Rockcliffe, May 30-June 8

For the third consecutive year, the Ottawa Garden Club is pleased to present **Another Bloomin' Show** at the **Rockcliffe Retirement Residence, 100 Island Lodge Rd.**, from **May 30 through June 8**. Eleven artists, many of them professional, and all members of the Ottawa Garden Club, will be displaying art in a variety of media including pastels, oils, acrylics, encaustics, photography and tole painting. The "Butterfly Garden" at CHEO will be the beneficiary of a percentage of the show's proceeds.

Each year the Ottawa Garden Club donates time and money to special Ottawa gardens that need a little help. In the past two years, it has supported the gardens at The Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre, and the Elisabeth Bruyère Hospital. The Club was first introduced to The Butterfly Garden at CHEO in 2011 when Betty Smallridge, one of its members, asked for volunteers from the Club to help clean up the garden and add some spring flowers. At the time, her daughter Jane Sider was a Chaplain at the hospital. This year, the Club decided to once more extend its support to The Butterfly Garden, with Ottawa Garden Club artists participating in "**Another Bloomin' Show**," each donating a minimum of 20% of their proceeds from the show to this worthy cause.

The Butterfly Garden is a joint project of CHEO and the Ottawa Chapter of The Compassionate Friends (TFC), created as a memorial to children of all ages who have died. Volunteers built and continue to maintain the garden, which is designed in the shape of a butterfly, with a paved body and wings filled with perenni-

als and annuals. It serves as an oasis of beauty and tranquillity for families, staff and patients at CHEO, and each year in late June, parents gather for the annual Balloon Launch, when loving messages to deceased children are tied to the balloons and floated aloft.

Participating artists in this year's show include **Diane Breton, Marianne Feaver, Patsy Fyfe, Felicity Garrard, Pam Gibb-Carsley, Gloria Hanff, Mary Hardwick, Bev Hyde, Joan Kellett, Mary Pratte, Beth Stikeman**, many of whom are familiar faces in the community, and whose

(the home of the former CCCC), and more recently, at the NECTAR Centre in New Edinburgh House at 255 MacKay Street. Patsy's paintings are inspired by her surroundings, and include many splendid depictions of animals.

- **Bev Hyde** started painting decorative art with acrylics on wood in the 1980s. Over the next 20 years she continued to teach and paint in this medium, and has since broadened her skills to include the creation of oils on canvas.
- **Pam Gibb-Carsley** is an

shores of Baptiste Lake, trails of the Gatineau Park, and the expanse of the Ottawa River. Her paintings play on the interrelationship of light and colour.

- **Gloria Hanff** has a Fine Arts degree from The University in Western Ontario, and after a career in international development in South America and the Balkans, she has recently returned to her avocation of plein air painting and still life.
- **Mary Hardwick** is a Manotick painter who holds an annual three-day exhibition of her work in her home

finished work.

- **Joan Kellett** is an Ottawa painter whose work depicts flowers and butterflies in watercolour, pastels and oils.
- **Mary Pratte** is a former elementary school teacher who went on to train as a horticulturist. She loves digital photography and her principal subject is nature, with a special emphasis on capturing light and patterns, no matter what the subject matter.
- **Beth Stikeman** is a retired architect now concentrating on her first love, painting. She works in acrylics and encaustics, and her subjects arise from observing and discovering the natural world. Her encaustics often grow directly from her photography, while her paintings are abstract.

VERNISSAGE, MAY 30, MEET THE ARTISTS: Please join the artists at a vernissage reception on **Friday, May 30, from 6 to 9 pm**. The show will remain open from noon until 4 pm through to June 8.

For further information please contact **Beth Stikeman stikeman@rogers.com** or **Marianne Feaver esdfeav@hotmail.com**.



talents embrace a broad range of artistic media.

- **Dianne Breton** is a multimedia artist who enjoys working on small format paintings that tell a story, often with a whimsical or humorous twist.
- **Marianne Feaver** is an Ottawa painter whose work is exhibited at Galérie Old Chelsea. She paints landscapes and flowers in oils, acrylics and pastels, featuring a loose style that exudes vibrant colours and accentuates the play of light.
- **Patsy Fyfe** is well known in the community as one of the former **MainWorks** artists who painted in studios at 200 Crichton Street

Ottawa based artist with her studio in Chelsea, Quebec. She works in a variety of mediums and is best known for her pastel landscapes. An active outdoors person, she finds inspiration in the

each June. Her colourful and exuberant floral, landscape and abstract works are done in encaustics, acrylics and mixed media. Ink drawings often provide the images that are imbedded in her





Nest Builders – an Observation

Happy Spring NEN readers,

The vernal season equates to a time of renewal, specifically with the renewal of LIFE.

We, who live in the Burgh are privileged to see many bird species migrate through our area. For example, we know it's time to start the dreaded "spring cleaning" when the trumpet-like calls of the Canadian geese resound during the fly-by as they return to

surprising.

Last fall, a neighbour and I were discussing our feathered friends and how they find materials to build nests. During our exchange, he mentioned hearing from someone that collecting the lint from the clothes dryer could work as nesting material.

I pondered the issue while grooming in turn my three cats keeping in mind that the end

ment using cat fur for nesting material? It's ecologically better right?

Well, all winter I collected in "zip lock" baggies the discarded feline hair during our daily grooming sessions. By the time March came around, I had enough fluff to fill a pillow and decided it was time to stuff the suet cages and hang them in the yard.

Watching, waiting, observing, hoping for about four weeks, I was concerned since the birds hadn't shown any interest. Then finally, after Easter there were signs of activity. However, I still hadn't witnessed the birds in the act of gathering until May 6.

Since then, I've witnessed Gold finches, Sparrows and Chickadees taking huge amounts of cat hair in their small beaks from the suet cage and fly away. And on May 9, a brave little bird quickly gathered a sample from the fur balls that had fallen to the ground.

Eureka it worked! Now this observation may seem trivial to veteran birders, but believe me, this novice was fascinated by the instinctive intelligence of the wildlife in our midst.

Your comments and/or story ideas are most welcome: louise.imbeault@live.com.



breed.

I don't consider myself an "expert" birder by any means, but what I am is a curious and avid observer of my surroundings. Today I'd love to share with you a little experiment with bird behaviour that was

product of the dryer's cycle is composed of synthetic fibres which could contain harmful chemical and scents. While cleaning out the brush in an automatic motion as I disposed of the extracted fur it dawned on me. Why not try an experi-

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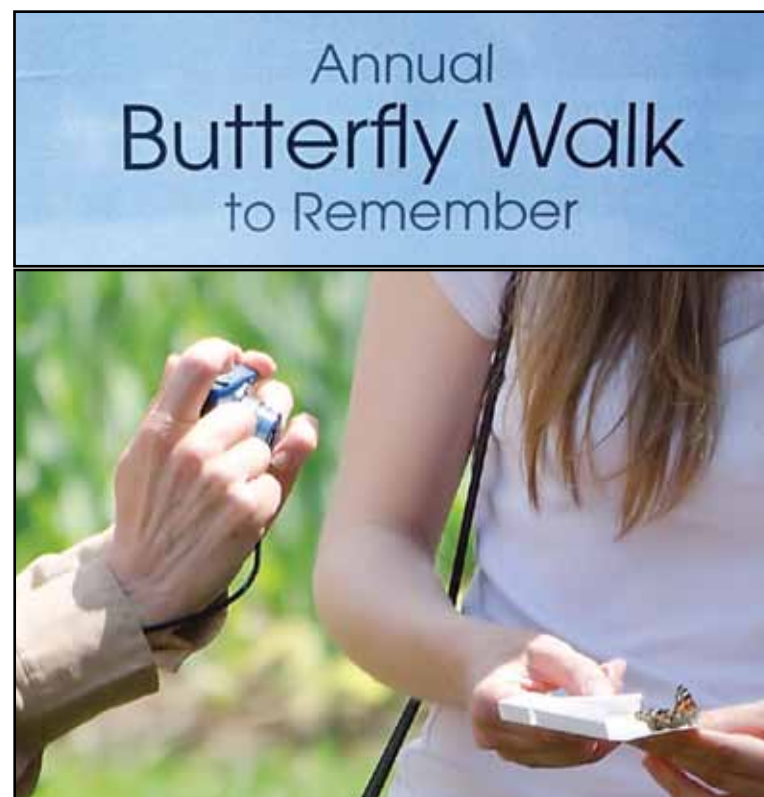


Photo: Louise Imbeault
Bereaved Families of Ottawa in collaboration with Beechwood National Cemetery held its Annual Butterfly Walk on May 25 where many families released a living "Painted lady" butterfly in memory of their loved ones. See www.bfo-ottawa.org for details.



Photo: Louise Imbeault



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News from the House



Message from the Chair: A Summer of Passages

Throughout my time as a Board member and recently, as Chair of the NECTAR Centre Board, I have seen many ups and downs as our organization reinvented itself and forged a new path at New Edinburgh House and Memorial Hall. The challenges of this transition are ongoing, and there will be further changes ahead as we work our way down the road towards long-term sustainability. In the immediate future, there are plans afoot to introduce a number of major staffing adjustments in the course of the summer.

Farewell to Melanie Davis

Almost three years ago, when we were still known as the Crichton Cultural Community Centre, the Board was faced with the daunting task of rebuilding our organization after having lost a hard-fought battle to keep 200 Crichton Street in the hands of the community. The fates were with us, however, and we were almost immediately presented with a unique opportunity to work as community partners with MacKay United Church, entering a shared use agreement to operate programming out of

Memorial Hall, and, of course, purchasing the former church Manse at 255 MacKay St., now known as New Edinburgh House, to serve as the central hub of the NECTAR Centre.

A critical missing piece in all of this was the lack of the day-to-day visionary leadership required to rebuild and restructure our programming and organization around these two sites, and to wrestle with the challenges of operating a new and larger community enterprise with sufficient revenues to cover the costs associated with the occupancy of New Edinburgh House and Memorial Hall.

This is where our newly minted Executive Director Melanie Davis stepped in, and from the moment of her arrival in early 2012, she has performed admirably in the face of all but impossible challenges and curveballs. From the perspective of the Board, the Executive Director position represented a three-year investment in the Centre to rebuild the organization, develop its programming and services, and build its operations to a financially sustainable level. Over the past two and a half years, Melanie

has played a pivotal role in helping us to make significant progress towards the achievement of these objectives, and our investment in her leadership skills has paid off handsomely.

