

December 2015

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

www.newedinburgh.ca



Embassy Photo: Sam Garcia

Unity and solidarity: People gathered at the Embassy of France on Sussex Dr. to share their grief and support in the wake of the November 13 attacks in Paris. See page 9 for details.

Two of three retail spaces booked at Minto site, but tenants still top secret

By Jane Heintzman

Behind the hoarding at Beechwood and MacKay, Minto's construction crew is beaver away and it won't be long before the building structure begins to emerge from the ground later this fall. High Rise Development Manager **Kevin Harper** is happy to report that work is slightly ahead of schedule, creating some welcome flexibility to accommodate weather-related delays during the winter. He is particularly pleased that the Record of Site Condition recently filed with the City and the Province reported a spotlessly clean building site, an enviable record which is far from the norm.

Kevin reports that pouring

of the ground floor slab of Minto Beechwood was slated to begin in the second week of November and wrap up about two weeks later. The ground floor is the most complicated of all the levels in the building, and once it's completed, the subsequent floors will be constructed at a rate of roughly one every 10 days. If all goes as planned, it's hoped that the structure will be topped off by the end of February.

The cladding and colour scheme of the building have been finalized in the last few weeks, and Kevin is confident that the materials will blend well with the streetscape and age beautifully. The thorny question of how to add interest to the blank west wall

of the project has also been resolved, and a special light feature is expected to be operational as the building takes shape in 2016. Kevin promises more detail early in the New Year, and hopes to organize a community event sometime in late summer to launch the light installation (Lumière weekend comes to mind).

After a predictably quiet summer, condo sales have reportedly rebounded this fall, fuelled by Minto's major Condomania event on Oct. 24 when hundreds of prospective buyers turned out to investigate the options. Half a dozen condos in Minto Beechwood were sold that weekend alone, the majority of them with two-bedrooms.

A good selection of units on all floors and in all price ranges is still available, and a new five percent deposit structure for smaller units (below 1,000 square feet) has been introduced as an incentive to firsttime buyers.

Yet again, we're obliged to report that the identity of the retail occupants at Minto Beechwood remains shrouded in mystery, but it appears that two of the three available spaces are now locked down, while negotiations continue to finalize the third. The only tantalizing hint we were able to extract from Kevin is that one of the new businesses will be especially welcome, as it will "save residents a trip out of the neighbourhood" to secure the mystery item(s) in

question. Perhaps we should raise a glass to this one?

If you happen to observe construction activity on the roof of the pharmacy this winter, it may well be Minto, not the owners of the pharmacy building, who are undertaking this minor structural upgrade. City by-laws require that the owner of a large building located in close proximity to a much smaller one is responsible for the structural integrity of the roof of the lower building in the event of snow and ice spillover from the high rise. Minto has already altered the rooftop design of their building to minimize the problem, but is still planning to undertake some minor reinforcement of the pharmacy roof.

Help St. Bart's bring a Syrian refugee family to Ottawa

By Gina Watson

The photo of Alan Kurdi washed up on the beach, which circled through the media this past summer, is seared into memory.

The question many people

are now asking is what can they do to help Syrian refugees—the largest refugee movement since the Second World War.

"The St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church is taking action. We are planning to

sponsor a Syrian refugee family," says David Clunie, Rector at St. Bartholomew's Church on MacKay St.

In September, Parish Council and concerned parishioners gathered to learn about the situation in Syria and the plight of one particular family, forced to flee Syria and living precariously in Lebanon.

They are a family of five: father, mother and three children. The father worked as a dental technician in Syria and the mother is an art teacher.

The father was kidnapped in Syria and the family had to pay a significant ransom to secure his release. They fled from Syria and cannot go back.

"In order to bring this family to Canada we need to raise \$30,000," said Clunie. "The

response so far has been very positive. Funds towards the \$30,000 target are flowing in and people are volunteering to do everything from filling out the forms to finding the family housing," he said.

"St Bart's will bring the family to Canada under the Private Sponsorship of Refugees program offered by the Canadian government. We must provide financial and other support to the family for at least one year after they arrive in Canada," he said. "And we hope that the family will arrive within the year."

The family that St. Bart's plans to sponsor would also have the support of a related family that St. Aidan's Anglican Church in Ottawa is sponsoring. The mothers of both families are sisters. Their

brother has been a parishioner at St. Aidan's. Over the course of several years, the people of St. Aidan's have come to know the extended family and understand their plight.

This is not the first time that St. Bart's has sponsored a refugee family. Previously, families have been brought to Canada from Sudan and Rwanda.

"There is renewed energy around the issue of refugees. People in the parish and in the community are stepping forward to offer assistance" says Clunie. "We welcome anyone from the community who wants to get involved."

If you would like to contribute to this initiative please contact David Clunie at St Bartholomew's at Stbarts@bellnet.ca.



Strong support for exciting possibilities in New Edinburgh



Tim Plumptre
NECA President

A New Edinburgh Community Forum co-hosted by the Crichton Community Council (CCCs), NECTAR and the New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA) has yielded strong endorsement for pursuing the idea of a new community centre for our neighbourhood.

Over 50 residents gathered at St. Bartholomew's church hall on Oct. 29, 2015, to take part in this forum and also to participate in NECA's annual general meeting, held

at the same time. Through small group discussions at tables spread about the room, participants were invited to address the following issues: satisfaction with current community programming, the desirability of moving forward with a possible new community facility, the needs such a facility might address, and the challenges involved in establishing such a facility.

With regard to the first question, participants expressed some dissatisfac-

tion with present programming arrangements. They thought the Fieldhouse in Stanley Park could expand to do more, and their view of New Edinburgh House as a centre for NECTAR activities was that, while it provides lots of programming, its room sizes, space constraints and access issues are significant disadvantages that a new centre might overcome.

Asked what kinds of programming they'd like to have available, the groups were not short of ideas: music, child care, fitness, visual arts, community events and rental spaces were all mentioned, as well as some possible commercial aspects such as kayaking on the Rideau or a café where residents could get together.

Along the pathway to such facility, a lot of challenges

would have to be addressed. Residents suggested that there would be a need for a sound business plan and a clear governance structure, and raised questions about the relationship of such a structure to the three existing community organizations. In addition, issues related to noise, traffic, security, design – and of course funding – would all require consideration. Participants looked forward to a process that would be open and transparent, and provide further opportunities for community involvement as plans evolve.

The path sketched by the forum participants promises to be a long one, but the possibilities for New Edinburgh are exciting. Representatives of the co-hosting organizations expect to meet shortly to review a more detailed

report on the Forum that can be shared with the community, and to consider what that pathway might look like and how it can be navigated.

Look for more information on the New Edinburgh website and in this publication as we move ahead.



Deadline

for the next issue of the
New Edinburgh News

JAN 10

newednews@hotmail.com



NECA MEETINGS All Welcome

The NECA board meets nine times a year, normally on the **third Tuesday of each month at 8:00 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:

Tuesday, January 19, 8 pm
Tuesday, February 16, 8 pm

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

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Jane Heintzman honoured with Community Brick Builder Award

By Jennifer Irwin Jackson

The Brick Award for Community Builder is awarded to individuals who make a notable contribution to the character and strength of our community.

New Edinburgh is not just a grid of streets, lanes and houses. It is a neighbourhood packed with history and it is a neighbourhood packed with people who love living amongst the stories it holds. New Edinburgh is rich in architecture, green space, nationally-known waterways, historic bridges and official residences.

Inside the houses of this neighbourhood are many individuals invested in maintaining the vibrancy of the community, the connection between neighbours, the beauty of the unique landscape and the integrity of the area's history.

There are many residents who stand out as social innovators, history buffs, artists, storytellers, business trail-



Photo: Sarah Anson Cartwright NECA presented Jane Heintzman with the Community Brick Builder Award for Jane's contributions to the character and strength of the neighbourhood. The award was presented during the NECA annual general meeting, Oct. 29.

blazers, and community leaders.

This year, the New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA) expanded the criteria of the Brick Award and added a category to recognize these important contributions.

It was difficult to choose one individual for the Community Builder Brick Award as this neighbourhood benefits from a wealth of individuals dedicated to enhancing all that we love about New Edinburgh... but we have a very worthy recipient. It is my pleasure to present this year's Community Builder Brick Award to Jane Heintzman.

The 2015 Community Builder Brick Award winner is a central figure in the community. She was a strong advocate against the Vanier Parkway extension, which was the spark that set the flame for the founding of NECA and the *New Edinburgh News*. And, she continued to voice her love

for the community as one of the paper's principal contributors. If there is news breaking to broadcast from Beechwood to Sussex, residents and municipal leaders go right to her. Eloquent, compassionate, engaged... this year's recipient has been active in the community for years and continues to posi-

tion herself in the heart of any issue that may impact New Edinburgh.

We are very fortunate to have her on our side when issues arise, protecting our unique and rich history and heritage, and makes us proud by spreading the word on our community's vibrancy.

Great potential, shame about the name



Christina Leadlay
Managing Editor

"Wateridge Village at Rockcliffe" has been selected as the name for the future development at the former Rockcliffe air base, a massive swath of prime land located south of the Rockcliffe Parkway and east of the Aviation parkway. Canada Lands Corporation announced the name on Nov. 9. In their press release, the arm's length, self-financing federal Crown corporation said this name was "selected among many strong names as it evokes the natural physical features of the beautiful Rockcliffe Lands site, which lies on the shore of the Ottawa River and is home to many natural ridges."

I would love to see the short list of "strong names", because if "Wateridge" is the strongest of the lot, that is disconcerting.

My first reaction to the name "Wateridge" was disap-

pointment, and I find that I'm not alone in this opinion. The New Edinburgh residents I have spoken with agree that Wateridge is neither particularly exciting, nor intriguing. It evokes the type of beige, anodyne names dreamed up in boardrooms for remote suburban developments.

CLC claims the logo, a tri-colour swoosh of blue, green and a spiral of gold will "serve as a visual reminder of the connections between land, water and community at Rockcliffe. These three elements are central to both the rich aboriginal and aviation history of the site." I question whether people are really going to remember the logo, 30 years after the development is complete. It's highly unlikely. However, the name Wateridge will be more lasting, and it's a shame this name didn't give a nod to the site's rich history.

Most recently is its aviation and military history. I'm told that one of the names put forward was North Star, a reference to one of the Second World War aircraft that was flown from the former Rockcliffe airbase. Not to mention the poetic celestial connotations of the North Star, guiding people home.

Then there is the deep indigenous history of the Rockcliffe lands, which is ceded Algonquin territory. CLC could have gone the route of Windmill Development Group for their Chaudière Falls redevelopment and chosen a name like Zibi (an Algonquin word meaning "river"). The name reveal sparked some controversy, but a large portion of First Nations leaders support the project as an opportunity for employment and meaningful collaboration with the rest of Canada. Plus I think Zibi is fun to say.

Whether it's too late to change the name, let's hope that the future of Wateridge as an eco-friendly, self-sustaining village will not disappoint. It's a long-term project that will have a profound impact on the Manor Park and New Edinburgh communities.

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

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www.newedinburgh.ca

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Local church gives new hope to students in Liberia

By Rev. Joel Crouse

This is a success story about what happens when a diverse group of people comes together and refuses to give up. It's the tale of two refugees determined to give back. And it is a testament to how a commitment from our small neighborhood in New Edinburgh can reach across an ocean, and transform the lives of families on a faraway continent.

This month, in the Liberian village of Galai, construction begins on the community's first school. Before rainy season arrives, the 10-room building is on track to be finished, providing education to hundreds of children, who have spent too many years taking shifts in a one-room house with no windows.

It took five long years for St. John Lutheran Church to make this happen. The idea was first brought forward by a member at the church, a former refugee from Liberia named Jesse Matthews, who knew firsthand that the children in Galai desperately needed a school. The con-

gregation, which has previously built a well in Liberia, sponsored four refugees from the war-torn country and sent more than a thousand school kits to Africa, began raising money for the project. This was the easy part. In fact, this neighborhood helped pay for the school through the New Edinburgh Garage Sale and donations made at several drumming festivals hosted at the church hall on Crichton Street.

Despite overwhelming need among its citizens, Liberia is a difficult place for non-governmental organizations to work because of corruption and bureaucratic red tape. A committee at St. John sought to find a partner to build the school, but there was a problem at every turn. Some groups backed away because they could not navigate the red tape, another group was turned down by St. John because they wanted religious strings attached to the project. Experts told us it could not be done. But we persevered. St. John, despite being a small church, has a long history of persevering.

After 120 years in the neighbourhood, St. John continues to be a strong supporter of the local food bank and the Gary J. Armstrong Centre, as well as funding a women's medical clinic at the Shepherd's of Good Hope.

Finally, the solution came from another Liberian refugee, Eric Wowoh in Texas, who, like Mr. Matthews, had found success in a new home, and wanted to give back to his native country. Two days after signing a contract to work together, with St. John committing additional funds, a group of villagers in Galai met to choose the spot where the school will stand.

This achievement is an instructive lesson for Canada, as we prepare to host 25,000 new refugees from another war-torn part of the world. They will arrive here with little but the grit and potential to contribute to the fabric and identity of this nation - like so many others before them.

Like this country, St. John itself is a diverse group: a community of young professionals and tradespeople, seniors with roots that go



Photo by Jesse Matthews

Behind these happy students is the old school that will be replaced in Galai, Liberia, thanks to the tireless efforts of Crichton Street's St. John Lutheran Church.

back to the founding families of this neighborhood, and youth focused on social justice. Several of the families that worship on Sunday are also new Canadians. That diversity is a gift - a driving force to get good deeds done.

When we truly embrace this diversity as a nation - and as a neighborhood - we are able to accomplish miracles. Just ask the parents in Galai, who will soon be sending their children to a new school, with a roof to keep out the rain.



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As an active resident of New Edinburgh for over 15 years, and over 10 years of decorating experience, I come with the understanding and knowledge of why you have made our picturesque, eclectic and beautiful community your home. I will address your unique decorating and design needs.

You are invited to join me at one of my many free seminars as outlined in the current Fall NECTAR Program Guide. Seminars are held at NECTAR, 255 Mackay Street, "2015 Design Trends" on Tuesday October 20th, and "Holiday Decorating" on Tuesday November 24th. Call or email to register: 613-724-9453 or llovettd@decoratingden.com



NEW EDINBURGH'S CHOICE FOR DECORATING

Get involved in Ottawa 2017



Jim Watson
Mayor of Ottawa

In 2017, Canada will celebrate 150 years as a nation.

We are working hard to prepare Ottawa to welcome the country as host of these celebrations. I still remember the excitement of Expo '67 during Canada's centennial year. Canada rallied together to create a year of memories and experiences that crossed generations, and we plan to do it once again during Canada's sesquicentennial.

That is why Ottawa Tourism along with the City of Ottawa and community partners created the Ottawa 2017 Bureau. As the spotlight descends upon the capital, Ottawa 2017 is working hard to position Ottawa as THE place for all Canadians to celebrate the 150th anniversary of

Canada's confederation.

This is an exciting opportunity to not only commemorate the progress we've made as a nation, but it is a chance to look to the future. The energy, excitement and investments generated by Ottawa's 2017 celebrations will serve as a catalyst for long-term tourism growth.

In fact, tourism is Ottawa's third largest economic sector, after the public service and high tech industry. Our aim in 2017 is to generate a significant boost in tourism, which presents a tremendous opportunity for local businesses to grow, hire, and we have made significant progress so far.

I recently had the pleasure to announce that the Canadian Academy of Recording Arts

and Sciences has selected Ottawa as the host city for the 2017 JUNO Awards. Ottawa has hosted the JUNO awards before and while this event was a great success, we want to do something even greater in 2017. Our vision is to fill the city with music across venues of all sizes, ending with the Awards Gala at the Canadian Tire Centre.

As diverse as Canadians are, we plan to host an equally diverse selection of large signature events. Joining the JUNO awards in 2017, Ottawa is set to host the Canadian Video Game Awards, Canadian Track and Field Championships, The Canadian Olympic Curling Trials - Roar of the Rings and many more to be announced. Along with Ottawa 2017, the City of Ottawa is working hard to attract the CFL's Grey Cup and an NHL Winter Classic.

I am particularly excited at the prospect of a Winter Classic as December 19, 2017 marks the 100th anniversary of the first NHL game ever played, between the Montreal



Mayor Jim Watson, along with MPPs Yasir Naqvi and Bob Chiarelli, Ottawa 2017 Bureau Director Guy Laflamme and representatives from the Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, celebrate Ottawa being named host to the 2017 JUNO Awards.

Canadiens and the Ottawa Senators. I believe it would be a fitting tribute to commemorate Canada's favourite past-time through hosting an outdoor Winter Classic between these two historic franchises.

In addition to preparing a year of memorable celebrations, the city is undergoing unprecedented growth and infrastructure renewal to ensure we are ready to welcome the nation. At the centre of this is the Confederation

Line Light Rail project which will be truly transformative. 2017 is also expected to mark the opening of the Ottawa Innovation Centre and the opening of a new Ottawa Art Gallery and revitalized Arts Court.

Ottawa 2017 will be a once-in-a-lifetime celebration and I encourage you to get involved. If you would like to plan your own community event, volunteer or simply learn more, visit www.ottawa2017.ca.

Secondary school boundaries under review



Chris Ellis
Public School Trustee, Zone 6

In the next three years, the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) will be reviewing the boundaries and programs of all its schools and what facilities are needed throughout the Board. Beginning with secondary schools in the current school year, the Board will look at programs and how schools can be configured (e.g. JK to 8, JK to 6, 9 to 12, 7 to 12, middle schools) to best meet on-the-ground community needs. Once options and priorities have been explored, individual schools will be reviewed on an area-by-area basis.

During this process, as your trustee, I will be available to discuss your views and any concerns by phone, e-mail and through my website. I will also hold regular Zone meetings and advocate con-

tinuously for meaningful Board-wide consultations.

Two information reports have recently been presented to trustees:

- Report 15-126, Secondary School Review: Secondary High Skills Major (specialized grade 11 and 12 programs related to 19 industry sectors such as construction and health); and
- Report 15-127, Secondary School Review: School Configurations (includes possibility of more schools with grades 7 to 12).

The probable consultation period for the two reports is from November to January. Reports including recommendations on desirable options will tentatively be presented to trustees in February for decision at the end of February.

The OCDSB has a num-

ber of specialty high schools offering programs to students from across the Board. These are:

- The Arts program at Canterbury HS
- The High Performance Athlete Program at John McCrae Secondary School
- The International Baccalaureate (IB) Program at Colonel By Secondary School.

As the Board addresses high school accommodation issues, there is a sense that we should consider how these specialty programs are structured before getting into area reviews. Do we need more specialty high schools, fewer or do we have the right balance?

2016-2017 Budget

The first report from OCDSB staff on considerations for the 2016-2017 budget signals that cuts will likely be necessary and that significant cuts "can only be achieved by the reduction of spaces occupied and maintained by the OCDSB". In other words, it is probable that decisions to close some schools will be made in 2016-2017. The report also identifies Special

Education as an area where the OCDSB spends more than the amount the Province designates for that purpose.

Zone meeting

My next zone meeting will be in late January. Secondary

School Review consultations will be included on the agenda. Stay tuned for more details.

To reach Chris Ellis, please call 613-818-7350, email Chris.Ellis@ocdsb.ca or visit www.SchoolZone6.org.



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Mauril Bélanger
MP Ottawa-Vanier

A new government

Le français suit

First, I would like to thank the constituents of Ottawa-Vanier for re-electing me as their representative in the House of Commons.

For the eighth consecutive term, I am proud to be able to continue my work as a Member of Parliament and address issues that are important to the riding as well as Canada.

During the campaign, I had the opportunity to highlight priorities which are important to us all:

- Ensure public servants are treated fairly and respectfully.
- Make sure the Rockcliffe air base redevelopment is driven by the need for balance, viability and sustainability. This is one of Ottawa's most anticipated projects and a very significant urban planning opportunity.
- Fight for the continuation of door-to-door mail delivery. A more grounded solution than simple elimination of this service is required, which would ensure financial sustainability of Canada Post while making things less complicated for people.
- Fight for more affordable housing and the right for

everyone to have a place one can call "home".

I intend to act on those priorities and look forward to taking an active role in the 42nd Parliament.

