

Canada votes Oct. 19: Pull-out guide p. 21-23

October 2015

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

www.newedinburgh.ca

Plans in the oven for new building at former pizzeria

By Jane Heintzman

As most readers are aware by now, particularly those who are regulars at ZaZaZa Pizza facing the imminent closure of their favourite haunt, an application has been submit-

ted to the City by Takyan Consulting, Development and Construction proposing the demolition of the restaurant building and a significant intensification of the lot

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Photo by Christina Leadlay

What do you think about enlarging the City-supported Fieldhouse (above) into a purpose-built community facility housing the Crichton Community Council, Nectar and the community at large?

Future of Nectar, CCC and NECA on the table, October 29

By Tim Plumptre
NECA President

The top issue on the agenda of the NECA Board of Directors today is the future of New Edinburgh House (NE House) at 255 MacKay St, the heart of NECTAR's operations, and the possibility of integrating its activities and services with the Fieldhouse located in Stanley Park. NE House is the former manse of MacKay United Church and NECTAR is an incorporated, registered charitable organization that has its own Board of Directors.

NECTAR—the New Edinburgh Community and Arts Centre (nectarcentre.ca)—runs a wide range of recreational, artistic, social and cultural programs out of NE House and the adjoin-

ing Memorial Hall, owned by the MacKay United Church. Additionally, NE House is home to the Mainworks Artists Studios, a cooperative that has provided studio space to visual artists whose work has graced the halls of NE House and, in the early years, of the Corridor Gallery at 200 Crichton St.

The Fieldhouse in Stanley Park is home to another community organization, the Crichton Community Council (www.newedinburgh.ca/crichton-community-council). The 3Cs, as it is commonly known, is responsible for activities and events held at the Fieldhouse and surrounding grounds. In the winter, they build and maintain the two community skating rinks, maintains the

Fieldhouse as a warming hut and provide hot chocolate. Throughout they year, they hold community events such as the Winter Carnival, Hockey Day in New Edinburgh, the May plant sale, the Ottawa Marathon cheering station, New Edinburgh Garage Sale in September and the Halloween Howl. Outside of the skating season, the community makes use of the Fieldhouse for all types of events, including summer camps, sports and fitness events, birthday parties and more.

NECA—the New Edinburgh Community Alliance—has a general mandate to support the evolution of the community. It takes an interest in liai-

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Re-discover the power of the public sphere

By Gaye Taylor

In early May, my 10-year-old daughter sat down to practise her piano recital piece: *Minuet in C Major* by Johan Wilhelm Hasseler (1747-1822). Tears welled as I listened to the cascade of notes being played, filling the house with their 18th-century certainty. Dropping down the rabbit-hole of Wikipedia that night confirmed Hasseler's *Minuet* as but one tiny notation in a century of symphonic achievement: from the fugues of Bach, to the ruminations of Kant, to the ecstasies of Keats, to the the-

ories of Adam Smith, to the manifestos of Thomas Paine, to the invention of the steam engine, to the resolution of the problem of longitude, to the discovery of the law of the conservation of mass.

Growth and decline of civic engagement

And then there were advances in the social realm. Critical amongst these was the rise of the "public sphere," a space (often physical, within an 18th-century café, for example, but also virtual, within the pages of newspapers) where ordinary people increasingly perceived and

expressed themselves as *citizens* with the responsibility to learn about, debate, and act upon matters of common concern. It was, for example, the compassionate actions of ordinary people bobbing about on this wild new ocean of civic engagement that helped ensure the abolition of slavery throughout the British Empire in 1807. While 1700-1800 was hardly a paradise on Earth, this span of time was one of the West's inspiring centuries, not least because it bequeathed to us a profound vision of respon-

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The New Edinburgh
Halloween Howl

Costume Parade,
Spooky Games,
Creepy Crafts,
Fun Prizes,
and more...

Sunday, October 25
3:00pm - 6:00pm
Stanley Park Fieldhouse
For children ages 0-7
(and the young at heart)

Costume Parade leaves at 3:15 pm

CRICHTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Community & Family Events

NEW EDINBURGH COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

Community Forum and Annual General Meeting

Thursday, October 29, 2015 from 7 to 9:30 pm
St. Bartholomew's Church

Meet friends, ask questions, join us for refreshments.
All New Edinburgh residents welcome.

Proposed updates to NECA bylaws

At the annual general meeting to be held on Oct. 29, the NECA Board of Directors will be seeking approval of updated bylaws. An earlier draft of the proposed bylaws was presented at the 2014 AGM and has been reworked to address comments received. The impetus of updating bylaws is twofold: to comply with the proposed new Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (not yet in force), and to address some gaps and lack of clarity as identified over the past few years. The complete text of the proposed bylaws can be found at the NECA website: newedinburgh.ca.

Here is a summary of the changes:

- addition of the mandate from the Letters Patent
- a new definitions section
- more clarity on eligibility to be a member
- new category of associate member
- expansion of the Board's responsibilities
- a fixed minimum and maximum number of Directors
- provision for standing committees
- clearer accountability of committees to the Board
- AGM agenda and voting process is outlined.

The Board of Directors looks forward to the membership supporting the proposed bylaws. (newedinburgh.ca/neweca-minutes-reports)



Tim Plumptre
NECA President

Continued from page 1

son with City Hall in heritage and development issues, traffic matters, community safety, environmental matters and other issues that may come up during the year. Since NECA is formally known as an alliance, we think of it as providing a kind of umbrella to help coordinate activities in the community.

These three organizations exist for historical reasons, and we all work collaboratively when the need arises.

Two developments have brought us together in recent months.

First, NECTAR's ability to effectively serve the community and run (or even expand) programming that meets the needs of its wide range of users is severely constrained by its current facility at New Edinburgh House. While it was critical (and timely!) for the re-launch of the organization after its difficult battle for 200 Crichton St., this fine old heritage building is expensive to operate and maintain. It has been a constant challenge to keep both the programming and the building afloat, one that will only be more difficult in the future as building accessibility and lifecycle costs continue to loom large.

Apart from successfully lobbying the City for an exemption from property taxes for NE House (in line with other community centres in Ottawa), NECTAR has not been able to obtain ongoing capital and operational support. The Fieldhouse, on the other hand, is a City-owned facility and is therefore entitled to receive City support. Unfortunately, the City's policy, not unreasonably, is to

support only one facility per community, so it has consistently declined to provide assistance to NECTAR.

Second, our city councillor, Tobi Nussbaum, came to us to suggest that our community might qualify for a capital grant, subject to certain conditions. This grant could be used to enhance and enlarge the Fieldhouse facility. NECTAR activities could then be transferred there. With the enlarged Fieldhouse facility continuing to receive ongoing City support, a large portion of NECTAR's operational costs and future risks would be eliminated. Additionally, a purpose-built community facility would allow for a much more effective platform to deliver community programming and to host community events, a significant benefit to NECTAR, the 3Cs, and the community at large.

In light of this, our three community associations formed a Steering Committee to explore this idea and discuss what a transition to an enhanced facility might involve. Each association is represented on this committee, and on a smaller Executive Committee which has met several times over the summer, including a helpful consultation with City officials facilitated and chaired by Tobi.

The Executive Committee comprises Sean Flynn from NECTAR, Debra Conner from the 3Cs, Jennifer Irwin from NECA, Paula Thompson who has served on both NECA and NECTAR boards, and myself, Tim Plumptre, as Chair.

One of the early questions

we confronted is what a new facility or concept might be called. How to refer to this opportunity? Paula did some great research and provided us with her reflections and suggestions, (found on page 3). Subject to views from the community, the Steering Committee endorsed the following designation for the project: **"The New Edinburgh Community Junction"**.

For a small community like New Edinburgh, this opportunity raises several very practical questions, such as:

- Would a new location at the Fieldhouse be appropriate for the community?
- What kinds of activities and facilities might a new "Community Junction" provide?
- What might it imply for neighbouring residents and for traffic flows?
- What would this initiative cost, both in capital and operating expenses?
- Can the necessary funds from the community be raised? (The City would look for matching funds from New Edinburgh.)
- What governance arrangements for the "Community Junction" would make sense?

To consider some of these and related questions, and to provide residents with an opportunity to have their say, **NECA in association with NECTAR and the 3Cs will be hosting its third Community Forum, concurrently with our Annual General Meeting, on October 29 at 7:30pm at St. Bartholomew's Church on MacKay St.**

To learn more about the "Junction" initiative, to contribute your thoughts, and to be updated generally on other NECA activities, we hope you will attend.

Call for nominations to NECA's Board

Most of us can agree, we have a great neighbourhood. But it does take some care and attention to ensure the quality of life that makes it so special. That's where the board of directors of the **New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA)** comes into play.

If you or someone you know wants to pitch in and help us address issues in our neighbourhood or have great ideas to improve it, we want to hear from you.

In the past, NECA has been involved in specific issues such as participating in Beechwood development planning, working to get the Fieldhouse construction approved and started, and fighting construction of the Vanier Parkway extension. It

has become one of the most respected community organizations in the city.

However, few of our achievements have come easily, and all have taken time and effort from a number of people. Think about whether you can spare some time to get involved. And now is the time to consider joining the board.

Nominations are open from now until the evening of the Annual General Meeting on October 29, but we encourage nominations in advance, please. If you are interested, please contact **Sarah Anson-Cartwright**, NECA board member and nominations chair, at sarah.ansoncartwright@gmail.com or **613-745-4194**.

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, October 20, 8 pm, NECTAR Centre
Tuesday, November 17, 8 pm, NECTAR Centre

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

Your NECA Representatives 2014-2015

Noor Ahmed	746-0354	noorahmed@shaw.ca	Transportation & Safety
Sarah Anson-Cartwright	745-4194	sarah.ansoncartwright@gmail.com	
Patricia Begin	742-8838	patriciabegin@rogers.com	Secretary
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Ex officio:			
Christina Leadlay	261-0442	newednews@hotmail.com	New Edinburgh News

The Community Junction

What might a new facility or concept in our community be called? Paula Thompson did some research and provided us with the following reflections.

The Steering Committee quickly decided that a name for our community centre project was required [see pages 1 and 2 for further details]. In considering this, I spent a couple of hours walking through the neighbourhood, along the Rideau River and more or less along the path of the old railway

to the neighbourhood. The rivers and the falls are what drew the mills and factories, the railway and, of course, the people. The natural beauty, the power of the rivers and the falls, and practicality of the location so close to central Ottawa are surely what compelled Thomas MacKay to buy the land that is now historic New Edinburgh in 1829.

It was Confederation poet Archibald Lampman's poem "To the Ottawa", where the poet speaks to the Rideau

important rail link to Ottawa through New Edinburgh and across the Rideau reinforces the notion of New Edinburgh as an important link. A junction.

The concept continues: the Minto Bridges historically linked Rideau Hall to Ottawa and Parliament. This was the ceremonial route to Parliament Hill before Sussex Drive. Another important New Edinburgh junction in a sense, another link to Ottawa history. In more modern times, New Edinburgh serves



Photo by Jonathan Potts, Flickr

The Minto bridges are part of the history of junctions and making connections in New Edinburgh.

line that ran through New Edinburgh (Stanley Park) in days past. I looked for inspiration through reviewing what I could find online on the history of New Edinburgh, and studying historic maps of the neighbourhood. I re-read the poems by Confederation poets Archibald Lampman ("To the Ottawa") and Alfred Garneau ("La rivière") found on Poet's Pathway along the Rideau River near the tennis courts.

What strikes most immediately is the central importance of the Ottawa and Rideau rivers and the Rideau Falls

River, that made me reflect further on the notion of the confluence – the meeting – of the rivers.

The mightier stream, thy comrade, waits for thee,

The beryl waters that espouse and take

Thine in their deep embrace, and bear thee on

In that great bridal journey to the sea.

The Prescott-Ottawa railway, Ottawa's first rail link, went right through Stanley Park, linking Ottawa to the St. Lawrence, Boston and New York. The railway history of the neighbourhood and this

as a gateway from downtown Ottawa to our broader neighbourhood: Beechwood Village, Vanier, Lindenlea and beyond. Lowertown meets Beechwood on the Rideau and in New Edinburgh.

New Edinburgh. At the confluence of the Ottawa and the Rideau. A historic link to central Ottawa. A modern gateway. A junction. The word junction has an industrial and railway feel to it, fitting given New Edinburgh's prosperous industrial past. Of course junction can also mean "place or point of meeting." Seems like the perfect name for a New Edinburgh community centre project. And maybe one day for the building itself.

Subject to views from the community, the Steering Committee endorsed the idea of the "New Edinburgh Community Junction" for the project. What do you think? Tweet your reaction to @new_edinburgh or visit NECA's Facebook page.

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? Then the *New Edinburgh News* has a volunteer opportunity for you! We are looking for bookkeeping and advertising assistance. Main tasks include preparing invoices, producing cheques and monthly statements, and communicating with advertisers. Excellent community and customer service skills are an asset. If interested, contact Christina at newednews@hotmail.com.

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The *New Edinburgh News* is also made available online at the New Edinburgh community website:

www.newedinburgh.ca

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Bridges to partially re-open in Dec. 2016



Tobi Nussbaum
City Councillor, Ward 13

New Edinburgh residents will have noticed that construction on the east span of the Minto Bridges started in August. The structural repairs are progressing and the major work on this span is set to be completed in December, at which point the bridges will re-open to bicycle and foot traffic over the winter months.

Next year, the majority of construction activity will shift to Maple Island as work commences on the centre span in June of 2016. That larger span will be under construction until its scheduled re-opening in December of 2016, with landscaping and final site reinstatement the following spring.

The long period of time during which the bridge has been closed has been frustrating, but we can look forward to the three renewed heritage bridges re-opening to pedes-

trians, cyclists and motorists in late 2016.

Sewer pipe project in Stanley Park

I wanted to share information about construction activity in New Edinburgh (Stanley Park) that is set to begin in 2016. Infrastructure work to build a sewer storage tunnel is being done to prevent raw sewage discharge into the Ottawa River during heavy rainfalls.

This important work is part of the Ottawa River Action Plan to improve the water quality and health of the Ottawa River. Like most cities, Ottawa has combined sewers in many of its older neighbourhoods, which transport sewage and storm water in the same pipe, hence the need for a storage tunnel to prevent overflow during heavy rains.

This major project will dis-

rupt access to parts of the park and the multi-use pathways from late summer of 2016 to early 2018. I am working with City staff to reduce these impacts as much as possible, including ensuring noise and other disruptions are minimized.

Once the construction is completed, the required site remediation work will provide an opportunity to make improvements to the park. I look forward to discussing options with members of the community in the coming months.

Heritage Conservation District

You are invited to learn more about the new Heritage Conservation District management plan for New Edinburgh at a public open house on Oct. 8 from 7-9 pm at St. Bartholomew's Church hall, 125 MacKay St. The draft plan is available on ottawa.ca and comments can be sent to Heritage Planner Lesley Collins until Nov. 1 by emailing lesley.collins@ottawa.ca.

Feel free to contact my office at any time with your ideas, comments or concerns by emailing tobi.nussbaum@ottawa.ca or calling 613-580-2483.



Madeleine Meilleur
MPP Ottawa-Vanier

Improving retirement security for working Ontarians

Right across the country, people are anxious about retirement.

Too few people have workplace pension plans. Experts agree people are not able to save enough. The Canadian Pension Plan (CPP) — paying out just \$6,900 annually on average — is simply not filling the gap.

Our government is determined to improve retirement security for all Ontarians. By 2020, the Ontario Retirement Pension Plan (ORPP) will ensure that all Ontarians have the security of a pension plan beyond the CPP.

Between 2017 and 2020, every employee in Ontario without a comparable workplace pension plan will become a member of the ORPP. For those Ontarians who have a defined contribution or defined benefit workplace pension plan of a certain level, nothing will change. They will continue to enjoy peace of mind knowing that there are savings waiting for them in their retirement.

If you are currently without a workplace pension plan, you will contribute a modest amount each month towards your retirement future, just like you do for the CPP. Your

employer will match that amount, effectively doubling what you have contributed.

Your investment will be there for you when you retire. Just like the CPP, you will receive a regular pension for the rest of your life based on your income and how many years you contributed to the pension plan.

We consulted widely on this approach, listening to employers and employees, nonprofits and unions, experts and actuaries. We are putting forward a smart, sensible solution to the retirement savings challenge.

Economists like former Bank of Canada governor David Dodge and the federal Department of Finance's own internal analysis have confirmed that greater retirement savings would help people in retirement and have long-term gains for our economy.

The ORPP is forward-looking, making Ontario a better place to work, invest and age. We are taking steps to make sure the next generation — our children, and our grandchildren — can retire with the security they deserve. After a lifetime of hard work, we all deserve a secure retirement.




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Jim Watson
Mayor of Ottawa

Keeping taxes affordable

My Council colleagues and I have tried to find the balance between being fiscally prudent today, while making the necessary investments for tomorrow. All while doing so in a way that is reasonable and predictable for Ottawa's residents.

We wanted to ensure that tax increases did not far outstrip the rate of inflation. We also didn't want to promise tax cuts which while sounding great, would mean cuts to the essential services that residents deserve and expect.

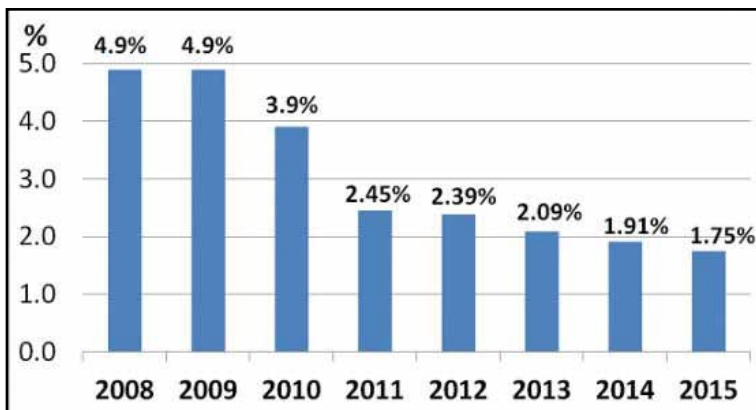
When I first ran for mayor in 2010 I committed to not raising taxes by more than 2.5 per cent in any year. This past year, I was once again elected as mayor and I furthered my commitment to affordable living through lowering this cap to 2.0 per cent.

As you can see from the chart, since I became mayor in 2010, this was a promise that I maintained and one that I have no plans to break any time soon.

Paired with this tax cap, was a change I brought to the

budgeting process whereby if an elected official wanted to add something to the budget, they had to find a corresponding offset. Previous Councils would table a budget, then add, add, and add some more,

plined on ourselves, and on the City's department heads, has kept this Council accountable and causes us to scrutinize the City's spending more closely. The result is lowered tax rate changes and a Council that



Jim Watson says since becoming mayor in 2010, he has maintained his promise to not raising taxes by more than 2.5 per cent in any year, and has no plans to break this promise any time soon.

without reductions and suddenly a four or five per cent tax increase was now being passed.

Forcing this kind of disci-

has learned to live within its means.

We have also changed our consultation process to give you, the taxpayer, a more

accessible and prominent role in our budget process to ensure your priorities are heard. To that end, we hosted public consultations in the East, West, South, and Central parts of our city. We also introduced a "Tele-Town Hall" where residents were able to call-in to voice their priorities and concerns before the budget was tabled.

City Council has set a solid fiscal framework when it assumed office last year and will continue on our promise of prudent financial management. We will continue to deliver a predictable tax rate that also allows us to provide high quality services and opportunities for Ottawa families to flourish.

I will be encouraging my colleagues to stay the course, keeping taxes below two per cent and making the necessary changes to ensure our city remains in good financial health.

Ottawa-Carleton District School Board priorities for 2015-16



Chris Ellis
Public School Trustee, Zone 6

Last June the Board passed a new Strategic Plan to guide it through to 2019. This new plan has five areas: Learning, Well-being, Engagement, Equity, and Stewardship.

The Board will be addressing all five areas but placing immediate and focused attention on Stewardship following recent comments by the premier on underutilized school space and direction from the Ministry of Education. Strategies listed under Stewardship are:

- Improve access to learning environments and optimize the use of all resources through school accommodation and program review planning;

- Enhance operational practices to effectively and responsibly manage human and financial resources in support of students;
- Model sustainability, smart energy use and sound environmental practices for students.
- The Ministry of Education has told boards to update their policy for boundary and program review and school closures to reflect its Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline (PARG), released in March 2015. The OCDSB is aiming to update its policy by the end of December 2015. In tandem with this, trustees are considering the devel-

opment of overarching principles for providing schools to communities in ways that will help optimize the other areas of the strategic plan. The details of if and how consultation will take place for these two initiatives have yet to be fleshed out.

Currently there is a consultation going on for "The School as a Community Hub" which will have implications on how we wish our schools to be part of our communities.

Zone 6 meetings, Fall 2015

On a more personal note, this is the start of the first full school year that I have been trustee for Zone 6 Rideau-Rockcliffe and Alta Vista, and I'm looking forward to the opportunities to hear from you. In addition to keeping in touch with school councils and community associations, this year I will be holding zone meetings open to any and all constituents:

- The first one will be

October 17, 9:30-10:30 am in the Aubrey Room (by the library) at the St. Laurent Complex. Come for the hour or just drop in to say hi. Coffee and other refreshments will be served.

- The second one, which will be more formal, will be **November 14, 10am-12 pm** at the Jim Durrell Recreation Centre. Stay tuned for further details.

On **October 3, 9am-**

3pm the Ottawa-Carleton Assembly of School Councils and the OCDSB will be holding their annual School Council Training Day. I plan to attend, and hope to see some of you.

Chris Ellis is trustee for OCDSB Zone 6 Rideau-Rockcliffe and Alta Vista. You can reach him at Chris.Ellis@ocdsb.ca, 613-818-7350 or visit www.SchoolZone6.org.