Now that the first crucial phase of our transition is approaching completion, however, the time has come for the Centre to consolidate its gains, and to establish ourselves on a financially sustainable footing that will ensure our continuing presence and active role in the community for the long haul. It is in this context that the Board has had to take some tough decisions about staffing that reflect our financial constraints and our operational requirements.

Thanks to the solid groundwork that Melanie has worked so hard to put in place during her action-packed tenure, the Board has concluded that the management of day-to-day operations at the Centre can now be turned over to a General Manager who will ensure that all systems are running efficiently, and continuing to serve the needs of our community.

It is, therefore, with mixed

emotions of immense gratitude for her efforts and regret at the loss of her presence on our NECTAR team, that the Board will bid farewell to Melanie in late June. It is a tremendous accomplishment on Melanie's part, in collaboration with all the stakeholders of NECTAR with whom she worked, to have brought the organization to where it is today, and it is incredibly difficult to say good-bye to someone who has done so much for us and the community at large. While Melanie's achievements are too numerous to quantify, all one has to do to appreciate the scope of her contribution is to review some of the many milestones achieved by NECTAR under her leadership:

- We secured New Edinburgh House at 255 MacKay St. which currently serves as an asset to the community as a whole, and represents the heart of the NECTAR Centre's operations.
- We saw more than a 700% increase in the number of people registered for programming from 47 in 2010 to 340 in 2013 (and that number is expected to grow

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- even more in 2014)!
- We developed a new strategic plan that supports our charitable mandate while maintaining a key focus on our financial sustainability.
 - We initiated the first phase of retrofits to 255 MacKay with the generous help of community donors, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Domicile, Minto, and Le Cité Collégiale.
 - We saw the successful launch of three critical programs that filled a major community need: the NECTAR Centre After School program, NECTAR Music, and our Leadership Development Program for local high school students.
 - We've continued to host hugely popular community events such as Jane's Walk, the Lumière Festival, and Movie Nights, which feature audiences ranging from 50 to 10,000!
 - We've cemented our relationship with the City of Ottawa by registering their interest in 255 MacKay, securing a municipal tax exemption, and getting financial and logistical support for the retrofits to 255 MacKay.
 - We've launched the Community Gallery which provides opportunities for local artists to exhibit their work and engage with the community, as well as beautifying New Edinburgh House to the benefit of all its users, young and old.
 - We've hosted 5 artistic residencies for emerging artists, and seen the Mainworks Artists Collective grow into a studio that provides space for established artists, as well as fostering an intergenerational exchange between more seasoned and

up-and-coming artists, an exchange that is critical to the health of and growth of cultural ecosystem of Ottawa.

In short, the NECTAR Centre would not be where it is today without the resourcefulness, imagination, energy and commitment of Melanie Davis. On behalf of the Board of Directors, both past and present, and all Staff, Volunteers, Instructors, and Community Supporters who work tirelessly to make NECTAR a home and hub for the community, I would like to express our thanks to Melanie for her outstanding contribution to our organization, and wish her the best of luck in her new endeavours. Working with the B.C.-based company, Mandala Custom Homes, Melanie's immediate plans include the development of the Eastern Canadian arm of this unique organization which

builds energy-efficient prefabricated dwellings.

Welcome to Anthony King

Those of you who are close to the NECTAR Centre are already acquainted with Tony King, who was hired as our bookkeeper/accountant last fall, and has been instrumental in updating our financial systems and controls to bring them into line with recently updated regulations and best practices. In the course of his valuable work on our books, Melanie and the Board were swiftly made aware of Tony's calm and measured leadership skills, backed up with rock-solid powers of analysis. It became clear that he is a remarkably quick study who has rapidly come up to speed on the operations of the Centre, and the unique ecosystem of programs, volunteers, and instructors which make up the organization.

It was therefore a huge relief to the Board that we were able to turn to Tony as Melanie's departure approached, and we are delighted to report that he has agreed to serve as our Interim General Manager. While Tony is currently working through his CMA (Chartered Management Accountant) designation, he also has a background in Sociology and has worked in the Non-Profit sector since graduation. With Tony on board to work together with Malachi Handler, our fearless and dynamic Programming Coordinator and leader of the After School program, the Board has confidence that it has the right staff team in place to keep the organization on an even keel during this next phase of the transition process, as we consolidate the gains from Melanie's productive tenure, and secure the Centre on solid financial footing.

Small Is Beautiful: Two Lumière Community Events

The NECTAR Centre has elected to scale back this year's much-anticipated annual **Lumière Festival** and instead to preserve its essence as a joyous community celebration of light at two smaller Lumière neighbourhood events. Financial realities demand that we focus our energies on the second phase of the New Edinburgh House retrofit this summer, and establish the organization on a secure, sustainable footing, but the Lumière flame will nonetheless continue to cast its accustomed light on the community.

June 21 - Beechwood Illuminated Solstice Stroll.

The NECTAR Centre and the Beechwood Village Alliance are collaborating this year to bring lanterns to the Beechwood Solstice Stroll. Between 7-10 pm on the summer solstice evening, Saturday, June 21, lanterns will light up Beechwood Avenue and cast their glow on the music, food, art and merriment that will be the focus of the evening. Come on out, enjoy the festivities and greet your neighbours.

Saturday, August 16 - Stanley Park Illuminated Stroll.

We are thrilled to announce that NECTAR will partner with the renowned local comedy troupe the **Company of Fools**, long-time friends of the Centre and former Artists-in-Residence at New Edinburgh House. The Centre will feature their final outdoor showing of Shakespeare's "As You Like It" (or a Fool-ish adaptation thereof) in conjunction with our **Lumière Illuminated Stroll**. Following the Fools' performance on the evening of the Stroll, the actors and the audience members will process along the path where an array of lanterns will be lit,

and participants will encounter an illuminated world that will delight the whole family, young and old alike.

We encourage families, children and adults of all ages and talents to participate in this event by making lanterns, and bringing them along to the park on August 16, where they will hang alongside the creations of local artists. To facilitate this, the Centre will host **Lantern Making Workshops** throughout July and August, so be sure to check the website for details (www.nectarcentre.ca) and join us for some companionable sessions of creativity. On

the evening of the big event, the Lumière Stroll will begin by taking participants through the heart of Stanley Park, and along the way, they'll be encouraged to hang their unlit lantern creations. Later in the evening following the performance, these creations will be magically illuminated for all to enjoy.

As always, costumes, smiles, fairy princesses, sprites and family groups are especially welcome. Entrance to the Lumière Stroll and to the Company of Fools performance is by donation.

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TOBI NUSSBAUM

A STRONG VOICE / UNE VOIX FORTE



A Message from "Team Tobi"

People are coming together from every community and neighbourhood in Rideau-Rockcliffe ward to support Tobi's candidacy for our next City Councillor. Fluently bilingual, Tobi's achievements and experiences include:

- Co-Founder and Chair, Beechwood Village Alliance;
- Former President, Lindenlea Community Association;
- Active community volunteer, soccer coach and respected commentator on neighbourhood and urban issues;
- 15 years experience working in Ottawa and at the UN as a senior public servant, diplomat and lawyer.

While the election is not until October 27th, the job of getting Tobi elected is well underway. Join the growing team - the coffee's usually hot and the pizza rarely cold!

Spotlight on NECTAR Music

One of the NECTAR Centre's great success stories this year is NECTAR Music. With over 60 students in piano, voice, guitar, ukulele and violin in its first year, this amazing new program surely hits a high note. Join us as we celebrate the end of the school year with a **Concert** featuring stellar performances from student soloists and ensembles. The event will be held at **Mackay United Church** on **Sunday, June 15**, with a showcase led by **Micheline Kinsella** and our choir director **Erin Puttee**. Congratulations to all the students and teachers! Here's to more of the sweet sound of success next fall!

Musical Inspiration Matters

Few would argue that having the right teacher makes all the difference, and with this in mind, NECTAR Music takes great care to ensure a good fit between students and our teachers. At NECTAR Music, our teachers are dedicated individuals who are passionate about music education. They inspire students to develop their creative potential, which in turn, builds confidence as well as teamwork and performance skills. When you reg-

ister, you will have an opportunity to talk with and/or meet your teacher before lessons begin. **Fall session begins on September 8, 2014.**

NECTAR Community Choir

The first season of our new community choir has been a pure delight for everyone involved. Practices are held every Monday evening at New Edinburgh House, and in its inaugural year, the choir has attracted a faithful contingent of twenty dedicated singers of all ages, with a wide variety of musical backgrounds and experience. **Erin Puttee** is an inspired Choir Director, demanding our best but relaxed and full of good spirits, making our practices both challenging and fun. Everyone just loves her! We close our season at the end of June, but will be up and singing again in September, so please consider joining us then.



NECTAR Events and Programs

JANE'S WALK:

On May 4, the NECTAR Centre co-hosted the third annual Jane's Walk with the Beechwood Village Alliance (BVA). The event was led by BVA Chair **Tobi Nussbaum** and was entitled *Water (Earth, Wind and Fire)*, to highlight its focus on the natural environment of our community. As participants will attest, it was an exhilarating experience, enjoyed by people of all ages. Our thanks to **Bridgehead on Beechwood** for providing the coffee and treats, and a BIG thank you to **Ashbury College** for providing the three buses, plus drivers, to ferry us around. What a treat!

NECTAR TALKS: Thought-Provoking Thursdays

In September 2014, the Centre will host a series of Thursday evening lectures. The topics we have chosen for this inaugural series are of local interest, given by people who are passionate about their subjects. As a foretaste to pique your curiosity about the follow up series in the fall, we've invited **Allan Donaldson** to talk geology in June. Allan was a speaker at our recent Jane's Walk,

leading us knowledgeably and with great enthusiasm from rock to rock along our route!

**JUNE 12, 7:30 to 8:30pm,
255 MacKay Street**

On Geology in Relation to Landscape, Artistry and Culture

This presentation will review how an understanding of basic geological principles can assist both painter and photographer to capture accurate and meaningful depictions of the landscape. For those of us who simply enjoy viewing the work of artists, suggestions will be offered to enhance our appreciation of a vast array of geo-artistry, ranging from primitive cave paintings to overpowering murals, from fluted flint points to crafted stone bowls, or the siting of a waterfall.