Canadians from coast to coast to coast have chosen a new and positive Liberal government, one with an ambitious vision for the future and a real plan for a strong middle class.

An example of the positive change which I am very proud our Liberal government will be implementing is that we will prioritize significant new investments in affordable housing and seniors facilities as part of our new, ten-year investment of nearly \$20 billion in social infrastructure.

* * *

Un nouveau gouvernement

J'aimerais premièrement remercier les commettants d'Ottawa-Vanier de m'avoir réélu en tant que leur représentant à la Chambre des communes.

Je suis fier d'être en mesure de poursuivre, pour un huitième mandat consécutif, mon travail en tant que député fédéral sur des enjeux d'importance pour la circonscription et pour le Canada.

Tout au long de cette cam-

pagne, j'ai eu l'occasion de présenter des priorités qui sont importantes pour nous tous :

- Faire en sorte que les fonctionnaires soient traités équitablement et avec respect.
- Faire en sorte que le réaménagement de la base aérienne de Rockcliffe soit guidé par la nécessité d'atteindre les objectifs d'équilibre, de viabilité et de durabilité. Il s'agit de l'un des projets les plus attendus d'Ottawa et cela représente une belle opportunité au niveau de la planification urbaine.
- Lutter pour la poursuite de la livraison du courrier à domicile. Il est nécessaire de rechercher une solution plus terre à terre que la simple élimination de ce service. Une solution qui permettrait d'assurer la viabilité financière de Postes Canada tout en compliquant moins la vie des gens.
- Lutter pour des logements plus abordables et le droit de chacun d'avoir un endroit que l'on peut appeler « mon chez-nous ». Je compte également prendre une part active aux travaux et aux délibérations de la 42e législature.

Les Canadiens, d'un océan à l'autre, ont choisi un nouveau gouvernement libéral positif, un gouvernement qui a une vision ambitieuse de l'avenir et un plan solide pour renforcer la classe moyenne.

Un exemple du changement positif planifié par notre gouvernement libéral et dont je suis très fier, est la priorisation de nouveaux investissements dans les logements abordables et les résidences pour personnes âgées, dans le cadre de notre investissement historique dans les infrastructures sociales de presque 20 milliards de dollars sur dix ans.



Madeleine Meilleur
MPP Ottawa-Vanier

Preventing child abuse

There is no commitment higher than the one we have to our children. While many children receive unconditional love and support from their parents or guardians, not all are so fortunate. It is our collective responsibility to make sure no child falls through the cracks.

Our province is committed to supporting a child welfare system that protects vulnerable children and youth. In Ontario, Children's Aid Societies (CASs) are mandated to protect children who are, or are at risk of, suffering abuse or neglect. CASs are required to assess all reports of suspected child abuse and neglect, and provide necessary services to all children in need of protection.

The duty to help keep all children safe is not limited to the government alone. On this, the law is clear: every person who has reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is or may be in need of protection must report that suspicion promptly and directly to a CAS. This includes individuals who perform professional or official duties with respect to children, such as health care workers, teach-

ers, operators or employees of child care programs or centres, police, and lawyers.

This responsibility is not new. There has been a general statutory obligation to report a child in need of protection since 1965. Those reporting abuse or neglect to a CAS do not need to be certain a child is in need of protection. "Reasonable grounds" refers to the information that an average person, using normal and honest judgment, would need in order to decide to report. The Child and Family Services Act (CFSA) specifies that a person who acts in accordance with the duty to report is protected from liability, unless the person acts maliciously or without reasonable grounds for the suspicion.

They say it takes a village to raise a child, and it is our collective duty as a society to make sure each and every child in our province has an equal chance at a bright future.

If you suspect a child you know is suffering abuse or neglect, please contact the Children's Aid Society of Ottawa at 613-747-7800.

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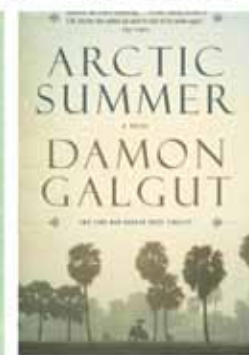
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Nov.11/25/15



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Session 1***		Session 2***	
Date:	Second Wednesday of month	Date:	Last Wednesday of month
Time:	7:30pm	Time:	7:30pm
Location:	New Edinburgh Square 35 Beechwood Avenue 2nd Floor Lounge	Location:	The Edinburgh Retirement Residence 10 Vaughan Street Penthouse
Session Leader:	Antoinette Fracassi	Session Leader:	Jill Moll
Schedule:	Nov.11- <i>Us Conductors</i> by Sean Michaels Jan.13- <i>They Left Us Everything</i> by Plum Johnson Feb.10- <i>Arctic Summer</i> by Damon Galgut	Schedule:	Nov. 25- <i>Us Conductors</i> by Sean Michaels Jan.27 - <i>They Left Us Everything</i> by Plum Johnson Feb. 24- <i>Arctic Summer</i> by Damon Galgut

Quartier Vanier: 2015 year in review



**By Jamie Kwong,
Executive Director
Quartier Vanier Business
Improvement Area**

2015 has been a very busy year for the Quartier Vanier Business Improvement Area. QVBIA is a not-for-profit organization which represents over 466 property and business owners. Our mission is to represent, enhance and promote a prosperous business area along our diverse, vibrant and historic mainstreets. Our vision is to create an environment where creativity is welcomed.

The overarching goals of the QVBIA are:

- To promote the Quartier Vanier area as an attractive business area
- To invest in the beautification of the three mainstreets (Beechwood Avenue, McArthur Avenue and Montréal Road), implementing strategies that make our three mainstreets more attractive and welcoming for property owners, business owners, patrons and local residents
- To raise awareness and increase engagement with our local stakeholders

BIAs and the Ottawa economy: Update

According to a recent report from the City of Ottawa's Economic Development and Innovation Department, the QVBIA ranks fourth highest of the 18 BIAs in Ottawa in terms of employment, accounting for 8,611 jobs (7,241 of those jobs being full-time and 1,370 part-time). Across the city of Ottawa as a whole, the 18 BIAs account

for almost 110,000 jobs, or approximately one in five of all jobs enumerated in the city that year. Ottawa's BIAs employ people in more than 20 different employment sectors, which include: federal public administration, professional services, accommodation and food services, retail, and manufacturing (City of Ottawa's Economic Update BIA Edition, 2015).

Highlights of the year: Beautification

Under the direction of the Board of Directors, the

the city. However, none can quite compare with the magnificent ones found in the QVBIA, thanks to the talent of a local horticulturalist, Karen Hogan, who was referred to the QVBIA by Councillor Mathieu Fleury (Rideau-Vanier Ward).

Other QVBIA beautification initiatives underway at the moment include proactive graffiti removal services, new decorative banners installed along the three mainstreets, façade improvement grants to incentivize business and

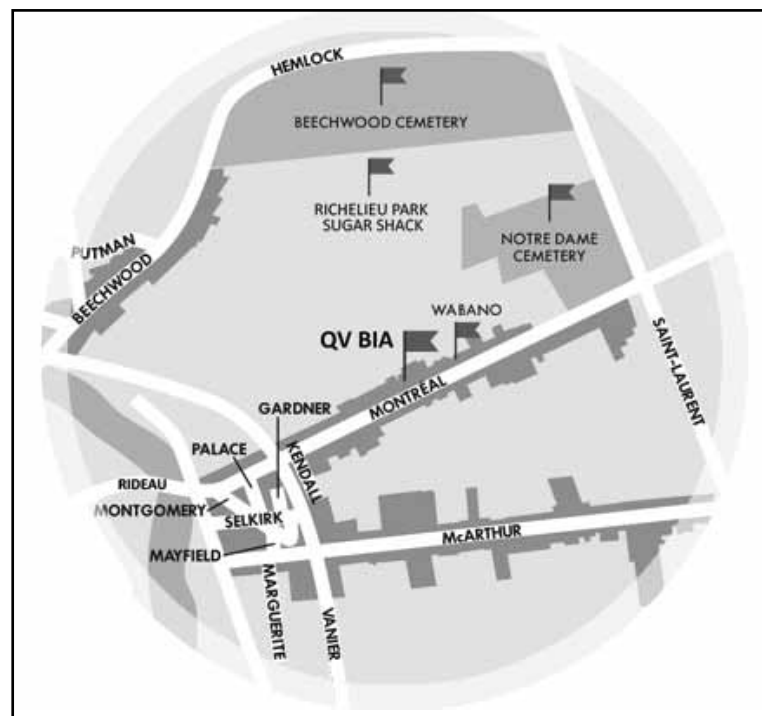


Photo by Claude Brazeau

Local horticulturalist Karen Hogan helped make QVBIA's distinctive large flower pots magnificent this summer.

QVBIA has many beautification initiatives underway right now, including the Large Red Flower Planter project spearheaded by former director Marwan Rassi, former owner of Rassi Coiffure Inc. on Beechwood. The QVBIA was the first to bring these large planters into the community. Now, there are similar large flower planters in many other areas throughout

property owners to invest in their buildings. Another major QVBIA project in 2015 was the installation of new LED Lampposts for Beechwood Avenue! Twenty-two LED pedestrian lights



The Quartier Vanier Business Improvement Area Map: Beechwood Ave., Montréal Rd. and McArthur Ave.

and 32 LED upgraded overhanging lights were installed on the Beechwood corridor. For this specific project, the QVBIA has partnered with the City of Ottawa to invest a total of \$140,000 in the beautification of Beechwood, with the QVBIA contributing \$60,000 towards the large-scale project.

Marketing and economic development

Another major focus of the QVBIA this year was to share with all of Ottawa the amazing attributes of this dynamic, urban area. To this end, the QVBIA actively sought out opportunities to engage with the local community groups. It is our belief that a strong, cohesive and collaborative community are the key ingredients for the success of any neighbourhood. In addition to taking part in Beechwood Solstice

and Lumière Festival, the QVBIA played a lead role in organizing the Future Block Party, a free community event which brought together over 30 organizations to creatively animate what was once a vacant lot in Vanier. As we wrap up this year, the QVBIA looks forward to continuing to work towards a vision for the Quartier Vanier area as a vibrant, diverse destination area in Ottawa. Please stay tuned as we will be hosting our **Annual General Meeting** in late January 2016 where we will share with the community the exciting initiatives in store for 2016!

Thank you for your support of our 466 merchants in the Quartier Vanier Business Improvement Area!

For more details on the QVBIA, contact Jamie Kwong at info@vanierbia.com.

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Construction season winds down, budget season gears up



Tobi Nussbaum
City Councillor, Ward 13

Construction on the east Minto Bridge span will continue with sandblasting and deck installation before shutting down in mid December. All three bridges will be open to pedestrians and cyclists over the winter until work begins again in the spring. Some landscaping and site reinstatement for the eastern bridge will be carried out in spring 2016. Construction for the central bridge will start in summer 2016 and most of that work will be concentrated on Maple Island rather than Stanley Park. Crews are on track to have all the bridges fully re-open permanently for pedestrians and cyclists by the end of 2016. Final work on the centre span

will resume in the spring of 2017 and vehicles will be permitted to use all three bridges again in the summer of 2017.

I will continue to work with City staff to maintain pedestrian access when possible.

Heritage Conservation District

The public comment period for the New Edinburgh plan is now closed. City planners have received a large volume of constructive and helpful feedback. Staff will be working to incorporate this feedback into the final draft documents which are now expected to be considered by the Built Heritage Subcommittee on Jan. 14, and by the Planning Committee on Jan. 26, 2016. Both meetings will offer an opportunity for members of the public to present their views, either in person or in writing before they go to Council for final approval on Feb. 10 2016.

For those interested, the City has created a story map of Ottawa's Heritage Conservation Districts (HCDs). This web tool identifies the location and provides information on all the

City's HCDs – <http://bit.ly/HCDStoryMap>.

Budget 2016

The draft budget was tabled on Nov. 12. Throughout the month of November and into early December, committees and boards have and will continue to deliberate budgets for the departments they oversee. Members of public can attend the remaining committee meetings to offer their views and suggestions before the final budget is approved. Here are the committee dates. I invite you to attend.

- French Language Advisory Committee – Nov. 26
- Environment Committee – Nov. 27
- Community and Protective Services Committee – Nov. 30
- Finance and Economic Development Committee – Dec. 1
- Transportation Committee – Dec. 2
- Transit Commission – Dec. 3
- IT Sub-Committee – Dec. 4

Council will vote on the final budget on Dec. 9, 2015. I will continue to provide updates and reflections on the 2016 budget process via my website, www.tobinussbaum.ca. If you visit the website now, you will have access to the report that resulted from the budget consultations I co-hosted with Rideau-Vanier Councillor Mathieu Fleury.

HELP WANTED!

Does the newspaper business pique your interest? Are you an organized, detail-oriented resident of the community with a few hours to spare every couple of months? The *New Edinburgh News* has a volunteer opportunity for you! We are looking for an account executive to manage client relationship with advertisers. Primary tasks include communicating advertising submission requirements and deadlines to existing clients, and following up with the renewal of their advertising campaigns. Excellent community and customer service skills are an asset. If interested, contact Brian the advertising manager at nen-ads@hotmail.com.

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News You May Have Missed

By Christina Leadlay and Jane Heintzman

Vigil at French Embassy



Embassy Photo: Sam Garcia

Following the horrific attacks in Paris, France, on Nov. 13, diplomatic leaders in Ottawa gathered outside the Embassy of France on Sussex Drive to express condolences in memory of the victims. Dozens of bouquets of flowers lined the fence outside the chancellery, which was the site of a candlelight vigil on Nov. 14. Flags were lowered out of respect at the embassy, Parliament Hill, and at Ottawa City Hall.

Changes for parking space mandate

In keeping with the city's push to reduce car dependence, planners are recommending a significant reduction of the minimum number of parking spaces required for new small residential and mixed commercial/residential developments in the urban core. Draft recommendations include:

- For the inner urban area: small-scale developments, both residential and non-residential, would be exempt from minimum parking requirements. Parking for non-residential uses, like retail, would be reduced by half.
- For Mainstreet (including Beechwood) and urban mixed-use areas: exemptions for parking spaces would apply to low-rise apartment buildings (under four storeys), apartments in mixed-use buildings, businesses under 5,500 square feet, grocery stores under 10,700 square feet and offices on or above the second storey.

A series of consultations on the possible changes will wrap up Dec. 18. (contact minimumparking@ottawa.ca) One more round of consultations is planned before

the final recommendations are presented to Planning Committee in the spring of 2016. If passed, the new rules will be the first major change to Ottawa parking requirements in over 50 years. These measures could have a major impact on congestion in the Beechwood corridor.

Could our MP be the next House Speaker?

Ottawa-Vanier's Liberal MP **Mauril Bélanger** has reportedly been lobbying hard to be chosen as the next Speaker of the House of Commons. Current Speaker **Andrew Scheer** (a Conservative from Regina, Sask.) has not put his name to stand for the Dec. 3 election, to be conducted for the first time by preferential ballot. Other Liberal MPs in the running include Halifax's **Geoff Regan**, Quebec's **Denis Paradis**, Newfoundland's **Scott Simms** and Toronto's **Yasmin Ratansi**. Bélanger has been our area's MP for 20 years and is bilingual. The role of Speaker brings an extra \$80,100 on top of the base MP salary, a car and driver, private apartment in Centre Block and the official residence known as "The Farm" in the Gatineau Hills. The Speaker also chairs the powerful Board of Internal Economy.

Capital Urbanism Lectures

The Capital Urbanism Lab, launched by the National Capital Commission last year at 40 Elgin St., hosted more than 35 mostly full-house events. The NCC has followed up this year with a series of 10 lectures on urban themes, which kicked off in October with presentations on Eco-design for Cities and Suburbs, and on Tactical Urbanism. Coming up in December and in 2016 are seven presentations on a variety of fascinating topics, many of them with direct bearing on our community:

- Dec. 3 — Archeology in the Capital Region: Discovering our Past
 - Jan. 14 — Urbanism Online
 - Feb. 18 — Creating a River Culture in the Capital
 - March 16 — The "ART" of City Building
 - April 7 — Park Stewardship: Best Practices
 - May 4 — Urban Forests
 - June 21 — Aboriginal Architecture and Design
- Most lectures will take place

from 6-8 p.m. at 40 Elgin St. Learn more at www.ncc-cnn.gc.ca.

259 Beechwood to be demolished

Ottawa East News reported that city's built heritage sub-committee has approved plans to demolish 259 Beechwood Ave. to make way for three two-storey units with varying setbacks, to be built by Arcon Homes. The original structure, built in 1953, is a one-and-a-half storey single-family home fronting Beechwood and has a stone wall marking the change in grade from sidewalk to front yard. Corona Ave. resident **Susan Ross** was quoted as saying while the developer has been cooperative and neighbourly, she would have liked the applicant to have paid more attention to the cultural heritage impact assessment. Sub-committee chair, **Tobi Nussbaum**, said Ross's points need to be considered as part of the Beechwood Community Design Plan and the Rockcliffe Park Secondary Plan.

Royal Swans to winter at Park Safari



Photo by Simon Leadlay

Ottawa's royal swans ended their summer on the Rideau River on Nov. 5 and are now wintering this year at Parc Safari located near Montreal, according to the *Ottawa Citizen*. Since the 1960s, the swans have spent the winter in a heated wooden structure on Leirrim Road, but **Kevin Wylie**, general manager of public works, said "significant operational and safety concerns" have made the building unsafe for the birds. The city has entered into a two-year partnership with Parc Safari for the swans' winter care, which will cost \$22,000, plus feed and veterinary care — the same cost for housing and care for the swans in Ottawa. Parc Safari has "quite a nice setup," for the birds, said **Laila Gibbons**, city manager of parks, buildings and grounds services. There are nine mute swans and two Australian swans.

Christmas Services

A listing of area churches offering Christmas and Advent services. See websites for details.

MACKAY UNITED

39 Dufferin Rd. 613-749-8727, mackayunitedchurch.com

Dec. 20, 7 pm - Coming in Out of the Blue Christmas Service.

Dec. 24, 4:30 pm - Christmas Eve intergenerational service with communion.

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN

326 MacKay St. 613-749-1731, stlukeottawa.org

Dec. 1, noon - Advent lunch with fellowship and singing

Dec. 6 and Dec. 13, 10:30 am - Advent services

Dec. 20, 10:30 am - Children's Christmas pageant and Jesus' birthday party

Dec. 24, 7 pm - Christmas Eve candlelight and carol service

Dec. 25, 10:30 am - Christmas Day

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN

270 Crichton St. 613-749-6953, stjohnlutheran.ca

Dec. 6 and 10, 10 am - Advent services

Dec. 20, 10 am — Children's Christmas pageant and luncheon held in main hall at MacDonald-Cartier Academy

Dec. 24, 7:30 pm — Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Dec. 25, 10:30 am — Christmas Day Service held in the main lounge of the Gary J. Armstrong Long Term Care Facility, Porter Island.

Dec. 27, 10 am — First Sunday of Christmas

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S

125 MacKay St. 613-745-7834, stbartsottawa.ca

Visit website for details.



ST. COLUMBA

24 Sandridge Rd. 613-749-5103, stcolumbaottawa.ca

Dec. 24, 4 pm - Family service with children's story-time

Dec. 24, 9 pm - Choral Eucharist with candlelight and carols

Dec. 25, 9:30 am - Holy Eucharist

Dec. 27, 9:30 am - Choral Eucharist

ST. ANDREW'S

82 Kent at Wellington, 613-232-9042, StAndrewsOttawa.ca/Christmas

Dec. 20, 4 pm - Brass ensemble and candlelight carols with the Choir of St. Andrew's Church.

Dec. 21, 7 pm - The Blue Christmas service allows music and words to touch the hurting heart, and to light a candle in the midst of the darkness.

Dec. 24, 6:30 pm - The children and youth of St. Andrew's present the Christmas pageant & carols.

Dec. 24, 10 pm - The Choir of St. Andrew's leads us in the Lessons and Carols. Experience an hour of assurance and beauty, of scripture lessons and song, of anthem and meditation.

Dec. 25, 11 am - Celebrate the birth of our Saviour with joy-filled carols and readings.