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Metro likely to renovate; church 'hub' already hosting events

Continued from page 1

involving the construction of a mixed-use six-storey building. Eight residential units above and restaurant space on the ground floor.

A large sign displaying an image of the proposed design is currently posted on the site, and project details include:

- Expansion of the footprint of the existing structure to maximize the potential area for commercial rental space and residential units;
- Construction of a longitudinal building extending along Putman, with floors above the third level set back from the rear lot line to create an outdoor terrace space angled towards the south;
- Use of new construction materials, with emphasis on "local materials and sustainable forms of construction;"
- Creation of the façade in a combination of stone veneer, steel panels, brick veneer, and curtain wall glass, making use of colour "to contribute to its street presence and roadside appeal;"
- Construction of an outdoor patio along the south side of the building on Putman;
- Planting of trees and shrubbery to provide shade for the commercial floor without obscuring the storefront;
- Creation of terraced balconies accessible to residents to enhance greenspace around the building;
- Provision of two residential parking spots and eight bicycle parking spaces; and

Also noteworthy in the 143 Putman application is the reference of the developer to a planned proposal to develop the neighbouring property at 137 Beechwood (home of **Jacobson's Gourmet Concepts** and **Oresta Spa**) with a comparable six-storey, mixed-use residential/commercial building. It's our



A sketch of what Takyan Consulting, Development and Construction is proposing to build at 143 Putman at Beechwood.

understanding that no formal application has yet been filed for this purpose, but stay tuned for further word on this, and on its implications for these two important local businesses.

City Planner **Kimberley Baldwin** reports that about 15 public comments on the proposed Putman project were received during the open comment period this summer, all of which have been sent to the developer. The application is currently at the "issue resolution" stage, and if a minor variance application is filed, the issue will go before the Committee of Adjustment, with public notice of the hearing provided in advance (keep an eye out for one of those ubiquitous black and white signs popping up at Putman and Beechwood).

Among the comments submitted on the Takyan project was a thoughtful submission from **Graham Hardman** of Lindenlea. While applauding the objective of intensifying the site and replacing an undistinguished and dilapidated structure, Graham expressed serious reservations about the quality and appropriateness of the design:

"The building's design

should be modified considerably as it does not comply with the planning guidelines for the area and is unsuitable for the entrance to an older residential neighbourhood.

Specifically, according to the Official Plan requirements noted in the application, new developments must:

- "Recognize every building as being part of a greater whole that contributes to the overall coherency of the urban fabric."

>> This development, in its brutal architecture that resembles or blends with very little of the architecture of the neighbourhood, in no way contributes to any coherence of the urban fabric. Moreover, it does not... meet the standard of continuity of scale and character that is claimed in the planning application.

- "Contribute to attractive public spaces and important vistas."

>> It's hard to see how the use of five different exterior surface textures, especially the metal cladding of the type proposed (which looks like something pilfered from an army hut), meets this requirement...

The building's ugliness will dominate the corner of the street and, if the current design is allowed, the building will set an unfortunate design precedent for any future developments in the area. Something softer and less aggressive would be more appropriate and more acceptable."

Metro expansion on hold

Last spring, Metro's application to the City for an ambi-

tious expansion project at the Beechwood location was placed on indefinite hold, and company sources now confirm that the plans to enlarge the store have been dropped in favour of a renovation of the facility. We were unable to extract any real explanation of the change of heart on the part of Metro's top management, other than the anodyne statement that: "In assessing the needs of Metro's customers at the 50 Beechwood Avenue location in Ottawa, we determined that it would be more feasible to renovate as opposed to expand the store." Presumably the subtext suggests that despite the fact that the store serves five neighbourhoods, our market was considered insufficiently large and/or affluent to justify the costs of the expansion (which given the plans for underground parking alone, would have been significant).

As of press time, Metro was unable to supply any details about timelines for the renovation project or the scope and nature of changes envisaged, but our contact in the company has agreed to pass along those details when they become available later this fall, so stay tuned.

Minto Beechwood: On time and on target

Minto's High Rise Development Manager **Kevin Harper** is elated by the progress achieved on the Minto Beechwood construction site over the course of the summer. To Kevin's immense relief, the clean-up of the site was successfully completed without the discovery of any unpleasant surprises, and excavation and shoring of the below-ground parking garage proceeded over the summer months. The 12-storey tower crane is now up and running (just in case you hadn't noticed!). By October, Kevin estimates that the above-ground superstructure will begin to emerge, with an estimated nine-day period of concrete pouring taking place for each of the floors in the new building.

Here's a list of "Fun Facts" about the project which Kevin's crew assembled, initially for the information of condo buyers, but also for the wider community:

- The deepest point of the excavation is 30 feet below street level;

- 180,000 cubic feet of rock and soil were removed during excavation;
- Two Miles of 4x6 wood lagging was installed in shoring around the excavation;
- 250 loads of crushed stone were used to build the temporary access ramp and this stone has been re-used under the parking garage slab.

Interested readers can track the progress of construction on the Minto website at **minto-beechwood.com** (click on Watch Us Build). A recent Newsletter on the project, which includes an introduction to Jeannie Thomas, a prospective condo occupant known to many in our community, will also be posted on the website or you can find it at **netmospheredesign.com/clients/minto/beechwood-summer/**.

According to Kevin, neighbours around the site have been kept closely informed about construction-related activities. A number of the stresses should by now have abated as excavation (the noisiest and messiest phase) has wrapped up, and parking for workers on the site has been relocated three blocks up the street, away from the MacKay/Beechwood corner. Minto has taken over the right hand parking lane on MacKay Street, so access to the intersection at Beechwood is significantly narrowed.

The good news for condo buyers and for the community as a whole is that the project is on target for completion in the late fall of 2016, with retail fit-up taking place in September/October and occupancy slated for October/November. While the identity of the retail tenants remains in the shadows for some time to come, Kevin confirms that there will be three occupants on the commercial floor, one large business and two smaller ones. His hope is to be in a position to publicly announce two of them in advance of project completion, but in the meantime, we'll have to settle for all the tantalizing rumours currently in the wind.

Condo sales have continued to be slow and steady, with approximately 80 percent of the units now sold and several more under negotiation. Kevin notes that the

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Continued from page 6

gradual pace of completed sales is in part a result of the predominance of “right sizers” in Minto’s clientele, a group which is traditionally painstaking and meticulous about specifications for their new permanent home, in contrast to the Toronto market where investment properties are snapped up as soon as they come on the market. While the bulk of the units are spoken for, there remains a good selection of sizes, types and price points spanning all floors in the building. If you’re in the market, give their sales office a call. And if you live in the neighbourhood, you can watch your prospective new house literally emerge from the ground up in the coming months!

Current events at St. Charles Market

As we reported in our June 2015 issue, the team at ModBox, spearheaded by lead architect **Andrew Reeves** of LineBox Studio and Managing Partner **Darryl Squires**, has been hard at work on an ambitious plan to re-enliven the site of the historic St. Charles Church at Beechwood and St. Charles, and to renovate and repurpose the church building and property as a lively community hub. An overview of the project, including preliminary drawings of the mixed town home/condo/commercial development planned for the site, was presented to the community last May.

In a nutshell, the company is aiming to create “an intimate village within a village”, with modern town homes and condos wrapped around a portion of the church and fronting on Barrette and St. Charles Streets, and a restoration and adaptation of the church interior to create a year round market of carefully picked local vendors, along with cafés and restaurants. Early plans for the property also include a seasonal outdoor farmers’ market, a sculpture garden, patios and outdoor seating in the tradition of a village square.

More details on the project can be found at stcharlesmarket.ca. The Blog includes a Q&A with architect Andrew Reeves and a summary of a number of the issues raised at the May meeting. On the Home page, you can also sign up to receive ongoing news about

the project by clicking on “Get Regular Updates.”

At this point, ModBox’s top priority is to complete the all-important set of benchmark Site Plan Control, Zoning Bylaw Amendment, and Heritage applications for submission to the City this fall. The team is understandably wary of attaching too much precision to the timelines for the project given the complexity of the planned development and the infinite number of variables in play. Very roughly, however, the current targets are:

- **Fall 2015:** completion of submissions to the City;
- **Spring/Summer 2016:** Launch of the Sales Centre on the site (precise location TBA) and start of pre-sales for the residential units;
- **Late Summer/Fall 2016:** Plan approvals received from the City;
- **Fall/Winter 2016/2017:** Breaking ground for new construction;
- **Spring/Summer 2018:** Move in.

It’s a long and challenging road ahead, but in the interim, ModBox is committed to building ties to the community and keeping the location animated with a series of public events. On Sept 20, the site hosted **New Monument: Children’s Design Workshop**, an event under the auspices of Ottawa’s Architecture Week where kids aged 6-12 were invited to design and build a conceptual model for a new Ottawa monument, trying their hand at architecture, geometry and design.

The third annual **Ottawa Food Truck Rally** took place on the St. Charles site Sept. 26, with ModBox as the title sponsor. The event is a fundraiser for the Ottawa Community Housing Foundation, and each year a \$7,500 scholarship is awarded to an OCH tenant in need of financial assistance to attend the Algonquin College Culinary Management Program.

There will undoubtedly be more events unfolding at the church in the coming months so keep an eye on the St. Charles Market website for details. If you have comments or questions about the project, or if you happen to be looking for a central venue for an activity, you can get in touch with ModBox at info@modbox.ca or 613-789-2092.

Kavanaugh grand opening

Domicile Vice-President **David Chick** is elated that the completion of the ambitious *Kavanaugh* project is at last within sight after many months of planning, sales negotiation and non-stop construction in all weather. As of early September, the Domicile team was wrapping up work on all the common elements of the building, and poised to install the exterior metal panelling, the last major exterior component. Despite ongoing construction to completely finish the job, more than 40 condo buyers have moved into units on the second, third and fourth floors, with new arrivals continuing each week through September and October as the higher floors gradually fill up. *Kavanaugh* residents are clearly a hardy lot, and Domicile has greatly appreciated their patience and resilience as the final stages of construction proceed around them, with all the inevitable delays and glitches that can entail.

Of the 124 units in the building, only 18 remain unsold, and David expects that given the current pace of sales and the imminent completion of the building, these too will be sold by the end of the year to create a full house in Beechwood’s newest major development. Work is underway to complete these remaining units (largely one bedroom and one bedroom with den) and starting soon, Domicile will have finished suites to show prospective buyers.

As of mid-September, the identity of the occupants of

the commercial space in the *Kavanaugh* remains a mystery. What we do know on the basis of David’s most recent report is that “(Domicile) has two very exciting prospects that we are working on daily, two different but... ‘useful’ uses that we would be proud to announce to the community at our earliest opportunity. There are many details to work through but our confidence level is extremely high.” Tea leaf readers, please feel free to send us your inspirations on this score!

The front of the *Kavanaugh* Sales Centre at 84-86 Beechwood is now sporting a large and decorative tableau advertising Domicile’s ambitious new Main Street project, The Corners on Main (TCOM). In light of the City ongoing construction on Main Street itself, Domicile wisely concluded that launching TCOM sales from the established *Kavanaugh* Sales Centre, located as it is in a vibrant Traditional Main Street zone with amenities and appeal comparable to the Old Ottawa East potential, might serve as an incentive to buyers for both projects. It seems to have worked! 40 per cent of the units on Main Street have already been sold from *The Kavanaugh*, and sales continue apace. David is hopeful that an adaptive reuse for the Sales Centre can be found once it has served its purpose for Domicile, arguing that “it adds temporary value above and beyond the alternative of a vacant lot.” Amen to that: ideas anyone?

No news on Claridge project

Claridge did not respond to

our request for an update on its proposal for the former Desjardins site, so at the moment, we have no further details about timelines, design changes, commercial tenants or opportunities for public engagement as the project unfolds. For the benefit of readers who missed our earlier reports on the Claridge proposal, the developer’s application entails the demolition of the existing commercial building on the site and construction of a six-storey, mixed-use commercial/residential building, with approximately 1200 square metres of retail space for two businesses on the ground floor, and 67 residential units above. Access to the three-level underground parking garage for condo owners will be off Langevin Street. A road widening on Beechwood would also be required to accommodate the proposed development, and is included in Claridge’s application package.

City planner **Erin O’Connell**, who is handling the Claridge file, advises that the application remains at the issue resolution stage, with the City awaiting a response from the developer before making a recommendation to the Planning Committee and/or full Council. Interested readers who would like to keep track of this project can contact Erin (erin.o'connell@ottawa.ca) and ask to be added to her list of those receiving automatic updates as the application proceeds through the review and approval process at the City.




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A bright \$140,000 investment along Beechwood



By Jamie Kwong

**Executive Director,
Quartier Vanier BIA**

There are new LED Lampposts on Beechwood Avenue! Thank you to City Councillor Mathieu Fleury for inviting me, as QVBIA executive director, to take part in his video blog. What a great dynamic way to share information. View it here: vimeo.com/136850143

Under the direction of the Board of Directors, the Quartier Vanier BIA has many beautification initiatives going on right now, including graffiti removal, the installation of new decorative banners and unique floral arrangements along our entrance ways, and façade grants to incentivize business and property owners to invest in their buildings. Such initiatives are all being rolled out onto our three mainstreets, which include Montreal Road, McArthur Avenue and

Beechwood Avenue. For this specific project, the QVBIA has partnered with the city of Ottawa in purchasing and installing LED lampposts along Beechwood Avenue.

Specifically, 22 LED pedestrian lights and 32 LED upgraded overhanging lights were installed along Beechwood Avenue. This represents a \$140,000 investment in beautification for Beechwood Avenue, with the Quartier Vanier BIA contributing \$60,000.

LED lampposts were chosen because of the reduced energy and maintenance costs, and their overall effectiveness and light quality. Another benefit of these LED lampposts is less light leakage.

This project is based on a successful pilot project on Carling Avenue.

Many municipalities across Ontario have done or will be doing the same thing. In fact, the NCC has retrofitted some lights along the Rideau Canal with LED lights, and the exterior fixtures on Parliament Hill are to be retrofitted with

LED lights.

The lampposts will be adorned with new banners in the next few months too!

These lights are definitely the top choice, and are here to stay for the foreseeable future. Our QVBIA Board of Directors is pleased to partner with the City of Ottawa to install these lights for Beechwood Avenue as an important initiative in our forward planning for the area, and we look forward to the pursuing of upgrading all the lights across our two other mainstreets with these same energy efficient LED lampposts.

QVBIA hosted a very successful **Future Block Party** on September 26 at 250 Montreal Rd. The communities of Overbrook/Vanier/Beechwood Village are in close proximity to each other. Working together with various local community partners, our aim was to animate an area using creative elements to illustrate what a complete street / "future block" could look like: an ideal place to shop, have a



business and to work.

To stay up to date on all the local Quartier Vanier news, sign up for our eNewslet-

ter at www.vanierbia.com. Contact Jamie Kwong at jkwong@vanierbia.com.



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NEW EDINBURGH'S CHOICE FOR DECORATING

Fewer traffic lanes and better sidewalks wanted for Beechwood corridor

By Noor Ahmed

NECA Transportation and Safety Committee

Ottawa City Councillors Tobi Nussbaum (Rideau-Rockcliffe) and Mathieu Fleury (Rideau-Vanier) hosted an Open House at New Edinburgh Square on June 24 to discuss the Beechwood Transportation Corridor (BTC). Over 80 people attended the event, providing significant input and discussion. Although there are no immediate plans to redevelop the infrastructure of the BTC, which extends about 1.1km from Vanier/Crichton to the Beechwood Cemetery, the intent of the meeting was to:

- Identify issues and challenges with the current configuration,
- Obtain a range of ideas about improvements that could contribute to improving safety and the experience on the street, and
- Engage members of the public in a brainstorming exercise at an early stage in the process.

The participants were grouped at each table where there was a map of approximately 100m of the BTC. Included were, to scale, coloured pieces of paper representing car lanes, bus lanes, parking (in different formats), bike lanes (shared and not shared) and boulevards. Each table was to come up with its' ideal BTC configuration, which could be modified during different periods in the day or week.

In general, the group concluded their ideal BTC would:

- Safely and comfortably accommodate all modes of transportation, in particular more vulnerable pedestrian users like children and older adults;
- Function primarily as a main street for residents and local traffic rather than a thoroughfare for commuters travelling from outside of the neighbourhoods;
- Include bike lanes and limit on-street parking during peak hours; and
- Emphasize walking and cycling during weekends, with more benches, trees, and outdoor patios.

The lane configurations displayed a preference for dedi-

cated space for cyclists over on-street parking, and the majority of participants did not recommend four lanes of vehicular traffic.

With respect to parking, there was a strong preference to remove on-street parking, particularly between the Vanier Parkway and Springfield Road. Many participants indicated that the current configuration is dangerous and that the space currently reserved for parked vehicles would be better used for dedicated cycling facilities.

Many participants felt that the BTC should give priority to the pedestrian experience, particularly given the high concentration of children and seniors in the area. Suggested improvements included ensuring sidewalks maintain a uniform quality, in terms of width and grade, adding trees, benches, attractive waste receptacles, street art to buffer pedestrian space from vehicle lanes and make the street more comfortable and attractive.

Although priority for OC Transpo buses did not feature as prominently as priority for cycling facilities, the following improvements were suggested:

- Locating bus stops on boulevards or curb bulbs and not on sidewalks;
- Providing shelters at bus stops; and

- Relocating the south-side bus stop between the Vanier Parkway and Charlevoix Street.

A number of creative ideas more were produced including:

- Adding a traffic circle at the Vanier Parkway intersection;
- Reintroducing a streetcar route along the BTC connecting the former CFB airbase redevelopment with downtown;
- Landscaping corner garden areas to help soften the streetscape; and
- Converting the Metro parking into a paid, publicly accessible lot, but provide grocery store patrons with free parking by showing a Metro receipt (similar to the Loblaws on Rideau Street).

Given that it will take time for the City to acquire land to establish a properly-sized right of way along the BTC, the City intends to work on low-cost, simple interventions to provide interim improvements. The next immediate step is for the City to provide draft reconfiguration options for our community to review and discuss at a second Open House this fall.

Note: Contents of the article include both notes from the writer's attendance and notes made by staff of the City of Ottawa.

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BURGH BUSINESS BRIEFS

- By Elizabeth Gray-Smith and Jane Heintzman -

You may have noticed the familiar sign on the window above the pharmacy has disappeared. After 11 years on the second floor at 350 Crichton St., the **Physical Therapy Institute (PTI)** has moved to a new location at **268 Durocher St.** During the last weekend of August, owner/physiotherapist **Pam Siekierski** and her loyal team packed up the tools of their respective trades, including the weighty contents of the gym, and headed down the parkway to newly renovated quarters in a spacious building with large street-front windows and sporting a spanking new sign. The clinic is now just off Montreal Road (within view of the Shopper's Drug Mart), about a five-minute drive from the Burgh (less than a 15 minute walk from the former location).

Much as Pam had enjoyed PTI's decade-plus residency at 350 Crichton, the clinic's budget was increasingly stretched by the costs of leasing that prime spot. In addition, she had taken note that the nerve centre of Beechwood's commercial area has shifted from the Beechwood/Vanier Parkway corner up the street towards Marier Avenue, with the burgeoning of lively new businesses, the sprouting of new residential/commercial development projects, large and small, and most recently, the occupation of The

Kavanaugh.

Pam is optimistic about the positive benefits of the relocation to Durocher, not least because PTI now has

ing (a former ersatz church) had been completely gutted, so the whirlwind renovation project required close supervision to ensure that the fin-



Photo by Galaxy Camera
Pam Siekierski (centre) and her staff at the Physical Therapy Institute in their new home at 268 Durocher St.

street access which is of critical importance to those with impaired mobility. Clients should be able to find ample space close to the new location, as there is two-hour parking directly in front of the building, and generally a good supply of on-street parking spots in the immediate vicinity.

When Pam took on the lease to the Durocher location earlier this summer, the build-

ished product met her specifications for the redesigned clinic facilities. The job was completed on time, and by the closing days of August, PTI was up and running with a fully equipped gym, somewhat larger than the previous gym and ideally suited to the group classes planned for this fall; two massage rooms; a private physiotherapy room and an open physio treatment area; a Pilates studio; two

washrooms (one is handicapped-friendly); and wheelchair access doors throughout the premises. Pam is particularly pleased by the more efficient layout of the facilities, as well as by the sunny windows and excellent air quality in the building.

As a resident of Vanier and an active member of the Safety and Security Committee of the Quartier Vanier BIA, Pam is excited by the prospect of re-launching her business in what she perceives as a vibrant and rapidly emerging new market. When researching the new location, she wisely consulted the local letter carrier in the Durocher neighbourhood, and was encouraged by his report that he had "never had a bad day" in the course of his deliveries, and had found the residents of the area pleasant and gracious. Pam has already established a congenial relationship with her new landlord, the owner of the recently renovated **Vanier Grill**, a long-established family restaurant reputed to be the home of Ottawa's finest club sandwich (a tempting stop after a vigorous workout in the gym!)

We wish Pam and her team the very best of luck in their new location, and are pleased to find that they remain very close to home. Be sure to drop by to look over the new PTI quarters and wish them well. *JH*

Farewell, Handmade Bride

The Handmade Bride, the New Edinburgh-born bridal boutique, is moving. Not shutting down, rather packing up its racks of indie-made gown samples and drawers full of hand-crafted accessories and simply changing location.

"I just love New Edinburgh," says owner Meaghan Brunetti. "It has been a wonderful experience working right in the middle of such a beautiful neighbourhood. In the mornings on my way in to work, I loved seeing kids getting on school buses and people walking and talking to one another."

Meaghan explains it was more circumstance over personal decision that led her to

look into real estate opportunities in other areas to anchor her business. The space she is in at 292 MacKay Street is up for sale.