Speaker: Allan Donaldson completed a B.Sc. (Geological Engineering) at Queen's University and a Ph.D. (Sedimentology) at Johns Hopkins. During his professional career, he spent 10 years as a Research Scientist with the Geological Survey of Canada, followed by 30 years as a Professor at Carleton University. His research has

focused on interpreting the sedimentary environments in which Precambrian strata of the Canadian Shield were deposited. After retirement in 1996, he initiated the **Ottawa-Gatineau Geoheritage Project**, collaborating with other geoscientists to increase public appreciation and respect for natural landscapes. He helped create **Metcalf Geoheritage Park** in Almonte, as well as a self-guided tour of rocks on display beside the **Crystal Palace** in Perth. Dr. Donaldson has also drawn international attention to an impressive stromatolite outcrop on the Ottawa River, as well as to unique biogenic structures in quartzitic sandstones near Kanata. In recent years, he has spent several months giving lectures on geology aboard cruise ships plying waters in the Atlantic, Pacific, Caribbean, Mediterranean, Baltic and the Canadian Arctic.

NECTAR THURSDAY TALKS, FALL 2014:

- **SEPT 11** - Acclaimed historian and author **Charlotte Gray** on *Writing History*
- **OCT 9** - NECA Chair **Tim Plumptre** on the *Restoration of Fréchette House*

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- **NOV 13** - Local journalist/theatrical director **Janet Uren** and historian **Martha Edmond** on their *History of New Edinburgh Project*

NECTAR GARDENS (Vegetables)

This summer, **New Edinburgh House and Garden** will be a hive of activity. An enthusiastic team of vegetable gardeners are gearing up to create the new **NECTAR Community Garden**, with the expert gardening assistance of organic growers **Charlotte Scott** and **Richard Williams**, owner/operators of **Ferme Lève-Tôt**. In this inaugural year of our long-awaited garden project, several new garden plots will be built on the east side of the New Edinburgh House.

Plots will be available to local residents at a cost of \$20 for the summer season, and priority will be given to those who do not have access to green space for growing. Our basic rules of (green) thumb require that gardeners be from the New Edinburgh community, and must agree to contribute a portion of their harvest to the Food Bank.

An information session was held on May 16 at New Edinburgh House to launch the NECTAR Community Garden, and to explain the rules of the game to prospective participants, as well as to gather the names of those interested for a lottery. Seven lucky residents will be able to start growing food in their raised beds this season, and eight more will join them next year. For more information contact **Joana Chelo**: newedinburghcommunitygarden@gmail.com

NECTAR GARDENS (Flowers, grass and trees): If you enjoy gardening, here's a community project where your

skills and enthusiasm will be warmly welcomed, and where you can make a real difference to your neighbourhood. Please consider joining our team of gardeners who will tackle the **beautification** of the New Edinburgh House garden this summer. We need to trim our beautiful maple tree, plant grass seed and flowers, and design and build a new path from the MacKay Street sidewalk to the entrance of the House. If you aren't able to join the working team, you can still support this exciting beautification project through contributions towards the purchase of gardening products and supplies: your help will be much appreciated! For more information contact **Isobel Bisby**: ibisby@gmail.com.

NECTAR SUMMER OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHTS

Bring the kids and join friends and neighbours as we celebrate the all too fleeting summer season with a series of Movies under the stars.

- **Friday, JUNE 27** - Lego Movie
 - **Friday, JULY 25** - Muppets Most Wanted
 - **Friday, AUG 22** - Rio 2
- 7\$ per adult / child
20\$ per family
(In case of rain inside Memorial Hall)

SUMMER CAMP SPACES STILL AVAILABLE: DON'T MISS OUT ON THE FUN!

After the long winter, there is great excitement for new children's programming for the spring, summer and fall months at the NECTAR Centre. We still have some spaces remaining for our summer camp program which will feature exciting theme weeks throughout July and August, including our

Young Artists Week, Sports Week and Mad Science Week. In addition to the specialized themes, there will also be a wide array of outdoor, recreational and artistic activities for attendees to take part in as well. Please email ASAP to info@nectarcentre.ca if you are interested in enrolling your children.

NECTAR CENTRE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

We are finishing up the inaugural year of NECTAR After School Program, and currently have a limited number of spaces still available for the upcoming 2014-2015 school year. The multi-faceted NECTAR Centre After School Program features an opportunity for children to take part in recreational, academic and artistic activities for two and a half hours after school each day. Over the course of this year, we have also introduced a Homework Club, incorporated bilingualism into our activi-

ties, and added such activities as athletics and baking to our weekly program. We are fortunate to have terrific, child-friendly community resources at our disposal, including Stanley Park and the grounds of Rideau Hall.

The NECTAR Centre After School Program is open to children in grades 1 to 6, and is managed by two full-time staff members along with volunteers from the De La Salle High School arts program. Please contact us at info@nectarcentre.ca if you are interested in enrolling your

children in the program for the upcoming school year. We look forward to hearing from you, and to welcoming your children to our energetic and lively group of regulars: there's never a dull moment!

Make sure to keep an eye on the NECTAR Centre website for more information about great family events including upcoming game nights, children's classes and workshops. If you have any questions please feel free to send an email at info@nectarcentre.ca.



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MacKay United Concert Series – “Northern Lights” on June 8

By Carolyn Bowker

As the approaching summer solstice drives away the last memories of an interminable Ottawa winter, the MacKay Concert Series looks to Nordic lands for musical inspiration in its final concert of the 2013-2014 season. On Sunday, June 8, at 7:30 pm, the Silflay String Quartet, with pianist Dina Namer, will treat the audience to an evening of familiar and less well-known masterpieces by Wilhelm Stenhammar, Emil Sjögren, Edvard Grieg, and Robert Schumann.

“Silflay Quartet” will be a name new to MacKay concertgoers, but its members will be well known to them—husband-and-wife teams Leah Roseman and Mark Friedman, Paul Casey and Karen Kang. Violinists Mark and Leah are longtime members of the National Arts Centre Orchestra; violist Paul is its newest member; and Karen (who took first prize at the Holland America Music Society Competition and was a member of the Saguaro Piano Trio in Germany) plays regularly in the cello section. The Silflay Quartet was featured in

March as part of the Leading Note Foundation’s Cultures in Concert Series.

Readers of *Watership Down* will know that in the “Lapine” language the rabbits use, “Silflay” means to browse above ground for tasty food—it is a time of ease and freedom. The quartet shares with their audiences wonderful music that is outside their normal experience as well as outstanding music from the familiar repertoire. When they are not performing and teaching they “come above ground” to play chamber music, browsing around for new tasty delights, enjoying each other’s musical company and the company of the audience.

They will be joined by acclaimed pianist Dina Namer, who has performed and recorded in the United States and Canada with a repertoire ranging from Baroque harpsichord to contemporary Canadian piano works. She has a long association with the musicians of the National Arts Centre Orchestra and has been a member of various chamber groups including the Aulos Ensemble, the Ottawa Baroque Ensemble,

the Kingston Baroque Soloists, and the Sh’ma Ensemble. She performs regularly in the Ottawa International Chamber Music Festival, Music and Beyond, and the Alexandria Festival of the Lakes in Alexandria, Minnesota. She has taught piano performance at Ottawa, Carleton and Queens Universities and has a busy private studio in Ottawa. Her performances this season include a program of Bach Arias and Sonatas for the Queens University School of Music Faculty Series, and concerts with baritone Matthew Zadow entitled “Mid-Atlantic: a European and Canadian Voyage in Art Song”.

The program opens in Sweden with works by Stenhammar and Sjögren. Stenhammar’s string quartet No. 4 in A minor

(1907, dedicated to his friend Jean Sibelius) is one of the “mightiest quartets in the entire history of Swedish music,” and fuses Nordic folksong with a Beethoven-like development technique, while incorporating the lyricism of the late romantic movement. Sjögren’s four lyrical poems for violin and piano (1880) will be performed by Leah Roseman and Dina Namer. Sjögren is primarily remembered as composer of art songs or lieder and these romantic works are lovely songs for the violin.

The venue will shift to Norway as Dina Namer performs three of Grieg’s “Lyric Pieces” entitled “Butterfly,” “Little Bird,” and “Notturmo.” Grieg composed 210 of these little gems, each charming and beautifully structured for the keyboard. The first two appealed to Dina because of their references to nature and springtime and the “Notturmo” also has echoes of spring with short birdcall-like trills in the right hand throughout the piece.

Southward to Germany for the Schumann quartet, which is one of the masterworks of the chamber music repertoire. It was written in 1842, two years after Schumann’s marriage to his wife Clara. It is not per-



Silflay Quartet - (l to r) Paul Casey, Mark Friedman, Leah Roseman and Karen Kang.

formed as often as his Quintet for piano and strings, but the musicians consider it the more profoundly moving work of the two. The Andante movement is one of the most beautiful in the romantic repertoire, featuring a love duet between the cello and the viola.

Concert tickets, \$25 for adults and \$20 for seniors and students, will be available at Books on Beechwood and the Leading Note, as well as at the door.

The MacKay Concert Series will return in the fall for its 2014-2015 season. Stay tuned for information on the new season.



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Local Leash Laws 101

By Jane Heintzman

The extensive sylvan off-leash area in Stanley Park is a magnet for dog owners from all parts of the city, and is especially cherished by the locals who depend upon it for their pooch's daily workout. Along with its hard-won benefits as a precious resource for the urban dog walking community, however, there are some important rules associated with its use, rules that are threatening to become, in Shakespeare's

nying map), and which are an accident waiting to happen if dogs are permitted to charge freely back and forth across the paths in pursuit of an alluring Frisbee or squirrel. Because the two chunks of the off-leash area actually straddle the main path through the park from Union Street, this may have created some understandable confusion among dog-walkers.

But quite apart from the official no-go designation of the

accompanying map). With the sole exception of the defined "Dog Park", New Edinburgh is NOT an off-leash neighbourhood, and when strolling on the streets and lanes of the Burgh, dog walkers should have their pooches on leash and walking peacefully by their side (ha! I know, I know, it's a dream for most of us, but all the more reason for the leash!) Because many owners may be assuming that the whole of Stanley Park is an off-leash zone, dogs are frequently found bounding freely in other areas such as the narrow, riverside path between Sussex Drive and Union Street, and at the entrances to the park at Union, Queen Victoria and Keefer, where there are on-leash stretches of grass before you reach Fido Freedom.

Those of us with "reactive" dogs, who choose to avoid the challenges of the off-leash area, deliberately stick to these on-leash routes, and are chagrined to have energetic, leashless animals lope up to our canine charges, making it difficult if not impossible to maintain control. Off-leash meeting On-leash is NOT a level playing field, and can be a risky formula. If I had a loonie for every time a sanguine owner assured me that their fearlessly approaching (un-leashed) companion was "friendly", only to have to hang on for dear life to avert a scrap, I'd be an enviably wealthy person!