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- By Elizabeth Gray-Smith and Jane Heintzman -

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As we approach the end of another eventful year, the New Edinburgh News staff salute our loyal advertisers, many of whom have been longstanding supporters—some of whom have been with us since the earliest days of our paper. The simple but compelling fact is that without the support of these businesses, the NEN could not continue to bring you the regular round-up of happenings in the neighbourhood that you've come to anticipate and, we hope, enjoy. For the majority of our regular advertisers, subscribing to our paper is first and foremost an expression of support for the community as opposed to purely for promotional purposes (though we hope to be of some value in the latter capacity as well!) We are extremely grateful for their loyalty and support, and look forward to working with them in the coming year.

If you're a new business in the area and are interested in joining our advertising roster, you're welcome to get in touch with us. You'll find all our contact information on page 3 of this issue, as well as on the community website at www.newedinburgh.ca (click on News and Events, follow the link to the New Edinburgh News). You can also check out our Advertising Rate Sheet online.

New things rising at bakery

It's fast approaching five years since the fateful Beechwood fire destroyed our community's commercial core, and drove even the surviving businesses to seek new locations. When **Bread and Roses** owner **Chris Green** was forced out of his bustling bakery in the heart of our shopping area, he opted for more spacious premises at 323 St. Laurent Blvd., partly in the hope that the larger production facilities could serve as a base for an expanded wholesale distribution operation to offset the dauntingly high costs of the move, and buttress the retail business until a new Manor Park-based clientele

could be firmly established. Regrettably, the plan encountered some bumps on the road, as at the time of the move, wholesale clients were feeling the pinch of a lacklustre economy and cutting back on their orders, while the retail business proved sporadic. And in its first year the bakery was plagued by an unusually long, harsh winter.

Happily, those lean years have passed, and the bakery is now thriving in its new location, fuelled by a robust and expanding wholesale operation. Bread and Roses products—in particular Chris' popular line of sourdough baguettes—are now available in a wide range of food stores and cafés throughout the city, including high-end specialty



Photo by Louise Imbeault
Bread and Roses' new manager Sean Giroux with owner Chris Green.

shops such as **Jacobson's** and **Epicuria** in our own neighbourhood, as well as Ideal Coffee in the ByWard Market. At the same time, the bakery has taken hold in the Manor Park area where its regular retail clientele is steadily expanding, and the staff has been beefed up to a complement of nine to handle the growing demand.

Following the departure of **Isabella**, the cheerful front-of-house operations manager before she returned to her native Australia last summer, **Sean Giroux** has taken over as bakery manager, bringing to bear 16 years of experience in the food business. Sean has "done it all" when it comes to the food trade, having worked as a butcher, a cheesemonger,

a deli manager and even in the fresh produce area. The bakery is a new and welcome challenge, which Sean is tackling with enthusiasm, and he is optimistic about the prospects for building an even stronger business in the St. Laurent location.

Another piece of good news at Bread and Roses, particularly for those of us who have been loyal clients since the bakery's first days 25 years ago, is the return of **Norbert Weiler**, (referred to by Sean as "Dr. N"), the master bread baker who many will remember as the creator of the gluten free and organic loaves which drew customers to Beechwood from all over the city. Norbert moved on to other employment when times were tough at the bakery, but he has recently returned to the fold and is busily working on a new organic bread line and a red fife wheat bread to be introduced to the neighbourhood early in the New Year. Welcome back, Norbert!

Needless to say, Bread and Roses will be hopping through the Christmas season, with its traditional offering

of savoury pies, tourtières, specialty cookies and cakes for holiday entertaining. If you haven't yet sampled the savoury pies such as curried veggie sweet potato, curried turkey sweet potato, Aussie pie, and of course, tourtière, they're well worth a special trip to the store. In our house, they're a simple and satisfying staple, not only at holiday meals but throughout the winter when the weather is chilly and appetites are hearty.

If the business continues to thrive and grow at its current pace, Chris is hopeful that at some point in the not too distant future, a satellite business may be in the cards—fingers crossed that the new location will be back on Beechwood where Bread and Roses got its start over two decades ago! We wish Chris, Sean and all the staff at the bakery a happy holiday season and continuing success in the New Year. *JH*

Taking it beyond poinsettias

Walk into **Mood Moss Flowers** right at 9am and you'll find a calm not typical of its usual daily energy. Aprons are hung, vases are neatly stacked, flowers and greenery rest undisturbed in the walk-in fridge, and owner **Eric Cardinal** stands momentarily in one place. But the calm doesn't last. In just 10 minutes, the staff begins to walk in, grab an apron and get to work. It doesn't take long for flowers to be pulled from the fridge, for stem trimmings to fly to the floor, and the sound of craft paper being cut with razor precision to fill the air.

"This is one of the busiest times of the year for us," said Eric.

In the weeks leading up to the first big snowfall, the store is busy, populated with



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Photo by Elizabeth Gray-Smith

Christmas décor is ready to go at Mood Moss Flowers.

Christmas décor. Artificial-berry wreaths pop in red and white on the walls, modern wooden tree mantle decorations stand tall on countertops, and ornaments hang from the surrounding walls.

"We are not just ready to go with the Christmas season, we are already doing it," he said.

Eric is on his way out – out to spend the morning doing the rounds with clients who have requested outdoor winter planters. This is the ultimate service in seasonal curb appeal. You'd be hard-pressed not to see his work on your daily commute, either on the doorsteps of your neighbours or bookending Bridgehead's front door.

Give Eric an urn and he'll find the right balance. "I add evergreens, magnolia, pinecones, dogwood, artificial berries, and birch ornaments. Last year it was all about stars, but this year I add balls made of birch."

But, it isn't just about the outdoor arrangements. Many of his regular and returning customers ring him for that eye-popping centrepiece. "They want something they can show off at the early-December holiday party that will last until Christmas day," he said. "There's lots we can do."

Eric opened the floral boutique just over a decade ago, a time when Bridgehead had yet to stake claim across the street.

He points outside the window across the street, "that foam shop was still there when I first moved in here... and we had MEC at the other end...it was all before the fire."

It was always his goal to open doors on Beechwood.

"It is just this great main street right next to downtown," he said. "I took a gamble taking a 10-year lease, but it all worked out. I hope to help make Beechwood Avenue a destination street again."

Contact Eric and the Mood Moss team at moodmossflowers.com or call 613-741-1774. EGS

Jacobson's: Action Central for the festive season

For close to a decade, **Jacobson's** has been a jewel in the crown of the retail community on Beechwood, combining high quality merchandise from both local and international sources with eye-catching in-store displays and efficient, friendly service. In recent years, its renowned collection of fine cheeses has made it a destination business for cheese lovers throughout the National Capital Region, and cemented its reputation as a leading light on Ottawa's gourmet food scene.

Regulars at Jacobson's will be aware that visiting the shop is a far cry from a quick trip to the grocery store, when you hone in on the items on your list and make a beeline for the cashier. Even if you have a list when you drop in at Jacobson's, it's impossible to resist a lingering look at the appealing displays of intriguing and often unusual merchandise, and to scan

the shelves and coolers for specialty items or gifts for friends and relatives. And to make it even more captivating, these displays are constantly changing so there's always something new to catch your eye.

Though the store ranks high on the eye-appeal scale throughout the year, Jacobson's at Christmastime is right off the charts. Each year, owner **Susan Jacobson** and her staff close shop for several days in early November, and beaver away to transform the premises into a dazzling display of holiday merchandise, with specialty items from all over the globe to tempt your palate, decorate your table or tree, fill family Christmas stockings, spruce up your kitchen, or enliven holiday entertaining. And did I mention hostess gifts? It's a one-stop shop for these items throughout the year, but in the Christmas season, it's virtually an essential service!

Susan's Christmas extravaganzas are the product of a full year of preparation, including extensive travels in Europe and the U.K. to search out distinctive high quality items. She has made a practice of introducing a new range of merchandise each Christmas, and this year is no exception, with an abundance of tempting possibilities for holiday decorating, entertaining and gift giving adorning the shelves at 137 Beechwood. High on the agenda is an extensive line of intriguing and colourful Christmas ornaments made by U.K. designer **Gisela Graham** (giselagraham.co.uk/collections/).

And at this dark season, there are candles galore to light up your dining table or living room. The new imported selection includes elegant **True Grace** beeswax candles, with such natural fragrances as flowers, cucumbers and fresh tomatoes capturing the aura of the English countryside, and **St. Eval** all natural candles made on an organic

farm in Cornwall, U.K., and packaged in rustic clay pots. Also on the shelves this year are decorative olive boards, spoons and bowls made by hand in Andalusia, Spain, from the trunks of fallen olive trees. After all these years, Susan knows her community well, and let's face it; we're a doggy crowd. For your pampered pooch, she's offering an entertaining selection of Harry Barker toys (including fleece slippers!) and doggy Christmas stockings, so no member of your household need be left out on the big day.

As always, Jacobson's legendary cheeses will be flying

handsome gift baskets are an ideal option for those who dread the mad crush of shopping malls and overcrowded parking lots. You'll find a gift catalogue on the website at www.jacobsons.ca and you can order online and have your order shipped anywhere in Canada. There are also gift catalogues available at the store.

Santa Claus himself will be dropping by the store on **December 12**, and if last year's visit is any guide, plenty of eager children and adults alike will be on hand to greet him. Wonder if he'll get a tangy chunk of five-year old Parmesan to take the



Photo by Marie Mullally

Jacobson's owner Susan Jacobson with Terri Dubi and Meaghan Kenny.

off the shelf this year as a staple of holiday entertaining. Susan is introducing a few new lines for the holidays, including five-year old Italian Bonati parmesan, a 30 kg whopper of a cheese of which there are only two in Canada – one right here in our 'hood! To complement the cheeses, you'll find fresh breads from Nat's Bread, True Loaf and our local Bread and Roses, along with an endless array of fine crackers and biscuits.

Last but not least, Jacobson's

place of milk and cookies this year? JH

Keeping local eyes on-trend

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Continued on page 12



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Photo by Elizabeth Gray-Smith

Elizabeth Gray-Smith tries on the Ray-Ban Clubmaster in a light metal frame. "It is a bit retro," said Renée. "It is certainly much more popular now."

Continued from page 11

shop for all your vision needs.

Elizabeth Gray-Smith dropped in for a tour of all the eyewear on offer, sitting still in their glory in perfectly lit wall-to-wall display casings. **Renée Lavallée**, Nuvo Optometry's in-house registered optician, was on hand to walk through the trends and to help this Burgh Biz

rent fad palette. "Colours have to go with your complexion," said Renée.

"Reading glasses are a big purchase here," said Renée. Not necessarily knocking the pharmacy-bought pair, but Nuvo Optometry can take them to the next level. "We have all shapes and sizes and we can recommend the right lens, like the BluTech lenses



Photo by Elizabeth Gray-Smith

Reading glasses from Nuvo Optometry with some edge and style.

contributor try on some of the latest fashion frames on for size.

"The trend remains big, bold and plastic," said Renée. "But, watch for it. Round is coming. Some of it is already here. But round is going to hit." She also notes we are not really reaching south of the border for our fashion cues. "Typically, Canada follows Europe in terms of glasses."

According to Renée, trends tend to have a two-year cycle, which somewhat coincidentally aligns with insurance plans for new eyewear.

As for colours, there are plenty of colours on the cur-

rent for those who use screens most of the day."

While I couldn't try on the children's line, Renée notes that they carry some of the coolest frames on the trend scale. "We have moved so far beyond that Winnie-the-Pooh-look to colours, bold frames and every contemporary shape," she said. "Kids these days want the same frames as their parents."

From the cat-eye to the high bridge to the faux-brow, they are elements of frames that can balance the jaw line or frame the face. "These details matter in making the match," said Renée.

To top it all up, Nuvo respects a two-year warrantee on any defects and welcomes drop-in frame tune-ups. After all, their mantra is "See better. Look better. Feel better."

Nuvo Optometry is located at 178 Beechwood Ave. Call them at **613-749-0481**. *EGS*

More space, a new face at Studio One

Personal Trainer **Craig Adams**, owner of **Studio One PT** at 1 Springfield Rd. (above the Second Cup), is delighted to report that the business has experienced a "growth spurt" in the past year, with a busier than expected summer season and a deluge of new clients signing up this fall. The majority of clients are residents of the neighbourhood (including one recent recruit from the newly launched *Kavanaugh*), and are taking advantage of the convenient, walkable facility to keep up their fitness regimes. Since Craig opened two years ago, his clientele has ballooned from fewer than 20 regulars to more than 80, and is steadily rising.

Craig and his co-trainer **Trevor McMan** offer Personal Training sessions largely on a one-on-one or couples basis, and have recently introduced small group classes on Saturday mornings. With the influx of new clients in recent months, a new trainer—the third Musketeer!—has just been added to the line-up. **Todd Annand** will be offering one-on-one and small group sessions beginning in December, and interested readers should take note that for his new clients, the first two weeks



Photo by Louise Imbeault

Studio One owner Craig Adams with co-trainer Todd Annand.

of training (two sessions per week) will be offered free of charge. The timing is perfect if you're thinking of signing up in December to get in shape for the ski season (or the holiday party circuit), and you get a welcome reprieve for your budget as the stressful gift-buying whirlwind sets in.

Another piece of good news at Studio One is the coming addition of about 600 square feet of space to the gym facilities, thanks to the acquisition of an office area at the back of the second floor recently relinquished by Second Cup. Craig reports that the new space is especially welcome right now, as it creates more flexibility for Todd to hold additional sessions with his new clients as he settles into his role at the studio. Craig expects the renovations to begin very shortly and with luck, to be completed by the end of the year—just in time to accommodate a New Year's resolutions spike after Christmas!

Looks can be deceiving, and if you haven't yet dropped in to the Studio, you may be under the mistaken impression from a glance at the front window that it could be rather cramped and dark. On the contrary, however, the facilities are bright, airy and amazingly spacious (now about

1600 square feet), with a fully equipped gym and smaller cardio work out room where clients can drop in to keep up their exercise regimes between training sessions.

Craig is well aware of the deceptively modest exterior appearance of the Studio, and welcomes visitors to see the premises at first hand and to meet the trainers. To arrange a visit, you can reach him at **613-740-1555** or at **craig@studioonept.com**. And if you happen to be struggling to think of gift ideas for a friend or family member, how about a gift card for a package of sessions at Studio One PT? Based on my own experience with one of our boys, they'll thank you for it and gain a whole new lease on life! *JH*

Stanley Ave.'s own Indian bazaar

"My house looks like an Indian bazaar," say **Victoria Walker**, owner of Holy Cow Textiles and Homeware. "And, I always have the tea on... just like a bazaar."

Victoria's Stanley Avenue home serves as both a warehouse and a display studio for the hand-made, directly sourced silk and wool products she imports from her travels to India and Southeast Asia.

"I've always loved textiles," she said. "The textures,

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the colours and the stories behind them...each piece I have to offer has a story and behind each piece there are real people."

On her trips to source these 'works of art' as she calls them, Victoria meets with artisans and the organizations representing them to ensure all of her products are ethically produced.

She recently returned from a trip to India where she picked up a wealth of unique items.

"They all follow me back home after these long trips," said Victoria wearing a reversible indigo-work jacket she picked up from a designer she met in Jaipur. "And, now they are here, ready to find a home."

Victoria first started her home-run business as a small enterprise, knowing that the storefront model is not necessarily the only channel to get quality products into the hands of those who want it.

"I started small to see how it would go, but, in fact, I got a great response," said Victoria. "Now, here I am building up for holiday shopping."

Most of her customers first connect with her through word-of-mouth and social media, and then return for what she boasts as affordable pricing for quality product. And, she has a lot of product on offer. Silk jackets, luxurious scarves, and hue-popping jewellery are abundant. And, for home décor, she has gathered a significant collection of vibrant pillow coverings and unique throws, hand-block print table linens and whimsical table scattering (which are all the rage in homeware stores), along with items that can find their

way into eclectic and colourful children's rooms.

All will be on display at the upcoming **Holy Cow Textiles and Homeware trunk sale, running from Dec. 4-6 at 116 Stanley Ave.** Check Facebook at HolyCowOttawa for details on drop-in times. Victoria also welcomes anyone to make an appointment to see, feel and discover the many stories behind each of the pieces she imports. Contact Victoria at 613-744-1624 or see Facebook.

"I'll have the chai ready," she said. *EGS*

Changing of the guard at Rassi Coiffure

After 15 years as the owner of landmark Burgh business **Rassi Coiffure** at 2 Beechwood Ave., **Marwan El Rassi** recently sold the operation to long-time stylist and colleague **Ray El Hage**. Ray has worked with Marwan at the salon for 14 years and is well positioned to take the helm and maintain the large and loyal customer base that Marwan has built up over the years. Although he is in the process of hiring two additional stylists to buttress the current complement of three, Ray has no plans to make any major changes in the operations of the salon, sticking to the time honoured principle "if it ain't broke, don't fix it."

The good news is that Marwan will remain at the salon to give Ray a helping hand in the early stages following the transition, and his friends and clients will be happy to learn that he will continue doing what he loves best: cutting and styling hair. After more than two decades operating his own business,

however, Marwan is ready to cut back on the onerous office and administrative aspects of his work, and to take things a little easier now that he has reached the venerable age of 50. He might even begin to take a regular lunch break!

Looking back on the past 15 years, Marwan takes pride in the quality and stability of the business he has created on Beechwood, building his clientele largely through word of mouth and on the strength of welcoming, personal service. Over the years his clients have included such luminaries as Prime Ministers **Paul Martin** and **Jean Chrétien**, but all have been accorded the kindness and respect that Marwan has held as first principles of the salon for staff and customers alike.

In addition to the demands of running his business and serving his regular clientele, Marwan has been active in the community since his arrival on Beechwood, serving on the Quartier Vanier Business Improvement Area (QVBIA) Board of Directors for four years, and working hard to promote and support small businesses in the area, as well as to advance the ambitious beautification program launched by the QVBIA and culminating, most recently, in the installation of new lighting on Beechwood. In the course of his research for the project, Marwan met with New York Mayor Bloomberg and took to heart Bloomberg's advice about implementing a



Photo by Marie Mullally
Marwan El Rassi (left) and Ray El Hage (right) discuss style with Grace Abouzaid.

new idea: "If you believe in it, just do it!"

Social outreach in the community has also been high on Marwan's agenda and he has been a strong supporter of community causes such as schools and women's shelters. He was recently a moving spirit behind the building of a playground for the children at Assumption Catholic School in Vanier, rallying the community and with the aid of Senator **Vern White**, raising the funds to undertake and complete the project within a year.

Marwan truly loves this neighbourhood and believes strongly in the importance of promoting the small businesses that make it a lively and interesting place. He is grateful to the community

for all of its support over the years, and urges residents to stay engaged and to keep working to further strengthen and enliven the neighbourhood. We wish Marwan well in his new, more relaxed role and look forward to staying in touch as he remains an active presence on Beechwood. *JH*

Pianist welcomes new students

Accomplished musician and piano teacher **Petya Karakoleva** has been the senior ballet pianist at the School of Dance since 2009, and offers private piano lessons in both English and French to students of all ages and abilities ("from four to 104") in a studio at 200 Crichton Street in the heart of

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The author, a Manor Park resident, offers an unconventional, often dark, more often hilarious view of diplomacy in settings as varied as Haiti, London, the Balkans, and Kyrgyzstan, including, at one point, covert monitoring of Soviet military operations in Cuba on behalf of the CIA with the blessing of President Kennedy and Prime Minister Pearson.

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James Bartleman, author of *Roller Coaster* and *Out of Muskoka*, former Ambassador, and former Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario.

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our community.

Petya has a distinguished record of achievement in the musical realm, having graduated Magna Cum Laude from the National School of Music and Dance in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, with a degree in piano pedagogy and performance. In 2002, she went on to study with **Mykola Suk**, one of the leading piano pedagogues in the U.S., at the University of Nevada Las Vegas where she was awarded a full scholarship as a piano performance major. In Nevada, she acquired wide-ranging artistic experience in her roles as pianist for such organizations as the Nevada Ballet Company, Opera Las Vegas, Cirque du Soleil and Las Vegas Contemporary Dance Theatre.

As a student, Petya specialized in ballet accompaniment, and it was at that time that she encountered **Barbara Riske**, a former senior ballet pianist with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet. When Petya's family embarked on a move to Canada in 2008, Ms. Riske recommended that she make contact with The School of Dance and the Greta Leeming Studio in Ottawa, a fortuitous piece of advice which led ultimately to Petya's employment with both schools. She has since branched out to teach at the Ottawa School of Music in Kanata in addition to pursuing her work with the ballet studios, and became a registered Royal Conservatory of Music teacher.