"Because of that, we have been on a month-to-month lease," Meaghan says. "I can't operate a business on short-term evacuation notice. I need more security."

Meaghan has been scouting rental gems in Wellington West, Westboro and the ByWard Market that match her needs and style. She investigated the value of landing a space on Beechwood, but admits that the math did not add up for her business model. She found that Beechwood rental prices were comparable to other hip urban areas—areas that boast better foot traffic and claim a younger demographic.

"I am looking for brides," she says. "New Edinburgh doesn't have that demographic to warrant paying the price for a storefront on Beechwood. Maybe when the condos actually go up, but not right now."

Since opening in 2013, the Handmade Bride has welcomed over 1,500 brides-to-be through the doors on MacKay. After two years, she is now seeing a steady stream of customers from other cities.

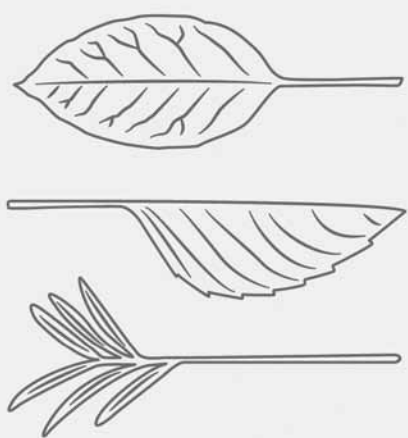
The bridal boutique made the best of the unique space which once housed a photography studio and a long-standing antique store. When Meaghan first set up shop, many residents peered through the windows to watch the daily transformation of the 900 square foot space.

"There was nothing there before," she says. "We used the original charm and tried to make it look nice."

Come October, residents will once again be setting their eyes on the Handmade Bride shopfront when Meaghan posts the announcement of her new location in the window. One thing that won't change is her website address: **handmadebride.ca** *EGS*

New era at 94 Beechwood

This summer brought to a close the three-decade run



EPICURIA

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Photo by Christina Leadlay

The space occupied by the Handmade Bride is up for sale, so the shop is re-locating to Westboro.

of **El Meson**, a longstanding institution in our community noted for its fine Iberian cuisine and traditional dining room. In the space of a scant three-week period between August 2-26, the restaurant was renovated and recreated as a fresh new eatery with a rustic décor and a modernized international menu drawing on culinary inspirations extending well beyond Spain and Portugal to embrace Asian, African and other traditions.

The Clarkstown Kitchen and Bar first opened its doors at 94 Beechwood on August 26 and by all accounts, despite the lack of fanfare and the “soft opening,” business was brisk and enthusiastic. The Clarkstown Kitchen is the latest in restaurateur **André Cloutier’s** string of remarkably successful ventures on Beechwood, ranging from **Arturo’s Market** (his first foray) to the popular **Beechwood Gastropub** which debuted last fall.

As we reported in June, André’s aim in the radical transformation of El Meson was to maintain the long tradition of fine cuisine, but to recreate the setting in keeping with current trends, tastes and styles (“moving away from bow ties to blue jeans”), and keeping prices within a much more affordable range. With the explosion of new fine dining restaurants in the Ottawa area, the competition is formidable, and André has honed in on lower price points as the most effective way to capture a market edge.

At the same time, he has worked hard to reflect the building’s historic roots and its location in the former Clarkstown, a tiny 19th century village inhabited largely

by tradesmen and farmers, which was the precursor to the pre-Vanier municipality of Eastview. The Spanish-themed décor has given way to archival photos, maps and images of the Clarkstown/Eastview era, and even the traditional white tablecloths have disappeared from many of the tables, creating a more informal atmosphere with plain wooden tables and shiny new wooden counter tops at the bar.

Despite the Clarkstown’s changes in décor, menu, atmosphere and overall vibe, there are a few constants remaining from the days of El Meson: veteran chef **Tom Moore** continues to lead the kitchen, and André reports that his culinary imagination has been rekindled by the challenge of working in a broader international field; long-time server/manager **Manuel** has stayed on to manage the new enterprise; the tried and true favourite paella remains on the menu, the sole holdover from El Meson days, and of course, the restaurant continues to operate from the quaint Victorian heritage house at 94 Beechwood that has become a community landmark.

Fast becoming a favourite on the new menu are mouth-watering artisanal sausages created by Tom in a range of flavours from lamb and rosemary to pork cilantro and citrus, beef short-rib and orange, and Vietnamese chicken lemongrass —all of them perfect for pairing with one of the more than 20 craft beers on offer, including such local Ottawa brewers as Kichesippi, Big Rig and Dominion City.

A lyrically enthusiastic posting about the restaurant on apt613.ca (apt613.ca/)

foodie-friday-making-the-link-sausages-and-beer/) describes the new fare as “the historical beer and sausage marriage [...] taken to the next level”, concluding that “[the sausages] are all bangin’ bangers, there’s no wrong choice here!” Other early favourites, according to André, are the tasty butter-nut squash gnocchi, grilled octopus, and baked oysters. Oyster lovers will be delighted to learn that André’s plans include dollar oyster hours (details to be announced) when you can drop in for a drink and savour your favourite bivalve delicacy at reasonable prices.

If you’re getting a group together for a family reunion, office gathering or other special occasion, the Clarkstown’s new menu includes a whole roasted hog with all the trimmings. The

All in a Day host **Alan Neal**, who appreciatively gobbled up Tom’s offering of a wheat-berry/lamb sausage tabbouleh for the weekly “D is for Dinner” portion of the show.

Reservations are essential if you want to be sure of getting a seat in this hopping establishment, so give them a call when you pay your first visit and get acquainted with the newest kid on our culinary block (**613-744-8484**). Once again, André Cloutier appears to have hit on a winning formula for a contemporary neighbourhood restaurant, and we wish him a long and successful Clarkstown era. *JH*

Epicuria marks 25 years

On Sept. 30, **Tracey Black** and her capable team at Epicuria Fine Food and Catering celebrated the store’s 25th anniversary with a gala reception

Burgh resident, culinary talent and prominent Nectar Board Member, and **Heather Maclachlan**. Heather is remembered by many in the community as the dynamic culinary entrepreneur who spearheaded the operation from the time of Cindy’s retirement in 1997, when the store was officially renamed Epicuria, to 2008 when she sold the business to Tracey Black, the current owner and executive chef.

The actual pioneer behind the flourishing operation that Epicuria is today was Cindy Ryley. In the early 1980s, Cindy began supplying prepared gourmet dishes to the former **McCreery’s** at 42 Crichton St., which in those days was owned and run by the late **Joey Alexander** and her husband **Charles**. In 1985, Cindy branched out to ply her wares at **MacTavish and**



Photo by Galaxy Camera

André Cloutier behind the bar of his new establishment, Clarkstown Kitchen and Bar.

kitchen requires about 72 hours warning to prepare the mega-roast so advance planning is a must.

If the early days of the Clarkstown Kitchen are any guide, the reinvented neighbourhood hub has bright future in store. Not only were the diners flowing in from the opening day, the place was absolutely full from top to bottom throughout its first weekend, serving clients until the wee small hours on both Friday and Saturday evenings. To André’s delight (and no doubt, relief), his regular clientele of El Meson devotees appears to have embraced the transformation, despite any reservations they may initially have harboured, and their early response to the Clarkstown Kitchen has been warm and positive. The Clarkstown’s opening even attracted the notice of CBC’s

in their current location at 357 St. Laurent Blvd. Many long-time residents of the community have been faithful clients since its early days as **Ryley Maclachlan**, a local fine food and catering business launched in 1990 by **Cindy Ryley**, a well-known

Robinson on Beechwood, a fine food emporium operated by **Malcolm MacTavish** and the late **Mowat Robinson**. Two years later, she linked up with that team to create **MacTavish, Robinson and Ryley** where she operated

Continued on page 12

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until 1989. (Coincidentally, in those early days, Cindy's food preparation took place in a commercial kitchen on Nelson St.—precisely the same location as Tracey's temporary kitchen in the hiatus after the 2011 fire when Epicuria was forced from its premises on MacKay St.)

In 1989, Cindy formed the partnership with Heather Maclachlan which laid the foundations for today's Epicuria, and in 1990, **Ryley Maclachlan** opened its doors on MacKay Street where it remained until the 2011 fire. In its early days, the business was very much a hands-on operation for Cindy and Heather, who handled every aspect of its operations. Some long-time clients and friends may fondly remember the popular cooking classes which Cindy and Heather ran at the store, borrowing stools from the pub to accommodate participants as they watched with rapt attention while the two chefs prepared a gourmet feast.

Greatly as she enjoyed the experience of collaborating with Heather to serve a loyal neighbourhood clientele (many of whom became friends), the work routine was grueling and in 1997, Cindy retired, selling her interest in the business to Heather.

Two years later in 1999, enter current owner **Tracey Black** who became executive chef and a partner in the operation, which she ultimately purchased from Heather in 2008. Heather and Tracey worked

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

intimate dinners to enormous receptions of 1,000-plus.

Tracey is continually evolving and innovating all aspects of her operations from the all-important menus, which must respond to the increasing

also signaled the intention to develop the neighbouring property at 137 Beechwood, home of **Jacobson's Gourmet Concepts** and **Oresta Spa**, along the same lines as a multi-storey mixed use build-



Photo by Galaxy Camera

Zazaza is closing on Nov. 8, making way for a potential new development. Learn more on page 6.

tirelessly to build the business, focusing their efforts on the quality and diversity of Epicuria's menus and serving a growing clientele of regulars at the busy retail counters on MacKay Street in the years before the fire. At the same time, Epicuria's catering operations expanded exponentially to encompass events and occasions throughout the city, and on every imaginable scale from

diversity of styles and tastes in cuisine, to the layout and design of her retail premises, the range (and even labeling) of the products available on the shelves, and most recently, the design of the store website which has been "refreshed" to add interest and appeal. At the top of her current list of future projects, now in the planning stages, are the creation of café style in-store service and a handy home delivery service for clients with busy schedules.

We congratulate Tracey and her predecessors Cindy and Heather on this 25th anniversary milestone in the history of their landmark business, and look forward to having Epicuria in our community for many years. Stay tuned for photos of the celebration event, and reunion with founders Cindy and Heather, in our next issue. Check out the new website at www.epicurica.ca. JH

Adieu, but not goodbye?

In late August, regulars at **ZaZaZa Pizza** at Putman and Beechwood received the sad news that restaurant will close its doors on Nov. 8 to make way for a new development on the site. Takyan Consulting, Development and Construction has submitted an application to the City to construct a six-storey mixed use residential/commercial building at the ZaZaZa location (see details on page 1), and the existing building is to be demolished in the process. In the current application, the developers

ing. (No formal application has yet been made, but stay tuned for more news on this).

ZaZaZa owner **Ion Aimers** reports that until the Nov. 8 closing date, it will be business as usual at the popular pizza haunt, but in the final week there will be specials galore to celebrate regular clientele from the community, including the hungry hordes from Elmwood and Ashbury, and the near neighbours from Putman and Marier who have been graciously accommodating when restaurant parking spilled over into their domain.

The quaint (and let's face it, slightly rickety) shack at 143 Putman was originally home to the pioneering outlet of **The Works**, the phenomenally successful gourmet burger chain which was Ion's first foray in the restaurant business. When Ion sold The Works chain, he went on to partner with Ross and Simon Fraser to recreate the location as **The Fraser Café**, now a legend in our neighbourhood and in the wider Ottawa community. The astonishing popularity of that gourmet eatery precipitated the move to more spacious quarters on Springfield Road, and thereafter, **ZaZaZa Pizza** emerged on the corner, another of Ion's ventures which rapidly took root in our bailiwick and subsequently spawned several other outlets throughout the city.

At this point, Ion is undecided about whether to relocate the restaurant in the neighbourhood, and is biding

October 2015

his time until there is greater clarity about the timelines for construction of the new project on Putman and the costs of leasing the commercial space. And with all the new Beechwood developments currently in train, proposed or rumoured, Ion's decision to sit back and let the chips fall seems a wise one indeed.

Ion's energy and entrepreneurial savvy have done much to enrich our community, from the modest beginnings of The Works to the Fraser Café, ZaZaZa Pizza and most recently **Muckleston and Brockwell**, our new butcher (profiled in this issue). Never one to let the grass grow, he has recently partnered in two new enterprises launched on Bank Street in the Glebe, **The Rowan**, a British/European eatery operated in partnership with the Fraser brothers, and **The Pomeroy**, a hopping new restaurant at 749 Bank St. Chances are high that yet another of his ventures, whether ZaZaZa or something entirely new, will ultimately emerge somewhere on our blossoming Beechwood corridor, so stay tuned! JH

Jean Barton's legacy

The team at **Books on Beechwood** embarks on a busy fall season after suffering two sad losses over the summer. On June 12, co-owner and store manager **Peter Dawson** died suddenly after only three years immersed in his new literary and retail venture, a business which he embraced with enthusiasm and skill. Peter worked hard to reinforce close ties to the community, reviving the tradition of regular author readings in the Titles@Table 40 series, producing an informative and appealing regular e-newsletter, and contributing with considerable flair to Books on Beechwood's special NEN columns in December (Christmas Book Picks) and June (Summer Reading Suggestions). A B on B staff tribute to Peter and his legacy is included on page 36. The *NEN* is greatly saddened by Peter's death, and extend our condolences to his family, friends, Iridian colleagues and his partners in the bookstore enterprise **Brian Sullivan** and **George Laframboise**.

The second blow fell in late August when **Jean Barton** (known to many of her friends as **Jeannie**) died after a lengthy illness. Jean was

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Photo courtesy of Mary Mahoney

Books on Beechwood co-founder Jean Barton, pictured in her office. Jeannie passed away in late August.

known and admired throughout our community as the co-founder and long-time owner/operator of Books on Beechwood, an enterprise which she launched with **Mary Mahoney** in 1994. Despite the struggles endured by independent bookstores at the time, notably the emergence of the giants such as Chapters and Indigo, the arrival of e-books and e-readers, and the online allure of mega-businesses like amazon.ca, Jean persisted in her efforts to forge ties to the community and to build and cultivate a loyal clientele. This she did with such remarkable success that when the store was threatened with closure in late 2012, in the wake of the disastrous 2011 fire which hobbled the surviving businesses in the Beechwood core, the neighbourhood rallied to create a special working group dedicated to preserving what had become an indispensable community institution. And in the end, it was devoted clients who rescued the store, collaborating to maintain it as a lively literary hub.

A celebration of Jean's life was held on Sept. 13 at the Chateau Laurier where many of her wide circle of friends paid moving tribute to her love of life, her irrepressible sense of fun, her warm infectious laugh, her resilience and determination, and her infinite capacity for loyal friendship. She will be greatly missed by her family and all her many friends and acquaintances throughout the community, the staff of the *NEN* among them. But thankfully her legacy will live on in the thriving operation at B on B, which has added immeasurably to the richness

of our community life over the past two decades.

Life must go on despite this two-fold sadness, and as both Jean and Peter would have wished, B on B is looking forward to an active fall season. The popular **Books on Beechwood Book Club** will once again operate two separate sessions to accommodate the growing number of regular participants. Session One takes place in the Second Floor Lounge at New Edinburgh Square on the second Wednesday of each month, and is hosted by **Antoinette Fracassi**. Session Two is hosted by book club founder **Jill Moll** and held in the Penthouse of The Edinburgh Retirement Residence (10 Vaughan St.) on the last Wednesday of the month. On the agenda this fall are *Medicine Walk* by **Richard Wagamese** in September, *The Comeback* by **John Ralston Saul** in October and *Us Conductors* by **Sean Michaels** in November.

Coming up in January 2016, the Book Club will mark its 10th anniversary in operation, a milestone which Jill finds justifiably gratifying, reflecting that "during this time we have reviewed 55 books. Our membership has expanded from the original nine members sitting on plastic garden chairs in the bookstore to 45 members on the book club mailing list who can sit in comfort in one of our two locations."

The big staff news this summer was the promotion of **Hilary Porter** to the position of Operations Manager for the bookstore. Hilary has been a capable mainstay on the staff in recent years, and her quiet competence and grace have been greatly appreci-

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

ated by B on B's clientele. Congratulations Hilary, and best of luck in your new role.

B on B Fall events calendar

Book lovers can look forward to an action-packed fall in and around the store, including numerous book-signings and three exciting **Titles@Table 40** events featuring historian **Tim Cook**, local novelist **Elizabeth Hay** and Ottawa wine guru **Rod Phillips**. **Titles@Table 40** tickets are available at B on B, so drop in or call 613-742-3050 to reserve your spot. Here's the line-up for the next two months:

October 3, 11 am-1 pm

Murray Ault in-store signing
View from the Deck

October 24, 11 am-1 pm

Erika Chase in-store signing
Law and Author, the newest book in the Ashton Corners Book Club mystery series

November 8, 5:30 pm

Tim Cook @ Table 40
Fight to the Finish

November 14, 12-2pm

Tim Cook in-store signing
Fight to the Finish, Volume 2 of WWII series

November 15, 5:30pm

Elizabeth Hay @ Table 40
His Whole Life

November 28, 12-3:30pm

General Ken Grant in-store signing
I Woke Up With the General Too!

December 6, 5:30pm

Rod Phillips @ Table 40
Wine tasting evening
The 500 Best-Value Wines in the LCBO

Burgh Business Bits

Facelift for pharmacy building

Pharmacist **Frank Tonon**, who co-owns the building at 350 Crichton St./1 and 5 Beechwood Ave. which houses his family-run pharmacy,




Photo by Galaxy Camera

Pharmacy owner Frank Tonon says the building will get an exterior facelift and modernizing upgrades.

the New Edinburgh Pub and until recently, the Physical Therapy Institute, reports that plans are underway for an exterior facelift of the building to modernize the façade and to upgrade and freshen up the exterior to better complement the streetscape.

Conservation Award of Merit from the City of Ottawa. In addition to the building façade, the parking lot is also on the agenda for an overhaul, including the installation of a smooth new asphalt

Continued on page 14



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surface and improvements to lighting and security. Frank stresses that care will be taken to preserve the heritage features of the former Towne Cinema building and its signature beacon tower is to receive a long overdue clean up. One other intriguing idea with which Frank was toying at the time of our interview was the addition of a mural along the lines of the colourful series which has emerged throughout Vanier in the past decade.

Preliminary designs for the facelift were well under-way in early September, and more details about the project, including timelines for the construction, are expected to become available over the next few weeks. At press time, the former premises of PTI were on the market for rent, so stay tuned for news of a new occupant in our next edition.

Changes inside the store this fall include an expansion of the Home Health Care section to increase the range of products available to support those with disabilities, and the return of nutritional and natural supplements consultant **Julie Barbeau-Caprucio**, who will be available on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays to offer free consultations on vitamin and mineral supplements, so you can learn as you shop. *JH*

Kelly's Beauty and Barber moving to Marier street

In early November, **Kelly Riley** and her team at **Kelly's Barber and Beauty**, will pack up their kit and move from their present location at **121 Beechwood Ave.** into spacious new quarters, not



The Muckleston and Brockwell team (Andy the Butcher, Ion Aimers and Conner) say business has been great their first summer.

far away at **30 Marier St.** Kelly has come a long way in the four and half years since the Beechwood fire of 2011, which destroyed the former **Lester's Barber Shop** where she worked alongside our community's legendary barber **Lester Clark**. After the fire, she was far from ready to retire with a family to support and a long career ahead of her. Before long, she set up shop in the Byward market where she operated briefly, until finally achieving her dream of repatriating the business on Beechwood in the heart of the community which was home to Lester's large and faithful clientele.

Since her move to 121 Beechwood, Kelly has not only maintained a thriving barbering business, but has also added women's hair styling and esthetics to her range of services, a move which has proven immensely popular and added significantly to her regular clientele. She looks forward to having fresh new premises with all her services

on the main floor in a space almost double the size of her present location. While the fit-up of the new store will be an ambitious project, Kelly is optimistic that a smooth transition will take place next month, and once settled in, she plans a grand opening celebration for the community. Visit **kellysbarbershop.com** for the latest news. *JH*

Butcher off to a great start

Andy the Butcher's meats and cuts are quickly proving to be some of the best in town. Ask him how business is doing since **Muckleston and Brockwell** opened its doors on Beechwood in July and he'll tell you, "it is on a good climb...we are doing it right." Ask him what the most popular purchase is, and he'll tell you: "all of it." That's right, Andy the Butcher is pleased to confirm that the folks of New Edinburgh like their steaks and they like to barbecue. To cater to the carnivorous crowd, they have

thought of every detail, turning their store into a one-stop-shop for all their grilling needs. In fact, Andy can outfit any want-to-be griller with the latest in barbecue trends, from the grill, to the marinades, to the apron. *EGS*

Awards and wedding bells

Congratulations to manager **Brian Bruni** and the staff at **Governor's Walk Retirement Residence** which captured the **Consumer Choice Award for Best Retirement Residence in Ottawa** for the second consecutive year. Well done to all concerned! Community relations manager **Tara Spour** reports that residents have enjoyed a lively summer with two very successful outdoor concerts (a planned third was sadly rained out). Each day throughout the month of June, which was officially Seniors' Month, Tara posted a profile of one of the residents on the Governor's Walk Facebook page to give the wider world

a glimpse of the personalities and life stories of the inhabitants of the residence. Check out these interesting snapshots at **facebook.com/GovernorsWalk**.

And the big staff news this summer was Tara's own wedding in July, which was reportedly a beautiful and joyous event. We wish Tara and her new husband **Stephane Doucet** a long and happy life together. *JH*

Honours for Magpie Jewellery

Back in mid-June, **Magpie Jewellery** was honoured at a special event hosted by the Nature Conservancy of Canada in recognition of the store's longstanding support of the organization and commitment to its mission of environmental protection and preservation. For many years, Magpie has made monthly donations to the conservancy to promote its work, a cause which is personally dear to the heart of owner **Martin Wright**, a long-time resident of Stanley Avenue. Martin is an enthusiastic naturalist with a firm conviction that "wilderness is essential for healthy communities."