Please take the time to refresh your memory on the boundar-

St. Patrick Street Bridge Construction

Readers who have endured the bone-rattling experience of navigating St. Patrick Street in recent weeks will be relieved to learn that the City is about to launch a road resurfacing project from King Edward Avenue to the Vanier Parkway. Construction is slated to begin in late June or early July, and is scheduled for completion in September, just in time for the "back-to-business" resurgence of traffic after the summer holidays. While we all welcome the restoration of a more user-friendly road surface on this major route into the city core, it's an unfortunate fact that with the ravages of construction on Sussex Drive and the closure of the Minto Bridges to vehicular traffic, St. Patrick is our last remaining convenient access to downtown, and the prospect of gridlock over the bridge to King Edward is anything but appealing.

The City has, however, done its best to take account of this problem, and in an effort to keep traffic disruptions to a minimum, **Ziad Ghadban, Manager Design and Construction (East)** reports that there will be no

lane reductions on St. Patrick during peak periods, with at least one lane kept open in both directions during off peak hours. This is good news indeed, as there might otherwise have been no recourse other than rental helicopters for those from our community needing to get to work on time.

If you're not able to escape for a summer break this year, and will be nose-to-the-grindstone through July and August, here's a word of advice from the City on navigating the construction gauntlet in the weeks ahead: "Residents are encouraged to be aware of the construction in their area and plan their commutes in advance. Residents can stagger work hours, carpool, consider cycling, or taking transit as a means of getting around the city. If possible, residents should also speak to their employers about alternative work arrangements. For more information about construction and mobility alternatives in the city please visit **Ottawa.ca**." No mention of helicopter rentals, but if all else fails...



immortal words, "more honoured in the breach than in the observance."

- Specifically, these include:
- **The iron clad obligation of owners/walkers to pick up after their dog(s)**, a chore that can be especially challenging for those with multiple animals, all romping off leash in different directions. Challenging or not, however, it's absolutely essential that dog walkers scrupulously observe this crucial component of the dog park code if the area is to remain livable for the many diligent owners who take pains to respect the rules, not to mention park users who neither have, nor are particularly enamoured of, the canine set. (Yes, I know, but it IS possible.)
 - **The critical need to keep dogs away from the bike and pedestrian paths and trails**, which are NOT off-leash areas (see accompa-

paths and trails on the map, common sense would dictate that animals should be on-leash on these pathways, or kept away from them altogether, for the safety of all concerned: pedestrians, cyclists and dogs alike. Much as we love our canine companions, and rejoice in their hour of exuberant play at this popular local haunt, it's important to remember that the park should be a safe and pleasant place for all its users, including frail, elderly residents with canes and walkers who deserve the freedom to stroll on the pathways without fear of a careening canine.

- **The need to ensure that dogs are ON LEASH in all parts of the community other than the designated off-leash area.** (And if you're in any doubt about the boundaries of the off-leash areas, we urge you to have a close look at the

ies of the Off-Leash area in the park, and in the interests of harmony with others in the community who are not dog people, or who are committed on-leash walkers coping

with canine behavioural challenges, make sure your leash is latched on all occasions other than those within the officially designated Dog Park.



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Latest News from Beechwood Village Alliance

By Tobi Nussbaum, Chair

The planned summer re-surfacing of St. Patrick Street was the subject of a recent meeting attended by the Beechwood Village Alliance, along with the Vanier Community Association, City staff and Rideau-Vanier Councillor Mathieu Fleury. The two community groups asked for the meeting when we heard—with dismay—that the project did not envision a designated bike lane west of Cobourg. While the project includes a re-design

of the bike lanes over the St. Patrick bridge, the City indicated it was not planning to continue the bike lane past Cobourg Street, despite the fact that a bike lane would neither affect the lanes of vehicular traffic nor have any budgetary implication.

The only reason given was that the width of the potential bike lane—1.15 metres or nearly four feet for each direction—was not up to standard. We pointed out that there were numerous bike lanes of

that width or less throughout the City—Cummings Bridge, Ogilvie Road, Montreal Road—and that the research was clear that cyclists were safer when cycling in a designated lane versus lanes that simply had painted arrows (so-called *sharrows*) as are currently planned in this case.

Despite our advocacy and the support of Councillor Fleury, the project manager was unmoved. At the time the NEN went to press, we have asked Councillor Fleury to take the issue up with more senior staff

opportunity to make it easier and safer for residents to bike would be seized, not ignored.

We encourage residents who feel a designated bike lane should be included as part of the re-surfacing project to send a message to Councillor Fleury (mathieu.fleury@ottawa.ca) as well as to the Mayor (jim.watson@ottawa.ca).

Jane's Walk, Sunday May 4:

On a brighter note, we kicked off our spring activities with a Jane's Walk on Sunday, May 4, the actual birthday of celebrated urban theorist Jane Jacobs. The Walk, entitled *Water (Earth, Wind and Fire)*, was focused on the natural environment around Beechwood. Over 70 people came out on a day when the clouds threatened, though the rain held off until we were nearly finished. We took advantage of the expertise of a number of local and Ottawa "guides" who offered stories, facts, history and knowledge, which enriched our understanding of the geological, cultural, botanical and hydrological features of the area.

Thanks to Ashbury College, which provided its buses, we were able to cover a lot of

ground, moving from Stanley Park to the Rockcliffe Pavillion to the Caldwell-Carver conservation area, finishing up at New Edinburgh House in time for a cup of Bridgehead coffee and treats. Many thanks to **Al Donaldson, Linda Dicaire** and **Iola Price** for sharing their knowledge and expertise, and to **Gemma Kerr** and **John Jarecsni** for their local stories. NECTAR was our co-host, continuing our successful practice of event collaboration.

Beechwood Solstice Stroll, Saturday, June 21, 7-10 pm:

Lastly, we're very excited about our second annual Beechwood Solstice Stroll, coming up on the evening of Saturday June 21, from 7 to 10 pm. Music, food, art and merriment will be the focus of Beechwood on that evening. Come on out, enjoy the festivities, celebrate the longest day of the year, and greet your neighbours.



Photo: Maggie Knaus

(l to r) John Jarecsni, Isobel Bisby and Tobi Nussbaum lead the Jane's Walk group down the garden path in the park.

JANE'S WALK

at the City, and if need be, the Transportation Committee of City Council. While countless city documents extol the virtues of active transportation, the deeds in this case fall far short of the words. With traffic increasingly backed up on Beechwood and St. Patrick, one would think that the



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Dance Night at Canterbury High

By Sarah Phillips

I've been dancing since the age of three and have come to marvel at the number of things we do to perform even the simplest of dance moves. In order to dance or do anything, really, we need the parts of our body to be activated, to work together and, once the job is done, return to rest.

This need for 'teamwork' to produce a physical result is what inspired a dance piece that I choreographed for Canterbury High School's annual Dance Night, a breathtaking evening of dance, the culmination of four years of artistic training and development. On Friday, May 16, and Saturday, May 17, Dance Night 2014 (*When Words Don't Suffice...*) showcased dancers performing the original choreography of their peers and featured local dance professionals. Proceeds from the event supported essential elements of the Canterbury Dance Program such as live accompaniment, costumes and enriching dance opportunities.

My piece was about the parts of the body working towards a common goal. My dancers represented six components of the body: the heart, blood, joints, spine, brain and lungs.



Sarah Phillips choreographed "Synergy", a dance piece for Canterbury High School's Dance Night "When Words Don't Suffice..."

The dancers began as separate components that crossed paths but never truly interacted. Then they shed their individual roles to work together as one. And once this goal had been achieved, the dancers resumed their separate roles.

After four years in Canterbury High School's Dance Program, this was the culminating effort, bringing together the dance technique I have developed with instruction in choreographic choices, the elements of dance, lighting, music and costuming.

"There's nothing more exciting after four years of teaching dance to these students than to see the distinct choreographic

voices that they develop under our guidance and the influence of their fellow dancers," said Connie St. Louis, the head of the Dance Department and one of the teachers of the Canterbury Dance Company (CDC).

Grade 12 dance students often choose to be a part of the CDC. This is an extra-credit course offered outside of the



regular school day. It gives students the tools to produce their own dance pieces by providing instruction in lighting, costuming, music, choreographic tools and dance etiquette. Most students have been waiting to take this course since Grade 9, having watched the graduating dancers present their pieces every year at Dance Night. In Grade 9, you volunteer; in Grade 10, you dance once in a piece by a local dance choreographer; in Grade 11, you audition and are cast in Grade 12 pieces; and finally, in Grade 12, you've made it—you present your original choreography and dance in the originals works of your classmates while producing the entire show.

"I remember sitting in the auditorium in Grade 9, so inspired by the pieces choreographed by Grade 12 students that I looked up to. I couldn't wait until it was my turn!" said Grace Hart, a dancer at Canterbury High School and former Fern Hill student.

Canterbury is home to a range of specialized Arts Programs in Dance, Drama, Music (instrumental and vocal), Visual Art and Literary Art. Each prospective student applies to their discipline of choice in the fall of Grade 8 and must audition with other students to gain entry into the program. The Dance Program provides excellent instruction in the disciplines of Modern and Ballet, but many students also choose to dance outside of school at one of the many local dance studios.

The spring is a busy time for

these dancers. Preparation for Dance Night and for the competitive dance season is intense. In my case, I have danced at Leeming Danceworks as a competitive student for the past three years. However, I started dancing at Fern Hill School at age 3, perfecting my ballet, tap and jazz technique under the watchful eye of Debbie Gutierrez. I moved on to Leeming Danceworks at age 15 where I have taken five classes during the week and rehearsed all day Sunday in preparation for competition season. The combination of classical training and theory at Canterbury combined with the technique and artistic training at my studio have made me the dancer that I am today. It was exciting to present my piece, and to dance in fellow students' pieces, performing with peers who are like a second family to me.

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Minto Bridges Closed to Cars for Two More Years

By Jane Heintzman

The city's construction plans for the Minto bridges have taken a decided turn for the worse from the perspective of the many drivers, pedestrians and cyclists from our community who have relied on the bridge as a convenient access to King Edward, Sussex Drive and the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development.