Petya has a broadly based pedagogical background, with extensive training



Photo courtesy Petya Karakoleva
Pianist Petya Karakoleva has a studio at 200 Crichton.

in the Russian, U.S. and Canadian teaching systems. She describes her own teaching style as "versatile.... depending on age, expectations, personality and skills," and enriches her technical instruction with music and art history, theory and period history to give students a more complete understanding of the works they are studying.

Since her move to Canada, Petya has performed in Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa, including appearances at the NAC, the National Gallery of Canada and the Canadian Museum of History. This fall, she was the proud recipient of the Royal Conservatory of Music's Gold Medal Teacher Award for outstanding pedagogical achievement, and was invited by the RCM to serve as its representative at the Ottawa Culture Ministry Town Hall which took place at the NAC in November.

Petya is currently welcoming new students at her Crichton Street studio, so if you or your offspring are

inspired to begin the New Year on a musical note, you can reach her at **613-327-0670** or at **petya_art@yahoo.com**. *JH*

The neighbourhood tax man

Overlooking the Rideau River from a second-floor window on Stanley Avenue sits **Michael Edwards** in his home office. He's an experienced chartered accountant. He is also known to many in the neighbourhood as the man who crunches their numbers and gets their tax returns in perfect order. While he may not boast about it, Michael has gathered more than 110 regular clients during his more than 18 years of delivering these services seamlessly.

"Eighty percent of my clients are probably from the area," said Michael. While a few clients stretch down the 401 to Toronto and across the 417 to Montreal, he enjoys serving the folks of New Edinburgh, Lindenlea, and Rockcliffe.

He admits that most of the, "tax work," can be done online now. But, he also knows, by virtue of his client base, that many entrepreneurs and busy folks simply want somebody else to manage their taxes and map out their bottom line. With some help through community paper advertising and, admittedly, through classic word-of-mouth, his attracts a solid client list. And, they return to call on him for his number-crunching skills, deep CRA knowledge, experience in and attention to tax returns, and confidentiality.

"I'd like to say I'm as busy as I want to be," said Michael. "But I love meeting new people and can handle new clients." He not only manages the files of his regular clients, he is well equipped and experienced to handle the unexpected. He can help a family navigate through the paperwork that comes with a death in the family and support a small start-up work through their financials.

Michael's busiest time is February, March and April. "It is clockwork around that time," he said. "But, I like it all."

It might seem hard to believe that Michael spends a lot of time looking up from his computer to enjoy the view from his office.

"The birds, the bridges, the river," he said. "I just love looking at it every day. It reminds me of the whole community...of the neighbourhood people I work with."

Call Michael to talk about your own personal or corporate income tax, finan-

cial statement preparation or small business counsel at 613-749-7013. *EGS*

BURGH BUSINESS BITS

New on Beechwood: Matnik Spa

When **Lee Ann Zanelli** closed the doors of **Beautymark Esthetics** at 2 Beechwood Ave. this summer, it wasn't long before esthetician/sport massage therapist **Abby Bassin** caught sight of the *For Lease* sign on the premises and made her move. Abby is the owner of **Matnik Spa** which currently operates at 92 rue Laval in Gatineau, and for some years, she has driven by the corner at Beechwood and the Vanier Parkway on her commute to work. The attractions of that spot have always had strong appeal for her as a prospective location for a new business, so when the sign appeared, she was quick to stake her claim to the former Beautymark space.

Renovations to the premises have been underway for several weeks, and when we spoke in early November, she was hoping to launch the Beechwood Matnik Spa by late November. The spa will offer much the same esthetics services as its predecessor Beautymark, including manicure/pedicure; sugaring and waxing hair removal, as well as electrolysis; facials, and massage therapy with a Registered Massage Therapist. Find more details on the Matnik Spa website at **www.spatherapiematnik.com**.

In celebration of the launch of her new Beechwood business, Abby plans to offer some Opening Specials in

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the coming weeks, including a 10 percent discount on hair removal (body sugaring and waxing), a 20 percent discount on facials, eyelash extensions, manicures and pedicures, and a \$1/minute rate for relaxation massage. The spa will be open from 9:30 am-8:30 pm from Monday through Saturday, so you'll have plenty of flexibility for after-work appointments during the week, and all services will be fully bilingual. If you're thinking about some beautifying preparations for the holiday season, drop in to the newly minted Matnik Spa to meet Abby and book an appointment, or give them a call at **613-746-8821**. Welcome to New Edinburgh Abby, and best of luck in your new location. *JH*

Award for Amsted Design-Build

In early October, **Amsted Design-Build**, whose "Living Room" satellite operation was established last year at **17 Springfield Rd.** following the departure of legendary local tailor **Leo La Vecchia**, was named Renovator of the Year at the Greater Ottawa Home Builders' Association's annual Housing Design

Awards. Amsted is a six-time winner of this coveted title, which is awarded primarily for outstanding customer service and quality workmanship.

Only a few days before the GOHBA ceremony, Amsted owner **Steve Barkhouse** had again stepped up to the podium to receive the Renovator of the Year award at the Ontario Home Builders' Association Awards of Distinction in Huntsville, Ont., so the company wears a double crown and breaks new ground as the first business to capture both the local and

provincial awards in this category. Indeed, in its 25 years of operation, Amsted has captured more awards from the local housing industry than any other business, and ranks among the top renovators in North America.

In building his business over the past two and half decades, Steve's point of departure has been his firm conviction that "there's nothing more personal than doing a home renovation," and that strong relationships of trust and familiarity with clients are critical to a successful operation. It's on this basis that Amsted has

launched its two local "Living Room" operations, initially in Westboro and more recently New Edinburgh, as a means of building close connections to the neighbourhoods by establishing a presence in their midst as a convenient one-stop shop for local clients.

In the Springfield Road Living Room (known as "L2"), clients can drop in to consult with designer **Greg Simpson**, project manager **Ray Dubé** or project coordinator **Chris Clarke**, and view designs and plans on the screens available in the fully equipped facility. In the case of new projects coming up in the area, Amsted holds regular Community Meetings in the Living Room, notifying all residents within a 100 metre radius and spreading the word to others via the local community associations and the neighbourhood grapevine. Steve has found these meetings a helpful way to avoid surprises and resolve any small difficulties or potential irritants related to the local impact of a project. He's delighted with the success of "L2" after its first year of operation on Springfield, declaring "it's everything we

had hoped for, and more."

While you're welcome to simply drop in to Amsted at 17 Springfield (if only to see the award-winning renovation of the interior!), Steve recommends an appointment if you'd like to consult with one of the on-site staff, so give them a call at **613-836-7434**. Congratulations to Steve and his team on their multiple award-winning performance, and best wishes for another great year in New Edinburgh. *JH*

Da Bombe spreads festive cheer


For the sixth consecutive year, Da Bombe owner **Bill Ross** will open his doors on Christmas Eve to welcome those in the community who are struggling financially, lonely, or without friends and family over the holiday season. Starting at 3 pm and continuing "until whenever" as Bill puts it, he and his team at Da Bombe will serve a full traditional Christmas dinner, including turkey and all the trimmings, to any and all who come through the doors. And the whole event costs participants absolutely nothing; it's Bill's gift to those who

Continued on page 16




Photo by Marie Mullally

Amsted's Greg Simpson, design technician; Stephanie Haw, marketing manager; and Chris Clarke, project coordinator.




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Continued from page 15

are down on their luck and in need of good cheer and a fine meal.

The invitation to this cheerful feast is passed along largely by word of mouth, as well as through churches, missions and food banks. Last year Bill and his helpers hosted nearly 80 diners, and chances are there'll be a full house again on December 24. Over the years, Bill has arranged some informal musical accompaniment to liven up the party, so if you happen to have a handy guitar and a couple of hours to spare serenading the diners with some holiday favorites, drop in to Da Bombe or give Bill a call at **613-741-0044**. While Bill finds it difficult to predict from year to year, his recent diners have included a number of single mothers with several children in tow. If you're able to help out with a few small treats for the kids at the party, it would be much appreciated.

And for those of us fortunate enough to be planning our own holiday celebrations, Da Bombe will have its usual mouth-watering seasonal line up of Yule logs, shortbreads, ginger bread, tourtières, and all the traditional favorites that challenge our dietary resolutions. We wish Bill and his team a wonderful holiday season, and special thanks for maintaining this generous Christmas tradition which brightens the lives of so many in the community. *JH*



Photo by Marie Mullally

Da Bombe's Bill Ross whips up some Christmas pudding.

Rockcliffe Retirement Residence

There's a whole lot going on to entertain and engage the residents of the Rockcliffe Residence, and an imaginative and energetic team at the helm to make it all happen. Recreation and Community Relations director **Catherine Strevens-Bourque** reports that this summer's annual themed Garden Party based on the iconic (and addictive) Downton Abbey series was a great success, with both residents and staff decked out in period costumes to play their favourite characters.

Next on the seasonal agenda was the fall Country Harvest Fair, the highlight of which was a hotly contested baking contest with staff. Residence Executive Director **Linda Meek** proved a keen competitor, and was ultimately

declared the winner, though Catherine reports that the decision "is currently under judicial review"!

A popular Friday morning feature at the residence is a guest speaker series, when large groups of over 50 participants gather for cappuccino and current events. In recent weeks, the speakers' line up included all the local candidates during the federal election campaign, an international immigration specialist to address that thorny and topical issue, a fossil fuels consultant and a retired general to shed light on the murky realm of cyber warfare.

The Rockcliffe's signature Living List campaign succeeded in making a number of notable wishes come true this past summer, including the dream of one resident who was treated to lunch with Green Party leader **Elizabeth May** at the Parliamentary Restaurant. The City of Ottawa also supported the campaign, escorting another resident on a VIP tour of

the new Lansdowne complex and TD Place- by rickshaw! A Dance-o-thon in support of the Children's Wish Foundation was a huge hit with both residents and staff, giving a welcome boost to resident **Dawn Thomas'** goal of helping a child in need visit Legoland.

November was another busy month at the residence, with a variety of fundraising events for community causes on the agenda. On Nov. 17, The Rockcliffe hosted a Pearls for Girls fashion show, with all proceeds going to support the work of Help Lesotho, a remarkably successful small charity founded and spearheaded by former New Edinburgh resident **Peg Herbert**. Next up was the Council on Aging evening Art Auction which took place at the residence on Nov. 18,

are welcome to invite two guests, and last year a crowd of 300 was on hand for the celebration. Former Friday's Roast Beef House "Piano Man" **Noel Dimar** will provide musical accompaniment this year and it's a safe bet that a singalong will be the order of the evening. In keeping with tradition, Santa Claus is lined up to make an appearance at the dinner, and rumour has it that this year, you may detect a pronounced Newfoundland accent behind the Ho!Ho!Ho's!

We send best wishes to Linda, Catherine and all the residents and staff at The Rockcliffe for a wonderful holiday season and a healthy and happy New Year. *JH*

It's flu shot season again

Once again this year, **Frank** and **Matthew Tonon** and




Summer Downton Abbey Garden Party at The Rockcliffe

followed by a Sunday afternoon Art Show and Wine and Cheese event in support of the May Court Club Munch and Learn program.

Coming up on Dec. 8 is the annual residents' Christmas Dinner, with cocktails at 5 pm followed by a special dinner at 6 pm. All residents

their fellow pharmacists at the New Edinburgh Pharmacy are offering flu shots to those in the community who'd like to guard against the worst ravages of the annual seasonal virus. The vaccine is strongly recommended for the elderly, pregnant women and anyone with a compromised immune system, but all are welcome to take advantage of this sensible precautionary measure at a convenient location here in our neighbourhood.

Appointments are encouraged to minimize waiting times, so give the dispensary a call at **613-749-4444** and book your shot at a convenient time when you're doing the rounds on Beechwood. It's a simple procedure, but you'll be asked to fill out a preliminary form and to remain in the pharmacy for about 15 minutes after the shot is given as a precaution in the unlikely event of an adverse reaction. In the first week of November, Frank and Matthew administered an amazing 115 vaccines within a three-day period! *JH*



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Market manager reflects on the appeal of Beechwood Village



Photo and montage by Louise Imbeault
Beechwood Farmers' Market manager Chris Penton reflects on his connection with this area and the future of the village.

By Chris Penton Manager, Beechwood Farmers' Market

One of the reasons I chose Beechwood Village for a new Farmers' Market is its history, growth and sex appeal.

When I speak of its history, I gravitate towards the more recent years, my years of first account. I had my first job at the Joannise IGA at age 13 when the Claude Tavern was in the parking lot; Jimmy (Lester's predecessor) was cutting hair across the street; and the Foam store (to become Bridgehead) was in full swing doing...I was never sure what. There was certainly less development along the corridor, but people ambled in and out of shops and stopped to chat. With the buzz of a small village, the juxtaposition of Vanier and Rockcliffe created a sense of acceptance and excitement.

Beechwood's growth is typically judged by the sprout-

ing condos, increase in housing prices and flourishing businesses. I find our area's true power and cohesion is found in the local residents. Involved with the Vanier Community Association, I am on the ground level of its speedy metamorphosis. Creation of groups like the Beechwood Village Alliance, the Lindenlea Community Association and NECTAR are bringing the north side of Beechwood together in a unified voice. An increase in local events, strong city councillors working together and growing amenities all make Beechwood Village an attractive place to relocate.

The sex appeal is driven by the mystery of what Beechwood Village will become, how it will mature. The standard view is that Beechwood is the Westboro of 10-15 years ago. However, I'm not convinced that we will see a sudden flood of vegan restaurants, South American

art shops and cross-fit centres. First, there's a need for some basic amenities. The mix of young families, old-school residents and engaged new arrivals are pushing the businesses towards things like hardware stores, diners and bakeries. This is not to say that the nouveau riche inhabitants won't get their fair share of specialty shops;

just that Beechwood has a few rudimentary spaces to fill. Whatever the look of the commercial front, the will of the community will certainly play a large part in its progression.

This was a year of significant progress for the Beechwood Market, due entirely to the community rallying behind a good thing. Folks understood

that if no one showed up, the Market would disappear pretty quickly, so they planned their weekly shopping for Saturday mornings. Many also came to just mingle, eat and relax. We provided the venue and products, but it is the drive and passion of the community that made this year a success.

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Dreaming of cold winter days in Stanley Park



By Debra Conner

Here is a recap of our latest activities and information on events to come. Firstly, the rain held off, allowing us to have to have another successful Garage Sale in September. A big thank you to CCC member **Sylvain Bélanger** for organizing this year's event and thanks to all the sellers and buyers who participated. This is one of our two annual fundraisers, which allow us to provide the community with skating rinks in the winter, make improvements to the playground and hold other community events throughout the year, so your donations are much appreciated. If you haven't had a chance to drop off your envelope, it is not too late; you can leave it in our new mailbox at 193 Stanley Ave.

Halloween Howl

Our most recent event was our Halloween Howl. **Roxan Clark** did a marvelous job of pulling this event together and it was a huge success. Over 70 children came out dressed in costume to celebrate Halloween at the Stanley Park Fieldhouse on Oct. 25. The children took part in a parade to the Governor's Walk residence and were rewarded with early trick or treat candy. Thank you to the Governor's Walk Retirement Residence for inviting us again this year; the residents love to see the children dressed in their costumes. Of course the Howl could never be a success without all the wonderful volunteers. Thank you to **Caroline Matt, Denise Bélanger, Paula Pincombe, and Thais Martin** for coming out the

night before to help decorate. Thank you to **Matt Dewolfe** for helping to prepare Jell-O and pasta for the gross-out table. The children were thoroughly grossed out. Thank you to **Debra Conner** and **Sylvain Bélanger** for helping prepare hot chocolate drinks for the kids. Thank you to our Games Masters **Olivier Bélanger, Julien Bélanger, Nathaniel Dewolfe, Harvard Matt, Sebastian Matt** and **Harmony Ferreira** for providing order to our wonderful games and gross out table. All of these last young volunteers were once attendees at this event; to see them now volunteering for a whole new younger set of children in the community was wonderful. It is what community is all about! At our craft table, thanks to **Lee Benson** for tirelessly helping string together our ghost craft this year. As well, thank you to our cleanup crew **Pascal Dubuc** and **Rachel** for helping at the end to set things right.

Junction Forum

We were very pleased with the turnout at the Junction Forum that took place on Oct. 28 as part of the NECA AGM at St. Bartholomew's Church. The community came out and voiced their opinions about the idea of expanding the Fieldhouse to serve as home to all three of our community

groups. The overall message from those who attended was that they are in favour of pursuing the idea, so the CCC will continue its participation on the Junction committee to determine how this might be accomplished.

In preparation for the Forum, we did some number crunching on how many people use the Fieldhouse on

Fieldhouse for family and community events, approximately 12,000 people per year make use of this community space. Not bad for a small community group!

Rink Time!

It is getting to be that time of year, and our rink committee, headed up by **Michel Giroux**, is starting preparations for the skating season. As soon as the weather cooperates, we will be laying down the base



Volunteer Olivier Bélanger (aka the Mummy) mans the Feed Howler game at the CCC's Halloween Howl on Oct. 25.

a yearly basis. Between the people who attend our CCC events, who use the rink over the winter, and who rent the

for the rinks. Maintaining the rinks over the winter is a time-consuming job and we are very grateful for our crew of rink attendants and hosers. Interested in being a hoser? Contact **Brian Torrie** at btorrie@hotmail.com to be added to the roster of volunteers who tirelessly work to keep our ice surfaces in tip-top shape.

Our next upcoming event is the New Year's Day winter carnival and brunch on Jan. 1, 2016. We will be serving a pancake breakfast at a very attractive cost of \$2.00 per plate. Cundell's will be on hand to provide horse and wagon rides, and other activities are now being planned. This event is a popular one; last year we served almost 200 breakfasts. We invite you to come out and welcome in the New Year with your community.

Questions about the CCC? Want to volunteer? Help out at our events? Contact **Debra Conner** at dconner@sympatico.ca.

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A lucky barista who's giving back to the Congo

On Oct. 16 at Bridgehead on Beechwood, honorary "mayor" **Peter Dalton** organized an impromptu presentation for a special barista who would become a brand new Canadian citizen the following Monday.

During his work break, Bridgehead barista **John Dunia** was surprised to be ambushed by a group of friends and supporters, including **Paul Delaney, Nicklos Hayden-Hainsley, Rowland Floyd** and **Jocelyne Hodgeson**, who presented him with a beautiful souvenir gift box set of Canadian Mint coins. He humbly accepted the gift from the mayor's hands (turn to pg. 40 for that photo) and after thanking the group, broke into the widest smile and uttered with joy: "I can't wait to vote after the ceremony!"

His new life of freedom in Canada is still overwhelming, and John is amazed to find himself in a land of opportunity, embracing daily the blessings it offers.

He was born in Nundu, but was living in Baraka, a village in the Democratic Republic of Congo, with his 10 siblings and parents. This loving family would open their home to all visitors, transients or neighbours arriving on

their doorstep. Some days, over 100 people would pass through for hospitality, rest and food. The Dunias' home became a safe house, a haven for all who needed to refuel before carrying on with their journey to safety. His childhood memories were simple: he played, swam and went fishing after school with his friends on Lake Tanganyika. John also has a musical ear. He enjoys singing and plays piano, accordion, percussion and any stringed instrument, recently taking up the guitar.

The disruptions in this peaceful village started in 1996, and caused many people to flee their ancestral homes. The only option available for this young lad was to flee the war torn area that was and still is under constant surveillance and attack by armed militants. John witnessed more atrocities and injustices inflicted on fellow human beings than we could ever imagine in our lifetime.

Strong and still unjaded, he was wired to survive. Soon after his arrival at a refugee camp in Burundi, John's misfortune turned hopeful when he met an American professor, **Paul Stevenson**, who started the paperwork for a sponsorship program in Canada. His application was



Photo by Louise Imbeault
John Dunia became a Canadian citizen on Oct. 19. Between his studies and work, John runs a charity to help those he left behind in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

accepted by the **FreeWay Free Methodist Church** in Oshawa, Ont. (www.thefree-way.ca). While in Burundi, he started a choir at Hope Africa University and volunteered for NGOs in Kenya and Uganda.