A strong environmental ethic permeates all aspects of his business from the Bullfrog ("clean") power used to illuminate the LED lighting that shines on the store's jewellery displays to Magpie's selection of jewellery designers using reclaimed metals and untreated diamonds and stones. Many of their pieces are also inspired by the beauties of nature. Somewhat ironically, on the day of the NCC tribute event in June, Martin was waylaid en route to work



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(via bicycle of course!) by the spectacle of an immense snapping turtle methodically digging a hole in which to lay her eggs on Stanley Avenue, directly opposite the Spanish Embassy. He reassured the assembled onlookers (myself included) that this was an annual occur-

our community, and supplier of all things organic from meats, fish and poultry, to baked goods, dairy products, fine chocolate and cosmetics. Many of us make regular trips to the bright little store at 55 Beechwood to load up on healthy food items and exchange news with the **Phillips/Passmore/Heinz**

In late May, **Chelsea Passmore** welcomed the arrival of **Gunner**, a strapping little guy who is keeping her busy and needless to say, temporarily limiting her ability to participate in the running of the store. About a month after Gunner's arrival, along came **Linden**, the first child of store manager **Eric**

warm welcome to Gunner, Linden and Brodie. With luck you might catch a glimpse of one of the new arrivals when you drop in to pick up your organic Thanksgiving turkey (**Turkey Orders: 613-842-0280**). *JH*

Pet Valu expansion

Our local **Pet Valu** has just completed a major expansion to take over the neighbouring premises at 176 Beechwood, vacated by **Benjamin Moore**

in June. The store now has more than twice the space for an expanded range of pet supplies, and has just launched a do-it-yourself dog wash facility where you can shampoo Rover when he's especially fragrant after a roll in the mud or a dive in the Rideau River. The staff team plans more special events in support of pet rescue groups, and a Grand Opening is slated for early fall.



Photo by Galaxy Camera

Pet Valu has completed major renovations over the summer. Grand opening is slated for early fall.

rence, and despite the nest location perilously close to the curb and the street, the babies would find their way to the river when they finally emerged. *JH*

A growing family!

Nature's Buzz is well known as a longstanding, family-run business at the heart of

family who have owned and operated the store for the past eight years. If you're among their regular clientele, you may have a treat in store this fall, as the family has just abruptly expanded with the arrival of not one but three baby boys in the course of the past summer.

Passmore and his partner **Krista**. Not to be outdone, Chelsea and Eric's sister **Jessica** also produced a baby boy, **Brodie**, this summer, so grandma **Nancy Phillips** now has her hands full with a trio of babies to keep her busy when she's not running the store. Congratulations to all and a

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Heritage and Development Committee - Comité Patrimoine et Développement

New conservation plan for our historic district

The City of Ottawa Heritage staff, in consultation with the New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA) and Heritage Ottawa, has drafted a new Heritage Conservation Plan for the Historic District of New Edinburgh, which received its designation in 2001. In 2005, the *Ontario Heritage Act* was revised to require that HCDs established before 2005 update and strengthen their Heritage Conservation District Plans. The overall goal of these plans is to provide policies, guidelines and bylaws that will ensure that the heritage character of an HCD is protected for future generations.

The process of developing a new conservation plan began in October 2014. The working team was composed of: Lesley Collins, City Heritage planner; Danielle Jones, member of the Board of Directors of Heritage Ottawa; Paul McConnell, past chair of NECA's Heritage and Development Committee; Joan Mason, past president of NECA and member of the Heritage and Development committee; David Sacks and David McKinnon, members of the Heritage and Development committee and myself, present chair of this committee.

I want to acknowledge and thank every member of the team for his or her time and contributions. We all participated in a complex but positive collaborative journey, where we collectively weighed the pros and cons of language and intent, a process which was carried out with

patience and graciousness, and that helpful ingredient: humour.

The key underpinnings of the new conservation plan are spelled out in the sections outlining the objectives in establishing the Heritage Conservation District: the cultural heritage value of the district, its specific attributes, and proposed policy statements, guidelines and procedures for achieving the stated objectives, and managing change in the district.

The document goes on to address specifically:

- objectives for new development;
- objectives for landscaping, streetscapes and laneways;
- guidelines for existing buildings;
- guidelines for new construction, including additions;
- the conservation and maintenance of existing buildings (this includes: roofs, masonry, windows, porches, garages and accessory structures, paint colours and building materials).

The new plan also addresses the Heritage Conservation District policies and their integration with other municipal policies.

The full 25-page draft plan can be accessed on the City's website at: ottawa.ca/newedinburghheritage.

We look forward to your input at the New Edinburgh Conservation District Plan Open House, taking place on **Thursday, October 8, 2015 from 7 to 9pm at St. Bartholomew's Church, 125 MacKay St.**

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MARGOT

'Saturday Playhouse' welcomes Overbrook kids

By Julie Doucette

"The bus is here!"

During the spring and fall, this is a familiar cry of children, ages six to 12, living in social housing in the low income neighbourhood of Overbrook. What's got them so excited? They're excited because the CityKidz bus is there to pick them up, free of charge, and bring them to the entirely free and fun program at the CityKidz Saturday Playhouse, located at 39 Dufferin Road in New Edinburgh. CityKidz is an organization that started in Hamilton in 1994 and now, 20 years later, is reaching over 2,000 children per week.

In 2010 a new branch of CityKidz began in Ottawa, implemented by Wendy Turpin, branch manager, extending the impact of City Kidz' mission to children in the community of Overbrook. For the past five years, CityKidz has faithfully served children ages six to 12, living in one of the lowest income neighbourhoods in Ottawa, and we're growing.

In September, 2010, CityKidz began with 20 children from Overbrook and now five years later are boasting almost 100 kids. If you live in New Edinburgh, you may have noticed the CityKidz yellow school bus, rented from our sponsor Wubs Transit, filled with children on a fall or spring Saturday. Destination: The MacKay Church Memorial Hall, aka "The Saturday Playhouse," which CityKidz has been renting for almost three years now. Prior to that, CityKidz held the Playhouse at Vanier Community Church and the Hardini Centre on Donald Street. This year's first Fall Playhouse started on Sept. 12.

The CityKidz mandate is "to transform the lives of inner city children; to break the cycle of hopelessness; and to help end child poverty." It provides a fun and inspiring Saturday Playhouse program completely free of charge for inner city children who may not otherwise have the chance to attend such a program. It seeks to inspire children to achieve their goals, instill faith-based values, and cause a positive impact in their lives.

During the spring and fall, a bus picks the children up

from their houses on Saturday mornings and brings them humorous skits and special demonstrations. One time, an



Photo by Wendy Turpin
Children from Overbrook on the CityKidz bus, which will take them for a day of fun programming at the Saturday Playhouse, aka Memorial Hall on Dufferin Rd.

to the Saturday Playhouse. When they arrive, the children participate in a number of high-energy songs and dances. The program moves into a game show format where the children are divided into a red team and a blue team. They play exciting games and the winning team gets to spin the points wheel. The team with the most points wins, and at the end of the program gets to pie schmuck the captain of the other team!

In between games, there are object lessons, which focus each week on themes that encourage the children to trust God, to dream big, and to be the best that they can be. These lessons are taught creatively, sometimes with

object lesson even involved putting several Mentos into a coke bottle- and if you don't know what happens, let's just say it creates quite the mess! The kids loved it!

When the children leave, they receive packed lunches prepared by volunteers to eat on the bus-ride home. Sometimes children also receive special prizes for winning contests, and presents, when it is their birthday month. Special events that happen throughout the year include birthday parties, a Christmas party, a dance workshop, and a sports day with special guest athletes.

An additional part of the program is the CityKidz Home Visit program. Throughout

the week, volunteers visit children and their families at their homes to connect with them, let them know that we are supporting them, and tell them about special City Kidz activities happening the following Saturday. Unlike the Saturday Playhouse program which runs eight months of the year, the Home Visit program runs all year long; it's a great way to stay in touch with the kids, and let them know we are here for them, in good weather or bad, 12 months of the year.

City Kidz continues to grow, to reach more children and families, and to invest in the lives of the next generation, showing them that we are cheering them on as they go after their God-given dreams and reach their potential regardless of the circumstances around them.

All children who attend the CityKidz Playhouse and receive weekly home visits, are registered with CityKidz by their families at the beginning of each season.

If you'd like to find out more about CityKidz, please go to our website at citykidz.ca or "like" us on Facebook by searching City Kidz Ottawa. We're always looking for volunteers and donors who love children and want to make a difference in a child's life. In addition, you're invited to our fifth Annual Big Dream Banquet and Silent Auction on November 12 from 6:30-9:30pm at the RA Centre on Riverside Drive.

For any further information about any of these things, or just to book an appointment to come for a "tour" and witness CityKidz in action firsthand, please call Wendy at 613-796-3063, or email wendy@citykidz.ca.

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Ottawa voters divided on #elxn42's polarizing issues

By Kenton White

As I'm writing this, campaigning in the 42nd general election of Canada will run for five more weeks. It is a close race with the Conservatives, Liberals, and New Democratic Party in a dead heat, according to the polls.

This has been an historic campaign. The Orange Surge.

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A Recession. Senate Scandal. Refugee Crisis. A Budget Surplus. It can be challenging to understand which issues really matter to voters. This is where social media can help. By using data from social media sites like Twitter, we can measure what resonates most with voters.

I collected 691,573 tweets from a random sample of 11,371 Ottawans who tweeted between August 3, 2015 (the day after the election was called) and September 11, 2015. Election tweets were identified as using the hashtag #elxn42. This hashtag was chosen since it had little occurrence before the election was called. Election tweets were further classified as relating to the Conservatives, the Liberals, the NDP or non-partisan. For each of the par-

ties, tweets were classified as relating to campaign promises or pledges. These tweets were grouped by key topic and then analyzed for sentiment.

So how do voters in Ottawa view each of the parties? We'll start with Stephen Harper and the Conservatives. The most popular topic by far was the Family Tax Credit, including the Home Renovation Tax Credit, announced early in the campaign. This was also a polarizing topic, with people in Ottawa divided on whether this was a good or bad initiative. So while being the most popular topic, Ottawa's view was fairly neutral.

Twitter users in Ottawa responded negatively to most of the Conservatives campaign topics. In particular, the recession announcement

and the Senate scandals were stories that received the most negative feedback.

The Liberal Party's platform fares much better with Ottawans. Justin Trudeau's Parental Benefits plan was received the most positively on social media, followed by his plan for Middle Class growth. The Liberals' economic plan, especially their focus on deficit financing, was the lowest scoring part of the platform.

The NDP have emerged as a more centrist party in this election, containing many of the familiar social reforms of old with the addition of a more conservative, tax credit-focused, economic plan. Ottawa Twitter users most positively received social reform issues, like the Seniors' Income Supplement.

The recession announcement also affected the NDP, most likely because of the similarity between their economic plan to that of the Conservatives.

What about the refugee crisis? Many people believed that this would negatively affect the Conservative government. However, most people in Ottawa (and across Canada) view this issue as non-partisan. It is a serious issue and one that is not associated with a single party.

Kenton White, a New Edinburgh resident, is the chief data scientist with Advanced Symbolics. Advanced Symbolics provides custom data and analytical solutions to the health care, retail and security industries. Learn more at advancedsymbolics.com.

Continued from page 1

sible and responsive citizenship.

Fifteen years into Canada's 21st century, this vision is being sorely tested as distraction and cynicism continue to weaken our sense of civic agency. And then there is the debilitating undertow of despair: the stories of traumatized refugees fleeing chaos in the Middle East were front-page news throughout 2015. Feeling understandably helpless in the face of such anguish, many of us tune out.

Finally, but of critical significance, there is the insidious and widespread assertion that we self-identify first and foremost as "taxpayers"—and grudging ones, at that. Such reductive manipulation is insulting. More importantly, it is dangerous. Natural weavers of complex and nuanced relations, we are also, and correspondingly, creators of harrowingly difficult problems (often through the law of unintended consequences). We therefore dissociate from meaningful social connection, and the agency that such contact encourages, at our peril. Nowhere is this more evident than in the case of the emotionally overwhelming, but—as yet—still significantly resolvable problem of climate change.

Under pressure from circumstances never before experienced in the short history of our species, the decisions that we make as global

citizens over the next few decades about how to respond to the difficult facts of climate change will be a critical determinant of the ecological conditions, and therefore the well-being, of billions of people, not just for the next 85 years, but for millennia to come.

COP21 Paris Conference

And so it is that in early December, 40,000 of the Earth's 7.3 billion citizens, from governments at all levels of jurisdiction, the public and private sectors, and the public sphere (media, perhaps most

critically) will convene in Paris for the 21st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework on Climate Change (COP21). In the words of the organizers, the aim of this meeting will be "to reach [...] a universal, legally binding agreement that will enable us to combat climate change effectively and boost the transition towards resilient, low-carbon societies and economies." By "effective," they mean keeping global planetary warming below 2°C, the commonly acknowledged threshold of relative safety. According to the latest projections, if we keep up business-as-usual emissions levels, we will cross this threshold in 2036, the year my daughter turns 31.

The fallout of climate change

This little girl was with me in southeastern B.C. this past August, 80 miles northeast of the huge grass fire in Rock Creek. Less immediately scary, but deeply foreboding was the smoke from fires in Washington and Idaho. For five days straight, the smoke was so thick that the sun appeared all day as a burnt orange disc. While we were never in danger, we were unsettled to feel the smoke irritating our lungs, and to see the beautiful valley we were

between the Syrian war and climate change. According to the report, the region's experience of a prolonged drought from 2007 to 2010, the most severe in recorded memory, which decimated crops and brought 1.5 million desperate farmers into Syria's already over-crowded cities, "had a catalytic effect, contributing to political unrest." (pnas.org/content/112/11/3241) The study's conclusions are appropriately cautious, but nonetheless clear: climate change and conflict go hand in vicious hand.

Re-engaging in the public sphere

As temperatures slowly drop in Ottawa and the leaves turn, it may be hard to keep the realities of global warming uppermost in our minds. But it is imperative that we do not tune out on this one. Channeling our inner-18th century gentleperson, we need to re-discover the power of the public sphere, and our essential role within it as citizens who learn about, debate, and act upon matters of common concern. Climate change is, above all others, such a matter.

So, if you are still foggy on climate change causes, effects, and the myriad solutions, check out NASA's excellent site: climate.nasa.gov/blog. To be reminded

of the ethical imperative to cool things down, check out Pope Francis's profoundly moving (and I speak as an atheist) 192-pager on the subject: w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html (Fear not, the first 20 or so will be enough).

Armed with all this knowledge, get thee to your local coffee-shop/bar/barbershop/spa and bravely initiate the climate change chat. (It will get easier with practise.) Challenge your uncle at the Thanksgiving table! Chat up the cop at the traffic light! Your boss? Well, you be the judge. These are challenging times for freedom of expression in certain job sectors, as we know.

Speaking of which: there is a Federal Election coming up. On Oct. 19, factor in the candidate's and the party's position on climate change when you make your voting decision.

Finally, one of the best places to practise your involvement in the public sphere is in the public square. To turn down the heat, we need to take to the streets. And we Ottawans will have the chance to do so on **November 29**, as participants in the **Global Climate March** organized by *Avaaz*. For details, and to register, visit: avaaz.org/en/paris_save_the_date/.

"Distraction and cynicism weaken our sense of civic agency... But it's imperative we do *not* tune out"



Big win for cheering station and fieldhouse

By Debra Conner

Crichton Community Council

Fall is here, but first, a recap of our activities since the last issue of the New Edinburgh News. In May, New Edinburghers came together again at the Fieldhouse at New Edinburgh Park to cheer on runners from around the world for what was another successful cheering station for the Ottawa Marathon. Race organizers awarded our efforts with \$1,000 for our second place standing for cheering stations. A big thank-you and congratulations to organizer **Sylvain Bélanger** and his crew of volunteers! The money will be invested into community activities at the fieldhouse. Planning is already under way for the 2016 marathon cheering station; mark your calendars for **May 29, 2016**.

As was the case for the last six years, we hired a summer student to make the Stanley Park fieldhouse available to the public during the daytime hours. Local resident **Dorothy Beale** was chosen from many impressive applicants to be

our 2015 fieldhouse manager. We enjoyed having Dorothy with us for seven weeks: she planned activities for the little ones, ran the snack bar, and helped out with Nectar's summer camps. She is off to Kingston now, and we wish her all the best for her upcoming first year at Queen's University! We would also like to acknowledge the generous grant received through the Canada Summer Jobs Program of Service Canada, which has once again enabled us to hire a local student. Many thanks to **Caroline Matt** for managing the task of hiring and overseeing the summer student. Without this student, we would not be able to offer these summer activities out of the fieldhouse.

The New Edinburgh annual garage sale event will have taken place by the time this goes to press. This 3Cs fundraiser helps us fund the events and activities we hold for

the community, so your donations are greatly appreciated. If you haven't yet dropped off your donation envelope, you can do so at our new mailbox at the fieldhouse, 193 Stanley Ave.

Our next event is our **Halloween Howl on October 25, 3-6pm** for children up to age 6. Come in your Halloween costume, participate in the parade and enjoy Halloween games and crafts. Organizer **Roxie Clark** is planning lots of fun for everyone.

The Fieldhouse may be the perfect venue for your community or family event. Contact us at **nefieldhouse@gmail.com** to find out about renting the Fieldhouse.

Last, but not least, I want to report on an exciting project that is percolating between the 3Cs, the New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA) and NECTAR. The idea currently being explored by the three community groups is that of expanding the fieldhouse to serve as home to all three groups. This idea was brought forth to us by city councillor **Tobi Nussbaum**, citing opportunities from the City in terms of a capital grant that could be used to fund such a project and which could help address some of the issues faced by the three groups. A steering committee has been struck to explore the idea and includes members from each group. **Tim Plumptre**, president

of NECA, and chair of this steering committee, has written on behalf of the committee a comprehensive piece introducing the idea and outlining the steps taken thus far; please see his article on page 2. One of the next steps will be to garner opinions and ideas from the community at large. As such, NECA

in association with NECTAR and the 3Cs will be hosting its third Community Forum, concurrently with our **Annual General Meeting, on October 29 from 7pm to 9:30pm at St. Bartholomew's Church on MacKay St.** We hope to see you there to voice your opinions and ask questions.



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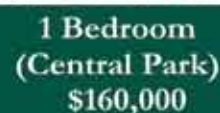
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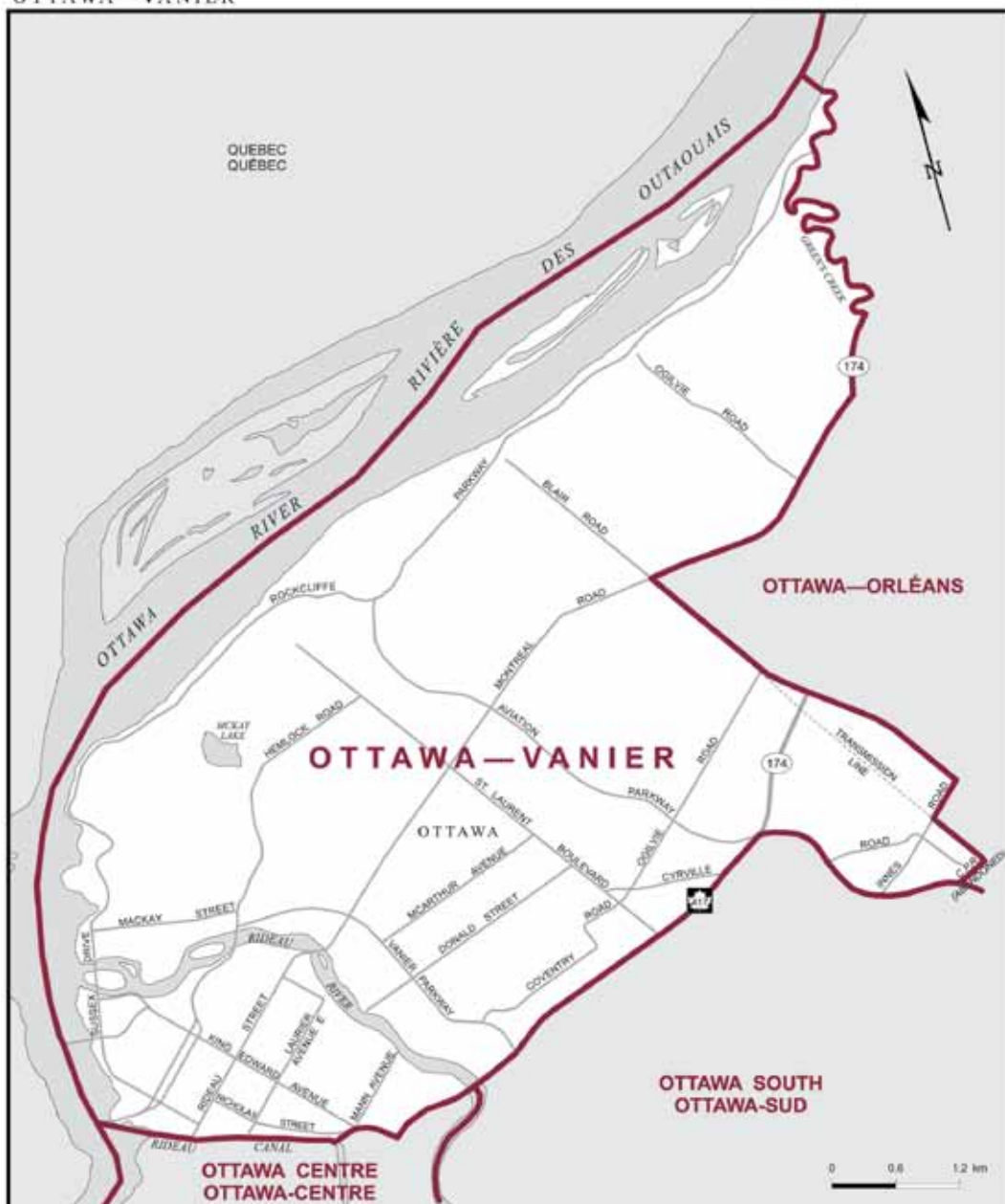
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Canada votes October 19: Pull-out guide

OTTAWA—VANIER



Details for Ottawa-Vanier

The 42nd general election will take place Monday, October 19. New Edinburgh, Lindenlea, Rockcliffe Park, Manor Park, Vanier and Lowertown are all within the Ottawa-Vanier riding (see map), which had been represented by Liberal Mauril Bélanger since 1995. In fact, Ottawa-Vanier has been electing Liberal MPs to the House of Commons for the past 80 years, since the riding's creation in 1935.