As reported in the *NEN's* February 2014 edition, the city had originally hoped that once interim repairs to the centre and east spans of the bridge had been completed this spring, vehicular traffic could be reinstated until the more extensive bridge rehabilita-

tion project was launched in 2015. However, in the course of undertaking these interim repairs, it became clear to project engineers that the deterioration of the structures was more advanced than initially anticipated, and that the planned temporary fix would be insufficient to ensure safe passage for cars.

As a result, the centre and east spans of the bridge will remain closed to cars until the completion of full rehabilitation project in late 2015 or 2016. While pedestrians and cyclists will continue to have access across the bridges until the start of the project in 2015, once construction is underway, it will be no-go altogether for all forms of traffic for the dura-

tion of the work.

Design work for the bridge rehabilitation project is scheduled to be completed later this year, and subject to funding approval, construction will be launched in 2015. As the scope of the project is reportedly uncertain pending the completion of detailed design work, it is not yet clear whether it can be wrapped up in one construction season (July 1st to the end of October) or whether a further extension into 2016 may be required. The city has committed to providing NECA with periodic construction updates, so keep an eye on the community website for ongoing news on the rehabilitation project.

Our thanks to Stanley Avenue



The Minto Bridges.

Photo: Cindy Parkanyi

resident **Linda Krishna** for her strenuous, and ultimately successful, efforts to mobilize the City to tidy up the Union Street entrance to the bridges which for many months had been an unsightly morass of signs and tottering construction barriers.

If we have to resign ourselves to losing access to the bridges for the next two years, it's a great relief not to have the added aggravation of an ugly battle zone at this beautiful spot by the river at the entrance to the park.

Proposed Changes to 205 Crichton Street: VERT Anticipates Fall Construction Start and Completion in 2015

In the April edition of the *New Edinburgh News*, VERT.plan.design.build owner **Chris Straka** presented his company's rationale and objectives for the redesign and development of the lot at 205 Crichton Street (corner of Dufferin and Crichton). His proposal to carry through the original 1940s plan for the lot, cut short by materials and labour shortages resulting from World War, has been

supported by such stakeholders as immediate neighbours Ted and Bev Mathesius (descendants of the original builder), Heritage Ottawa, and City of Ottawa Heritage Planners. In its report in the same edition of the *News*, NECA's Heritage and Development Committee (HDC) opposed the project on the grounds of its inconsistencies with the Heritage Conservation Guidelines.

Approvals to Date: On April 10, the VERT.plan.design.build proposal was unanimously endorsed by the City's Built Heritage Subcommittee, which includes heritage conservation professionals Sandy Smallwood and Barry Padolsky, as well as Rideau-Rockcliffe Councillor Peter Clark who spoke in favour of the project. On April 22, the City's Planning Committee met to consider the project, and unanimously recommended that Ottawa City Council approve the Heritage Permit Application at its May 14 meeting. City Council subsequently carried the motion, and approved the issuance of a Heritage Permit for the project.

Interested readers will find more information about the project at vertdesign.ca, along with a detailed account of the


Committees' response to the proposal, with citations from the heritage experts and councillors who evaluated it.

Next Steps: Once Council has approved the Heritage Permit Application for 205 Crichton, the planning approvals process will continue in June or July at the Committee of Adjustment, where applications for minor variances to the zoning by-law will be considered in conjunction with an application for consent to sever the lot into two portions. NECA's HDC will be pursuing its objections at the Committee of Adjustment level, and may report further on the process in the *NEN's* October edition. Should the NECA HDC be successful in its opposition to the redevelopment of 205 Crichton Street at the Committee of Adjustment,

the planning approvals process could continue at the Ontario Municipal Board.

Ultimately, the last step in the approvals process would be the issuance of a City of Ottawa Construction Permit to allow VERT.plan.design.build to proceed with the build. The permit would authorize construction of a resource-efficient building, which VERT hopes might serve as a model of better building practices for others engaged in the renewal of older neighbourhoods across Canada. The first Certified PHUS Passive House in Canada was designed and built by VERT on Crichton Street in 2010, and the company is targeting PHI Passive House and LEED Platinum certifications (the highest residential building standards sought in North America) for 205 Crichton.


Completion: Assuming no major delays in the approvals process, VERT is aiming to complete the redevelopment in 2015.



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Come with your family and friends to Beechwood's free Annual Historical Walking Tour.

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of its outbreak, the theme for this year's tour is the First World War. The tour includes five stops at the gravesites of men and women who fought in the trenches in Europe, cared for the injured or guided the country through the difficult war years. The tour will include war-time Prime Minister Sir Robert Borden, nurse Minnie Gallagher and Lt Alexis Helmer (pictured at right), whose death inspired John McCrae's famous poem, 'In Flanders Fields.' Costumed actors will bring these historical figures to life.

Don't miss this stroll through beautiful and historic Beechwood, the National Cemetery of Canada.

Spring Fever and Black Chocolate

A Hot, Contemporary Romance Novel by Rose D. Franklyn

When the New Edinburgh Players and Ingrid McCarthy retired a couple of years ago, she had announced that she would write her theatre memoirs. That was easier said than done. To begin with, friends, actors and back-stage hands would recognize themselves in the various situations, even in the minutest disguises. Yet, she wanted to write about the theatre.

Since theatre folks are driven by a lot of steam, passion and explosive emotions, she took a pinch of truth and a pound of

imagination and blended it into a hot, contemporary romance novel set in a theatre environment. *Spring Fever and Black Chocolate*, book one of four in the Sex and the Seasons Series, is now available in paperback and eBook format under her alter ego: Rose D. Franklyn.

Spring Fever and Black Chocolate promises great entertainment at a fast pace; it's the perfect book for the beach or a rainy weekend. Find it on Amazon and look inside for a titillating peek. And, if your interest is piqued enough to purchase a copy, she will be thrilled to hear from you. Contact her through her web-

site: www.ingridmccarthy.com.

Editor's Note: *Ingrid McCarthy is a multi-talented artist, writer, and theatrical director and performer who gave our community three decades of outstanding amateur theatre with her annual spring productions by the New Edinburgh Players. As a writer, she is best known for her popular children's series, The Osiris Fantasy Trilogy, so readers should take note that her latest work, Spring Fever and Black Chocolate, is very definitely for the adult crowd!*

The Kavanaugh: Steady Progress on Project and Laurels for Domicile

By Jane Heintzman

Domicile Vice President David Chick reports steady progress on The Kavanaugh project, both in condo sales, and in discussions with prospective retail tenants for the commercial floor of the emerging development. David and his team were delighted and honoured that Domicile was selected as one of the five finalists (the only one from Ottawa) for the 2014 Taron Award of Excellence in the high-rise category.

The award has special significance as the selection is made on the basis of a survey of homeowners, and measures their satisfaction with their builder at every stage in the process, from the signing of the Agreement of Purchase and Sale, through construction and the pre-delivery period to after-sales service. Taron President and CEO Howard Bogach stressed that "Finalists have been recognized by their home buyers for providing first-in-class after-sales service, which is what truly resonates with homeowners for years after the sale is complete." A great omen for purchasers of the Kavanaugh condos, and a tribute to the Domicile team—congratulations to all!

In early May, The Kavanaugh

showroom at 84 Beechwood shifted its focus from condo sales to literature, serving as the venue for a book launch by Vanier resident Catherine Brunelle, a local writer and blogger whose first novel, *The Adventures of Claire Never-Ending*, was recently published following a stunningly successful Kickstarter crowd-source funding campaign. Catherine managed to reach her \$3,000 target within a few days of the start of the campaign, and by the end of the 30-day fundraising period had boosted that total to \$7,500, or 250% of her objective.

Catherine happened upon the space at the Sales Centre in the course of the Vanier Community Association's Winter Carnival, *Après Snow*, and when the Domicile team learned of her compelling story, she was warmly welcomed into the premises at 84 Beechwood, once the novel was published and ready to launch. After a remission from the bout of breast cancer with which she struggled several years ago, Catherine was recently diagnosed with a recurrence of the disease, and was propelled by the disheartening news into pressing ahead to achieve her dream of publishing a novel.

And achieve it she did.

The Adventures of Claire Never-Ending is the saga of nine generations of women who share the middle name Claire, and traces their stories backwards in time, touching on an eclectic brew of experiences ranging from air balloons to mothers-in-law, moonshine, witchcraft, pregnancy, spitting contests, swollen ankles, sore backs, husbands, snowy owls and small towns, all of the experiences leavened with "huge heaps of courage." Copies of the book will be available at Books on Beechwood, and you can find out more about Catherine and her own story on her website at www.CatherineBrunelle.com.



Photo: Madison O'Connor, Domicile Development
Inside the Hoarding at The Kavanaugh.

IODE House and Garden Tour Coming to Westboro in June

IODE Laurentian Chapter will present their 53rd annual House and Garden Tour principally in Westboro. Six beautiful homes will be open to the public on June 13 and 14 from 10 am to 4 pm. The homes feature a variety of styles from extensively renovated properties to brand new custom builds. Along with beautiful homes and gardens to tour there are a number of additional tour attractions:

The central hub of the tour is at the retirement home *Amica at Westboro Park* -491 Richmond Rd.

At this location there will be:

- Illustrated talk: Friday at 11 am Mary Reid, an accomplished and very knowledgeable gardener of Green Thumb Garden Centre will speak about gardening.
- Illustrated talk: Friday at 1:45 pm Bruce Elliott, a Professor of History at Carleton University will explain how the Westboro area developed in response to a series of transportation innovations.

- Illustrated talk: Saturday at 1:45 pm Development of Westboro after 1959, by David Jeanes, a transportation and heritage expert and long-time resident of the neighbourhood.
- Paypal ticket pick-up from 9:30 to 11 am both days.
- Free refreshments courtesy of Amica will be available all day.
- Two shuttle buses will leave on a regular schedule from the front driveway of Amica. Shuttle Bus West will start at 9:45 am, and about every 40 minutes. Shuttle Bus south and east (Westboro) will leave about every 30 minutes starting at 10am.
- Public washrooms.

Maplelawn, owned by the NCC, is one of the last walled gardens in the area and was first cultivated in the 1820s.

This historic garden will be open to wander in Friday, 10 am to 4 pm and Saturday, 10 am to 3 pm, with volunteers on hand to answer questions.

The **Keg Manor** will have

guided tours of the house from 10 to 11:30 am both days, led by David Jeanes and assisted by Janet Uren. Lunch of steak and other delicious entrees, will be offered on a pre-paid basis. (\$35 including taxes and gratuities. Please book by June 9. Phone 613-724-1242.)