John finally arrived in Toronto on Oct. 13, 2011, marking the end of an exhausting ordeal to safety. The duress of his journey toward freedom and peace were many years in the making. A child refugee in exile from his parents and siblings, John now needed to prepare for the dramatic changes in environment, climate and diet he faced in Canada. He surmounted these challenges and thrived, but was still saddened by the fact that his family was left behind to endure the ongoing conflict.

A few years later, in August 2013, John moved to Ottawa hoping to pursue an undergraduate degree at the University of Ottawa. He considers himself blessed as the only member of his family to arrive safely in North

America. Sharing a difficult moment he said: "One of my brothers was killed in May 2015 and my other siblings are now refugees in Burundi. They have been threatened and attacked many times, and live in fear daily".

After spending some time in Canada, John found that his new adopted country was a place full of opportunities. Impressed by the generosity of Canadians and how much we love to help those in need both at home and abroad, John was encouraged and inspired to start his own charitable organisation called the **Baraka Victory Centre (BVC)**. He vowed to never forget those in need, and wants to give back by helping the still struggling country folk of Congo. Baraka means "lucky" in Swahili. With few prospects at home, many of Baraka's youths have left to join the Mai-Mai, a local ethnic self-defence militia that is battling the Congolese army farther south.

The BVC has been receiving many donations of cash,

clothing, bicycles and gently used running shoes from neighbours and customers of **Bridgehead** where he works as a barista. John is most grateful to the management and staff of our local coffee shop for allowing him to promote his project. Kudos to local businesses for taking the time to support and encourage the spirit of giving back so closely linked to the Canadian ideal.

BVC recently received a surprise donation of used computers from the Mission Bon Accueil in Montreal. As an individual, John's dream is just that – a dream – but with the help and support of individuals like you who wish to see this project succeed, it will become a reality sooner rather than later.

More funds must be raised very soon to cover the cost of shipping a huge container containing the donated treasures back to the most vulnerable communities in eastern DRC. This expensive and complex project did not dampen his enthusiasm. John adapted by expanding and diversifying his outreach, now using social media, www.bvc-drcongo.org and crowd-sourcing in the hope of achieving his ambitious goal of \$25,000. www.gofundme.com/ukst5d5. So if you feel in the spirit of giving over the holiday season, your family may want to consider a donation to help realize John's dream.

Wishing our readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



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For the Birds

By Jane Heintzman

It’s quiet, too quiet. As I write in mid-November, it’s eerily silent out there in birding territory as migrating flocks head out of the area for their southern wintering grounds. Those that remain go quietly about their business caching food or harvesting the remaining seeds and berries. Not long ago, in early October, there was still plenty of birding activity in our neighbourhood. On my early morning dog walks along the parkway by the Ottawa River, I encountered busy flocks of **Northern flickers**, as well as dazzling **blue jays**; a pair

bling away in the flower bed, **American goldfinches**, **house finches**, **purple finches**, a pair of **ruby-crowned kinglets**, an enchanting **golden-crowned kinglet** and several **white-breasted nuthatches** foraging industriously in the aged pines at the back of our garden. Another October visitor, which lighted in our Northern spy apple tree, eluded positive identification thanks to its secretive behaviour combined with the tree’s thick foliage, but I’m pretty certain it was a male **pine warbler** fuelling up for its southbound journey.



White-throated sparrow at Macoun Marsh.

of **common ravens**; countless buzzing **black-capped chickadees**; large groups of skittish **dark-eyed juncos** flashing their signature white tail feathers; **white-throated** and **white-crowned sparrows**; **american goldfinches** still vocalizing with their squeaky, sliding calls; clusters of **white-breasted nuthatches** “honking” lustily in the trees; **song sparrows** (not singing); scores of **pileated woodpeckers** including one that flew straight across our path at eye level; **sharp-shinned** and **Cooper’s hawks**, and **downy woodpeckers**.

The cast of characters at our feeders in October, which peaked over Thanksgiving weekend, included groups of **white-crowned**, **white-throated** and **song sparrows**, a **fox sparrow** scrab-

On the Rideau River close to the falls, we’ve spotted several lingering groups of ducks, including **common goldeneye**, **common mergansers**, **mallards**, **hooded mergansers** and **wood ducks**. Of these, the hooded mergansers have been the hardest in recent years, often staying on the river until freeze up in late December.

Later in October, large flocks of **American robins** turned up in the trees and shrubs along the parkway, often in frenetic motion utterly unlike their languid aspect in the spring. If, as predicted, we are heading into a mild winter, many of these robins may stick around in the area surviving on the remnants of mountain ash and crab apple trees, and buckthorn berries. The robin flocks were frequently interspersed with

brilliant **Northern cardinals** and **dark-eyed juncos**, adding a welcome dash of life and colour to the dreary fall landscape.

Which is which?

Species identification is difficult enough for the average birder, but distinguishing between two very similar species adds a whole new challenge. **White-crowned** and **white throated sparrows**, among our most common fall visitors, are a case in point, as both species have boldly black and white striped heads, un-streaked breasts, and brownish or gray plumage on their back and wings. And in the autumn, when the white-throat is no longer trilling its signature “*Oh Canada, Canada, Canada*” song, it can be especially hard to tell which of the two cousins is in your garden.

The most foolproof method of identification in this case is the striking yellow “eye brows” that are the mark of the white throat, but which are absent in the white-crown. It’s not always easy to get a good enough look at the bird to spot that detail, but another clue is size: the white-crown is generally larger than the white-throat by at least half an inch. In my experience, the white-crowns are also more aggressive birds than the white-throats, often driving out other foragers such as **juncos** and attempting to dominate the foraging turf.

Complicating identification in the case of the white-throat is the fact that there are two versions of the species: the more familiar group with a bold black and white striped head, and a tan morph which is marked by duller tan head stripes and a more brownish overall appearance. Interestingly, the members of these two groups almost invariably mate with individuals of the opposite morph. Males of both types prefer black and white-striped females, while both kinds of females are attracted by tan-striped males. As the white and black striped birds are more aggressive, the females tend to win out over their tan counterparts in the competition for a tan-striped mate – hence the perpetuation of the two colour variants. White-throated sparrows also mate periodically with **dark-eyed juncos** so if you spot a grayish, dully marked white-throat with white outer tail feathers,



Purple Finch.

Photo by Amy Jane Lawes

Here’s a handy comparison chart that could help out when you’re next struggling to sort out the hungry red finch hordes at your feeders:

Characteristic	House Finch	Purple Finch
Shape	Slender	Stocky, large head in proportion to body size
Color	Red or red-orange	Rosy red or pinkish red, more overall colour
Markings	Blurry streaking, streaked undertail coverts	Sharper streaks (females), white undertail coverts
Wings	White wing bars	Rosy wing bars
Tail	Long with a shallow notch	Shorter with a deeper, more pronounced notch
Bill	Small, bulbous, curved on upper mandible	Larger, less curved
Range	Year-round	Boreal Canada in summer, Eastern and Central U.S. in Winter, year-round on Great Lakes, Northeast
Call Note	Rising “Chirp”	Soft “Pik”

you’ve probably encountered one of their hybrid offspring.

Fathoming finches

Another avian duo which can be tricky to distinguish from one another are the two “red finches” which liven up our back yards and shrubbery throughout most of the year, including the winter months when a splash of colour is especially welcome. The males of the **house finch** and **purple finch** species are extraordinarily similar, and making a positive identification can be hard, particularly when the birds are active and darting about in groups. One clue is the much greater prevalence of house finches in our area, whereas purple finches can be a relative rarity.

Pittaway’s winter finch forecast

Each year, ornithologist **Ron Pittaway** produces a detailed

Winter Finch Forecast mapping the probable southward irruptions of a range of finches and several other irruptive species from northern boreal regions into central, southern and eastern Ontario, as well as other locations in the north east sector of the continent. The forecast is based on the distribution of the birds’ food supplies throughout the area, with the relative abundance or scarcity of cone and seed crops, along with fruit crops such as mountain ash berries and crab apples, being the primary determinant of where the finches will spend the winter months. Check out the full forecast at jeaniron.ca/2015/forecast15.htm.

Here are the predictions for the irruptive species most likely to turn up in our neighbourhood:

Common redpolls are perhaps the best known and most



House finch enjoying a ripe apple. Photo by Amy-Jane Lawes

prevalent irruptive finches in our winter landscape, and in some years, can descend in clouds to take over backyard feeders and blanket weedy fields. This year, they're expected to move south into our area in reasonable numbers thanks to a lacklustre birch seed crop across the boreal forest, and a more robust birch crop in Ontario south of Algonquin Park. If you do have a redpoll invasion at your feeders, you may be lucky enough to spot the rarer **hoary redpoll** or **greater common redpoll** mixed in. The hoary has an overall whitish or snowy appearance with little if any rosy tinge on the breast, while the greater common redpoll is larger, browner, longer tailed and bigger billed. Like most finches, redpolls have a preference for pricey nyjer seed, so stock up this winter to greet the multitudes.

Pine Grosbeak: These rosy beauties are expected to turn up in small numbers in our area, largely due to a poor mountain ash berry crop in northern boreal regions and a comparatively abundant one here. Our mountain ash tree is still laden with berries, so I'm hoping a few of these flashy fellows will find their way to our garden. They are also keen consumers of black oil sunflower seed.

Purple Finch: Pittaway predicts that reasonable numbers of purple finches will irrupt into southern parts of the province this winter due to low cone and deciduous tree seed crops in Northern

Ontario. They prefer black oil sunflower seed at backyard feeders.

Pine Siskin: Regrettably these charming, streaky little finches are not expected to turn up in significant numbers this year because of a lower than average white spruce cone crop in most of Ontario. The siskins will be concentrated in western Canada which has heavy spruce cone crops, but may also appear in the Adirondack Mountains and the northern New England states.

Evening Grosbeak: The population of evening grosbeaks has reportedly been building in Quebec in the wake of an outbreak of spruce budworm, a favoured delicacy of the species. This winter, small numbers of these striking yellow, black and white finches are expected to be around in eastern Ontario, so stock up on their favourite black oil sunflower seed.

Red Breasted Nuthatch: Much to my disappointment, we aren't likely to see many red-breasted nuthatches this winter thanks to a heavy balsam fir cone crop in northern regions to sustain them through the cold months. But if you're lucky, you may still spot one of these elfin little creatures which have rusty breasts and bellies, virtually no neck, a pronounced black eyeline, and a distinctive nasal "nyeep, nyeep" call which you can't miss if you're in their vicinity.

Bohemian Waxwing: Pittaway predicts that we should see reasonable num-

bers of Bohemian waxwings this winter, as mountain ash berry crops are only moderate in boreal regions, and abundant further south. He surmises that their more regular occurrence in recent years is a result of fulsome annual crops of buckthorn berries. The Bohemian waxwing is larger and burlier than its **cedar waxwing** cousin, and lacks the latter's signature yellow belly. For the next few months, you'll have no difficulties in waxwing identification, as the Bohemian is the only one around throughout the winter.

Unholy crow!

You needn't be a birding enthusiast to notice the ubiquitous presence of **American crows** in our urban landscape. These raucous black creatures can be seen and heard in every corner of our cities, and at every season, whatever the weather. They are far from solitary birds, forming family groups of up to 15 individuals and congregating in massive winter roosts of up to two million. (Little wonder that some besieged towns have resorted to firecrackers, propane cannons, repellents and chainsaws to fend them off!) They are notoriously crafty and intelligent creatures, capable of making and using primitive tools, and skilled in the detection of danger.

Among the natural enemies of crows are owls, particularly the **great-horned owl**, and larger **hawks** such as the **red-tail**, **red-shouldered** and **Northern goshawk**. If they spot one of these intruders in their vicinity, crows will descend in angry groups to mob the offender, screeching raucously and swarming its perch until it's able to make a hasty exit. I encountered one such mob on a dog walk in early November, when roughly 100 screaming crows were blackening the sky above the pines along the parkway. To make it even more unnerving, the crows appeared eager to drive me out of the area along with the hawk or owl, and swirled around the heads of myself and my dog until we were at a safe distance. No surprise that groups of crows are dubbed "a murder"!

Reports from our readers

Our West Coast birding reporter **Vicki Metcalfe** is delighted to see the winter birds back in Victoria, with **juncos**, **bushtits**, **chestnut-backed chickadees** and a

Bewick's wren cavorting at her backyard feeders, and **oystercatchers**, **turnstones**, **bufflehead** and other sea birds back on the shoreline close to her house. On a birding excursion to Hawaii earlier this fall, Vicki logged a total of 48 species, 37 of which were "life birds" (species which she had never seen before). The list is long and exotic, but a few of the highlights included **zebra dove**, **red-crested cardinal**, **white-tailed tropicbird**, **Pacific golden plover**, **Hawaiian stilt**, **java sparrow**, **Hawaiian moorhen**, **nutmeg manikin**, **peafowl** and **yellow-fronted canaries**. The only familiar names on her list found in our part of the world were **house finch**, **Canada goose**, **Northern cardinal**, **black-crowned night heron**, **mallard** and **pigeon**.

Across the Rockies in Central Alberta, Nature's Encounters naturalist **Dave Collyer** has been keeping a close eye on the fall migration, spotting numerous **Canada geese**, **trumpeter swans**, **mallards**, **downy woodpeckers**, **white-breasted nuthatches**, **American tree sparrows**, **black-capped chickadees**, **common redpolls**, **rough-legged hawks**, **northern harriers**, **red and white crossbills**, **tundra swans**, **buffleheads**, **snowy owls**, **pintails** and **redheads**.

Closer to home in Val des Monts, **Amy-Jane Lawes** has had a comparatively quiet fall from a birding perspective. In early November, there were seven lingering **common loons** on the lake nearby, along with a mixed group of **common** and **hooded mergansers**. A respectable finch population is still around in Amy's area, with close to a dozen **American goldfinches** on hand each day, and a pair of

purple finches at her feeders. Still no **common redpolls** on the scene, but she's expecting them soon. On a recent excursion to Quebec City, Amy had a close encounter with an adult and a juvenile **Cooper's hawk** in an unsuccessful pursuit of a tasty squirrel, and was dazzled by a massive flock of **snow geese** flying overhead in "very sloppy V formations."

Over at the **Macoun Marsh** off St. Laurent Blvd., St. Laurent Academy science teacher **Mike Leveille** reports an abundance of **white-throated sparrows** and **dark-eyed juncos**, as well as a busy flock of **golden-crowned kinglets** foraging in a stand of maple trees.

Last but not least, **Phil's Avian Bistro** at Alexander and Thomas Streets has been hopping this fall, as birds fuelled up on his premium seed for the long journey south. Philip reports that the line-up of regulars included **white-throated sparrows**, **white-crowned sparrows**, **dark-eyed juncos**, **black-capped chickadees**, **Northern cardinals**, **downy woodpeckers**, **white-breasted nuthatches**, **American robins**, **house finches**, **goldfinches** and **purple finches**. In his morning rambles in Rockcliffe, Philip has also spotted a pair of **sharp-shinned hawks**, a **turkey vulture** pair and several **pileated woodpeckers**.

We wish a very happy holiday to all our readers and best wishes for a wonderful year of birding in 2016. How about making a New Year's Resolution to report your sightings and send your bird photos to us at the *NEN*? Your contributions will be much appreciated as we continue our efforts to give the community a picture of all the action in the world of birds in the months to come.

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What would you like to see done with 24 Sussex?

The neighbourhood's beloved 24 Sussex Dr. is on the cusp of a home improvement overhaul. That we know. While the final decision on what should be fixed in and around Canada's cherished property seems to rest in the hands of the NCC, many have weighed in. **Elizabeth Gray-Smith** took it to the streets of New Edinburgh to scout opinions from local residents on what should be done with this prized and Prime Ministerial piece of real estate. The question: What would you like to see done with 24 Sussex?



"The prime minister's place should be a show piece. Everything that needs to be fixed should be fixed. And let's use this opportunity to making it all energy efficient. I think we should also be talking about how to maintain the property. Once it is fixed, how do we keep it in shape?"

Ariel on Durham Priv.



"The house has reached the stage where we should carefully consider the costs and benefits of rebuilding versus renovating. This is an expropriated 1800s house that has been subject to many piecemeal renovations. Why not create a purpose-built, green residence for our prime ministers?"

Denise on MacKay St.



"Preserving the exterior character and keeping worthy interior architectural features intact are important. However, an interior revamp is necessary to ensure functionality of the living space."

Ian on Ivy Cres.



"I'd like to see it left intact on the outside – I find limestone an attractive exterior. As for the inside, I agree that it should undergo a major renovation. 24 Sussex is the official residence of our prime minister. It is part of our heritage. It wouldn't be right to tear it down."

Dominique on Queen Victoria St.



"I place great value on the preservation of heritage buildings. It must have to do with growing up in one. I would renovate 24 Sussex in a way that maintains the building's historic value, but with a real emphasis on environmental-friendliness so that our PM's residence can be a model for innovative green renovations."

Laura on Crichton St.

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Fiona and Ella Grace on Rideau Terrace



“That is an unparalleled location for the Prime Minister’s residence and I’m sure the view is spectacular. We need to retain the historical features of the home while highlighting the views of the Ottawa River and the Gatineau hills. Get it properly set for visitors of state. And, how about a neon sign on the gates saying ‘In Canada everything is possible’ or ‘Sunny ways, my friend, sunny ways’.”

Kenny on Stanley Ave.



“You can summarize it in four words: exterior-restoration interior-renovation. I wish they could make it more visible to the public. The trees are lovely, but we don’t see the house. If anyone is concerned about how to do it properly, walk down some blocks and you’ll see plenty of examples on how to do it right in New Edinburgh.”

Sean on MacKay St.



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A cautionary tale for dog owners

By Jane Heintzman

Following a two-month struggle with acute liver toxicity, **Hariot Reid**, the much loved Black Labrador of **Alexandra and Isabelle Reid** of Crichton Street, died of liver failure in mid-October at the age of seven years. Hariot's impish charm and loving exuberance captured the hearts of all who knew her. Despite her bantam stature, she was a feisty and lively presence in the New Edinburgh dog park, and will be sorely missed by her canine companions and her many human friends.

Compounding the tragedy of Hariot's sudden death is the medical diagnosis of its

cause as an acute adverse reaction to the commonly prescribed veterinary drug, Metacam. Virtually all dog owners are familiar with Metacam, which is routinely prescribed for pain and inflammation, and which, in the vast majority of cases, has proven effective in relieving discomfort and restoring mobility. The drug is one of a family of comparable Non-steroidal Anti-Inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) which work by inhibiting the production of prostaglandin, a chemical trigger for swelling and pain.

While effective, NSAIDs are not without major risks. Within a few years of their

emergence in veterinary medicine, 3,200 dogs had died or been euthanized as a result of adverse reactions. Close to 20,000 had experienced serious side effects. In the case of Rimadyl, a COX-2 inhibitor NSAID similar to Metacam, the American Food and Drug Administration received reports of 3,000 adverse reactions in a single year, or as many as all other drug reactions combined.

Warning signs to be aware of, which are typically listed on the Client Information Sheets of NSAIDs such as Rimadyl and Metacam, include vomiting; loss of appetite; behavioural changes; pale gums or the yellowing of gums, skin and white of the eyes; impaired coordination; excessive thirst and skin redness or scratching. Hariot suffered all of these classic symptoms, and following her death, her attending veterinarians were in agreement that the facts of the case pointed directly to an acute, adverse reaction to the Metacam she was prescribed following a minor surgery. Supporting this diagnosis is the fact that analysis of incident reports related to veterinary NSAIDs suggest that Labrador Retrievers in general, and Black Labradors in particular, may be especially prone to toxic reactions to these drugs, a chilling thought for those of us committed to this incomparable breed.



Photo courtesy of St. Bartholomew's Church. Hariot Reid receives a blessing from the Reverend Canon David Clunie while owner Alexandra Reid looks on. Hariot died suddenly in October 2015.

Hariot's death has shaken our local dog owners. It goes without saying that Hariot's owners had no knowledge of the risks associated with the NSAID prescribed for Hariot, less still of the fact that this risk could be elevated in the case Labrador retrievers.