Elections Canada has already posted voter information cards to all registered voters. You should receive yours by Oct. 1, 2015. It tells you when and where you can vote. Visit www.elections.ca for more information.

with your current address. This includes a driver's licence, provincial ID card or any other government-issued card with your photo, name and current address. Your voter information card is not a piece of ID. Passports can be used as photo ID, but you will need another piece of ID with your address.

When can I vote?

Voting Day is Monday, Oct. 19. Voting places will open at 9:30am. Polls close at 9:30pm.

There are four advance voting days: Oct. 9, 10, 11 and 12. Polls are open 12-8pm. Check your voter information card for the address of your advance polling place, or visit www.elections.ca. You can also vote at any Elections Canada office.

How do I vote?

You must be a Canadian citizen and at least 18 years old on Oct. 19, 2015. On voting day you will need to bring your voter information card and photo ID

Who do I vote for?

Turn to pages 22-23 to learn more about the five candidates running in Ottawa-Vanier.

Ottawa-Vanier candidates' forum

October 6, 7 pm Queen Juliana Hall, Rockcliffe Park Public School, 360 Springfield Rd. Learn more about who is running for Member of Parliament in the Ottawa-Vanier riding. Candidates from the Conservative party, Green Party, Liberal Party, Libertarian Party and New Democratic Party have been invited to attend.



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Meet the candidates

Coreen Corcoran



Libertarian Party of Canada

www.libertarian.ca

Coreen had her first paper route at age 11, but understood the value of a dollar long before then. She grew up with a strong work ethic and the belief that if you are able, you work for a living.

Coreen feels that most parties are focused on an idealized version of a middle class family that no longer exists. Tax breaks for children's activities, carbon taxes, and nationalized daycare are not what this country needs to get out of debt and back on track. Demographics are changing with more households headed by single people and seniors. The Libertarian Party of Canada will have an immediate impact on everyone's life, regardless of status, with a plan to increase the personal income tax exemption from \$11,000 to \$17,300, and by introducing a flat tax of 15 per cent. "I have to believe we are a country of proud, hard-working people who want more control over the way we live

our lives and how our money is spent. We are tired of the government controlling every aspect of our lives, who view taxpayers only as a revenue stream to support poorly executed initiatives and bloated administrations".

Coreen has lived in Ottawa most of her life. She remembers the struggles of starting a career during the recession in the early 1990s. Coreen eventually found her place in Information Technology where she works as a technical writer. She has lived and worked in the United States and the United Kingdom, which helped broaden her perspective about the role government should play in our lives. "No country is perfect," she says, "but there are extremes at both ends of the spectrum in terms of sustainable social programs and economic incentives. We have to consider new options if we want Canada to be strong for decades to come".

Coreen was the Ontario Libertarian Party candidate for Nepean-Carleton during the Ontario Election in 2014. She is married and moved to Beacon Hill last year.

Emilie Taman



A respected federal prosecutor, Emilie Taman is ready to be a strong voice in Parliament for Ottawa—Vanier. Alongside NDP leader Tom Mulcair, she will fight to create good jobs and make life more affordable for families.

Working for Public Prosecution Service of Canada, Emilie earned a reputation as an effective advocate and strong consensus builder. She has spent her career prosecuting corporate tax frauds, human traffickers and environmental polluters.

Earlier in her career, Emilie worked as counsel in the law branch of the Supreme Court of Canada. She has profound respect for our judicial and political institutions, and is dedicated to restoring evidence-based policy-making to the federal government.

In recent months, Emilie has stood up for the democratic rights of public servants, including her own. After the Public Service Commission denied her leave to run in this election, she held firm to her principles—even when it meant sacrificing a job she loved.

Emilie decided she could no longer accept the things she could not change and is determined to

change the things she cannot accept. This includes unmuzzling government scientists and civil servants; restoring Canada's reputation in the world; reversing the erosion of democracy instituted under the Harper government; and ensuring public policy is based on evidence rather than ideology.

Emilie and her spouse Michael are the proud parents of three young children. Active locally, she volunteers on the board of her community association where she works with community center staff to deliver quality recreational programs to local families.

Her own family was recently featured in *The Motherload*, a CBC documentary highlighting the challenges faced by working mothers. In the film, she discusses the sky-high costs of childcare while lining up on a cold winter morning in the hopes of getting a coveted spot for one of her kids.

As our next MP, Emilie will put the priorities of families first—working with NDP leader Tom Mulcair in a movement for change; a movement to return Canada to an internationally respected, economically vibrant, socially and environmentally responsible nation that we can all be proud of.

New Democratic Party of Canada

www.ndp.ca

Nira Dookeran



As a teacher, mother, neighbour, and citizen, I am deeply concerned about the state of the world which we are leaving to our children. Our relationship to the planet, Mother Earth, is strained past sustainability. Our economy, founded on 19th-century thinking about value, wealth, and the planet's carrying capacity, is not viable in the 21st-century.

I am encouraged by the growth of the Green Party and, after joining eight years ago, saw an opportunity to join with committed, caring, ordinary Canadians who want to make a difference in the direction our country is taking. Canada is a great country, and we can be a leader in so many areas of crucial importance in the world today - from climate change and environmental issues to the economy, peace and conflict resolution.

I am always inspired by the ways Canadians of so many different backgrounds—in terms of culture, gender, socio-economic status, faith traditions, and age—have learned and are learning to come together, talk to one another, respect one another, and work together to address the enormous challenges we face today, in our communities and neighbourhoods right here in Ottawa-Vanier and across the country.

I believe the Green Party of Canada offers the most comprehensive, long-term, and sustainable thinking and planning for the future of Canada and our world. I offer my commitment and experience in education, community organizing, coaching, team leadership, and my deep commitment to values of honesty, respect, fairness, harmony, balance, and justice in the service of creating the communities and the country we all want to live in.

Green Party of Canada

www.greenparty.ca

The *New Edinburgh News* invited all candidates running for MP in Ottawa-Vanier to each submit a short piece on why they should be our next Member of Parliament. Regrettably, we became aware only after deadline that Christian Legeais was running for the Marxist-Leninist Party of Canada in Ottawa-Vanier. We apologize failing to include Mr. Legeais in our election coverage. Elections Canada will make the complete list of confirmed candidates available on September 30.

Meet the candidates

David Piccini



Conservative Party of Canada

www.conservative.ca

The community of Ottawa-Vanier needs real, meaningful and positive change through job creation, safer streets, while supporting families and small

businesses as we make Ottawa-Vanier a better place to live, work and raise our kids.

David moved to Ottawa in 2007 to pursue a joint degree in Political Science and History at University of Ottawa. Following his graduation with honours, David worked on both the political and policy sides of the federal government, including as an international market analyst and policy advisor.

Most recently, David worked for the Minister of International Trade, assisting with the Canada and European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), Canada's most ambitious trade initiative to date.

David has been heavily involved in the Ottawa-Vanier community for a number of years. Through volunteering at the local food bank, working with community groups or contributing to local papers, David has always shown initiative in helping the community and getting the most difficult jobs done.

David brings tremendous knowledge and experience to the table and is eager to put these skills to work for the people of Ottawa-Vanier. He is committed to making the political process far more inclusive, transparent and accessible for his constituents.

Ottawa-Vanier a besoin d'un changement réel et positif en créant des emplois, en assurant la sécurité de notre collectivité, en soutenant les petites entre-

prises et les familles assurant un meilleur endroit où vivre, travailler et élever nos enfants.

David réside ici depuis 2007, alors qu'il vient chez-nous pour entreprendre un baccalauréat double en Sciences politiques et en Histoire à l'Université d'Ottawa. Ayant gradué avec distinction, David entame une carrière au sein de la fonction publique à titre d'analyste des marchés internationaux et, par la suite, à titre de conseiller en matière de politiques.

Lors de l'appel aux urnes, David travaillait pour le ministre du Commerce international où il était assistant lors des négociations de l'Accord économique et commercial global (AECG), l'initiative commerciale la plus ambitieuse du Canada à ce jour.

David est pleinement engagé au plan communautaire depuis son arrivée à Ottawa-Vanier. Que ce soit comme bénévole dans une banque alimentaire locale, avec des groupes communautaires, ou en contribuant avec des articles pour les journaux locaux, David démontre toujours de l'initiative en servant sa collectivité tout en relevant les défis les plus difficiles.

David apporte un éventail de connaissances politiques et d'expérience à la table de concertation et veut offrir cette expertise au service des résidents d'Ottawa-Vanier. Il s'engage à rendre le processus politique beaucoup plus inclusif, transparent et accessible pour tous ses concitoyens.

Mauril Bélanger (incumbent)



Liberal Party of Canada

www.liberal.ca

Mauril Bélanger has consistently been a strong voice in the House of Commons devoted to national unity, respect for Canada's linguistic duality and cultural diversity, as well as vibrant parliamentary democracy. For constituents of Ottawa-Vanier, Mauril is always accessible and has demonstrated time and again his ability to contribute strong advocacy and effective resolution of issues involving our community.

Mauril Bélanger has been a relentless supporter and advocate of the Montfort Hospital academic health care facility that serves more than 1.2 million people in Eastern Ontario, in both official languages. He has worked tirelessly to secure vital

funding for significant community projects such as the Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health, la Nouvelle Scène, and Project STEP youth addiction centres.

Mauril is showing, through his effective advocacy on the future development of the Rockcliffe Air Base and the proposed Prime Minister's Row in Sandy Hill for instance, a vision for the future that is progressive, environmentally sustainable, and innovative.

This election is a clear choice between smart investments that create jobs and growth, or conservative and NDP austerity and cuts that will slow our economy further. On October 19, vote liberal, vote for Mauril Bélanger.

Mauril Bélanger est une voix forte à la Chambre des communes, reconnu pour son travail de promotion de l'unité canadienne, du respect de la dualité linguistique de notre pays et de la diversité culturelle, ainsi que de la démocratie parlementaire. De plus, Mauril a toujours été accessible aux commettants d'Ottawa-Vanier, n'hésitant jamais à se mettre au service de sa communauté pour défendre des enjeux et trouver des solutions efficaces.

Mauril continue à appuyer le développement de l'Hôpital Montfort, établissement d'enseignement universitaire qui dessert plus de 1, 2 millions de personnes de l'Est Ontarien, dans les deux langues officielles. Il a travaillé sans relâche afin d'obtenir des investissements vitaux pour des projets communautaires tels que le Centre de santé autochtone Wabano, la Nouvelle Scène et les services du projet RÉPA pour jeunes toxicomanes.

Enfin, Mauril fait preuve de leadership soutenu dans les dossiers du réa-

ménagement de l'ancienne base aérienne militaire de Rockcliffe et de la proposition d'une Allée des Premiers ministres dans le quartier Côte-de-Sable à titre d'exemples, démontrant une vision progressive, innovatrice et respectueuse d'un environnement durable.

Cette élection offre un choix entre, d'un côté, des investissements intelligents favorisant la création d'emplois et la croissance, et de l'autre, l'austérité et des compressions budgétaires des néo-démocrates et des conservateurs qui ralentiront l'économie. Le 19 octobre prochain, voter libéral, voter pour Mauril Bélanger.

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<p>Manor Park Community Council mpcc@manorpark.ca manorpark.ca 613-741-4776</p>	

What is on your wish list for Beechwood?

There is a certain energy on Beechwood these days –a feeling of something about to happen. The cranes, the trucks, the development, the condo sales offices. They are all signs that the streetscape will witness an imminent renewal. The anticipation is stirring questions—and rumours—about what will land in the commercial spaces up for grabs. It is also generating a lot of chatter on what residents actually want on their main strip.

Elizabeth Gray-Smith took this question to the streets of New Ed to gain a sense of what kind of Beechwood Avenue they envision: “What is on your wish list for Beechwood?”



“We’d like to see an ice-cream or gelato shoppe. That would be great. We miss Piccolo Grande.”
Paul and Beatrice on Queen Victoria



“I want a place where I can get everything: a place to pick up a kid’s birthday gift or a hostess gift. Of course, a hardware store would be great. And, I’d love to see a hot yoga studio on Beechwood.”
Jennifer on MacKay



“I would like to see some semblance of community, a streetscape that unites one end to the next. Right now we have pockets. The new developments will certainly help to unite the length of the street. Whatever it becomes, it needs to draw people from other areas.”
Graham on Keefer



“Let’s go out of the box and bring in some niche retail: crafting stores, quality kitchen stores, galleries and artisan shops. They’ll bring people into the area.”
Jess on Crichton



“I’m hopeful that Beechwood can become a hotbed of culture. We need real reasons for people to go there, not just retail. Places for people to convene, not just shop.”
Paul on MacKay



“We need a diner. A place to grab your classic bacon and eggs on a Saturday morning with the family.”
James on Crichton



“I would love to see a hardware store and an LCBO on Beechwood. They are equally important.”
Sally on Stanley



“I would like to be able to take care of as many errands as possible on Beechwood...I would also like a variety store on this side of the strip so kids can get a popsicle or pick up milk without getting run over.”
Chloe on MacKay



“The one thing that would make Beechwood awesome would be trees to give that European main street feel. And, a European bakery right in the middle. Oh, and a place to pick a bottle of wine would be nice.”
Marta on Stanley



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For the Birds

By Jane Heintzman

Among the few downsides of birding is the way in which it seems to highlight, and even accelerate, the relentless passage of the seasons. And at no time is this more evident than in summer, that exhilarating few weeks of the year when the birds are resplendent in their breeding plumage, nestlings are chirping, and the trees and shrubs are alive with bird song. In those heady days, many of us acquire an unwarranted confidence in our skill in bird identification, simply because it's dead easy with the help of the males' brilliant plumage, the endless repetition of the signature songs and calls of each species, and the hospitable weather conditions in which to roam in prime bird habitat.

But those few weeks quickly vanish, as fall arrives and another migration season gets underway. Gone are all the handy bird identification cues of summer, and we're left to struggle with a birding landscape of dull, post-breeding plumage and serious moulting, a plethora of ID defying immature birds, and the virtual absence of helpfully telltale bird song (barring the ubiquitous squawk of raucous **blue jays** and **American crows**.) The only redeeming aspects of fall are that birds are once again moving in flocks in preparation for migration, and thus easier to spot, and the trees have begun to shed their leafy canopy, stripping away the birds' camouflage.

Though brief, our summer birding season was a rewarding one. Once again this year, we were lucky enough to divide our time between Ottawa, Georgian Bay and Prince Edward Island, each of them affording special highlights. Here in Ottawa in early summer, the most prominent "locals" on our list included **common yellow throats**, **American redstarts**, **chipping sparrows**, **yellow-rumped warblers**, **Eastern phoebes**, **red-eyed-vireos**, **yellow warblers**, **Northern flickers**, **American goldfinches**, **American robins**, **black-capped chickadees**,

Northern cardinals, **blue jays**, **Great-crested flycatchers**, **yellow-throated vireos**, **Northern mockingbirds**, **great blue herons** and an **Eastern kingbird** perched regally on a treetop on Green Island.

Even the most tentative birding novice is likely to have luck spotting **yellow-rumped warblers** with their signature yellow splotches on their crown and sides, not least because of their sheer numbers and their incredibly active foraging habits, darting among trees to catch insects on the fly. They were rife this year in Stanley Park and in nearby densely treed areas. In the fall, the yellow-rump's diet shifts from bugs to berries, and when they forage in flocks with other warblers, they typically cede right of way to **palm**, **magnolia** and **black-throated green warblers**, but can be testy with **pine** and **blackburnian warblers**.

The **Northern flicker** is another readily identifiable member of our local bird population, marked by its distinctive plumage with its broad black "necklace", bright red neck patch, yellow undertail and underwings, and brilliant white rump (which you can't miss when it takes off in flight). The flicker's comparatively large size (about 13") is also helpful in spotting and identification, as is its habit of foraging on the ground rather than on the trunks of trees like other woodpeckers.

Less well known to many birders is the **yellow-throated vireo**, which I saw and heard quite frequently this summer in trees along the parkway by the Ottawa River. As the name implies, the bird is distinguishable by its bright yellow throat and breast, as well as by its' visible yellow eye-ring, and of its' signature whistle-like two-note song which is a dead giveaway. (Its cousin, the ubiquitous **red-eyed vireo**, has an even more readily recognizable song—"here am I, where are you?"—which it belts out relentlessly throughout the summer).

A first for me in the Ottawa

area this summer was the sighting of a **black-crowned night heron** perched on the barrier in front of the Rideau Falls at dusk in early July. Unlike its graceful, long-legged, long-necked cousin the **great blue heron**, the black-crown is a stocky bird, predominantly gray and white with a black cap and back. As the name implies, they are night feeders, which thrive in brackish wetlands, and are reportedly the most widespread heron in the world. You may often hear their nasal "*quok*" call before you actually spot them. Also in evidence on the Rideau River not far from the night heron was a mother **wood duck** and her five ducklings, no longer the tiny fluff balls, but approaching full-grown size.

is located only a few metres away from a busy commercial area on St. Laurent Blvd. In the course of our visit, we were challenged by the speed at which the birds darted amidst the dense foliage, but managed to positively identify **yellow warblers**, **red-winged blackbirds**, **black-capped chickadees**, **red-eyed vireos**, **blue jays**, a beautiful **Baltimore oriole** and (we think) a **Northern mockingbird**.

Birding on Georgian Bay

Our first visit to the Bay took place in mid-June when we arrived to find the island alive with birds and bird song. An adult pair and a single offspring once again occupied the nearby osprey nest, and the island was ringed by **mallards**, a **common loon**,

warblers, **cedar waxwing**, **worm-eating warblers**, **great-crested flycatchers**, **yellow-throated vireos**, **Eastern wood pewees**, **ovenbirds**, **blue jays**, **Eastern phoebes**, **yellow-rumped warblers**, **common ravens**, **song sparrows**, and **Northern flickers**, including a pair which we spotted "dancing" together on a rocky point.

Each year, we look forward to encounters with a melodious **wood thrush** on an island across the channel from our cottage. This year, however, we listened in vain for the thrush in its customary spot in a hemlock thicket, until one evening in late July, we happened to hear its haunting song emanating from the woods on



Bald Eagle with cormorant carcass.

Photo by Amy Jane Lawes

The sight of **great blue herons** flying overhead on a well-travelled flyway between the Rideau River and the Gatineau shore of the Ottawa River is another great joy of spring and summer in our neighbourhood. Herons are also a regular fixture on an exposed point of land in the middle of the Rideau directly opposite our house where the fishing appears to be fruitful (a spot now occupied by a construction sign as work proceeds on the Minto Bridges!)

Another first this summer was a visit to **Macoun Marsh** with my neighbour and fellow birder **Philip MacAdam** (better known in this column as the proprietor of Phil's Avian Bistro on Alexander and Thomas Streets). Despite having read regular reports about the Marsh from naturalist/environmentalist extraordinaire **Mike Leveille**, I had never actually toured the Marsh. It was a revelation to both Philip and I that this birding haven of unspoiled wetland bordered by forest

a **common merganser** and **double crested cormorants**. Often we found a cormorant perched on the edge of our dock with its wings extended, drying out its feathers. Unlike the majestic loon, the cormorant is a homely, gangly looking creature ("a combination of a goose and a loon").

On land, the avian cast of characters in early summer included **pine warblers**, **white-throated sparrows**, **red-eyed vireos** in perpetual song, **black and white**

an island farther afield. For three consecutive evenings, we paddled to the same spot to hear its flute-like call, but thereafter it vanished, possibly en route to its southern wintering grounds in Central America. The wood thrush's uncanny ability to sing "internal duets" derives from its Y-shaped voice box, allowing it to sing pairs of notes simultaneously, creating an internal harmony. Check out the wood thrush's distinctive songs at allaboutbirds.org/guide/Wood_Thrush/sounds.



Baby cardinal at Macoun Marsh.

Photo by Mike Leveille

Later in the summer, our island was often swarmed by migrating flocks of **chipping sparrows**, **pine warblers**, **least flycatchers** and vocal **blue jays**, along with **Northern flickers** and an intrepid **Eastern phoebe** which lingered very close to our front porch. Several years ago, a phoebe had built a nest in the rafters of the porch, so it's possible that this bold creature was returning to home turf.

A highlight of late summers in the Georgian Bay is the spectacle of large families of graceful **common mergansers** plying the quiet inlets of the islands in search of fish, and often engaging in what appear to be playful water fights with much splashing, flapping of wings and swimming around in tight circles. By this point in the summer, the young are close to full size, but still stick close to the mother duck and (unlike human adolescents) seem ready to hop to her command if danger approaches.

Another regular in late summer at the Bay is the **common raven**, more often heard than seen as its deep, sonorous croak echoes over the water. Ravens are among the cleverest species in the bird world, capable of solving complex problems and even learning to imitate human speech. Their range of vocalizations extends well beyond their signature croak to harsh, grating sounds, high-pitched calls of alarm, and hollow, knocking sounds like distant hammering, apparently made by dominant female ravens.