Home-made baked goods made by chapter members will be available for purchase at one of the houses.

Tickets are \$30, available now at Amica and retailers across Ottawa including Books on Beechwood, Mood Moss and Celadon Spa and through our secure PayPal site online at laurentian.iodc.ca. They can also be purchased by mail by calling Jo Brodie at 613-842-5304.

Monies raised by the tour will be donated to the shelters for abused women and their children and support other IODE projects.

For more information on the tour please visit our website at laurentian.iodc.ca.

Trust Your Instincts and Don't Invite Theft

By Liba Bender, Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator

Summer is just around the corner. We need to continue to be diligent and take care of our houses and property. Remember that you are the neighbourhood watch. It is important that you keep your eyes open, and know who your neighbours are.

As usual, we want to make our neighbourhood safe. You can do this by taking on certain responsibilities as a member of this community.

- Remain alert to any suspicious activity. Report it promptly to the police.
- Maintain a satisfactory standard of security in your own home.
- Look after neighbours' homes or property during their absence if requested to do so.
- Be a good neighbour.

Reporting to the Police

Learn to trust your instincts. Report criminal activities that include break and entries into homes, motor vehicles, garages and sheds. This includes vandalism or destruction of property. Call the police about public disturbances, family violence, child abuse, fraud, physical or sexual assaults, illicit drug transactions, and thefts of all kinds, including outdoor equipment and bicycles.

If it is a life-threatening situation or crime in progress, call 911. If not, call 613-230-6211 for assistance within two hours. The community police centre can be reached at 613-236-1222. Ryan Pierce is our constable, and his extension is 5916. Calls to him should be returned within two days.

When reporting, remember to be prepared to describe the person(s), vehicle(s) or circumstances. If the event involves a vehicle, getting a licence plate number would help. Request an incident number for follow up. Record the time and date of your call. Watch the situation from a safe distance until police arrive. Call again if activity gets worse.

Never try to stop or run after the intruder(s). Also, don't go up to the home or vehicle yourself, as you may destroy useful evidence or meet up with the perpetrators.

Secure Home

Remember that keeping your home secure makes common sense. Don't invite theft by leaving doors unlocked or windows open when you are out, or even when you are at home.

Being a good neighbour means knowing what is happening on your street. Be alert. Do your part as a member of New Edinburgh.

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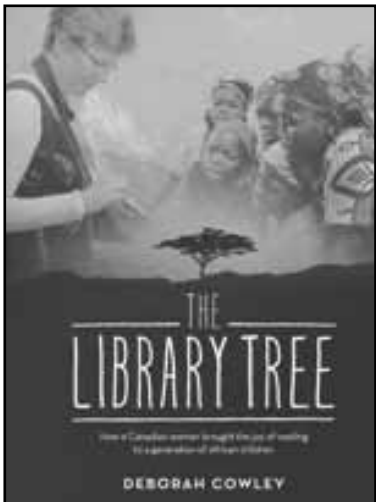
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Books on Beechwood's Summer Book Suggestions for 2014: Reading Doesn't Take a Holiday: It IS a Holiday!

Antoinette Recommends:

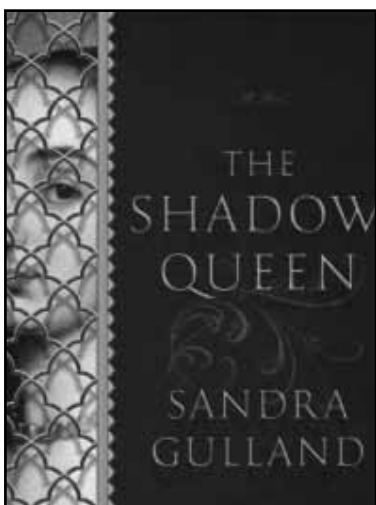
- Anything by **Farley Mowat**, especially 2 memoirs called *Born Naked* and *The Snow Walker*.



- *The Library Tree* by local author, **Deborah Cowley**, is the story of Kathy Knowles' work promoting libraries and literacy in Africa, especially in Ghana.
- *The Girl Who Saved the King of Sweden* by **Jonas Jonasson** (author of the 100-year old man who climbed out the window and disappeared).
- *Opening Heaven's Door* by locally grown author, **Patricia Pearson**, a work for seekers and skeptics.
- *Tragedy in the Commons* by **Alison Loat** and **Michael MacMillan**, former Members of Parliament speak out about Canada's failing democracy.
- *Persona Non Grata* by Calgarian **Tom Flanagan**, about the death of free speech in the internet age.

Bridget Recommends:

- *Shadow Queen* by **Sandra Gulland**, best known for her Josephine B trilogy of historical novels about the life of the wife of Napoleon Bonaparte, returns to France, this time during the reign of Louis XIV, and it focusses on his mistress, Athenais de Montespan and her attendant Claudette as they navigate the politics and perils of their tenuous position.
- *All My Puny Sorrows* by **Miriam Toews** again showcases her quirky combination of humour and heart-break and highly readable prose style. The story this time is ostensibly about loss but encompasses so much more.
- *Flash Boys*, by the New York Times bestselling author of *The Big Short* **Michael Lewis**, reads like a gripping detective novel but is actually about the Canadian trader who exposed the highly suspect habit of high-frequency trading on Wall Street.



- In *Frog Music*, **Emma Donoghue** takes us to a place and time about as far removed from the setting of *Room*, her bestselling and award winning last novel, as one could imagine... San Francisco in 1867 in the throes of a record-breaking heat wave and a smallpox epidemic. A French burlesque dancer is drawn into the dangerous world of free-love bohemians, desperate paupers, and arrogant millionaires to solve the mystery of her friend. Absorbing and cinematic.
- *Home Before Dark: Ottawa Diaries 1998-2002* is the memoir of **Rosemary Sexton's** years in Ottawa when her husband was appointed to the Federal Court of Appeal. Previously a lawyer and society columnist for the *Globe and Mail*, Ms Sexton wrote a column for the *National Post* during her time in Ottawa and contributed to *Macleans Magazine*. Here, she writes about her life in Rockcliffe as the wife of a judge and author.

Also of note, two of our local mystery writers have new books just out. **Vicky Delany's** new book *Under Cold Stone* is a new Detective Molly Smith mystery, set in small town BC. **Robin Harlick's** *Silver Totem of Shame* comes with a recommendation from Peter Dawson (below).

Di Recommends:

- *Road Trip* by **Gary Paulsen** and his son, Jim is a fast-moving adventure with diverse characters, snappy

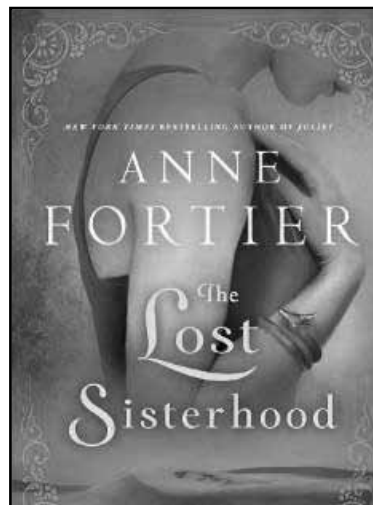


- dialogue and a wonderful dog named Atticus who contributes to the narrative. They are all travelling in an old school bus to pick up a rescue dog. Great for 10 and up.
- **Kate DiCamillo's** *Flora and Ulysses* lives up to her storytelling originality and charm. It is funny, engaging and philosophical with a great cast of kooky, offbeat characters, most notably Ulysses, the squirrel. Ten and up.
- *Rump*, by **Liesl Shortliff** tells the story of Rumpelstiltskin's childhood. Told with warmth and wit by the title character it will delight the reader. Good for children from 9 up.
- A new book by **Jessica Day George** in the *Tuesday at the Castle* series is called *Wednesday in the Tower*. It continues the exciting adventures of Princess Celie in this New York Times bestseller. This will appeal to children from 9 up.
- New non-fiction books by **Ken Jennings** of Jeopardy fame are instantly engaging. Dip in to one and you just want to read on - learning and laughing as you go. *Greek Myths* and *Maps & Geography* are available and now and there will be more. Good for ages 8 to 100.

Peter Recommends:

A little travelling with your summer reading. Mystery novels are the new travel tales:

- Start in Denmark with the fast spaced gritty series by **Jussi Adler-Olsen** starring the rebellious Carl Morck tackling cold cases in Copenhagen -most recently *The Absent One* or *The Purity of Vengeance* (to be published in July).
- For a slower, very atmospheric, but no less deadly affair, move to the Shetlands with **Ann Cleeves'** series featuring Jimmy Perez the detective from Fair Isle who is non-the-less an outsider on the other islands. The latest is *Dead Water*. (The BBC has a drama series based on these books called "Shetland").
- But perhaps you'd prefer to stay in Canada? **R.J. Harlick's** latest Meg Harris mystery has her visiting Haida Gwaii in *Silver Totem of Shame* and exploring in depth the Haida culture.



- On a more whimsical note, you can visit a very small community in PEI which has an extraordinary murder rate in the series by **Hilary Macleod** including *Something Fishy* or *All is Clam*.
- Finally, there is always the possibility of a staycation with **Brenda Chapman's** Stonechild and Rouleau mystery *Cold Mourning* which is set in Ottawa.