Her death is a cautionary tale to all of us who own and love dogs. Before agreeing to a course of medication for our canine companions, it's clearly essential to inquire about the risks, and to do our own research into the specific drug if our vets' responses are less fulsome or precise than we'd like. In 30-plus years as

a dog owner, I've never been offered a Client Information Sheet along the lines of those routinely given by pharmacies for human medications, but as these are distributed by the drug manufacturers, veterinary clinics should be able to provide them. We can only hope that Hariot's tragic death serves as a wake-up call to dog lovers and the veterinary community that the risks of these NSAID drugs are very real, and that owners need a clear understanding of these risks before agreeing to a course of medication for their beloved dog.

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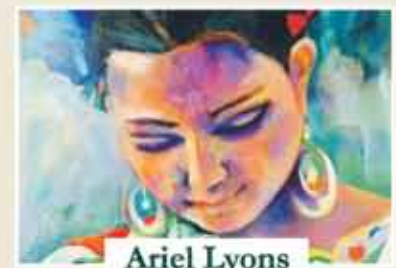
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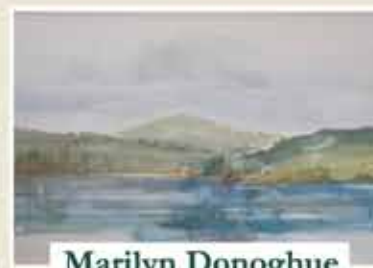
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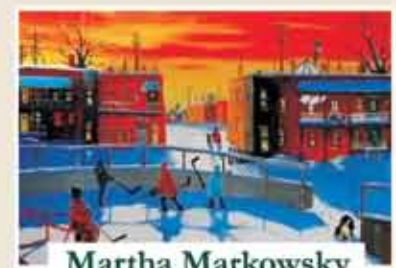
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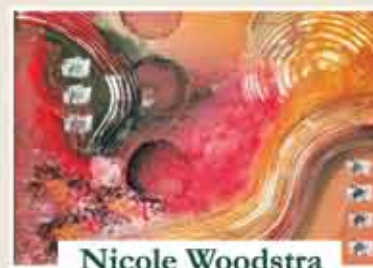
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Book Fair celebrates success

By Adrienne Blair

*"Don't cry because it's over.
Smile because it happened."*

—Dr. Seuss

It seemed fitting to quote the source of the 54th annual Rockcliffe Park Public School Book Fair theme as we wound up on Sunday evening, November 8. Our three-day sale was a terrific success, from the moment we opened the doors for a long line-up of eager shoppers to the last pass of the broom after a vigorous 90-minute tear-down blitz.

The good vibes of the good Doctor were everywhere, most noticeably in our floor managers Thing 1 and Thing 2. Scores of kids enjoyed making Daisy-Head Mayzie accessories at the Craft Table with Miss Roxie and hungry shoppers devoured Seuss-inspired goodies at the Café.

Generous neighbours

Also popular at the Café were hot beverages from **Bridgehead**, savoury curries from **Coconut Lagoon** and **La Maison/The House Resto-Pub**, and other tasty options courtesy of **The Shallowbrook Group** and **L'Entreprise Mazzola**. We're grateful, too, for the delicious donations of big-hearted neighbours, like the chef at the Irish Embassy, who dropped off some amazing still-warm scones on opening morning!

We'd like to thank our long-time Diamond Sponsors **Mark Motors of Ottawa** and **Sezlik.com**, as well as our Gold Sponsors **Claridge Homes** and **Sakto Corporation**. Cheers also to the kind grandparents, parents and friends of RPPS students who adopted the highest-ever number of bookcases.

Thanks to these kind donors and book-loving shoppers, we raised more than \$54,000 this year! Book Fair supports RPPS trips, projects



Photo courtesy Adrienne Blair

Generous neighbours supplied home baking for the Book Fair's popular café, including some star bakers who embraced this year's Dr. Seuss theme.

and events like Grandparents Day and yearly Author and Illustrator Workshops for our students. We're also proud to fund literacy grants for several Ottawa-area schools.

A final loud and unending thank-you to the more than 200 volunteers who gave

more than 4,000 hours of their time to make Book Fair a success again this year. We couldn't do it without them.

In short: *Did we ever tell you how lucky we are?*

Thank you friends and neighbours – see you next fall!



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Exploring Old Edinburgh and the Scottish Parliament

By Marie Mullally

This past summer, I participated in the Clan MacRae's Tour of Scotland and agreed to write about Day 3, July 28: Edinburgh sightseeing and my tour of the Scottish Parliament.

Edinburgh is a quaintly beautiful city, built on an extinct volcanic site overlooking the Firth of Forth. It has neither skyscrapers nor huge modern buildings as one might expect. In fact, looking out over the cityscape, one has the impression of embarking on the scene of a Harry Potter movie. The Old Town with its 15th and 16th century architecture is a UNESCO world heritage site. It is exquisite and quaint: from the Grassmarket to the cobbled High Street, and on to The Royal Mile extending from the Edinburgh Castle to the Palace of Holyroodhouse (the Queen's Residence while in Edinburgh). We toured historic St Giles Cathedral and its Thistle Chapel, where John Knox, who launched the Scottish Religious Reformation, ministered from

1559 to 1572. Throughout Old Town we encountered a maze of ancient and winding streets with hidden entrances and alleyways. By contrast, the New Town presents a symmetrical grid of streets and an orderly arrangement of exquisite 18th century Georgian architecture. With its grand terraces, well preserved historic homes, traces of everyday life in the 1800s, it contains not only a wealth of historic grand architecture, but also galleries, cafés, museums, shops and restaurants.

Our morning was like a step back in time. We enjoyed coffee and shortbread prior to a walk in the Royal Botanic Gardens and were then on our own. Along the Royal Mile, my travel mate Ellen Macdonald and I found interesting book stores with both used and new editions of Scottish history and current writings. We found that we had to search for authentic Scottish merchants because many shops proffered overpriced, cheaper brands of goods and souvenirs (as is true in tourist areas of most

countries). We chanced upon woollen shops where new fashions were designed and knit on the spot, in some cases by men. These guys were interesting to talk to — true Celts without a hint of the macho and keen on plying their trade. In the afternoon, Ellen went off to tour the Law Courts where earlier we had photographed solicitors on their smoke break, with their wigs tucked under their arms.

My interest in touring the Scottish Parliament stemmed from a wish to know about the division of powers between Scotland and Westminster. The Scottish Parliament is located within the UNESCO site at the foot of the Royal Mile, across from the gates of Holyroodhouse. At first blush, the building looked to be under construction. I mistook the sycamore and oak exterior panelling to be part of a scaffolding. In fact, it is a unique, exquisite outside finish in an open anti-classical architectural design. Some Scots say the representation in the design provides a contrast of the inner city to the outside landscape. To others,



Photo by Marie Mullally

The beautiful Scottish city of Edinburgh features a maze of ancient and winding streets with hidden entrances and alleyways.

it represents a futuristic luxury tree house; some believe it represents an upturned boat; still others believe it's a leafy tree branch. To be sure, it's not like any other building! When Queen Elizabeth opened the building in 2004 and was asked her opinion, she discreetly replied, "It's interesting." The Scots' insis-

tence on having their own Parliament followed a first failed referendum on sovereignty in 1997. It took seven years to complete.

The building's interior is exquisite, with huge European laminated oak beams and stainless steel connecting joints used in its main Ruling Chamber and

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Committee Rooms. This chamber sits 129 Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs). Themes of wisdom, compassion, integrity and justice are depicted both within and without the building. The first floor houses both an art gallery and a photography exhibit. The exhibit, entitled "festival of politics," features photos of famous world politicians. No Canadian politician made the cut.

The 129 MSPs are elected to the Scottish Parliament in a complex system of first-past-the-post and proportional representation. The Scottish Parliament legislates on "devolved" matters that are not subject to the rule of the UK government in Westminster. The UK jurisdiction deals with "reserved" matters. In the UK scene, 59 Scottish Members of Parliament (MPs, not MSPs) are elected to Westminster in British elections. The British Parliament, as in Canada, reserves the right to deal with matters of taxation and budgeting. Scottish taxes are sent to London which doles back "agreed-upon" amounts for use in Scotland. This resembles what happens in Canadian relations between the feds and provinces with federal taxes being transferred back to provinces in the form of transfer payments. As in Canada, Westminster reserves the right to deal with major, national portfolios such as foreign policy, defence, national security, benefits and social security, immigration, trade and industry and the overall economy.

All this does not mean that there is no overlap on the above issues within the two systems. Coming to terms in decision-making involves debate, consultation, cooperation and of course the usual tensions inherent in competing-interest relations.... much like we experience here at home. Of course Scottish MPs take part in Committees and speak in the UK House of Commons in all issues of debate on proposed UK laws, including all budgetary proposals. Some of the "devolved" domestic matters over which the Scottish Parliament had jurisdiction include agriculture, education, the Gaelic language, natural and built heritage, public records, and transport, among others.

Unlike the UK, which is bicameral (having two cham-



Some Scots say the design of the Scottish Parliament provides a contrast of the inner city to the outside landscape. Queen Elizabeth reportedly found it "interesting."

bers, the House of Commons and the House of Lords), the Scottish Parliament is unicameral, (a single ruling-chamber), equivalent to The House of Commons with no Upper House or second chamber. Thus issues get ironed out through a system of Mandatory and Subject Committees, whose Members represent a balance of elected political parties: Labour, Conservative or the Scottish National Party (SNP). The SNP has a nationalistic bent and currently holds power in Scotland. The public may attend the public committee meetings held in Parliament.

At the municipal level, Scotland has 32 local councils which in turn are divided into wards, each ward having three or four councillors who deal with such local issues as

public transport, road maintenance, the arts, administration of schools, libraries, museums, local housing and tax benefits. Taxpayers have access to their elected members through communications systems and meetings established at each respective level. Such meetings are called "surgeries", an expression adopted by politicians from the practice of Medicine.

The Scottish People are thus represented in:

- The UK Houses of Commons and House of Lords in London (what we call federal),
- The Scottish Parliament and through Committees and Councils (closer to our provincial legislatures),
- The European Parliament in Brussels.

The European Parliament

legislates on EU-wide issues, scrutinises the work of other EU institutions and must give its consent to international agreements entered into by the EU. There are 751 Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) in the EU, including 73 MEPs from the UK, six of whom are elected in Scotland. Scottish MEPs are elected from the regions by proportional representation. Elections are held every five years.

Photo by Marie Mullally

I have often felt the Scots were more like the Irish in wanting complete political freedom from Britain; however, this was not borne out in the sovereignty referendum held earlier this year. Eighty-five per cent of eligible Scottish citizens voted; 55 per cent voted No to independence vs. 45 per cent Yes. Scottish citizens of all ages hold different views on why it failed. Some younger voters claimed they cried at the outcome, while older folks seemed more reserved and circumspect. In short they felt that older folks were not ready to cut security ties with Britain, especially where pensions were concerned. A key reason why the sovereignty movement failed this time stemmed from the Scots' desire to use the British pound as its currency without the UK government's sole control on monetary policy such as pound issuance, Central Bank control, market value etc. Britain said No to this idea, stating that it would retain control over the UK sterling.

New Edinburgh resident Marie Mullally often contributes photographs and articles to the New Edinburgh News, and is a member of the Clan MacRae Society of Canada.

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Many sites to be reborn near Marier end of Beechwood

By Jane Heintzman

The Beechwood/Marier area is sprouting new development at the moment, with construction well advanced on a new residential rental building on Green Avenue at Beechwood, and most recently, an application to demolish the former **Burton's Dive** at 196 Beechwood and construct a six-storey, mixed-use commercial/retail/residential development along the same lines as the **ZaZaZa** project across the street (profiled in our October issue). Interested readers are welcome to contact City planner **Kimberley Baldwin** at kimberley.baldwin@ottawa.ca to get a link to the detailed design plans and planning rationale for 196 Beechwood, but in a nutshell, the main features of the proposed project include:

- Six-storey mixed use building with retail or restaurant space on the ground floor, personal service and/or office uses on the second floor and eight residential units on floors 3 through 6;
- Building to be set close to the street (no front yard setback) "to create a strong street edge";
- Driveway access on the west side of the property, leading to four parking spots (stacked) in the rear yard, with landscaping and wood fencing to provide a buffer for neighbouring residences to the south;
- Building to be cantilevered at the second floor;
- Building materials to be "compatible with the surrounding neighbourhood", with the Beechwood-facing



Rendering by Soma Studio

A six-storey, mixed-use commercial/retail/residential development is being considered for the old **Burton's Dive** location.

wall of the ground floor to consist of 75 per cent glazing, and brick veneer to be incorporated into the facades of the ground floor and second floor "in keeping with the visual narrative of the surrounding main street aesthetic";

- Outdoor patio space at the entrance to the commercial unit;
- Flat roof construction to allow for more green space accessible to residents and a private rooftop garden.

The proposed design echoes the 145 Putman proposal, pressing the limits of "appropriate intensification" on very small properties." We'll keep you updated on any news related to these developments, but in the interim, please feel free to contact Kimberley Baldwin at the City or our City Councillor

Tobi Nussbaum at Tobi. Nussbaum@ottawa.ca (613-580-2483) if you have comments or questions.

Status quo at 143 Putman

City planner **Kimberley Baldwin** reports no changes in the status of the Takyan Construction application to demolish the existing structure on the site (former home of **ZaZaZa Pizza**) and construct a six-storey, mixed commercial/residential building. The application remains at the "issue resolution" stage following the Planning Department's first round of comments on the initial project proposal. Kimberley also indicated that no development application has yet been received for the neighbouring property at 137 Beechwood (home of **Oresta Spa** and **Jacobson's**).

Surprise in store for Kavanaugh namesake

Things are hopping at The Kavanaugh this fall, with all of the condo purchasers now settled into their units and work ongoing to put the finishing touches on the building. The Condominium Corporation for The Kavanaugh is officially registered, and there are 108 occupied units on the nine residential floors. At press time, the remaining unsold units were in the final stages of completion, and should be available for viewing and "move in ready" any day now.

Domicile vice-president **David Chick** looks back on the past year and half, reflecting that "although we're nearing the end of construction, and what a journey it has been; we'll be there at the building for months to come as we make sure everything gets done, tidied up, tweaked, commissioned and operating properly." He promises a special surprise when the building is finally complete "to close out our relationship with **Rupert Kavanaugh**, who helped make all this possible." For nearly six decades, Rupert and his brothers were central fixtures in our neighbourhood, so you can bet we'll be tracking that event with great interest!

At the time of our communication in early November, Domicile was continuing to sell its remaining condo units from the Sales Centre at 84-86 Beechwood where the company's Main Street project, The Corners on Main, is now also prominently featured. In the coming weeks, however, there are plans to open up a small sales location in the ground floor commercial space at The Kavanaugh so prospective

buyers can have an up-close look at the building when they view the available suites. The Beechwood Sales Centre will remain in operation for the Corners on Main project until a new Main Street sales centre (now under construction at the entrance to St. Paul University) is ready for business. Thereafter, the fate of the Beechwood building remains to be decided, so stay tuned for more news on that one.

Although the Big Reveal of the commercial tenants at The Kavanaugh is within sight as the project nears completion, David reports that we're not quite there yet. With luck, that will be the banner headline in the *NEN's* February 2016 issue!

Events at St. Charles

The ModBox team has been hard at work putting the finishing touches on its Site Plan Control application to the City for the planned St. Charles Market. The application has been prepared in collaboration with a battery of consultants and specialists, and is expected to be submitted by December. If all goes well, we hope to be reporting this time next year that the necessary approvals have been obtained and that all systems are go for the launch of construction. As the planning stage unfolds, the ModBox group has continued to build links to the surrounding communities, and is scheduled to give a presentation on the project to the Annual General Meeting of the Manor Park Community Association in late November.

As we reported in previous issues, ModBox is committed to keeping the site in active community use throughout the hiatus peri-



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Photo by Christina Leadlay

The St. Charles Market site will be in active community use during the hiatus period prior to construction, hosting events like the annual Food Truck Rally, which took place on Sept. 26.

od prior to construction. On Sept. 26, it hosted the annual Food Truck Rally in support of the Ottawa Community Housing Foundation, an enormously successful event which attracted a crowd of over 2,000 to sample the cosmopolitan wares of 17 food truck operators. Coming up in December, there is one new event on the agenda:

- **That's So Vanier! Dirty Realism Housing Studio**, a two-day event organized by staff and students at the Carleton University Faculty of Architecture. **Dec. 16:** Private Event for Carleton; **Dec. 17, "A City in the City...The Future of Vanier?"**, Public event featuring student research, analysis, photography and architectural drawings for future housing in Vanier, **Open House, 2-5pm, Round Table Discussion, 6-7pm, Entertainment,**

8-9:30pm, Closing Recital "The Arab and The Englishman", 9:30-10pm.

Planning for building face-lift underway

Pharmacist **Frank Tonon**, who co-owns the corner building at Crichton and Beechwood, reports that a series of meetings with the City is currently underway to determine the allowable parameters of an exterior renovation of the pub and pharmacy building. Architect **Dennis Kane** has been at work on a number of possible design options, and once it's clear from the City what the rules of game will be, Frank and his colleagues will hone in on a preferred course of action, aiming to obtain the necessary permits and begin work on the building by early spring. Frank is very much aware that the Crichton/Beechwood corner

is effectively the Gateway to New Edinburgh, and hopes to ensure that a striking and appealing redesign of the building does justice to that landmark spot. Once again, our patient readers should stay tuned for more details and possibly design drawings in our next edition in February 2016. What a year this could be!

No news on Metro reno

If you were looking forward to doing your Christmas grocery shopping in a freshly renovated and upgraded Metro facility, no such luck. At the time of our recent communication, our contact at Metro head office was unable to supply any details about the planned renovation of the store, or to suggest an approximate timetable for the project. We'll keep you posted in the New Year, but it seems safe to say at this point that the upgrade of the Beechwood Metro is



Photo by Miranda D'Aiuto, Domicile Inc.

Gord and Lois Duncan are happy in their new Kavanaugh condo.

not an immediate priority for the corporation.

Claridge plans in limbo

City Planner **Erin Collins** confirms that the Claridge application for a mixed commercial/residential development on the site of the former Caisse Desjardins at Beechwood and St. Charles remains in limbo at the

moment, with no further progress since our last report in October. Given the large number of Claridge projects on the go elsewhere in the city, it's perhaps not surprising that this one may have temporarily fallen off the radar, but stay tuned for more news if and when things gear up again in 2016.

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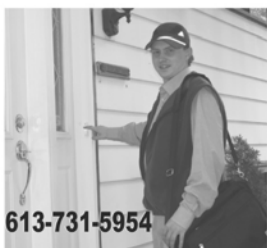
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Malcolm and John Harding

L'Ontario français à Honfleur pour souligner Champlain



Michel Prévost
archiviste en chef
Université d'Ottawa

J'ai eu le privilège d'accompagner les 11 et 12 octobre, la ministre déléguée aux Affaires francophones de l'Ontario et députée de la circonscription d'Ottawa-Vanier, Mme **Madeleine Meilleur**, ainsi que la délégation du 400e anniversaire de la présence francophone en Ontario à Honfleur, en Basse-Normandie, en France. La délégation s'est rendue dans ce magnifique port de mer afin de souligner le départ à cet endroit en 1615 du grand explorateur français, **Samuel de Champlain** pour les Pays-des-Haut, l'Ontario d'aujourd'hui.

Pour l'occasion, la ministre Meilleur et Mme **Nathalie Odéon-Papin**, première adjointe au maire de Honfleur, ont dévoilé dans

le parc Champlain une magnifique plaque en mémoire de Samuel de Champlain. On trouve la même plaque commémorative de la Fiducie du patrimoine ontarien à la baie Georgienne, où le père de la Nouvelle-France s'est rendu en 1615 pour rencontrer et nouer des liens solides avec les Hurons-Wendat.

Les nombreux participants de l'Ontario français et de la France ont senti beaucoup d'émotion lors de ce dévoilement, puisque on se trouvait au même endroit où Champlain a quitté il y a 400 ans pour venir explorer une partie du territoire de l'Ontario d'aujourd'hui.