Prince Edward Island

On P.E. I. this summer, my rambles on the farm where we stay were a special pleasure. The fields were rife with **song sparrows**, and in the forested areas I encountered **common yellowthroats**, **black-capped chickadees**, **American robins**, **blue jays**, **common ravens**, and several **Northern flickers**. Closer to the shore we spotted **osprey**, **killdeer**, **egrets**, **great blue herons** (though fewer than in previous years), and the season's highlight: **bald eagles**. We encountered them in several locations in our travels on the island, in one case very close to home at the edge of the field bordering our farm/hotel. Most dramatic of all the sightings, however, was the spectacle of an immense eagle nest virtually overflow-

ing with five enormous birds, one adult (presumably the mother) and four "babies" which, at close to full size, were anything but baby-like!

In several of our long beach walks, we crossed paths with a tiny **pipin plover** skittering along the shore and peeping frantically to divert us from a nesting area. These little shore birds are an endangered species, and Parks Canada is now engaged in a major conservation effort to protect and rebuild the population in Prince Edward Island National Park. Learn more about the program at pc.gc.ca/eng/pn-np/pe/pei-ipe/natcul/especesenperil-speciesatrisk/pluviers-plover.aspx

Autumn in Ottawa

As I write in mid-September, the fall migration is well underway, with **warblers**, **vireos**, **thrushes**, **sparrows** and other species either launched on their southbound journey or organizing to do so. Bruce Di Labio reports that over two dozen **warbler** species pass through the Ottawa area in the course of the migration, many of them visible at birding hot spots such as Britannia Conservation Area/Mud Lake, although, as he cautions, "lots of patience is required when warbler watching, as these birds tend to flit quickly from branch to branch in search of food and are well known for skulking."

In our neck of the woods, I have spotted flocks of **turkey vultures** cruising over the Ottawa River, as well as large numbers of **American robins** and **European starlings**. Our garden has been hopping with scruffy-looking immature **American robins** with their washed out plumage and heavily spotted breasts (reminiscent of teenaged acne!). Periodically, we've had invasions of massive groups of birds swarming our crab apple, apple and mountain ash trees, as well as raiding our feeders. While their sheer numbers and frenzied activity made it difficult to identify all the species taking part in these assaults, I was able to nail down **house finches**, **white-breasted nuthatches**, **black-capped chickadees**, **goldfinches**, **pine warblers**, **yellow warblers**, **starlings**, **robins** and what I think was a pair of **dark-eyed juncos** and a lone **gray catbird**.

Reports from our readers

In this issue, we're delighted



Osprey on nest.

to have a pan-Canadian overview of birdlife this summer, with reports from the west coast, central Alberta, the Ottawa area and the Maritimes.

Val des Monts resident **Amy Jane Lawes** and her partner explored parts of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick this summer, reporting on such highlights as close up views of majestic **bald eagles**, one of them tackling a **double-crested cormorant**; a close encounter with a **spruce grouse** in Cape Breton, a gormless creature which simply "sat in the centre of the path, staring at us as if to ask what we were doing there"; and a ringside view of hundreds of **Bonaparte's gulls** feeding in the sea around their campsite on Deer Island, N.B. These gulls are reportedly found around strong currents, and as the campsite overlooked "Old Sow", the largest tidal whirlpool in the Western hemisphere, Amy concludes that "it definitely fit the bill." Another rather unusual sighting on her trip was a **budgie** (clearly an escapee or discarded pet) which she spotted in Central Park, NYC, amid a group of **Northern Mockingbirds** and juvenile **American robins**.

Back home in Val des Monts, Amy reported that the nesting **common yellowthroats** and **Northern waterthrushes** have moved on, but many of the **warblers** haven't yet departed, possibly on account of the unusually warm September. Her garden warbler count for the season is now up to 11, with the **bay-breasted warbler** as the latest addition to her species list. Mixed flocks are passing through the area in waves, just as they are here in our neighbourhood.

A highlight of **Mike Leveille's** summer birding at the Marsh was watching the emergence of the next generation of young **Northern car-**

dinals, **American redstarts**, **gray catbirds**, **chipping sparrows**, **Virginia rails** and **black-capped chickadees**. In late summer, he spotted black and white warblers and a lovely juvenile **common yellowthroat**.

Philip MacAdam's top-of-the-line feeding stations on Thomas Street brought their just reward this summer, attracting a spectacular male **red-breasted grosbeak**, which feasted at the bistro for most of a morning. Business has been brisk at the bistro with a regular clientele including **white-breasted nuthatches**, **house finches**, **American goldfinches**, **American redstarts**, **black-capped chickadees** and **Northern cardinals**. In the September heat wave, Philip reports that the birds had been actively drinking and splashing about in a large ceramic bowl of water, positioned strategically on his patio. On a recent ramble by the Ottawa River, Philip spotted a trio of **turkey vultures** cruising overhead, presumably on the hunt for a ripe carcass.

Our sharp-eyed (and tender hearted!) photographer/reporter **Louise Imbeault** spotted a bald blue jay at her feeder late this summer, and was concerned that the bird might be ill or injured. In fact, the scruffy fellow was very likely in the throes of a fall moult, when birds occasionally lose all their head

feathers at once. This is particularly true of crested birds like **Northern cardinals** and **blue jays**, and while it's temporarily disfiguring (and alarming to bird watchers!), the plumage does eventually grow back.

Alberta correspondent **Dave Collyer** has been busy keeping track of the migrant flocks passing through the area. In mid-September, his species list (combined with that of the Edmonton Bird Club) included **black and white**-, **yellow-rumped**-, **blackpoll**-, **Wilson's**-, **magnolia**-, **cape may**-, and **bay-breasted warblers**; **American redstarts** (also warblers); **warbling**-, **blue-headed** and **Philadelphia vireos**; **western tanager**; **greater white-fronted geese**; **common goldeneye**; **osprey**; **hooded mergansers**; **red-tailed** and **cooper's hawks**; **merlin**; **olive-sided flycatcher**, and **least flycatcher**.

Former Burgh resident **Vicki Metcalfe** continues to take great pleasure in her birding expeditions in and around her new home in Victoria, B.C. Each week, she takes part in a birding group organized by the Victoria Natural History Society and has recently explored several nearby lakes, spotting birds in diverse habitats including freshwater marshes, mixed forests and tidal mud flats. Her tally of "life birds" (first time sightings) over the summer included a **trumpeter swan**, **western grebe**, **Wilson's snipe**, **Pacific wren**, **barred owl**, **yellow-rumped warbler** (the **Audubon** variant of the species, as opposed to the **myrtle** which is common in eastern Canada), **surfbird**, **rock sandpiper**, **Northern rough-winged swallows**, **marbled murrelet**, **Western gull**, **solitary sandpiper**, (get this!) **rhinoceros auklet**, and **pigeon guillemot**, the latter two spotted on a boat trip in the Oak Bay Islands.



Bald blue jay.

Photo by Louise Imbeault



Lumière Festival most successful yet

By Lee Benson

Beautiful weather, stunning paper lanterns, fantastic performers, and the tireless efforts of a group of phenomenal volunteers all contributed to making this year's Lumière Festival one of the most successful to date. Not to mention the spectacular turn out of the people of New Edinburgh and the surround-

ing areas who came out on Aug. 15. While the festival has evolved over the course of its twelve year history, there is still something magical about a night filled with performers, lights, and costumed participants.

Some of the performers such as **Corey Ell**, the **Ottawa Stilt Union**, **Project Latino**, storytellers **Kaeli**



Photos courtesy Lee Benson

Performers old and new helped make the annual Lumière Festival an enchanting evening.

Van Reagan and **Jacqui Du Toit**, and the **Fire Weavers** have participated in the festival before, but it was great to have some new faces as well.

The marimba group **Tine Rufaro**, the artists of **Creativity Crew**, the acrobatic performers of **Aerial Antics**, as well as community volunteers such as the **Ashbury Cadets** and balloon artist **Jake Swery** undoubtedly helped Nectar's *Night of Lights* shine. As did the logistical support and active participation of members from the **Quartier Vanier BIA!**

The family-focused event was especially appreciated by the children of the community, who enjoyed the geocaching treasure hunt provided by the Ashbury Cadets, the light maze, face painting, tattoos, glow sticks, and balloon animals, as well as an on-site lantern workshop that gave young and old the chance

to create a lantern of their own to add to the night's festivities. With such a rousing success, the volunteers have already started talking about



next year's Lumière!

To keep up to date on any of the events surrounding Nectar's Lumière Festival, follow us on Facebook or tweet us @LumiereOttawa and/or use #nightoflights

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Where did all the water go?

Swimmers and environmentalists alike were alarmed by a drastic drop in the water level at McKay Pond this summer, thanks largely to a lack of rain and a minimal spring run-off. City officials believe not much can be done to address the problem, but Councillor **Tobi Nussbaum** is taking a more proactive approach and will meet with the community this fall to discuss possible interventions should the low water levels become a chronic

problem. According to local legend, a pumping station was once installed to supply water when a top-up was necessary, but it was never used and is now inoperable. City officials flatly deny the legend. The Rockcliffe Park Residents' Association is particularly keen to tackle the problem, as the low water levels in the pond expose a large beach-like area which attracts larger crowds, and could lead to damage to the shoreline. — *Jane Heintzman*

The true story of the world's worst opera singer

By Rosemarie Tovell

Actress Janet Uren has taken on a new challenge: singing. Recently serenading guests in her backyard, a ripple of applause was heard on the other side of the fence, but on a previous occasion dogs were seen running in the opposite direction. Why? Because despite being true music lovers, other New Edinburgh residents – Ann Davis, Kevin Kattas and Rosemarie Tovell – are working diligently to give their neighbours a chance to hear Janet in Linden House Theatre Company's new production, a comedy about the world's worst opera singer.

Glorious! is the hilarious true story of Frances Foster Jenkins (1868-1944), a New York socialite and a passionate lover of music, who followed her dream of performing as an opera singer. For this, she earned a well-deserved reputation as the worst singer in the world. Despite her lack of talent, the play introduces her as an artist totally committed to opera. Not for her singing, but for her innocent and endearing nature combined with accidental comedy, she wins a devoted following that takes her right to Carnegie Hall. There, she gives an unforgettable concert to a capacity crowd and brings down the house in one of the most famous performances in the history of opera.

Glorious! by British playwright Peter Quilter, ran in London for over six months and 200 performances, and it received glowing reviews. The Sunday Times called it, "A lunatically funny comedy



Photo by Linden Theatre
New Edinburgh actress Janet Uren is making every effort to match Frances Jenkins's appalling renditions of Puccini's beloved arias in the upcoming play *Glorious!*

that will keep you very happy" (while the Daily Telegraph stated that, "This delightful and blissfully funny play generates a rare glow of warmth and generous laughter."

In order to immerse herself in the role of Frances Foster Jenkins, Janet Uren, Linden House Theatre leading light, has been taking singing lessons. Dressed in Jenkins' signature costume – the Angel of Inspiration – Janet is learning to make every effort to match Jenkins's appalling renditions of Puccini's beloved arias.

Jenkins' fame continues to this day. Clyde Gilmour often played her recordings on his CBC program Gilmour's Albums and for today's lis-

teners her vocalizations are available on YouTube and CDs of her singing are available on Amazon.com. And if that is not enough, soon moviegoers will be thrilled to see Meryl Streep don the winged Angel of Inspiration costume as she takes on the role of Frances Foster Jenkins.

Glorious!, directed by Robin Bowditch and produced by Ann Davis, will be presented at the Elmwood Theatre, 261 Buena Vista Road, Rockcliffe Park on Nov. 6-7 and Nov. 13-14 at 7:30pm and Sunday matinees on Nov. 5 and 13 at 3pm. Tickets available at Books on Beechwood or by calling (613) 842-4913 or online at www.lindenpro.ca.

NCC courting tenant for 50 Sussex Dr.

This fall marks the 10th anniversary of the closure of the short-lived **Canada and the World Pavilion** at 50 Sussex Drive. After 10 years of vacancy, punctuated by a costly remediation project to remove the mould which built up in the empty building and numerous aborted attempts to find a long-term tenant, here's the latest word from the NCC: "The National Capital Commission is currently engaged in negotiations with a prospective tenant for 50 Sussex Drive. The NCC's objective remains to make the site available to the public as soon as possible." Sound mildly promising? Don't get your hopes up: we've had the same response from the Commission on innumerable occasions, and still no cigar! –Jane Heintzman

Praise for local passive homes

Local green builder and Burgh resident **Chris Straka** of Vert Plan.Design.Build was featured this summer in an Ottawa Citizen report on Ottawa-area passive homes – houses that are super energy-efficient structures, using 90 per cent less energy for heating and cooling than typical homes built to code. Chris's current home, a redbrick duplex on Crichton, was the first certified passive house in Canada. He is currently completing construction of a second passive house in the Burgh at the corner of Dufferin Road and Crichton Street, which will incorporate a \$2,200 water saver feature, among other cutting-edge green technologies. Apart from a passive home's lower operating costs, Chris stresses their comparative comfort: "You have to get inside and sit next to a window in winter" to truly appreciate the difference! –JH

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

New Ed ex-pat shares the best of Victoria, B.C.

By Vicki Metcalfe

It's a challenge to put together a program for friends. Victoria, B.C. has too much on the go to contemplate covering it all. There's a vibrant arts scene (much of it free) and lively nightlife. There are said to be more restaurants per capita here than anywhere in Canada. There's a wonderful aquarium that is an extension of the Salish Sea, a butterfly garden, wineries and cideries, a selection of historic and other guided tours, such as hiking, whale watching and kayaking, an art gallery and festivals all summer long.

There's a huge selection of parks and gardens: Beacon Hill, Butchart, Abkhazi, Government House, and historic Ellice Point House... The list goes on. Not to mention that Victoria is a perfect starting point for exploring the west coast where the view extends to the Russian

peninsula of Kamchatka, the Olympic Peninsula of Washington State (linked by a direct ferry), the Gulf Islands and Up Island – Cowichan Bay, Chemainus, Tofino and Long Beach...

After moving to Victoria a year ago, my first visitor was a dear friend from Portland, Oregon, who visited shortly after I arrived. We toured the famous Butchart Gardens, visited the impressive Royal British Columbia Museum, enjoyed a delicious Indian buffet in the amazing Bengal Lounge of the Fairmont Empress Hotel, shopped for necessities for my rented house, and visited with her friend Marian Burchill, sister of Bob Burchill on McKay Street. Marian has since become a lovely addition to my life here.

Next came old friends from northern B.C. who spent a few days with me in Victoria around Thanksgiving. We



Photo by Nathan Philips Photography

Vicki Metcalfe has been living in Victoria, B.C. for a year now. She enjoys taking visitors to her favourite places like Fisherman's Wharf because there is still industry only steps from downtown.

scoured the thrift shops that are so plentiful here for pieces of furniture and toured the city a bit. I drove them through the Saanich Peninsula with its amazing farmland and ocean vistas. And we did the requisite coastal drive, starting at my own house.

By the time my friend Katharine arrived from Virginia, I thought I was an old hand at this tour guide thing. We packed so many things into two days that I was ready for a rest. We did a steep hike with my walking group. We explored every bit of the 55-acre Butchart Gardens. We visited the lovely seaside town of Sidney. We drove through the industrial areas of Victoria – a favourite of mine because there is still industry only steps from downtown, such as Fisherman's Wharf and Walking Dallas Road. And that's just a sample!

I learned from these early visits. I've just said goodbye

to a couple of old friends from Halifax who were the best imaginable guests, but that's another story. I was spoiled. My lesson was to leave lots of gaps in the program and to carve out an hour or two each afternoon for me to retreat with my book. Chris walked each day to explore a different area near the house, coming home one day with fresh oysters and ling cod which he cooked that night.

I put together a tentative schedule for them starting with an insider's tour of Chinatown, followed by a trip to the retail hotspots of Munro's Books and Murchie's Tea, a visit to the exquisite lobby of the Fairmont Empress, and lunch at Ten Acres restaurant – so named because the owners have 10 acres of farmland with livestock and crops, and what they don't supply, their neighbours do. On day two, we accompanied my walking group to Ten Mile Point, a

rigorous walk with gorgeous views of the Gulf Islands, and followed that with lunch at the Abkhazi Gardens, a one-acre masterpiece with a romantic history. On their last day, we drove west along the coast to Witty's Lagoon, hiking through the coastal forest, past extensive tidal mudflats and out to the ocean, enjoyable hiking and great birding.

I asked New Edinburgh-Lindenlea friends what impressed them most about their trips to Victoria. From Joseph Cull: "The weather, impeccable, the air, the mountains, wow wow wow!" My Douglas Avenue friends Leah Roseman and Mark Friedman and their daughters were particularly enthusiastic about Olo restaurant in Chinatown and the Vintage Funk Museum.

Perhaps I've overused such adjectives as amazing, exquisite, wonderful, impressive, to describe the pleasures of my new home; but I don't think so.

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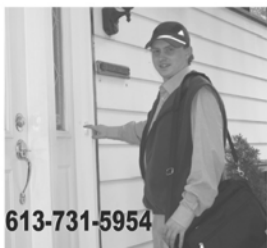
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Fun theme for Rockcliffe Park Book Fair

By Adrienne Blair

Each year, the Rockcliffe Park Book Fair has a different literary theme and when you let the kids of Rockcliffe Park Public School pick the theme, they always do it up right. This year, the students voted overwhelmingly for Dr. Seuss, which promises to be tons of fun when we get to decorating the gym, making costumes and anticipating surprise guests.

The Rockcliffe Park Book Fair draws thousands of book lovers each year, who come to browse through more than 50,000 donated titles in every genre. They also find magazines, DVDs, CDs, vinyl, puzzles and board games—all at terrific prices. Many folks make a day of it: there's a Craft Corner to keep the kids busy, and a café offering tasty snacks, and delicious lunch and dinner options.

Book Fair is a highly anticipated community event in every sense of the word. Tireless volunteers donate more than 3,500 hours of their time, some working year-round to collect and sort the donated books. The pro-



Photo by Seanna Kreager
Rockcliffe Park Public School students Henry and Sarah Hamlin pore over their favourite Dr. Seuss books.

ceeds from Book Fair flow not only back to RPPS, but also to other area schools in the form of grants to support their literacy programs.

Come out and find your new favourite book, meet your neighbours and have a Seuss-tastic time!

Join us for the 54th annual Rockcliffe Park Book Fair

When: November 6–8, 2015

Where: the Rockcliffe Park Public School gymnasium (Queen Juliana Hall – enter off Springfield Road near

Buena Vista)

For more information on hours, location, or to volunteer: rockcliffeparkbookfair.com

Rockcliffe Park Library Fun Day returns

Your library is here for you! On Saturday, October 17, from 10 am-1:30 pm, the Rockcliffe Park Branch of the Ottawa Public Library, located at 380 Springfield Rd., welcomes you and your family to a complimentary Open House and Fun Day. Enjoy a musical show from Polka Dot Door's Cindy Cook, face painting, refreshments, crafts and a contest to win local prizes.

Library staff will be on hand at the Open House to answer questions and demon-

strate the new RFID technology. Tours of the new library renovations, completed last October, will go on throughout the event.

Our library is a local treasure, full of community spirit. Please join in the celebrations and share in a love of reading.



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2015 Fall Program Highlights

Autumn flies by in a flash, so take advantage of the crisp weather and colourful season with fun activities at the Nectar Center.

We're home to memorable experiences and wonderful people. We offer a full range of classes and activities for everyone from toddlers to seniors. Visit our website for the complete list of our fall programs.

KEEP NECTAR THRIVING

2015 Fundraising Campaign — GOAL \$20,000

Like all other charitable organizations, Nectar depends on support from donors as an important component of our annual operating budget. This year, our focus is on raising funds to maintain our well-established, top quality programming and services that are so highly valued by our participants.

This fall, we are inviting all Nectar benefactors and program participants to contribute \$20 or more to the fund. You can donate online at www.nectarcentre.ca by following the **DONATE** link on the homepage, or drop off / mail a cheque or cash to Nectar, 255 Mackay Street, Ottawa, ON K1M 2B6.

We thank you for your support.

Sean

Sean Flynn, Chair

STAGECRAFT THEATRE SCHOOL

Is there a budding thespian, singer or dancer in your family? Let them "Reach for the Stars" at Stagecraft Children's Theatre School. After 12 successful years in Vancouver, this family run business is opening at the Nectar Centre.

The program is designed to give students, ages 3 to 13 years, a broad base of experience in singing, dance and drama with intensive yet fun training every week during nine to eleven week semesters, summer camps and workshops. For more information about the program please visit: www.stagecraft.ca.

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!

FEE: \$99 + HST for 8 weeks
TIME: Fridays, Sept. 11 – Oct. 30
(8 wks) 10:30 – 11:30 am
LOCATION: 255 MacKay

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

Nectar's Afterschool offers children from senior kindergarten to grade 6 a multi-faceted program with opportunities for supervised free play and athletics, arts, science, and sensory activities, as well as some special activities such as visits to local parks, cardboard construction, movie days or theme weeks.

For more information or to reserve a spot for your child please contact Lee Benson, the Program Supervisor/Coordinator at lee.benson@nectarcentre.ca.

FEE: \$360 per month for full-time registrants
TIME: After school until 5:45 pm
Monday through Friday, except on OCDSB holidays
LOCATION: 255 MacKay

BULLY DEFENSE WORKSHOP

(15 spaces available)

Teaching children invaluable coping skills to address the increasing epidemic of bullying.

FEE: Free
TIME: Thursday, December 3,
5:00 – 5:45 pm
LOCATION: 255 MacKay

FOOD TALKS

Co-hosts Cindy Ryley, Joseph Cull, Nina LePage and Julie McInnes lead discussions with some of Ottawa's best food authors, chefs, suppliers and restaurateurs — taking you behind the scenes in the region's finest kitchens.