Dr. John Martins
Dr. Patricia Prud'homme

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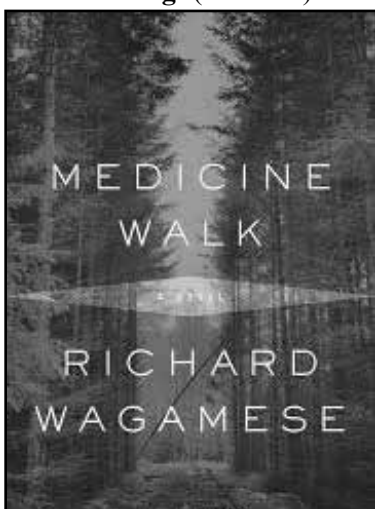
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FITNESS FRIENDS FUN

Hilary Recommends:

- *Traitor's Blade* by **Sebastien de Castell**: The king is dead, his Greatcoats disbanded, and former Greatcoats Falcio, Brasti, and Kest find themselves in the middle of a royal conspiracy. In a land where chivalry and honour have been beaten down, escaping from the most corrupt city in the world becomes the least of Falcio's problems. This is a great fantasy adventure story with a hint of *The Three Musketeers*.
- *The Lost Sisterhood* by **Anne Fortier**: Diana Morgan grew up listening to stories her grandmother would tell her about the legendary warrior women known as the Amazons. Now an Oxford lecturer, when an unusual inscription is uncovered in North Africa, a mysterious foundation makes Diana an offer she can't refuse. So begins a sweeping historical adventure of danger, betrayal and discovery.
- *Since You've Been Gone* by **Morgan Matson** (YA 12+): An amazing new YA novel that will make you laugh and cry – often at the same time. It's a story about family, friends, love, and how what you think will be your worst summer ever can turn into your best. Funny, sweet, heartbreaking, and real, *Since You've Been Gone* is not to be missed!
- *Sea of Shadows* by **Kelley Armstrong** (YA 12+): A

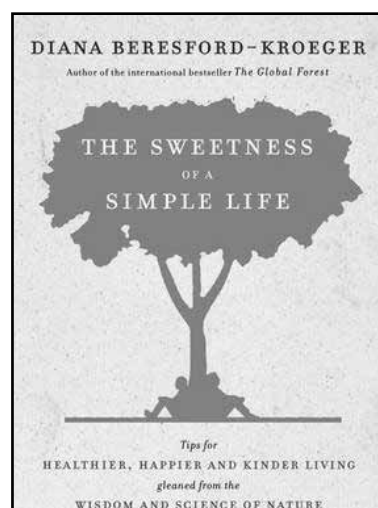


wonderful new fantasy series featuring a pair of very strong, very different, twin sisters. When an annual ritual goes terribly wrong, Moria and Ashyn – along with one stubborn imperial guard and a dashing condemned thief – are thrust into an adventure across a monster-infested wasteland in order to save themselves and what's left of their village. Little do they know, their own hardships may turn out to be only a small part of the story. A great

series opener!

Jill Recommends:

- *Medicine Walk* by **Richard Wagamese**: This is the story of the relationship between a father and his estranged son. It is a journey which takes place in the rugged B.C. interior. Franklin Starlight takes his duty as a son seriously when he is asked to visit his father, a father who left him when he was very young. Franklin gets to know his father through the stories he tells of his past years. This is a beautifully written story, with characters that are memorable and will stay with you long after you have finished reading the story.
- *Reclaiming the Commons* by **Heather Menzies**: Local



author, Heather Menzies, an award-winning writer and scholar, has written a memoir of her family's life in Scotland. "I went to Scotland looking for my ancestral and even, I hoped, my tribal roots." It is in the town of Tillicro, Dull, near Aberfeldy, Perthshire where Heather begins her search. However, as she gains a new perspective on her ancestors, Heather learns about spiritual practices and traditions and the implications of these traditions and practices on the lives of her ancestors. Heather will be one of the authors talking about her book in our popular "Titles @Table 40" series on June 15.

- *The Sweetness of the Simple Life* by **Diana Beresford-Kroeger**: Diana Beresford-Kroeger, author of *The Global Forest* has written about the simplicity of life. In her latest book, Diana gives the reader tips for a healthier, happier and kinder living based on her scientific knowledge and her garden, which she calls, "Medicine Walk". You will grin as you read her advice to go to your mirror and smile. Keep that smile all day. Her practi-

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

cal suggestions are far too numerous to relate here, but you will be fascinated by her candour, her wisdom and her ability to combine these two aspects of her nature with the latest scientific and medical research. Diana will be sharing the podium with Heather Menzies at "Titles @Table40" on June 15.



Recommendations by Sarah, teenage reviewer for Books on Beechwood:

- *The Fantastic Family Whipple*, by **Arthur Whipple**: This book, *The Fantastic Family Whipple*, was one of the quirkiest, cutest and most intriguing books I've read by far. The plotline to begin with was curious beyond imagination, not to mention the detail put into this remarkable world of Arthur Whipple's. The journey he embarks on is wonderfully whimsical and unlike any other. I strongly suggest this read for the summer; it will fill every bored moment you have with wonder and amusement to bring a smile to any face.
- *House of Secrets: Battle of the Beasts*, by **Denver Kristoff**: Siblings Eleanor, Brendan and Cordelia Walker return to Denver Kristoff's magical book world for an exhilarating sequel to *House of Secrets*. They embark on yet another exciting adventure, in some ways more dangerous than the first. As they journey through the thrilling books of the Storm King, you'll feel like you're right there with them, battling the Wind Witch, defending their home and, above all, saving the world. Travel with the Walkers this summer for an unforgettable adventure.

Coming Events at Books on Beechwood:

- **Saturday, June 14th, Story Time** with local children's authors **Tammy Winsor** (10:00-10:30 a.m.) and **Valerie Buko** (11:00 a.m.-

1:00 p.m.)

- **Sunday, June 15th, 6:00 p.m., Table 40, 7 Springfield Road: Titles@Table40** presents award-winning author **Heather Menzies** introducing her new book *Reclaiming the Commons for the Common Good*; and **Diana Beresford** presenting her new work, *The Sweetness of a Simple Life: Tips for Healthier, Happier and Kinder Living Gleaned from the Wisdom and Science of Nature*. Reservations are required so please call or visit Books on Beechwood for details: equal to the interest of the authors' thought-provoking presentations will be the excellence of the Fraser Brothers' legendary cuisine. Don't miss it!



Photo: Cindy Parkanyi
New exercise equipment appeared one day in the park and has become a favourite for many local buffs.



Photo: Louise Imbeault
Granny Power cheering station on Beechwood/Crichton. Mary McDowell, Rockcliffe Retirement resident cheers on granddaughter Jennifer Milligan who participated in the Ottawa Race Marathon on Sunday May 25.

What's in a Name?

By Loïc Gouadec

At the end of the winter, you may have noticed that the City of Ottawa installed new street signs in the neighbourhood. The signs are blue and bright, different from the black and white ones reserved for the heritage area. They replace the green ones that dated back a few years but seemed quite alright.

However, on Noël Street, the City didn't only change the signs, they also changed the name! Noël Street is now called «rue de la Noël», which could be translated as «Christmas Celebration Street». This is totally new and very creative, but also wrong from an historical point of view. It can also be very confusing for emergency services: will it be classified

under «D», or under «L» or under «N»?

According to a little book written for the parishioners of the former Franciscan convent on Stanley Avenue, Noël Street was not named after Christmas, but rather after its first resident, Mr. H.V. Noël. In his booklet – *L'église Saint-Vincent de l'avenue Stanley* – the author, friar Gonzalve Poulain o.f.m., tells the story of the church and of the area, and how it developed through the years. He also gives some details on street names, explaining their origins. Some of us may already know the origins of certain street names, but did you know that Stanley Avenue was formerly called Rideau Road, or that Electric Street was given this nickname by employees of the Ottawa



H. V. Noel, Montreal, QC, 1862. Photo: William Notman (1826-1891) courtesy of the McCord Museum

Electric Railway since their depot was located there?

In his booklet, friar Poulain writes that Noël Street was named after Mr. Noël, an agent from the Banque du Québec,

who was the first resident of the street. Or was it a street at the time, in the 19th century? I guess it was quite bucolic, with little groves surrounded by green meadows or marshes. We do not know exactly where Mr. Noël lived when he attended a fancy dress ball hosted by Lord and Lady Dufferin on February 23, 1876, but he was a close neighbour. He looked quite dapper in his «Costume d'Étoile»! There are some pictures of Mr. and Mrs. Noël at the McCord Museum in Montreal, but no mention of his complete name, or their address.

Back to the future: today in 2014, the neighbourhood has changed considerably and Mr. Noël would not recognize his old neighbourhood. However, we want to remember him, and we want the street signs to reflect the great history of our community. I called the City of



Photo: Loïc Gouadec
The City of Ottawa recently changed rue Noël to rue de la Noël.

Ottawa to ask them to return to the original and accurate name of Noël Street. They were quite interested and are now investigating the matter. If you know more about Mr. H.V. Noël, where he lived, what was his full name, the name of Mrs. Noël, please contact the NEN editor at newednews@hotmail.com.

What's in a name? A lot, my dear Juliet! We will keep you informed about new developments in this historical mystery!

From Mosque to Coffee House: Jamie Fisher Honoured by Friends

By Jane Heintzman

Bridgehead on Beechwood plays host to a lively community of regulars who meet each morning for a vigorous discussion of current affairs, typically focussing on the headlines of the day in the *Ottawa Citizen* and the *Globe and Mail*. A central figure in this group is **Peter Dalton**, the unofficial “Mayor of Bridgehead” who was profiled in a previous edition of the *NEN* by photographer/columnist **Louise Imbeault**. In late March of this year, the group was deeply saddened by the sudden death of one of its popular members, **Jamie Fisher**, a valued friend of Peter and his colleagues, and an enthusiastic participant

in these daily debates.

Jamie's death made local headlines, thanks in part to his earlier career as a City of Ottawa Alderman for Elmdale Ward from 1985 to 1991, and as Deputy Mayor to **Jim Durrell** for a portion of that six-year tenure. He was widely respected as a dedicated representative of his community, and in particular, earned the profound gratitude and affection of the Ottawa Muslim Association for his pivotal role in the acquisition of land to serve as a much-needed parking facility.

In the years following his departure from Council, Jamie suffered a number of serious financial reversals, so when he died this spring with only



Boys of Bridgehead (l to r): Nick Handly-Hanson, Bill Lipson, Peter Dalton & Jamie Fisher.

minimal personal resources, his loyal friends in the Muslim community stepped in to receive him into the mosque where he lay in state throughout the week prior to his burial in the Pinecrest Cemetery. Imam **Samy Metwally** described the gesture as “a small thank

you...to honour a great man who helped us.”

On April 10, three weeks after Jamie's death, the Bridgehead community held a special celebration in honour of his 70th birthday, and in the following week, Peter Dalton and his colleagues in the Tuesday

evening “Boys' Night Out” group paid him further tribute at a “Missing Man Dinner”. He will be greatly missed as a lively, generous and loyal friend, and we extend our condolences to all those in the Beechwood Bridgehead family who knew and loved him.

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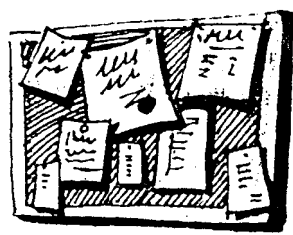
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Burgh Bulletin Board

June

Sun, Jun 1, 10 am

3RD ANNUAL SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS WALK to raise awareness of Scoliosis in the community and schools, educate children and families and promote early diagnosis. The walk (2-3km) will start from Stanley Park. Activities start at 9 am with family Zumba, silent auction, door prizes, curvy hair, curvy face paint, entertainment. Registration: \$30 online: www.curvygirlsottawa.ca; In person at Stanley Park 9 – 10 am. (Morning coffee and breakfast, Lunch and T-shirt provided). Curvy Girls Scoliosis Support Group of Ottawa is a peer-led support group for pre-teen, teens and families of those diagnosed with scoliosis.