De mon côté, j'ai rappelé aux dignitaires présents l'importance de ce voyage de Champlain pour l'Ontario. En

effet, ce visionnaire est le premier en 1615-1616 à cartographier l'Ontario et à décrire ses paysages et ses richesses. De plus, Champlain est le premier à nous renseigner sur les mœurs et les coutumes des Amérindiens vivants sur le territoire ontarien, particulièrement les Hurons-Wendat. Il établit aussi des liens diplomatiques et commerciaux avec les nations autochtones. On connaît l'importance des alliances et du commerce des fourrures pour le développement de la Nouvelle-France au XVIIe et XVIIIe siècle.

Par ailleurs, j'ai rappelé l'importance du rêve de Champlain de coloniser cette partie de l'Amérique du Nord que l'on voyait auparavant presque uniquement comme un comptoir pour les fourrures et non un territoire de peuplement.

Somme toute, Champlain serait très fier de voir qu'aujourd'hui des millions de personnes parlent encore le français dans l'ancien Empire français en Amérique du Nord, dont plus de 600,000 dans les anciens

Pays-d'en-Haut, l'Ontario d'aujourd'hui.

Cela dit, même si Samuel de Champlain était un grand visionnaire, jamais, il aurait pu s'imaginer que 400 ans après son départ de Honfleur, des francophones de l'Ontario viendraient lui rendre un vibrant hommage en dévoilant une magnifique plaque en son honneur, de surcroît dans un parc champêtre qui porte fièrement son nom.

Bref, il ne fait pas de doute que cet homme d'exception et un des plus grands explorateurs de son époque serait émerveillé de constater que son grand rêve est devenu réalité.

Sur une note plus personnelle, j'aimerais souligner le rayonnement exceptionnel de Mme Meilleur qui a été une ambassadrice extraordinaire lors de notre séjour en France. Je la remercie vivement de m'avoir invité à l'accompagner pour rappeler l'importance de Samuel de Champlain dans le cadre du 400e anniversaire de la présence française en Ontario.



Photo par Michel Prévost
Michel Prévost et les participants de l'Ontario français ont senti beaucoup d'émotion puisque on se trouvait au même endroit où Champlain a quitté il y a 400 ans pour venir explorer une partie du territoire de l'Ontario d'aujourd'hui.

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How not to fail at New Year's fitness resolutions

By Alex MacDonald

If you are like most people, as January rolls onto the horizon, you will be thinking about fitness. Congratulations – it's one of the best things you can do for yourself! Now, to get from the mulling stage to the doing stage, that's the hard part.

First things first. **Find something you love or like to do.** This seems obvious, but thousands of people sign up at a gym when that is actually the last thing that appeals to them. If you are not a 'sporty' person, it's unlikely that a gym will work for you. So, think outside the box. There are many ways to be active: dancing, walking, yoga, swimming, bicycling, tennis, skiing, skating, etc. The question is: what appeals to you? If you aren't sure, go try things out and make sure you enjoy the activity and that it will give you what you need: a challenging –but not too challenging–workout. Most classes/gyms will allow you to try a class or a week for free to see if it works for you.

Then, find a buddy. Studies show that you are more likely to get to the class/gym/activity if you are going with someone. It makes you accountable and less likely to just snuggle under a blanket with a glass of wine. Also, it makes the activity more fun



Photo courtesy Alex MacDonald

The key to keeping a fitness resolution for 2016 is to find an activity you like to do. If you are not a 'sporty' person, it's unlikely that a gym will work for you.

and allows you to connect with a friend.

Be realistic. The latest research says we should all be doing 30 minutes of cardio a day, daily stretching and two to three strength training sessions a week. Most of us won't get to this perfect level, so a more realistic goal may be 30-45 minutes of cardio three times a week (something that makes you sweat hard enough to need a show-

er) and two strength builders. (Note: that this doesn't have to be weights. Your own body weight counts so, try Yoga, Pilates or a Stretch and Strength class).

If you are fairly sedentary, start slowly. Try adding just

two things a week. Add anything you will actually do. Commit to them, schedule them, and accomplish them. Then, later, you can add more activities and diversify a bit.

If you are already active, check your fitness plan for cardio, strength and stretch to see if you need to do any tweaking.

If you are an athlete, you most likely are already getting enough cardio and strength but please: balance, balance, and balance. Make sure you are doing some cross training and are getting enough stretching. This will help you develop the muscles not used in your discipline and will help prevent injury.

Scheduling. This is crucial. Look at your schedule and figure out when you are able to do your fitness. Then, mark it in the calendar and keep those appointments! If you are time-challenged, recruit friends and family to help you achieve your fitness commitments. If you want to get to fitness two evenings a week and once on the weekend, figure out who can help you make dinner, watch the kids etc. in order to make it happen? Remember: you need to


plan for your health. It would likely be catastrophic for you and your family if you get ill and will cost you financially. So, an ounce of prevention is actually easier.

There are lots of options in our neighbourhood from personal trainers to independent studios to classes at the NECTAR Centre. Local options may be easier to get to and, it's a great way to meet your community – which coincidentally is also good for your health! So find a buddy and whatever you choose to do, just get moving!!!

Alex MacDonald is a certified Canfitpro instructor specializing in group fitness and older adult fitness. She has been teaching in the New Edinburgh area for over 25 years, and currently runs classes through NECTAR.

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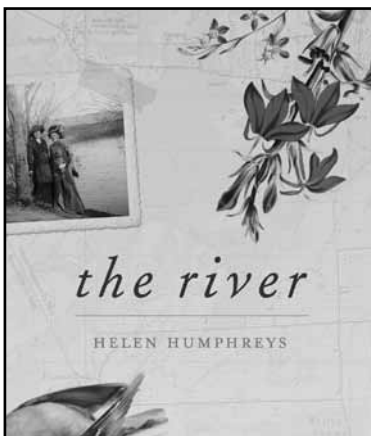
Conditions may apply.

Local book experts offer top tips for winter reading

By Books on Beechwood staff

Jill's picks: Three of my favourite authors have written new books in time for Christmas gifts:

***The Secret Chord* by Geraldine Brooks:** King David has tasked Nathan, his courtier of long standing, with the job of interviewing David's wives, brothers, nephews and his mother in order to record David's history. What these interviews reveal is a life of tyranny, passion and fame. A powerful, engrossing read.



***The River* by Helen Humphreys:** This beautiful little book is the "story" of the Napanee River. As Helen Humphreys so eloquently

describes in her Introduction, it is a "mix of observation, history, and visual documentation." However, it is Helen's use of language and her sense of imagery that lingers with the reader long after the river empties into Lake Ontario.

***Circling the Sun* by Paula McLain:** Beryl Markham was a member of the Happy Valley set of European expats living in colonial Kenya during the 1920s. This is the story of her relationship with Denys Finch Hatton and Karen Blixen and the story of her record-setting solo flight across the Atlantic from East to West. It is an engrossing read about a fearless, passionate woman.

Here are three biographies worth reading during the cold, winter months:

***My History: A Memoir of Growing Up* by Antonia Fraser:** You have read her books about such subjects as Mary Queen of Scots, Cromwell, Marie Antoinette (just to name a few). Now she is writing about a subject she knows intimately—herself. A fascinating look at the life of a writer of biographies and what it was that motivated her

to write historical biographies in particular.

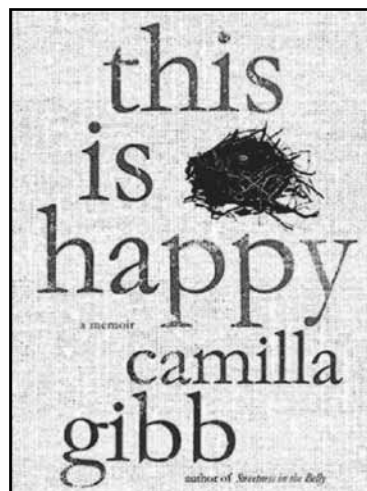
***Lady Byron and Her Daughters* by Julia Markus:** After her marriage to Lord Byron ended, Annabelle found herself and her daughter, Ada, having to deal with the social society of Regency England. The account of how she not only survived in this environment, but also thrived, is truly remarkable.

***The Year of Lear: Shakespeare in 1606* by James Shapiro:** It is amazing how much can go on in one year. The year is 1606. England was contending with the plague, the aftermath of the Gunpowder Plot, a Scottish king, and divisive religious and political issues. During that year, Shakespeare wrote three plays. This book is a wonderful read about all of the above.

Antoinette's picks:

***His Whole Life* by Elizabeth Hay:** Set in New York and Lanark, Ont. cottage country, this is an emotionally insightful novel about normal growing up in a family with conflicts, secrets, love and forgiveness

***This is Happy* by Camilla**



Gibb: The author of *Sweetness in the Belly*, Gibb writes an eloquent and tender memoir about finding herself and a family.

***The Reason You Walk* by Wab Kinew:** This is an insightful memoir about the relationship of the author with his father, and his identity as a First Nations member.

***What's Happened to Politics?* by Bob Rae:** This is a discussion of the contemporary state of our politics and government, for those who are not yet tired of politics.

Bridget's picks:

***Go Set a Watchman* by Harper Lee:** As one of the many in this world who

name *To Kill a Mockingbird* as their favourite book ever, I approached this so-called prequel with equal doses of excitement and misgiving. I'm pleased to report that Lee's beloved style and tone is very much present in this book and Scout's adult voice is perfect. Whether read as a first draft for *Mockingbird* or on its own merits, it is a satisfying and fascinating read which gives a remarkable insight into the complicated issues of the times through the eyes of familiar and very human characters.

***Fifteen Dogs* by Andre Alexis:** Alexis has cleverly managed to portray how 15 different dogs, each of them with distinctive and recognizable (to any dog lover) personalities, behave when they are all of a sudden granted human intelligence by the gods, Apollo and Hermes, who wager that if dogs have intelligence they will be unhappy. The book is never cutesy (some bad things happen) but it is a wry observation on human and canine foibles and is a very engaging read.

***The White Road* by**



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 <p>For Sale • Golden Triangle \$1,000,000</p>	 <p>For Sale • Mooney's Bay \$1,319,000</p>	 <p>For Sale • Ottawa East \$589,000</p>

Edmund de Waal: The subtitle is *Journey into an Obsession* and it is the author's travel through time and history trying to understand and illustrate the world's obsession with this "white gold" the first mention of which goes back to Marco Polo's writings. The author frames this journey with his own personal quest for particular specimens of porcelain, using each piece as a starting off point for fascinating stories from history.

The Road to Little Dribbling by Bill Bryson: Bill Bryson gives us another enchanting, informative and hilarious tour of Britain but to a whole new array of destinations. Although a newly minted British citizen, he finds that he is still befuddled and engaged by his adopted country. He has rightfully been described as "an enchanting raconteur" and "a deft historian."

Stephanie's picks:

A God in Ruins by Kate Atkinson: Kate Atkinson takes a look at the natures of time and reality in this genre-defying novel. It is a humane vision of people in all their complicated splendor. A marvelous novel and an elegant tale.

That's Why I'm a Journalist by Mark Bulgutch: Forty-four prominent journalists share their behind-the-scenes enthralling accounts of some of the most memorable stories of their careers. It gives us an intimate understanding of the people we see on camera, read in newspapers, and hear on the radio.

Reporting Always by Lillian Ross: As a staff writer at the New Yorker since 1945, Lillian Ross invented the entertainment profile. Her portraits are filled with humour and rich in details revealing her subjects in unusual and perceptive ways.

Hilary's picks:

Menagerie by Rachel Vincent: In a world where being a magical creature means being subjected to a life of persecution and abuse, Delilah Marlow discovers a truth about herself that she never would have guessed. With a fast-paced and thought-provoking plot, this thrilling novel is a great read!

Two Across by Jeff Bartsch: Rediscover the historical events of 1960s America through the story of Stanley and Vera. Both brainy teens, they form a bond that

will change their lives forever when they tie for first place at the National Spelling Bee. A beautiful story of love, language, and crossword puzzles.

Rule of Thirds (Pippa Green novels) by Chantal Guerin (12+): Pippa is the sweetest protagonist you will ever come across. It's impossible not to love her! This first of three books is a real treat to read.



Dumplin' by Julie Murphy (12+): Join the quirky and lovable Willowdean as she embarks on a hilarious and heartfelt quest to regain her confidence. Full of sequins, red suckers, and the wide star-filled skies of the Deep South, you will fall in love with this inspiring story and its incredibly brave heroine.

Jackaby by William Ritter (12+): With a frenetic energy reminiscent of BBC's newest *Sherlock*, *Jackaby* follows the antics and crime-solving adventures of Miss Abigail Rook and the very Doctor Who-esque R.F. Jackaby.

The Nest by Kenneth Oppel and Jon Klassen (10+): A great new story full of thrills and chills from this treasured Canadian author in collaboration with award winning illustrator Jon Klassen. Beware the bzzz.

For young readers:

The Day the Crayons Came Home by Drew Daywalt (3-6 yrs): If you thought *The Day the Crayons Quit* was fun, just wait until you read this follow up about Duncan's crayons making their way back to him! Drew Daywalt does it again!

Princess and Pony by Kate Beaton (5-8 yrs): A very sweet, funny story about a little princess who doesn't get quite the birthday wish she had in mind. Delightfully illustrated in Kate Beaton's unforgettable style!

Books for Everybody (BFE) and Books for Children and Young Adults Holiday Catalogues:

Another wonderful resource if you're in search of gifts for friends and family are the annual **Books for Everybody** and **Books for Children and Young Adults** catalogues which feature many of the top titles you'll find at the store. There are paper copies available at B on B, but you can also browse through the catalogues and place your orders online at the store website booksonbeechwood.ca.

Holiday Events:

Local mystery author **Robin**

Harlick will be at the store to sign copies of her newest novel, *Cold White Fear* on **Dec. 5** from **11am-1pm**. Then, from **1-3pm**, **Susan Meehan** will be on hand to sign her new novel *Maggie's Choice*. On **Dec. 8**, author **Suzanne Lamontagne** will be at B on B from **11am-1pm** to sign copies of her children's book *I Have a Dream....Do You Have One Too?* And coming up on **Dec. 12**, **John Graham** will be at the store from **11am-2pm** to

sign copies of his brand new publication *Whose Man in Havana? Adventures from the Far Side of Diplomacy*.

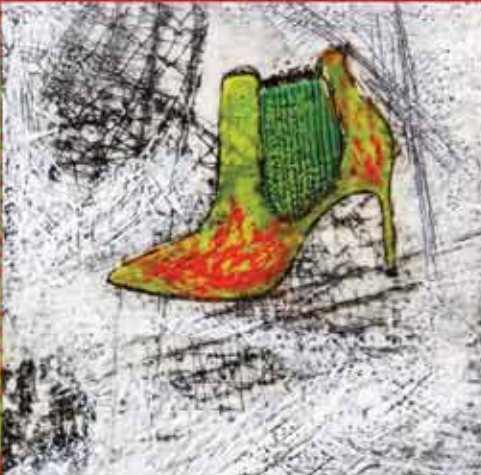
Titles@Table40: On **Dec. 6**, **Rod Phillips**, author of *The 500 Best-Value Wines in the LCBO* will lead an evening of delicious Fraser brothers' food and wine pairings. Give the store a call at 613-742-5030 or drop in soon to reserve your tickets, and get some sage advice in time for holiday entertaining.

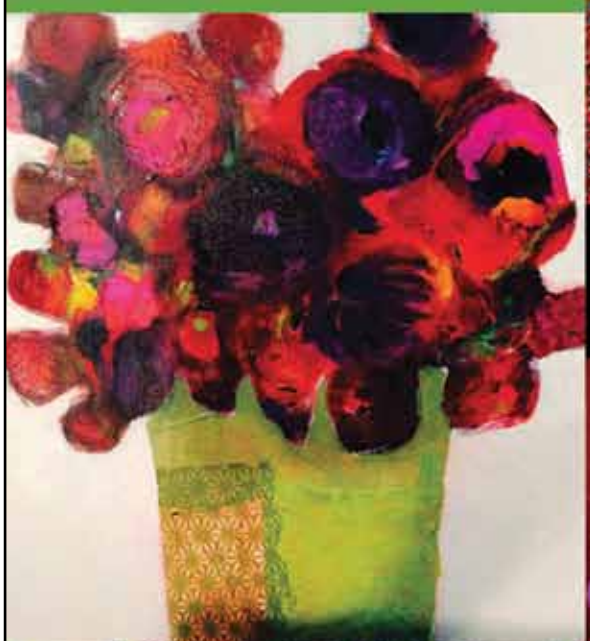
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2015/16 Winter Program Highlights

This winter, consider Nectar for your indoor and outdoor activities.

Nectar is home to memorable experiences and wonderful people. We offer a full range of classes and activities for everyone from babies and toddlers to seniors. The following are just a few highlights from our 2015-16 winter guide that will be available the first week of December.

COMMUNITY POT LUCK DINNER — JANUARY 22

Join us on Friday, January 22, from 6:00 – 8:30 pm at Memorial Hall for a community pot luck dinner. Bring your favourite dish to add to our eclectic, hearty supper. Visit with friends and neighbours. Adults learn the Cha Cha with dance instructor, Murray Carter and kids have fun at the House.

This is our opportunity to say a warm **THANK YOU** for supporting Nectar over the past year.

Until then, we wish friends and families all the best for a wonderful winter and a great holiday season.

Sean

Sean Flynn, Chair

Visit nectarcentre.ca to register for our winter programs.

TAOIST TAI CHI

Movements of the Taoist Tai Chi set calm the mind and refresh the body. They help improve balance, circulation, and posture, increase strength and flexibility, promote relaxation, and reduce stress. Practitioners, including those who come with specific health concerns such as high blood pressure, arthritis, low bone density, high cholesterol, MS or Parkinson's, have all found benefits through the practice of this ancient Taoist art.

FEE: \$150
TIME: Wednesdays, Jan. 6 – Mar. 9,
(10 wks) 6:00 – 7:30 pm
LOCATION: 255 MacKay

BABYSMILES

BabySmiles helps you share special moments and create a special bond with your baby. An instructor-led program designed for infants aged 0-13 months, your baby will be delighted with special sensory activities, songs, and even baby sign language. Our activities are designed to help with the development of cognitive and emotional skills for your baby. Delight and amaze your baby, while meeting other parents in your community with BabySmiles!

INSTRUCTOR: Melanie Lackey
FEE: \$99 + HST for 8 weeks
TIME: Fridays, Jan. 8 – Feb. 26
(8 weeks) 10:30 – 11:30 am
LOCATION: 255 MacKay

BASIC JYMPA

Jympa is the Swedish word for fitness. This class incorporates a mix of cardio, stretch, and balance techniques suitable for a wide range of ages and fitness levels.

INSTRUCTOR: Nina LePage
FEE: \$120
TIME: Wednesdays, Jan. 13 – Mar. 2,
(8 wks), 7:00 – 8:00 am
LOCATION: Memorial Hall

MARCH BREAK CAMP

Join us for our annual "Messy March Break" featuring Nectar's Afterschool program staff. This fun and interactive camp is a dynamic mix of arts, games, sports, science, and special guests designed to let children explore and experience their creativity without fear of making a mess.

FEE: \$40 per day, \$200 for the week
TIME: March 14 – 18, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
LOCATION: 255 MacKay

FILMMAKING

(AGES 10-13)

In this class students will be introduced to black and white filmmaking. Students will work together to create a short story that they will script, storyboard and film. Students will learn how to operate a 16mm film camera and how to compose the perfect shot. They will learn the importance of sound. Students will edit their final film using the same digital software that is used in the movie making industry. If you are someone who envisions pictures in your mind while you tell a story, then this class is for you. Let's make a movie together!

INSTRUCTOR: Roger Wilson
FEE: \$150 (all materials provided)
TIME: Sundays, Jan. 10 – Feb. 28
(8 wks) 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
LOCATION: 255 MacKay

CAMERALESS ANIMATION

(AGES 17 YRS AND UP)

Camera-less animation is the technique of drawing and painting directly onto motion picture film stock. With this class students will draw onto clear 16mm film leader, using markers, ink and paint. They will also learn other ways to create motion on film by working with 16mm film that has pre-shot images on it; they will manipulate these photographed images using various materials such as sand paper, colour dyes, scratching tools and more.