OCTOBER 13 — Joe Thottungal, chef at The Coconut Lagoon — Garam Masala: a journey through spices from God's Own Country, Kerala. \$10 per person.

NOVEMBER 10 — Paul Skinner, Food Services Coordinator at Cornerstone shelter for women — Food... it's more than sustenance. \$10 per person.

DECEMBER 8 — Antonio Mauriello, award-winning sommelier and owner of Savour Italy — Sparkling wines for the holidays — tasting with selected foods. \$20 per person.

TIME: 7:30 – 8:30 pm
LOCATION: 255 MacKay

THE NEW EDINBURGH COMMUNITY GALLERY

Please note, the gallery hours as of September are Saturday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, Sunday 12:00 – 5:00 pm.

OCTOBER 16 – 28

Liz Minnes' Collection of works: "Houses"

OCTOBER 30 – NOVEMBER 11

Art show from Artist Group from El Salvador

NOVEMBER 20 – 25

Works by Pamela Murray and Catherine Willis-O'Connor

NOVEMBER 27 – DECEMBER 9

"That's Life" by Artists who gather at Nectar

LOCATION: 255 MacKay

Visit nectarcentre.ca to register for our fall programs.

Art Work In Progress!

Pam Murray and Catherine Willis-O'Connor are madly working away for their upcoming two-woman show at NECTAR Gallery, 255 MacKay St. Pam and Catherine are two students of Ottawa School of Art, who are creating new works of art for their upcoming vernissage on Nov. 20 at NECTAR.

Their inspiration comes from communities, neighbourhoods and rural spaces in and around Ottawa.

Pam is a lover of our fields and forests. She is inspired to grasp and capture the beauty of the natural environment in her encaustic and acrylic paintings. Her use of colour and depth of knowledge in

mixed media has created an exquisite body of artwork. You can feel the energy and want to embrace it. The quality of her creations attracts your attention. Pam believes that by using encaustic medium and simplifying the subject matter, an abstract quality emerges from each piece.

Catherine is intrigued by the social aspect of green space and how it draws people together. Her paintings are

mixed media of ink, water-colour and colour pencil. Her folk art style makes it easy to identify the Ottawa park and river settings she has selected. They are whimsical, entertaining and light-hearted. With attention to detail, along with bright colours, her work is pleasing to both young and old alike. Each creation will remind you of a happy time and make you smile.

The vernissage for Field, Forest and Folklore takes

place Nov. 20, 6-10pm at the Nectar Centre gallery, 255 MacKay St. For more details call 613-745-2742 or visit www.nectarcentre.ca.

Deadline

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Photo courtesy Catherine Willis-O'Connor

Artists Pam Murray and Catherine Willis-O'Connor present all new works at their new show, Field Forest and Folklore, set for Nov. 20 at Nectar.

What's in a name?

In the ongoing barrage of election coverage, the *National Post* recently ran a story with the arresting opener: "Canadians may not know it, the party leaders may not know it, but this is the biggest thing at stake in this election: Gorffwysfa. According to the Sept. 15 story, this unpronounceable, tongue-twisting Welsh moniker is in fact the proper name of 24 Sussex Drive, built by Joseph Merrill Currier in 1868 as a gift for his third wife and is now the prime minister's residence. The name was dropped from general (or any) usage when

the house became the official residence of the Canadian prime minister. While the PM's website maintains that **Gorffwysfa** means "place of peace", a number of knowledgeable Welsh sources contradict this translation, claiming that a more accurate rendering would be "resting place". Although the Welsh name *Ystâd y Prif Weinidog*, meaning Estate of the Prime Minister, might be a more appropriate designation for 24 Sussex, it's likely a non-starter given its pronunciation: "whiny dog".
—Jane Heintzman

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A political satire to relieve election overload

By Simon Leadlay

With perfect timing, local author David Holdsworth has published his comedic, Ottawa-centric, political caper, *Tough on Crime*, right on the cusp of a heated federal election. Without it ever needing to be made explicit, this neatly permits the politics and policies of the current federal government to loom over Holdsworth's parallel fictional world and provide a sense of menace to what is an otherwise easy-reading and light-hearted novel.

From Holdsworth's years of experience in the civil service, we get a satirical, yet unblinking, look at how a power-hungry prime minister might act in order to centralize power in the Prime Minister's Office, use the RCMP as his personal gang of thugs, and sweep aside evidence-based law-making in favour of a range of devious and injurious changes to the country.

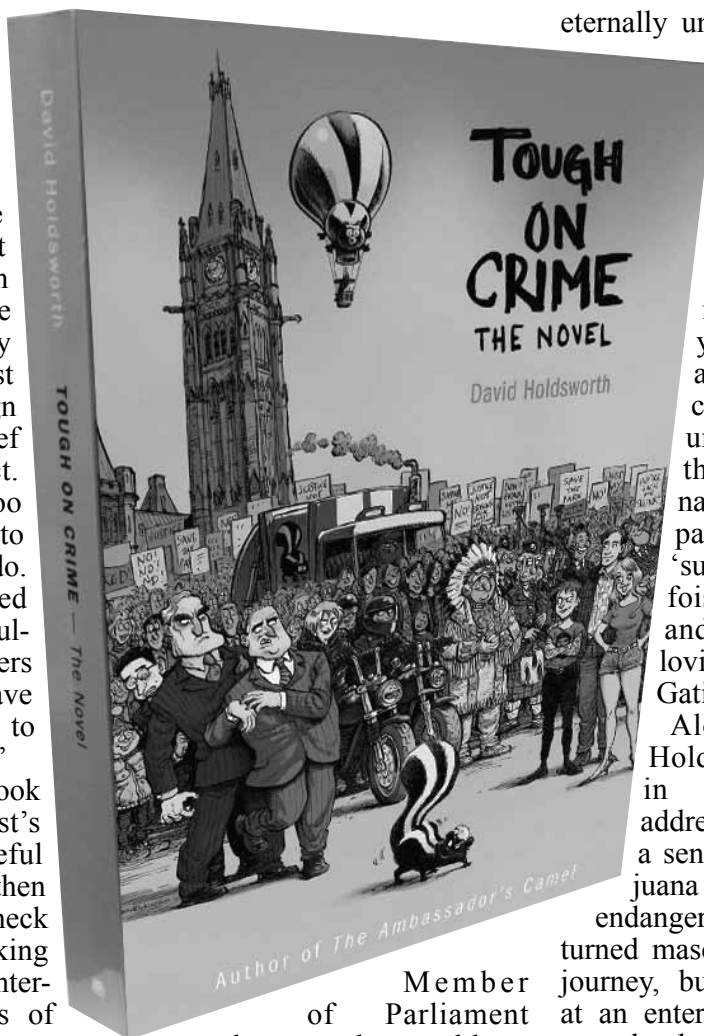
In the foreword, Holdsworth makes it abundantly clear that his novel is a work of fiction, yet with quotations like this

from his prime minister, one can draw immediate conclusions about who he intends to satirize:

"I see you've been reading about our little election disaster. It's true we took a hit. I'm very angry about it. I just fired my campaign manager and chief of staff, in fact. But don't pay too much attention to the press. I never do. They're all biased against me, the vultures. What matters is, I won. I still have power and I plan to use it, believe me."

From this early look at the antagonist's angry and vengeful manner, the novel then moves at a breakneck speed while tracking the parallel and intertwining challenges of a number of characters.

We meet (and almost feel badly for) the ladder-climbing



Member of Parliament who starts the novel hoping for a vaunted place in the Cabinet but finds himself

eternally unlucky in managing the necessary internal politics. We thrill to the awakening of the small-town mayor and her gang of seemingly-harmless-yet-secretly-feisty activists; and we cheer on these underdogs while they sway the nation in their campaign to cancel a 'super prison' being foisted onto them and their peace-loving neighbours of Gatineau Park.

Along the way, Holdsworth weaves in some tenderly-addressed love stories, a seniors' centre marijuana grow-op, and an endangered skunk species turned mascot: it's quite the journey, but it skips along at an entertaining pace and completely engrosses the reader.

Interestingly, Holdsworth's

novel feels, in both spirit and pacing, like an easy companion of Terry Fallis's oeuvre. Fallis, a contemporary Canadian political novelist, shot to fame with his Leacock Award-winning 2008 novel, *The Best Laid Plans*, which shares with *Tough on Crime* many of the same crowd-pleasing elements leading to a great caper novel: witty dialogue, personable characters, and an insider's knowledge of government and politics.

It is partially through Fallis's public success that we know that there's a ripe audience for a homegrown Canadian combination of politics and comedy. Standing on his shoulders, and yet writing very much on his own terms, Holdsworth is to be congratulated for issuing his own light-hearted yet politically-meaningful novel that is completely up-to-date, and proves once again that politics need not be the domain of the musty history book.

Tough on Crime is by David Holdsworth, published by Friesen Press, is available at Books on Beechwood.



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In Memoriam: Peter H. Dawson (1937-2015)

It is with deep sadness and regret that we announce the death of Peter Dawson, on June 12, 2015, following a sudden illness. Peter was instrumental, along with co-owners Brian and George, in saving the *Books on Beechwood* store when it was about to be closed in December 2012. When the possibility of taking over the bookstore came up, Peter mused that it had been one of his dreams to run a bookstore when he retired. This was a

dream that became a reality as Peter always enjoyed new challenges! Peter set out to learn about the book industry and he became actively involved in learning the ins-and-out of running a bookstore – from attending book fairs and dealing with publishers to cleaning carpets and ordering supplies. Over the last two years, Peter kept searching for new ways to expand the bookstore's reach with increased advertising and presence in the

community. As an example, Peter revived the *Books on Beechwood* tradition of bringing in authors for a dinner followed by a speech, first at the Clocktower Brew Pub and then, more recently, at Table@40 operated by Fraser Café.

Peter's love of books and reading was one of the reasons he was passionate about the bookstore. Peter joked that he was the store's best customer – he was a voracious but discriminating reader



Peter H. Dawson.

er sometimes enjoying a book a day on his vacations!

Peter had not actually retired when he helped take over the bookstore in 2013, as he was still active as the chairman of Iridian Spectral Technologies, a high-tech company that Peter helped to found in 1998. Peter would spend most days either at the bookstore, Iridian or both as the occasion required. Prior to that Peter enjoyed a long career at the National Research Council of Canada where he was first a research scientist and then eventually becoming the Director-General at the Institute for Microstructural Sciences.

Peter had a loving family with his wife of more than fifty years, Marilyn; two daughters Jennifer and Kathryn; and their families including husbands Rob and David and three granddaughters, Anna, Erin and Sarah (also a part-time *Books on Beechwood* volunteer on occasion!).

Peter will be dearly missed by all the staff at *Books on Beechwood* including Antoinette, Bonnie, Bridget, David, Di, Hilary, Jill, Margaret and Stephanie and also by all the staff and his friends at Iridian. Brian Sullivan and George Laframboise will especially treasure their long friendship with Peter over the years, first at the NRC and then at Iridian and *Books on Beechwood*. We will all miss Peter's wisdom, wit and guidance.

Don't Vote for the Next 4 Years. Vote for the Next 40!



In this riding, people do not need to worry about strategic voting. In fact, the riding has gone Liberal every year since its creation in 1935. This election – Vote with your Conscience!

Nira Dookeran is a teacher and mother who is committed to connecting with all the diverse groups that make up our riding to better understand what

issues matter most. It is her belief, much like the Green Party, that if we work with others and keep the channels of dialogue open, even those with whom we disagree, we can achieve great things.

Nira is particularly committed to:

- Cutting down on red tape for small businesses.
- Increasing funding for the City of Ottawa and its Housing First strategy to provide decent housing for all.
- Creating environmental and economic policies that fully consider the true long-term costs.
- Encouraging the expansion of farmers' markets and community gardens.
- Working with other parties to ensure that our current voting system is replaced by a system of proportional representation where all votes count and strategic voting will never again mean not voting for your first choice.

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Memories of Crichton teacher Nancy Roberts

By Janet Quirt, with Lee Casselman and Evelyn Daghofer

Long time readers of the *New Edinburgh News* will remember the 1990s when Crichton was an Ottawa Board of Education alternative school. Some might also remember Nancy Roberts, a teacher at Crichton for most of the decade. Perhaps you recall her dedication to her students and her commitment to positive self-esteem? Perhaps you recall her contagious energy or her smile that could light up a room? Or maybe you remember Maggie, the class “grandmother” who travelled across the city on a bus each week to read with the students in Nancy’s class?

Nancy died peacefully in her sleep on July 11, but her spirit lives on in her many friends, her extended family, her four grandchildren and her beloved husband, Dan.

In the early days of Crichton, she team-taught with Evelyn Daghofer in the Primary Division. Evelyn remembers that Nancy really knew the meaning of team-



Nancy Roberts taught at Crichton St. alternative school for most of the 1990s. She is pictured here with some of her students. Nancy died on July 11, 2015.

work. “It was easy to come together, share ideas and produce something magical and creative”.

Nancy was an innovator in the classroom – introducing portfolios and student-led conferences, conflict resolution, peer mediation and relaxation techniques, in addition to creating an active

and engaging learning environment. There was even great excitement when her class was one of the first to be invited to tour the new Robert Picard waste treatment centre!

Outside the classroom, she trained and co-ordinated the school patrols, and acted as Principal Designate on rota-

tion with other staff members.

Nancy loved the “alternative” designation of the school, which included donating a claw foot bathtub which was filled with pillows to be a reading “centre” in the library, and working the colour purple into every activity she could manage.


Much as she loved her stu-

dents, the centre of her universe was her family – especially her three children – Matthew, Colin and Brianne. When Nancy was expecting Brianne, her students gave her the baby shower to end baby showers, just before she began her maternity leave. Baby Brianne arrived 32 hours later!

After Crichton, Nancy moved to Orleans Wood Elementary School where she taught grades four, five and six (not all at once). She was settled and happy in her new school environment, coaching soccer and working her Nancy “magic” with the students of Orleans. In the fall of 2007, she suffered a massive stroke and although she fought hard through intensive physiotherapy, she was not able to return to the classroom.

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Something vibrant is happening in New Edinburgh

By Elizabeth Gray-Smith

Memorial Hall will be bursting at the seams with talent on Nov. 7. Pure crafting talent. Local New Edinburgh entrepreneur, Jenny Nelson, has teamed up with Ottawa writer, Tania Barton, to bring the Something New Edinburgh craft sale to the heart of the 'hood. The ener-

gized duo are mobilizing a contingent of skilled artists and passionate crafters—many of them New Edinburgh residents— and giving them the space to showcase and sell their products. All in time to launch the local Christmas shopping season.

Jenny describes herself as, “a mom who knits.” But, it is far more than a hobby. She’s

turned her passion for patterns and purling into a business by bringing her perfectly stitched products to Etsy.com. Online, Jenny is known to her loyal customers as Seedling Yarn.

“From Etsy, I then moved on to the craft sale market,” she says. “I was surprised to see that New Edinburgh didn’t have a craft sale...I

love New Edinburgh, it is the neighbourhood I call home... so I decided to bring a craft

It did not take long for Sezlik.com—a long-standing local business with

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ONE-OF-A-KIND
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MEET**

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sale here.”

On Nov. 7, those who enjoy picking up that one-of-a-kind item can expect to find a lot of just about everything handmade by local artists, from clothing, to ceramics, to home décor, to soaps, to jewelry, to fibre arts. Ottawa photographer, Matthew Hinder, will also be on site with some of his recently-captured prints of New Edinburgh.

As Jenny explains, the event goes beyond just crafts. “It is also about the entrepreneurial spirit in the neighbourhood, including those business owners on Beechwood,” she says. “We are calling on the local businesses to join in.”

Branded canvas tote bags stamped with the hip Something New Edinburgh logo and filled with a selection of Beechwood business owners’ offerings will be sold on site. Proceeds from the sale of the totes will support the Ashbury College Junior School World Issues Club in their fundraising efforts.

a reputation for supporting local causes and events—to jump in to financially kick-start the event.

“We thought this event looked unique and interesting,” says Charles Sezlik. “It is a wonderful addition to the series of fun events happening in New Edinburgh. This event particularly celebrates the urban vibrancy of the neighbourhood.”

Also on board to back the event is the brand new Beechwood butcher shoppe, Muckleston and Brockwell.

Thanks to Jenny and Tania and their enthusiastic supporters, Something New Edinburgh is quickly proving that something, indeed, is happening in New Edinburgh. Check out the first-of-its-kind craft sale on Nov. 7, 2015 at 10am and close at 3pm, Memorial Hall, 39 Dufferin Rd. Admission is free.

Follow Jenny on Facebook and Instagram at Something New Edinburgh.

Evening & Saturday a.m. hours available
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Grete Hale retires as chair of Beechwood Cemetery

By The Beechwood Cemetery Foundation

At the Beechwood Cemetery Foundation's Annual General Meeting on June 10, 2015, Grete Hale retired as chair



After more than a dozen years, Grete Hale has retired from her role as chair of the Beechwood Cemetery Foundation.

of the Board of Directors of Beechwood, Funeral, Cemetery and Cremation Services. Mrs. Hale has been a member of the volunteer board since 1992 and chair for more than a dozen years.

Mrs. Hale is a well-known business leader, philanthro-

pist and tireless community volunteer within the Ottawa community. Under her guidance and leadership, Beechwood has been designated as a National Historic Site, and in 2009 was named the National Cemetery of Canada by an Act of Parliament that received all-party support.

Beechwood continues to be the preferred resting place for thousands of Canadians from all walks of life, including many notable historical figures; it is also the home of the National Military Cemetery, the RCMP National Memorial Cemetery and the Ottawa Police Service Memorial Cemetery. Beechwood is owned by The Beechwood Cemetery Foundation, a registered Canadian charity, and operates on a not-for-profit basis. It is also multi-faith and multicultural; a number of sections are designated for the diverse cultural, ethnic and faith groups in the Ottawa area. In addition to providing all types of bereavement services, many people also come simply to enjoy its beautiful botanical gardens, nature

paths and unique urban wetland, or to attend the many special community events hosted at Beechwood, including lectures, concerts, school and group tours.



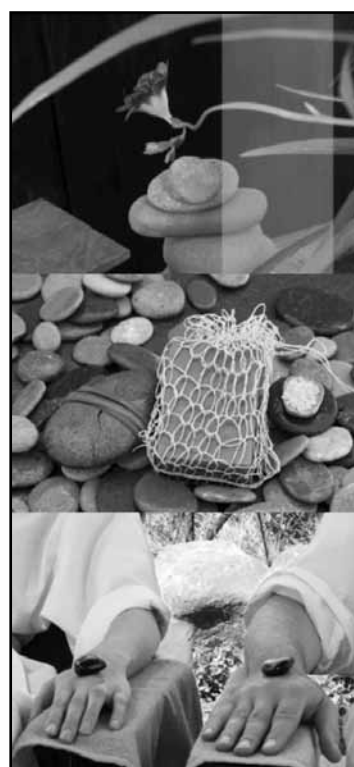
Former chief of defence staff Maurice Baril takes over as chair.

In recognition of Mrs. Hale's service to this unique and important Canadian organization, she received letters of appreciation from Governor General David Johnston, Prime Minister Stephen Harper, and General Tom Lawson, then-Chief

of Defence Staff. As well, the Beechwood Board of Directors has appointed Mrs. Hale as chair emeritus and named a room within the Beechwood National Memorial Centre "The Grete Hale Historical Room" in her honour.

Mrs. Hale's successor is General (ret'd) Maurice Baril, former Chief of Defence

Staff. General Baril proudly served in the Canadian Forces for 40 years, during which time he held command and staff responsibilities across Canada, Europe, the United States of America, the Middle East and Africa. General Baril has been a Director of The Beechwood Cemetery Foundation since 2003.



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Celtic backdrop for Rockcliffe Home and Art Fair

By Helen Anne Fortin

On Nov 7 and 8, experience the music, the art and the elegance of the Rockcliffe Home and Art Fair. This year the fair takes place at a new location, the residence of the Irish Ambassador, Ray Bassett and his wife Patricia, at 291 Park Road, right across the street from the Rockcliffe Book Fair. Admission is free.

The Rockcliffe Home and Art Fair (reborn from the original Elmwood Home and Art Fair of years past) draws together a juried show of the finest quality. Periodically throughout the day you will be transported by the sounds of a fiddler or harpist as you wander the halls of this wonderful residence, while seeing some of the finest art assembled under one roof.

For those who want to know



Bill Reddick's ceramic vase.

more, there will be an educational component (20 minute talks) built into this event. Would you like to learn why Bill Reddick's porcelain artwork became the plates on which President Obama ate? Or why Ingrid Harris' Art Dolls help tell the stories

of the great artworks at the National Gallery of Canada? Or why Pasi Nuutilainen builds furniture that is not only beautiful, but also functional?

Or why teaching in pictures reaches autistic children in a whole new way? Or why Eiko Emori's ancient technique glass bowls speak of the sea? Or why the touch Zoe Emily's shawls of silk and camel remind you of a downy feather?

This is an art fair built on stories, on intimate personal stories of Canadians and Canada, with the sounds and backdrop of Celtic ancestry.

Did you know that all the furniture and rugs in the home of the ambassador were hand-made in Ireland? Within the Art Fair and the walls of the residence, you will experience

an eclectic mixture of the finest art, fascinating lectures and inspiring music. Simply put, a different kind of art gathering.