Sat, Jun 7 & Sun, Jun 8

DOORS OPEN OTTAWA – See article on page 18, or visit Ottawa.ca for more information.

Sat, Jun 7, 10 am – noon

SING FOR THE CLIMATE on Parliament Hill. An opportunity for our voices to be heard so that climate change action can come to the fore. See article on page 20.

Sun, Jun 8, 7:30 pm

MACKAY CHAMBER CONCERT SERIES: Schumann and Stenhammar. Tickets available at the door. www.mackayunitedchurch.com.

Thu, Jun 12, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

ORKIDSTRA YEAR-END EXTRAVAGANZA at Dominion Chalmers Church (O'Connor at Cooper): featuring KidPlayers, KidSingers & KiddyWinks—the whole OrKidstra family. Goodwill donations at the door. OrKidstra is a social development program which teaches life-skills to 300 inner-city kids aged 5 to 18 through the medium of choral and instrumental music. There are over 42 linguistic backgrounds in the program: the new face of Ottawa. More info: leadingnotefoundation.org/event/orkidstra-end-of-year-concert.

Fri, Jun 13 and Sat, Jun 14, 10 am to 4 pm

IODE HOUSE AND GARDEN TOUR. Tour of homes in the Westboro area. Tickets are \$30 available on-line, in-store and by mail. Stores include Books on Beechwood, Mood Moss and Celadon Spa. For more information laurentian.iode.ca or 613-842-5304.

Sat, Jun 14 & Sun, Jun 15, 10am to 4pm

USED BOOK SALE. Literally the best used book sale in Ottawa. It's a two-day book sale for a reason! Free entry at Bldg 72 CEF Arboretum east of Prince of Wales roundabout. 613-230-3276. FriendsOfTheFarm.ca.

Sat, Jun 21, 7 – 10 pm

BEECHWOOD SOLSTICE STROLL. Music, food, art and merriment will be the focus of Beechwood on that evening. Come on out, enjoy the festivities, celebrate the longest day of the year, and greet your neighbours. Beechwoodsollsticestroll.ca.

July

Sat, Jul 12, 9 am

NEW EDINBURGH COMMUNITY PICNIC AND SCAVENGER HUNT at Stanley Park Fieldhouse. See page 17 for more details.

Sun, Jul 13, 2 - 4pm.

VICTORIAN TEA. Classic tea is served on the lawns of the Arboretum. Dress in full Victorian garb, listen to live music, enter the best hat and costume contest. Formal Tea \$8 at Bldg 72 CEF Arboretum east of Prince of Wales roundabout. 613-230-3276. friendsofthefarm.ca.

Sun, Jul 20, 9 am to noon

FREE QIGONG SEMINAR at Best Western Macies Hotel, 1274 Carling Ave. Qigong Master Sifu James from Toronto will give a talk on how to activate your Qi (universal energy) using it for self-healing or to help others. He has helped people get to the cause of their challenges, and professionals to reach a higher potential. For information and registration contact Angela Fung at afung46@hotmail.com or call 613-762-8893.

August

Sat, Aug 16

Stanley Park Lumière Illuminated Stroll— See article on page 31 for more information.

Ongoing



Classified Ads

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

DOG/CAT WALKING AND SITTING Your house plants are also safe with me!. Emergency and regular daily walking. References. Liba Bender: 613-746-4884.

HOMELESS BLACK CAT - A young, large, medium long-haired cat is in need of a home. He has been living outside for at least 2 months, but is friendly and good natured and could easily be adopted. He is not chipped, un-neutered (at present). He is currently living outside, but comes to eat at my place. If you are interested, please call Beth at 613-744-2531.

CANADIANS SHARING LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY

is a registered Canadian charity, established by NEN advertiser John Wenuk (Sandy Hill Construction) and his wife. The new organization is looking for vol-

unteers to help improve the lives of people living in rural poverty in South India. Visit Canadianssharing.org or call 613-832-4618 for more information.

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CELEBRATIONS

Ivy Crescent celebrated its 26th annual Queen Victoria Street Party on May 18! Apart from the brief and customary rain showers, the weather was fine and fun was had by all. Thanks to the usual suspects Mike and Josée for securing the permit from the City and, along with Abby, organizing kids games; Ian and Abby for Lucy's ice-cream sundae stand; Johan for building the schoolhouse for us to burn...and to everyone who contributed funds so that Michel could dazzle the crowd with the BEST FIREWORKS EVER!!!

In early May, our recently retired custom tailor **Leo La Vecchia** and his family hosted a lively gathering at the Rockcliffe Community Hall to thank his many friends and clients for their loyalty over the four plus decades he served our neighbourhood in his legendary business at 17 Springfield Road. Leo retired in the pink of health and at the top of his game in early 2014, following the most successful two years of his career. While he is far from inactive in his retirement, he is enjoying his newfound freedom to spend time with his family, and in particular, with his beautiful grandchildren, all of whom attended the recent celebration in Rockcliffe. Happily for his longstanding regular clients,

Leo has not altogether abandoned his life-long vocation, and continues to take on occasional tailoring assignments by appointment from his home (613-749-8383).

CONDOLENCES

Condolences to the family, friends, colleagues and clients of retired Dentist, **Dr. Gerry Glantz** who died on May 13. Dr. Glantz was a longstanding presence on Beechwood where for many years, he maintained a dental practice at 119 Beechwood (at Chapleau), serving countless residents of New Edinburgh and the surrounding communities. He was a faithful advertiser in the *New Edinburgh News* and a strong supporter of the community, and will be remembered fondly by those for whom he cared during his professional career.

Our sincere **condolences** to **Elizabeth Gray-Smith** on the recent death of her father, the Right Honourable Herb Gray, P.C., Q.C., C.C. Mr. Gray had a long and distinguished parliamentary career, representing the federal riding of Windsor West for nearly 40 years, and serving in numerous senior cabinet posts and leadership positions while a member of the opposition. As a parliamentarian, he was well known and respected for his hard work, high intelligence and unflinching civility.



Photo: Louise Imbeault
Ken Neufeld of Ivy Crescent took advantage of the great weather on Easter Sunday with a Big Green Egg BBQ in full sun!

When he left Parliament in January 2002, he was serving as Deputy Prime Minister and was given the title Right Honourable by the Governor General. In recent years, Mr. Gray served as Canadian Chair of the International Joint Commission of Canada and the United States, and as Chancellor of Carleton University.

Condolences to family and friends of **Mary McElroy** of Crichton Street, who passed away on April 25. Mary grew up in New Edinburgh, daughter of the late J. T. and Jessie McElroy. Hers is one of the oldest families in New Edinburgh. In fact, Mary could rattle off the numerous houses in the vicinity built by her clan. A retired nurse, Mary loved to tell stories of life growing up in the Burgh. She always had a twinkle in her eye, a quick wit and could often be seen zipping around the neighbourhood in her bright blue PT Cruiser. Mary will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to the world **Benjamin Magnus Terrett**, of Stanley Avenue. Master Terrett was already out enjoying the lanes (in a spiffy new pram) at the ripe old age of 12 days! Mother **Yvonne** looked quite rested, perhaps due to the visit by Grandma **Maria**, who came in from Montreal to help out while Daddy **Luke** was away on business. Unfortunately for us, the Terrett clan is moving off to Saskatoon in a couple of weeks. So it's a hello and goodbye, all in one!

The church of St Bartholomew on Mackay Street **welcomes everyone** to its third organ concert and reception to be held at 3pm on Sunday, June 8. The featured organist is **Wesley Warren**, organist at St Barnabas.

The two previous concerts, featuring Matthew Larkin and St Bart's own organist Barbara Hallam-Price respectively, were great community events. A special video screen in the church allowed the audience to see the play of hands and feet at the console of the new Letourneau organ. This instrument is a real jewel in our historic heritage church. Tickets and information are available from the church office at 613-745-7834.

KUDOS

Congratulations to **Adesuwa Ero**, a Grade 12 student at Ashbury College who has placed second in a contest organized by the American Society of Human Genetics. Adesuwa, originally from Nigeria and studying in the IB program at Ashbury, wrote her winning essay on short sightedness. The topic choice stemmed from her personal experience as the first of her siblings to develop myopia. "We're incredibly proud of Adesuwa for her achievement," says Norman Southward, Ashbury's Head of School.



Grade 12 student Adesuwa Ero with Ashbury science teacher Susan Wall.

Congratulations to **Vicki Henry** who was recently named the 2014 winner of the **Victor Tolgesy Award**, one of the City's top honours in the domain of visual arts. The \$5000 award is given annually by the Council of the Arts in Ottawa to a resident who has "contributed substantially to enriching cultural life in

the city." Vicki is currently the Director of the Canada Council Art Bank, and for four decades has been active on the Ottawa arts scene, curating, directing and administering in both public and private galleries. CAO Awards Committee Chair Tom Pierson cited as her greatest single contribution "the establishment of Ufundi Gallery (which) not only represented artists and craftspeople of international acclaim, but also provided the opportunity to showcase Ottawa-area artists at a time when the community was just developing a sense of self."

Congratulations to former **QVBIA Chair John Therien** who was recently presented with the Mayor's City Builder Award for his many years of dedication to the development and beautification of Vanier as a safe, affordable and prosperous community. Mr. Therien served as BIA Chair for eight years, leading an engaged group of local business owners through a period of unprecedented growth, and supporting a broad range of charitable projects in the community.

MISCELLANEOUS

Joyce Dubuc (Vaughan St) taking a break from delivering school supplies to children in Granada, Nicaragua. Many children have to drop out of school due to lack of a notebook or pencil. Please check out Nicaraguaschoolproject.org or email jdubuc93@gmail.com, to see how you can help.



Joyce Dubuc



Photo: Louise Imbeault
New Edinburgh ladies gladly posing with Leo La Vecchia during his May 8 Customer Appreciation Event held at the Rockcliffe Community Centre. (left to right: Kathleen White, Alexandra Reid, Leo and Jane Heintzman)



Ivy Street Party Fireworks.

Photo: John Arnold