INSTRUCTOR: Roger Wilson
FEE: \$20 (all materials provided)
TIME: Saturday, January 16,
1:00 – 4:00 pm
LOCATION: 255 MacKay

BEGINNER UKULELE — GROUP LESSONS

Want to learn to play the ukulele so you can sing your favorite songs? Beginner ukulele lessons are for you! You will learn chords, chord progressions, and any theory you need! No experience required. Just bring your uke and your sense of fun! Lessons are also available for individuals.

INSTRUCTOR: Pamela Holm
FEE: \$120
TIME: Mondays, Jan. 18 – Mar. 21,
(8 wks) 1:00 – 2:00 pm
LOCATION: 255 MacKay



**Jim
WATSON**
Mayor • Maire

5 WAYS WE'VE MADE PROGRESS IN 5 YEARS



Innovation Centre at Bayview Yards

ATTRACTING JOBS & INVESTMENT

- Created Invest Ottawa
- Committed to keeping taxes low
- Bayview Innovation Centre opens in 2016
- Created Council of BIAs to help small businesses

IMPROVING TRANSIT & TRANSPORTATION

- Confederation Line LRT opens in 2018
- Approved Stage 2 plan to extend LRT east, west and south
- Highway 417 widening complete in east and west end
- New Para Transpo fleet coming in 2015-16



Light Rail Transit



Miracle League Field (Photo by Tony Caldwell)

BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

- Investing record amounts in affordable housing
- New road safety investments in 2015
- Opened several new pedestrian and cycling bridges and paths
- Crime rate continues to go down

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

- Ottawa River cleanup now fully funded
- New climate change plan approved
- Supporting 1 million trees project
- Increased funding for cycling initiatives



Ottawa River



Lansdowne Park

BUILDING A MORE VIBRANT CAPITAL

- Revitalized Ottawa Art Gallery opens in 2017
- Attracting major events for Canada's 150th birthday in 2017
- Pursuing a new central library
- Opened new recreation centres in the east, west, and south
- Lansdowne Park revitalization and more green space

**We've accomplished so much together in just five years.
Thank you for your continued support.**

Stairwell Carollers sing haunting new Christmas carol

By David Rain

As one of your neighbours, I have always felt a very special connection to New Edinburgh since I first moved to Ottawa in 1992. When my daughter was attending Manor Park Public School in the 1990s, we used to love driving down the hill and taking our time shopping for groceries at the old Loeb store on Beechwood Ave.

In the 2000s, we both got into yoga, and there was no greater pleasure for us than attending classes led by one of the world's top yoga instructors, Yogi Vishvketu, in the original Upward Dog Studio on MacKay Street.

By the 2010s, I had moved to the ByWard Market area, but New Edinburgh was still solidly on my radar, as I discovered a lovely early morning running route that would take me past the Rideau Falls, through Stanley Park, and then back to the Market.



Photo by Holly Massie. Choir director Pierre Massie, pictured with the Stairwell Carollers, has created a haunting new Christmas carol evoking the humble beginnings of the birth of Jesus.

Since 1992, I have sung in an a cappella choir, The Stairwell Carollers, which also has deep roots in the New Edinburgh area. We used to practice at St. Bart's on MacKay, and, though we moved up the road a bit to St. Columba on Sandridge Rd., we never abandoned our roots. Thus, on the last Wednesday of each month, you may have seen us congregating in one of your lovely local pubs, soothing our sore vocal chords after yet another "grueling" rehearsal.

Our director, Pierre Massie, founded The Stairwell Carollers in the residence stairwells of the University of Ottawa in 1977. We have grown to become an award-

winning 30-member choir, and Pierre has won many awards for his own choral compositions.

This year, he has created a haunting new Christmas carol – "*Verbum Patris unamatur*" – that evokes the humble beginnings of the birth of Jesus. Pierre told me "it makes me think of the deplorable conditions at his birth, the trials of Mary and Joseph in the manger, ox and ass, and so on."

New Edinburgh residents have a chance to journey up Beechwood to hear "*Verbum Patris unamatur*" on **Dec. 16 at 7:30 pm** at the choir's "gala" Christmas fundraising concert at **St. Columba Church, 24 Sandridge Rd.**



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 Christina Leadlay, 613-261-0442 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.

Looking for an Avon representative who would find it convenient to service Foreign Affairs, 125 Sussex Drive (clients being myself and a possible few colleagues) or the Beechwood/Charlevoix neighbourhood (client possibly being myself alone, though my complex neighbours may also be interested). Please call: 343-203 2306 during work hours.

Tickets for the Dec. 16 concert will be available at the door for \$20, or in advance for \$15, online at www.stairwellcarollers.com, or from Books on Beechwood, 35 Beechwood Ave. Sincere thanks for their support yet again this year!

And, if you're looking for that perfect Christmas gift, the choir's brand new CD, *O magnum mysterium* (recorded at St. Columba), will be on sale at the concert. Proceeds from our CD and ticket sales have allowed us to give over \$120,000 in music scholarships and donations to local charities!

If you can't make it to St. Columba, you can still hear the Stairwell Carollers on one of these dates:

- Nov. 27: St. Thomas Anglican Church, 1619 Stittsville Main St., 7:30 pm.
- Dec. 5: Église St. Mathieu, 69, rue de Provence, Gatineau, 7:30 pm.

- Dec. 6: Emmanuel Anglican Church, 287 Harrington St., Arnprior, 2 pm.
- Dec. 11: Knox Presbyterian Church, 120 Lisgar St., 7:30 pm.
- Dec. 12: St. James Anglican Church, 225 Edmund St., Carleton Place, 7:30 pm.

In Memoriam: Our 2015 Christmas season is dedicated to the memory of Sir David Willcocks (1919-2015), whose inspiring choral compositions have graced our concerts and CDs. Sir David honoured the choir with a special arrangement of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" with which we end our Christmas concerts.

David Rain, who enjoys running home along Beechwood after choir practices, is in his 23rd year with the Stairwell Carollers. For more information, please visit stairwellcarollers.com.

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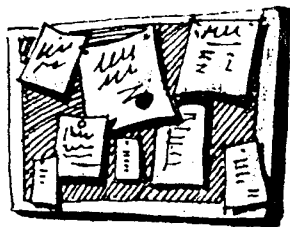
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Burgh Bulletin Board

December

On through Dec. 31 – Nocturnes tropicaux– Changing Day into Night ÉFÉ galerie d'art virtuelle, Salon des lucioles, 189, boul. St-Joseph, Gatineau. www.galerieartefe.ca 819-968-2816. Renowned Ottawa artist Wendy Trethewey takes us on a journey to beautiful exotic destinations and then changes day into night with her tropical nocturnal paintings depicting twilight scenes. "I'm excited to share the concept of changing day into night in the form of exotic tropical paintings taken from my sketchbooks of many years of travel," said Wendy.

Dec 3 – Help Lesotho Holiday Open House Rideau Tennis Club, 1 Donald St. 4-7 pm. helplesotho.org. Enjoy a glass of wine and some holiday cheer while shopping for gifts and chatting with fellow Help Lesotho supporters. Holiday shopping includes items from Lesotho, freshwater pearl jewellery with proceeds benefitting girls' leadership programs in Lesotho. Everyone is welcome.

Dec. 4, 5 and 6 – Holy Cow Textiles Trunk Sale 166 Stanley Ave. 613-744-1624. Dec 4, 5-8 pm; Dec 5 and 6, 12-6 pm. Find us

on Facebook. Shop locally for the holidays: beautiful jackets, scarves, table linen, cushion covers and many more unique, ethically produced items directly sourced from India.

Dec 5 and 6 – Christmas Crafternoon ByTown Museum, 1 Canal Lane. 11 am-4 pm. bytownmuseum.com Learn more about Edwardian Christmas traditions and what Christmas was like 100 years ago in Bytown. Join us to create traditional tree trimmings that you can add to our tree or take home to decorate yours. Crafts are available by donations on the first floor and are ideal for young at heart crafters. The permanent exhibition on 2nd and 3rd floor galleries is included.

Dec 5 – Christmas Craft and Food Sale Overbrook Community Center, 33 Quill St. 10 am-2 pm. paulsbeemail@gmail.com. Over 20 local vendors will be selling hand made crafts including ceramics, soaps, knitting and sewing, as well as baked goods and local honey. Free admission.

Dec 5 – Urban Craft Market Glebe Community Centre, 175 Third Ave. 10 am-4 pm. urbancraftmarket.com, Urban Craft is Ottawa's hip, modern, handmade craft show. Featuring 50 indie

and gourmet makers from Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal and beyond. Sample tasty treats from our gourmet food makers as you shop from vintage sellers, fashion designers, soap makers, and floral designers. With gems like gourmet sodas, modern screen-printed scarves, handmade cocktail bitters and vintage spoon jewelry, you're sure to find something you'll love!

Dec 8 - Nectar Food Talks Nectar Centre, 255 MacKay St. \$20. 7:30 pm. nectarcentre.ca Antonia Mauriello, award-winning sommelier and owner of Savour Italy, will discuss sparkling wines for the holidays featuring a tasting with selected foods.

Dec 13 – Christmas with the Vyhovskyi Strings MacKay United Church, 39 Dufferin Rd. 7 pm. 613-749-8727. Join us for an exciting evening of Christmas music including vocal, guitar and string performances as well as Christmas carol sing-alongs. CBC radio's Laurence Wall will be the Master of Ceremonies. The evening's proceeds go to the Ottawa Mission and the Mission and Service Fund at MacKay. Freewill donation at the door.

Dec. 13 – Beechwood Cemetery Christmas Candlelight Service 280 Beechwood Ave. 6 pm. beechwoodottawa.ca. The service features a candlelight memorial with carols and a tree-lighting ceremony. Bring an ornament to place on the outdoor tree in memory of a loved one. A non-perishable food item for the

Food Bank is appreciated. The event is outdoors so dress warmly. Hot beverages will be served.

Dec. 16 – Stairwell Carollers Christmas Concert St. Columba Anglican Church 24 Sandridge Rd. 7:30-9:30 pm. \$15 in advance; \$20 at the door. stairwellcarollers.com Join one of Ottawa's finest a cappella ensembles for an evening of beautiful Christmas carols, both old and new. Including many selections from our brand new CD! All proceeds to local charities. Tickets available at Books on Beechwood or online.

Dec 19 – Christmas Holly Sale St. Columba Anglican Church, 24 Sandridge Rd. 10am-noon. 613-749-5103; admin@stcolumbaottawa.ca. This annual Manor Park event features fresh holly, baked goods, jams and jellies for sale.

Dec 20 – A Merrie Noyse Ashbury College Chapel, 362 Mariposa Ave. 3:30-5 pm. Adults \$25; students \$15. seventenvoyces.ca. Enjoy Christmas carols from around the world, presented by superb chamber choir Seventeen Voyces, directed by Kevin Reeves. In intimate Ashbury College Chapel. Tickets available online or at the door.

Dec 24 – Operation Big Turkey Overbrook Community Centre, 3 Quill St. 2-4 pm. 613-742-5147. Various Ottawa Community Centres are hosting a free Christmas Eve dinner to all who would like to attend.

Full traditional turkey dinner with savory stuffing, silky gravy, mashed potatoes and mixed vegetables. Or a delicious vegetarian lasagna plus dessert. Registration is not required.

January

Jan 12 – Murder Room by Jack Sharkey Ottawa Little Theatre, 400 King Edward Ave. 7:30 pm. Adults \$25; seniors \$22; students \$12. ottawalittletheatre.com. The Ottawa Little Theatre presents this uproarious take-off of the locked-room murder genre. Mavis and her lover plan to rub out her wealthy husband, and seem to have succeeded all too easily, but have they?

Jan 21 – QVBIA Annual General Meeting Location to be confirmed. www.vanierbia.com. 8-9 am. Free admission. The Quartier Vanier Business Improvement Area hosts its Annual General Meeting. Please join the QVBIA's Board of Directors and QVBIA team to learn about all the exciting initiatives taking place in 2016! Continental breakfast, coffee and teas will be served.

Jan 29 – Gatineau Winter BeerFest Canadian Museum of History. 5 pm. festibierye.ca The popular Festibierye returns! Enjoy a cold beer in a warm setting. Savour more than 100 beers from over 25 local Ontario and Quebec breweries. Featuring music, workshops and gourmet appetizers.

UrbanOttawa.com



257 Greensway \$429,000.

Kingsview Park: An Urban Ottawa oasis: the bijoux community of Kingsview Park. Steps to downtown shopping, this elegant, lush enclave & this lovely affordable City home are worth exploring! Extremely spacious mid-century semi w/ 3 generous bdrms, loads of living space, 2 full bths, huge lot: a paradise for kids & gardeners. Bright, cheerful, a great family home. Detached garage is used as storage.



397 North River Rd \$499,000.

Overbrook: Zippy Urban Ottawa end unit w awesome view of Riverain Park, steps to the new pedestrian-cycling bridge to Sandy Hill & a quick walk to shopping. Open concept with loads of light, 2 upper bedrooms & 3rd room in the lower level. Family room walks out to rear yard. Enjoy the river from either of the two front decks. Wonderful kitchen for those who like to cook & entertain. Built in 2001 and recently upgraded.



400 Apple Tree \$525,000.

Manor Park: A really unique (in a good way) home in Urban Ottawa's Manor Park Hill enclave. Such a flexible floor plan will appeal to many household configurations: top floor could be a total adult retreat w/ ensuite and adjacent den or dressing room, main floor lends itself well to a home office set up or for aging parents who don't do stairs and the fabulous walkout level can be a perfect teen retreat! Gorgeous!



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Congratulations to...



Photo by Louise Imbeault

Former Burgh resident **Hélène Desjardins Boyer** celebrated a milestone birthday turning 101 years old on Oct. 13 (pictured with friend Louise Imbeault of Ivy Cres.). Now living in an Orleans retirement residence, Hélène was raised on Vaughan street and lived most of her married life on Crichton.

On May 17 a first grandchild was born to ecstatic step-granddad **Michael Leonard** and grandmom **Karen O'Hearn** of Ivy Crescent. **Gavin Joseph John O'Hearn** weighed in at a whopping 10 lbs. 10 oz. Parents **Ryan** and **Jenni** of Toronto just celebrated his six months on Nov. 17.

The first grandchild to

Alex Binkley and Christine Cram of Ivy Cres., **Evelyn Rose Binkley** was born on August 19, 2015 weighing a healthy 8 lbs. Proud parents **Douglas Binkley** and **Shannon Shamsuzzoha** are thrilled to share their joy.



Olivia Magdaline Kennedy.

Richard Kennedy and **Jennifer Menzies** of Putman Ave. are very proud to announce the birth of their baby girl **Olivia Magdaline Kennedy** on October 12 at 10:28 am. She weighed 8 lbs 10 oz. Mom, Dad, big sister **Grace** and baby are healthy and doing well. Thanks to everyone for all of their support.

Award-winning Canadian landscape artist and Burgh resident **Gordon Harrison** and his partner gallerist **Phil Emond** officially opened the second Gordon Harrison Canadian Landscape Gallery

in Saint-Sauveur in the Laurentians on Oct. 11. Dr. Champlain Charest and l'Association Laurentides Tourisme du Québec were on hand for the inauguration of the new gallery at 32a avenue de la Gare, Saint Sauveur, Que. Contact Gordon for more details at info@gordonharrisingallery.com.



The Ottawa RedBlacks awarded Manor Park's **Penny Thompson** with a "wood cookie" on Oct. 16 for her "bravery and excellence" for the three different community campaigns attached to her name to raise money for the Hospital Foundation in order to build a new Breast Health Centre. Penny and her family were thrilled with the recognition.

Eric Cardinal, owner of Mood Moss Flowers, has made it to the Canadian Underwater Hockey Team. This is his second time making the team. Eric will go on to compete in South Africa in March, 2016. Best of luck, Eric!



Photo by Louise Imbeault

Kelly's Barber + Beauty is open for business at its new location, 30 Marier St., just a hop and a skip from Beechwood Ave. Owner **Kellyann "Kiki" Riley** held the grand opening on Nov. 21.

Our Condolences

Our sympathies to **Paula Thompson** and her family on the recent death of Paula's sister **Catherine Thompson**. Catherine died after a long illness and will be greatly missed.

We extend our sincere condolences to Ambassador



Photo by Clement Olomoi

(from left) **Lois Lawrence, Richard Simison, Joan Kellett, David Clendenning, Tony Kellett and Laurie Mason.**

The 2015 Bazaar at the **Church of St Bartholomew's** was a huge success, thanks to the outstanding table conveners, the community of shoppers and our City Counsellor, **Tobi Nussbaum**, who very kindly opened the event. The monies raised support the work of the Church which includes our refugee family from Syria, Cornerstone Shelter for Women, our mission to the Garry J. Armstrong Centre and The Bale for the North. Please thank our sponsors when you see them! – **A.J.'s Catering, Goodies Fine Catering, The Rockcliffe Retirement Residence, Governor's Walk Retirement Residence, The Edinburgh Retirement Residence and The Chartwell New Edinburgh Square Retirement Residence.** Thanks again and see you next year!

Nicolas Chapuis and all the staff at the Embassy of France on the tragic loss of life suffered in the Paris terrorist attacks on Oct. 13. As neighbours and as Canadians with close ties of history and kinship, we share the shock and distress of Mr. Chapuis and the people of France, and wish them courage and resilience at this difficult time.



Our thoughts are with **Louise Imbeault** on the passing of **Chanel** the cat. Rescued in 2007, Chanel became attached to Louise's brother Pat, who passed away on Aug. 28, 2015. Chanel never recovered from the shock and stress of her beloved caregiver's absence, despite an increase of attention from others. She quickly developed a chronic condition and was euthanized on Nov. 16. Many thanks to the Beechwood Veterinary Hospital for making her transition comfortable and dignified.

Thank You

Nectar would like to thank **Metro** on Beechwood for providing a turkey for the New

Year's Potluck Celebration, which will be held on January 22, 2016 in the Memorial Hall at Mackay United Church.

Copious thanks to all the hardworking volunteers who helped make this year's **Rockcliffe Park Public School Book Fair** a success. Whether you handled bookshelves, books, crafts, snacks or cash—or all of the above—we think you're terrific! Cheers from the RPPS Book Fair Committee.

Welcome!

We wish a warm welcome to Prime Minister **Justin Trudeau**, his wife **Sophie Grégoire** and their children **Xavier, Ella-Grace** and **Hadrian**. As plans are afoot for a major overhaul of the traditional residence of the Prime Minister at 24 Sussex Dr., the Trudeau family recently moved from Manor Ave. in Rockcliffe Park into Rideau Cottage on the grounds of Rideau Hall, and we look forward to having them as our New Edinburgh neighbours for the next few years.

Miscellaneous...

Do you need parking in New Edinburgh? **NECTAR**, at 255 Mackay, has parking space available for rent at the rear of New Edinburgh House. If interested please contact **613-745-2742** or info@nectarcentre.ca.

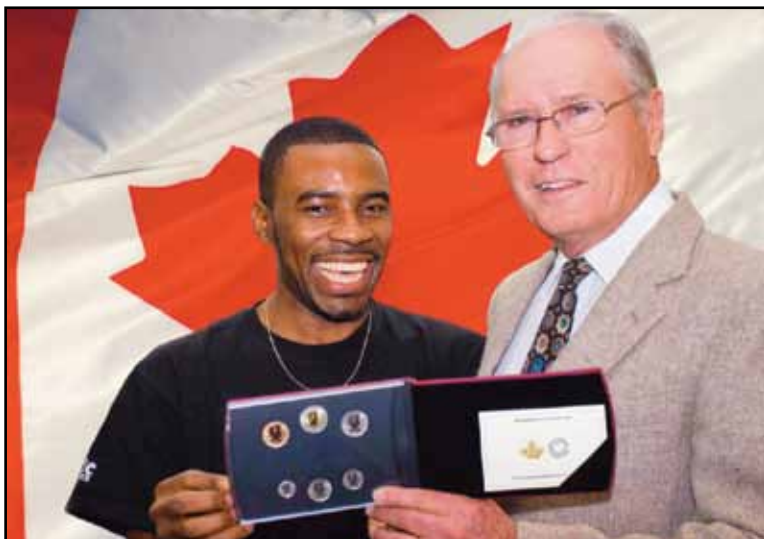


Photo montage by Louise Imbeault

Peter Dalton (right) presents new Canadian **John Dunia** with a splendid souvenir coin set. Learn more about John on pg. 19.