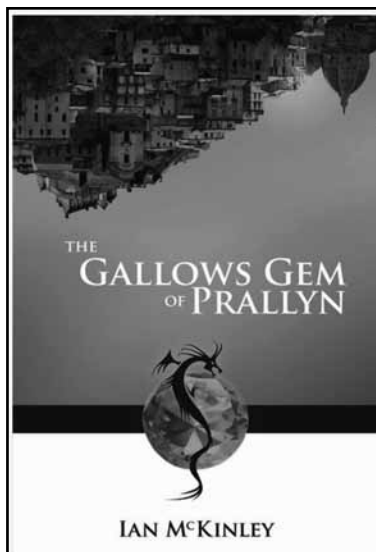
On Nov. 7 and 8, the Rockcliffe Home and Art Fair will be an experience to remember. We are honoured to have TIPES (Thinking

In Pictures Educational Services) as our charitable event partner.

For more information contact Helene Anne Fortin, info@portraitsyourlife.com or visit the website tenvisionsofjoy.wordpress.com.



Eiko Emori's Glass Bowl.



Now in Ottawa, a new work of epic fantasy by the diplomat & novelist, Ian McKinley.



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Monument to young Rev.

Durie gets new lease on life

By Sheila Urquhart

On Sept. 29, Dr. Karen Dimock of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church led a short service at Beechwood Cemetery to re-dedicate the restored monument and to dedicate the recently installed plaque at the grave of the Rev. William Durie, located in Section 37, Lot 68.

Rev. Durie arrived from Scotland in December 1846 to become the third minister of St. Andrew's Church, then commonly known as The Kirk, or The Scotch Church, on Kent Street. His eloquent sermons and his deep concern for the poor and sick of all creeds endeared him not only to his congregation, but also to the larger Bytown community.

Rev. Durie's ministry lasted just nine months. In early June, typhus arrived in Bytown with Irish emigrants. Known also as Ship Fever and spread principally by lice, typhus accompanied and struck the emigrants as they travelled. Through the summer of 1847, with others, Rev. Durie and Father Molloy worked hand in hand to do all they could to help Bytown's typhus victims. The strain proved too much, and on Sept. 12, 1847, at age 43, Rev. Durie succumbed to typhus in the stone manse at

the south end of the church.

Rev. Durie's funeral service was held at St. Andrew's, and all places of public business closed during the interment. In sorrow, St. Andrew's congregation erected a large horizontal monument, bearing a powerful inscription, over Rev. Durie's grave. The grave and monument were later moved to Beechwood Cemetery. By 2015, age had taken its toll of the monument, which showed cracks, faults, and a flaking inscription.

This summer, the 168-year old monument was restored by Catherine Paterson, PhD, a conservation consultant from Guelph, Ont. The plaque, which bears the monument's original inscription, was prepared and mounted on granite by Beechwood Cemetery staff. St. Andrew's congregation is most grateful to Catherine Paterson for her conservation work, and also to Andrew Roy, director of operations at Beechwood Cemetery, and to Beechwood staff for the care taken to preserve the monument and the memory of the Rev. William Durie.

For more information on Rev. Durie, please contact Sheila Urquhart at john.urquhart@sympatico.ca, or visit www.StAndrewsottawa.ca.

NAC oboist (also MacKay St. resident) to launch concert series

By Carolyn Bowker

The acclaimed MacKay Concert Series kicks off its 2015-2016 season with *Autumn Impressions* featuring the Principal Oboist of the NAC Orchestra, Charles

er Jean Coulthard's brilliant *Shizen Sketches*, which capture the restrained and ephemeral beauty of a Japanese garden—a particular passion of mine. Canadian John Burge's elegant *Sonata breve No. 4*

Chip moved to New Edinburgh two years ago. "When not playing the oboe or teaching oboe students," he says, "I can often be found tending my front garden along MacKay Street's historic Lansdowne Terrace townhouses and chatting with neighbours. Gardening is a popular pastime for oboists, who are meticulous by nature. We make our own oboe reeds out of cane, a type of bamboo, and work in thresholds of hundredths of millimetres. I love fussing over the smallest details in both my English front garden and Japanese backyard garden, just like my tiny and delicate oboe reeds."

He is delighted to be working with Frédéric Lacroix and they plan to record several of the Canadian works in the recital. Frédéric is in great demand as a soloist, chamber musician, and collaborative pianist. Following the University of Ottawa's purchase of a fortepiano in 1997, he has performed on period keyboard instruments and was the Westfield Center Performing Scholar for 2008-09. Frédéric is also a composer and his song cycle, *Nova Scotia Tartan* (2004), is featured on *Hail*, a disc



Photo by William Meekins

Pianist Frédéric Lacroix will join Chip Hamman to kick off the MacKay Church concert series on Oct. 4.



Photo by Marianne Duval

Charles "Chip" Hamann moved to New Edinburgh two years ago. He is the National Arts Centre's principal oboist.

"Chip" Hamann, and pianist Frédéric Lacroix. The concert will take place at MacKay United Church, 39 Dufferin St., on **Oct. 4, at 7:30pm**

"We have chosen this program to celebrate one of the most wonderful seasons in Canada," says Hamann. "The works we'll play feature some of the finest literature for oboe and piano by Canadian composers, as well as several atmospheric French works. To capture the nostalgia of autumn, we'll play the world premiere of *Élégie automnale* by Ottawa Composer Victor Herbiet and the haunting *Vocalise* by Manitoba composer Leslie Mann. I'm delighted to include Vancouver compos-

er Jean Coulthard's brilliant *Shizen Sketches*, which capture the restrained and ephemeral beauty of a Japanese garden—a particular passion of mine. Canadian John Burge's elegant *Sonata breve No. 4* for oboe and piano is written in a 1920s French idiom and bridges the gap between Canada and France. To round out the program, we'll feature French repertoire, including fine arrangements of Ravel's sparkling *Sonatine* for oboe and piano, Faure's dreamy *Après un rêve*, and Benjamin Godard's charming *Scènes Écossaises*."

Born in 1970, Chip has been principal oboe of the National Arts Centre Orchestra since 1993. He is an adjunct professor of oboe at the University of Ottawa School of Music and has been featured many times as a soloist with the NACO and has recorded with the NAC Wind Quintet on the Naxos label.

dedicated to Canadian Art Song. He holds degrees from the University of Montreal, the University of Ottawa, and Cornell University, where he recently completed his Doctorate.

Looking ahead to **Nov. 21, 2015**, at 7:30pm at MacKay United, pianist Parv Eshghi will present *Portraits*, where the audience will have an opportunity to "see" images

with our ears as we listen to Parv's interpretations of works by Debussy (Preludes Book 2), Scriabin (Preludes Opus 11, No 12-16), and Albeniz (Iberia Book 1).

Tickets (adults \$25, seniors \$20 and students \$15) will be available at Books on Beechwood, the Leading Note, through MacKay United Church (613-749-8727) and at the door.



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Feeding minds, reaching goals at 24-hour famine

By Gina Watson

With a goal of raising enough money for one bicycle ambulance to transport women in labour to hospitals in developing countries, 10 teens from the Church of St Bartholomew in Ottawa took part in a 24-hour famine on May 2-3, 2015.

With the support of the whole congregation, they raised \$2,800 for the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF)—enough to purchase three bicycle ambulances at \$600 a piece and direct the remaining \$1,000 to the Nepal earthquake relief fund.

And the fundraising success was only the beginning.

During the weekend itself, the young people heard speakers about refugee and development issues, such as hunger and scarcity of water. They developed a sense of community through interactive games, watching movies, and holding discussions

while fasting for 24 hours.

They shared some of the things they learned with the congregation at the Sunday morning service. This is what they took away, in their own words:

"We did a worksheet on how much water we use each day and compared this to water usage in developing countries. We found that we use more water flushing the toilet than some people use in their whole day. We didn't realize how lucky we are to have access to so much clean and plentiful water."

"We did an activity to 'Bring Water to the Well' by carrying small buckets of water three blocks to fill a large container on the front lawn of the church."

"It made us realize just how much work some people go through to get clean water, when all we do is open a tap."

"We also watched a movie called The Good Lie. It was a powerful movie about the

'Lost Boys of Sudan' who were child refugees. They were lucky to come to the U.S. but they struggled adapting."

"We then heard from two members of the Ottawa Sudanese community who were actually child soldiers in Sudan. Hearing them speak made us realize all the hardships in the movie were real. They had to trek thousands of miles on foot with little food or water. They lost friends and loved ones along the way."

"They faced the danger of soldiers coming to shoot at them or recruit them as child soldiers."

"Peter and Paul were both recruited as child soldiers and Paul even showed us his gun wound. They both made it to Kenya but many of their friends did not."

"Paul worked very hard at his studies going to school for the first time at a grade six level at the age of 14."

"His message on educa-



Photo courtesy Gina Watson
Teenagers from St. Bartholomew's church take part in the 'Bring water to the well' activity, part of the 24-hour famine fundraiser.

tion was very clear. School is so important and yet we take it for granted here. He is extremely lucky to have immigrated to Canada where he continued his education and graduated university. He now wants to go back to Sudan to give back by helping to build and school and to

teach children.

"We clearly heard his messages—to appreciate everything we have here, to take our education seriously, and not to be ignorant about things going on around us in the world. These things are real—not just the subject of movies."

Proud moment for Ashbury College student

By Jane Heintzman

When Ashbury College student **Roya Shams** received her diploma in June, she celebrated a remarkable achievement, and the end of a long and often arduous high school journey. With the aid of Toronto Star reporter Paul

Watson, Roya fled Kandahar, Afghanistan to escape Taliban threats following the murder of her father, an Afghan police commander. She arrived in Ottawa in January 2012, and took up residence at Ashbury, which was the only private boarding school in Canada to

offer her a placement and a bursary. Despite the formidable challenges of language, educational gaps, cultural adjustments and climate, Roya persisted, and with the aid of friends, teachers, tutors and mentors, reached her goal of graduating with a high school diploma this spring. In an interview with the Ottawa Citizen, Roya paid tribute to those who supported her: "I don't think I can say I made it. I can say we made it. I

feel this graduation diploma, this ceremony, belongs to us, not me. We worked as a chain to get here.... No one ever turned me down when I needed help. No one ever shut the door." While her family could not be present for the graduation ceremony, her "Canadian family" proudly attended, including mentor Padme Raina, Ashbury's assistant director of Boarding Admissions and Roya's ESL teacher, school nurse

Tui Noonan, with whom she lived, CTV anchor Lisa Laflamme and the Toronto Star's Michael Cooke. Roya has been awarded a full scholarship to the University of Ottawa through the Father Roger Guindon Student Assistance Fund, and will study international development. Her ultimate goal is to pursue a degree in international law to enable her to fight for the human rights of girls and women.



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Burgh Bulletin Board

October

On until Oct. 13 - One and No One Voix Visuelle gallery, 67 Beechwood, 2nd floor. Tues-Sat 11am-4pm 613-748-6954; www.voixvisuelle.ca. The exhibition One and No One, by Mónica Marquez explores Twitter's semantics and its potentially disempowering effect on individuals. Are we conscious beings or are we entranced in some twilight too busy twittering to think? The more we become one with the crowd, the more we become no one.

Oct. 3 - Fundraiser for Youth in Nunavut Wabano Centre, 299 Montreal Rd. 8 pm \$20. gcrate@rogers.com; 613-878-9548. Musicians Greg Simm and Kim de Laforest will play a special benefit concert to support musical instruction for youth in Nunavut. Featuring a special performance by two former workshop students from Pangnirtung, Colleen Nakasuk and Avery Keenainak, who are now studying in Ottawa.

Oct. 3 - Ian McKinley Book Signing Books on Beechwood, 35 Beechwood Ave. 1-2pm Ian McKinley will be on hand to sign copies of his first novel, *The Gallows Gem of Prallyn*, which breaks away from the usual fantasy stereotype of pure good versus absolute evil, bringing

you realistic characters who will capture your imagination. The novel weaves many intricate storylines into one driving narrative that gathers momentum.

Oct. 6 - Ottawa-Vanier Candidates Debate Queen Juliana Hall, Rockcliffe Park Public School, 360 Springfield Rd. 7 pm Learn more about who is running for Member of Parliament in the Ottawa-Vanier riding. Candidates from the Conservative party, Green Party, Liberal Party, Libertarian Party and New Democratic Party are expected to attend.

Oct. 25 - Halloween Howl Stanley Park Fieldhouse. 3-6 pm Children ages 0-7 (and the young at heart) are invited to take part in the Halloween Howl, hosted by the Crichton Community Council. Enjoy spooky games, creepy crafts, fun prizes and more. The costume parade leaves at 3:15 pm

Oct. 29 - NECA Community Forum and AGM St. Bartholomew's Church, 125 MacKay St. 73 pm newedinburgh.ca. Meet friends, ask questions and join us for refreshments. All New Edinburgh residents are welcome. Come for the discussion on the future of the community centre. Stay for the annual general meeting. Consider joining the

New Edinburgh Community Alliance board!

November

Nov. 1 - Fall Fiddle Fundraiser The Mill Road Community Space, 8 chemin Mill, Chelsea, Que. 2 pm \$20 adults; free for children. inconcert4cambodia.wordpress.com. You are invited to the Fall Fiddle Fundraiser put on by "In Concert for Cambodia" on behalf of the Peaceful Children's Homes. The concert will feature three local fiddle groups: the "Fiddleheads", ages 4-17; Ottawa fiddler Ellen Daly with Karson McKeown on guitar; and 2015 Canadian Duet Fiddle Champions Kyle Burghout and Emily Yarascavitch, accompanied by Anthony Vial on piano.

Starting Nov. 5 - Glorious! Elmwood Theatre, 261 Buena Vista Rd. Nov. 5 and 13: 3 pm Nov. 6, 7, 13 and 14: 7:30 pm 613-842-4913; www.lindenpro.ca. Janet Uren embodies the true-life role of Frances Foster Jenkins, the world's worst opera singer. Directed by Robin Bowditch and produced by Ann Davis. Tickets available at Books on Beachwood or online.

Nov. 6, 7, 8 - Rockcliffe Park Book Fair Queen Juliana Hall, Rockcliffe Park Public School, 360 Springfield Rd. Ottawa. Nov. 6, 10am-9pm; Nov. 7, 10am-6pm; Nov. 8, 11am-5pm. www.rockcliffebookfair.com. The Rockcliffe Park Book Fair at Rockcliffe Park Public School is back! Come and find your new favourite book, meet your neighbours and have a Seuss-tastic time! Browse

through thousands of good-quality used books, videos, DVDs, CDs and games for all ages, all at great prices. Enjoy our café and kids' craft table. Books are restocked daily.

Nov. 7 - Something New Edinburgh Memorial Hall, 39 Dufferin Rd. 10am-3 pm facebook.com/SomethingNewEdinburgh somethingnewedinburgh@gmail.com Ottawa's newest craft sale. Something New Edinburgh is where community, artists and one-of-a-kind craftsmanship meet.

Nov. 7 - Rockcliffe Home and Art Fair Irish ambassador's residence, 291 Park Ave. 10 am-4 pm Tenvisionsofjoy.wordpress.com 819-459-2161. The Rockcliffe Home and Art Fair returns. This year's theme is Ten+ Artists, Ten+ Visions of Joy! Join us to experience a slightly expanded array of joy, art and beauty that will include Irish music and hand-made truffles. Bring slippers.

Nov. 7 - St. Bartholomew's Bazaar and Tea Room St. Bartholomew's Church, 125 MacKay St. 1-4 pm 613-837-3590; www.stbartsottawa.ca/bazaar.html. Join St. Bart's for its annual fundraiser. Find a great selection of books, jewellery, knitting, toys, baked goods and our famous afternoon tea!

Nov 12 - Big Dream Banquet RA Centre on Riverside Dr. 6:30-9:30pm. 613-796-3063. Citykidz.ca. CityKidz hosts its fifth annual fundraiser. CityKidz provides a free, fun and inspiring Saturday Playhouse program inner city children

who may not otherwise have the chance to attend such a program. CityKidz seeks to inspire children to achieve their goals, instil faith-based values, and cause a positive impact in their lives.

Nov. 22 - Beechwood Cemetery Stroll Beechwood National Memorial Centre, 280 Beechwood Ave. 2-3:30pm RSVP: foundation@beechwoodottawa.ca; 613-741-9530 x 121. Enjoy a 1.5 km guided historical tour through Beechwood, the National Cemetery of Canada. Trained volunteers focus on local history and notable features and sections within this National Historic Site. Dress for the weather and wear good walking shoes. Family and wheelchair friendly.

Nov. 28 - Deck the Halls MacKay United Church, 39 Dufferin Rd. info@nectar-centre.ca 7-11 pm \$15 adults; free for children. Dress in your most festive attire and join hosts Jill Hardy and Joseph Cull for a very special concert featuring the Ottawa Police Chorus. A cocktail reception will follow, featuring light food fare, cash bar and a silent auction. Tickets available at the Nectar Centre, 255 MacKay St.

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Thank You

The *New Edinburgh News* team would like to thank Galaxy Camera's **Ali Asgari** who kindly helped out with the photography for this issue.

Congratulations



Big brothers **Colby** and **Cason**, and big sister **Danan** welcomed baby brother **Jaxon Evans MacKenzie Burke** to their Keefer St. home on August 12. Jaxon weighed 8lbs 7oz.



New Edinburgh resident **Victoria Henry** (right) was honoured for her 16 years as director of the Canada Council Art Bank. The arts community came together to acknowledge Victoria as an amazing force and contributor to Canada's art scene. **Sheila Whyte** and her team from Thyme and Again Creative Catering provided delicious food. **Trisha Owens** (left) from Magic 100's Ottawa Morning Show presented

Victoria with the "United Way Community Builder Award".

Get Well Soon

Wishing volunteer extraordinaire **Jill Hardy** a speedy recovery and getting back to normal. We are looking forward to seeing her back as co-Host for Deck the Halls, Nov. 28 at MacKay United.

Condolences

Peter Hafichuk passed away peacefully on July 21, age 84. Peter was a resident of The Edinburgh retirement home. Peter and his late wife, **Wanda**, were volunteers at High Horizons. A memorial in his honour will be held at Dominion Chalmers United Church in the early fall.

Condolences to the family of **Mrs. Larry Schoenherr** who lived for many years on Crichton Street and was a faithful member of the congregation of St. Luke's Lutheran Church on MacKay Street. Mrs. Schoenherr died on Sept. 9 at the age of 97.



Photo by Louise Imbeault

Patrice "Rocky" Imbeault passed away in his sleep on August 28 in his Ivy Cres. home, age 56. After a three-year battle with diabetes, heart disease, a few strokes and hyponatremia, Patrice is now at peace. He leaves his sister/caregiver **Louise** and best friend of 40 years **Charlie**. A celebration of Patrice's life will take place at the Beechwood Cemetery on Oct. 2 at 2 pm. All are welcome for this bilingual ceremony.



Jessie Garcia (above), dog walker and cherished friend to so many residents of New Edinburgh, Rockcliffe and Manor Park, passed away on Sept. 16 after a "never give up" battle against cancer. Jessie loved life and lived life large. Whether she was going to a Guns 'n' Roses concert, riding her motorcycle or walking her dogs, she enjoyed every minute of it. Friends and family will remember Jessie for her kindness, passion and her big heart.

Our sincere condolences to **Pauline Whelan** of Crichton St., whose beloved basset hound **Marconi** died this summer at the age of 13. Marconi was well known and loved by acquaintances throughout the neighbourhood, and will be greatly missed.

Friends and neighbours were greatly saddened by the recent death of **Alan Bryant**, a longstanding New Edinburgh resident who lived on Stanley Avenue for more than 40 years. In the weeks prior to his death, Alan was deeply concerned to find a new permanent home for his



Nectar thanks the 15 wonderful supporters, including **Isobel Bisby** (left) and **Lee Benson** (right) who helped paint the porch at New Edinburgh House in September, and to **Michel Giroux** who provided professional guidance. There's still more painting to do, so if you have a few hours to help out please email ibisby@gmail.com.

beloved 13 year old British Blue cat, **Zoe**. Zoe is an indoor cat, accustomed to plenty of attention and affection, and is most likely to thrive in a household with no other pets. If you can help, please contact **Jennifer Strachan** at strachan.jennifer@gmail.com or text her at 613-263-0637.

Welcome!

Doctors **Meg Andrews** and **Alain Lajeunesse** and their puppy **Fergus** have moved into **Eleanor** and **Frank Westfall's** former home on **River Lane**. In August, **Julia** and **Geoff Heintzman** (coincidentally, friends of Meg and Alain) took possession of their new house at **45 Springfield Rd.**, and have settled in with their Valley Bulldog **Frank**, who now has easy access to regular daycare in the home of his besotted grandparents **Jane** and **Ralph Heintzman** on Stanley Avenue.

Rev. Peter Woods was officially installed as MacKay United Church's new minister on Sept. 27. Originally from Ottawa, Rev. Woods returns after 19 years leading Trinity United Church in Smiths Falls, Ont. According to the *Manor Park Chronicle*, Peter is also a jazz musician, and graduated from Nepean High School.

A warm welcome to **Adrienne Szalamin** and **Adrian Matte** who moved to the neighbourhood this summer. They, and their children **Éliane**, **Claire** and **Adèle** are Ivy Crescent's newest residents.

Farewell

Farewell to **Dominique Primeau** and **Ross Pattee** who sold their lovely home

on MacKay St. and purchased a fabulous property in Montebello, Que. Their new home is **Maison Chamberlain**, which they are transforming into its glory and will become the destination spot to stay in while enjoying the beautiful sights of Montebello.



ProFit tailor Paul Schaub

Farewell to trusted tailor **Paul Schaub** as he retires from public life at ProFit Tailoring on St. Laurent Blvd. after so many years keeping the community perfectly fitted. His sense of humour and impeccable skills will be missed.

Miscellaneous

Nectar's After School Program is looking for donations of second hand arm-chairs for its homework space. Contact Lee at lee-benson@nectarcentre.ca

Help Wanted

Part-time/substitute children's worker for Nectar's Afterschool Program. ECE not required, but must have a valid Criminal Records Check (or be able to get one). Please contact Lee at lee-benson@nectarcentre.ca for details.