

Vanier Arterial

Parkway plan still plagues area

By Bruce Grant
President—N. E. C. A.

The New Edinburgh Community Association's annual general meeting will take place in a few days. Please mark it on your calendar, and don't fail to attend. The main points for discussion are:

- 1) Recreation facilities in our schoolyards and programs in the schools.
- 2) Neighborhood Heritage study by the City of Ottawa.
- 3) The Ontario Municipal Board hearings.
- 4) The Vanier Parkway.

The Parkway has been with us for many years, and continues to be the most difficult issue facing our neighborhood. The New Edinburgh Community Association (N.E.C.A.) started from a position of total opposition to the elevated freeway as it was then proposed.

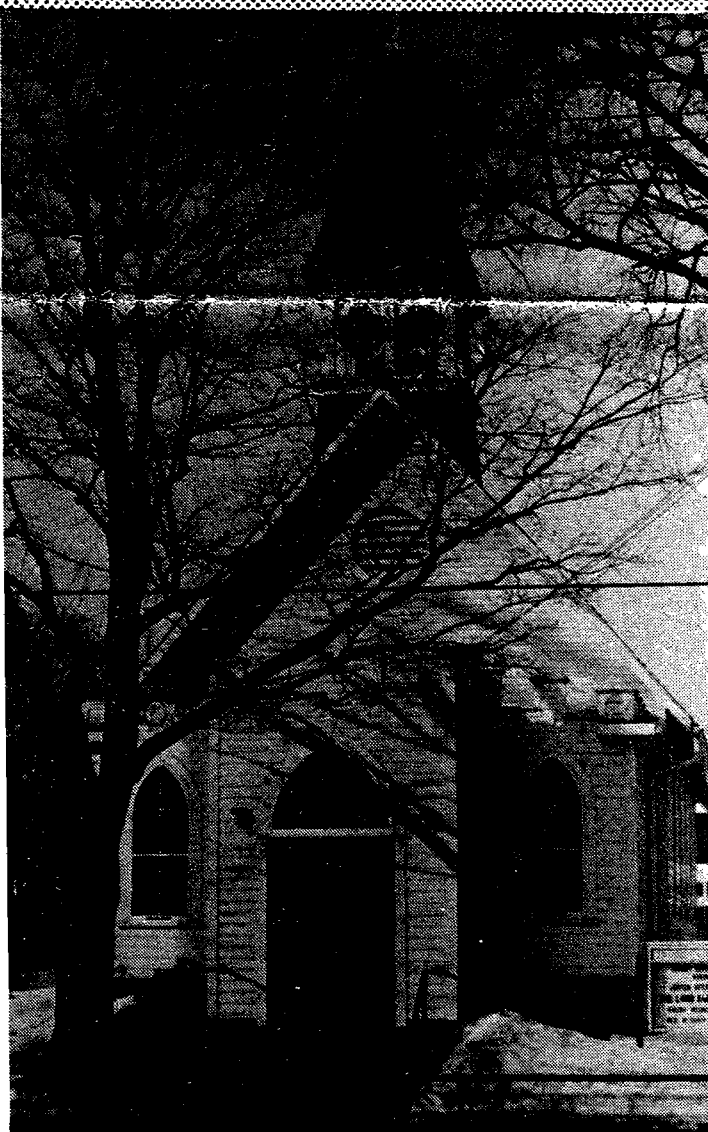
After exploring all possible alternatives, we placed our support behind the NCC Parkway proposal which included blocking commuter traffic from our local streets. The people of New Edinburgh endorsed this position at our general meeting. Such a decision, however, is bound to be reversed, unless it continues to justify itself.

The Ontario Municipal Board hearings into the Regional Of-

ficial Plan present an opportunity for us to represent the community interest. We have been quite actively involved. We are preparing a case in co-operation with other community groups to object to the proposed "primary roadway" along Beechwood Avenue. We are also co-operating with Overbrook in preparation of their case against the Vanier Parkway. Further, the Federation of Citizens' Associations is making a very wide-ranging presentation against the Region's proposal for growth, density, transportation and roads, including in that context the Vanier Parkway. As members of FCA, we fully support this position.

In any position that we present directly to the OMB regarding the Parkway, we would have to be guided by the particular concerns of our neighborhood. The position that has been sustained up to the present time can briefly be stated as follows:

Our Association should continue to seek any practical alternative that would reduce the impact of traffic on our park and on our streets. If no practical alternative can be established, it is to our advantage to continue our efforts to minimize the impact of the present proposal, in co-operation with the NCC. No proposal will be acceptable to the people of New Edinburgh if it does not assure protection of our local streets against commuter traffic.



Neighborhood landmark

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church on Crichton St. is a New Edinburgh landmark. Built in 1895 by German immigrants who settled in the community, for many years St. John's served as the cultural centre for the German community and as such had a strong influence on the inhabitants of New Edinburgh. In the early 1900's, the church doubled as a schoolhouse where lessons were taught in German, and church services were conducted in German until as late as 1965.

New Edinburgh Community Association

Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers

Date: Wednesday, April 6, 1977.

Place: MacKay United Church Hall

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Your community association needs your support!

Archives settles in Burgh

By Tom Daigneault

Ottawa will soon become the fourth city in Canada with its own archive, following Vancouver, Toronto, and Quebec City.

The City of Ottawa has purchased St. Vincent School on Stanley Avenue. The school, which was closed several years ago, and since used as office space by the Separate School Board, will be the centre for the City Archives. The school is in a central location, and is large enough for display, offices and storage.

Dr. Edwin Welch, Director of City Archives, said the building will be used to mount displays of historical significance with the secondary emphasis on cataloging material and researching archive documents.

The centre will be a clearing house where incoming data and items can be classified, documented, catalogued and stored in one complete operation before being displayed.

"We will be spending the better part of this year transferring files and documents and preparing the school as a centre. As well, we will be organizing exhibitions that will be shown before the new centre opens. They will be used to display present archives and to inform the public of the new centre."

Anyone interested in learning more about the centre, or donating items to the archives is invited to contact Dr. Welch. His office is on the fourth floor of City Hall, and he can also be reached by telephone, at 563-3115.

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

Area group to mount battle against parkway

By Al Saunders

The proposal by the Ontario Municipal Board for a new Vanier arterial has led to a distinct split among residents of New Edinburgh through which Phase II of the parkway is planned. Phase III is planned for the Overbrook area while Phase II through Vanier has already been completed.

Some residents of the community are opposed to the scheme because they feel that alternate solutions to the traffic problem have not been adequately examined.

As a result Bob Knox, a resident of Stanley Ave. in New Edinburgh has formed a group known as New Edinburgh Against Traffic (NEAT) to fight the idea.

The organization, says Knox is basically against traffic of any kind moving through the community, but is concerned primarily with the valuable parkland which would be lost if

the Vanier project goes ahead.

Knox feels alternate plans should be examined more closely. He suggests two routes—one to the east across Kettle Island on the Ottawa River to Gatineau, and another via King Edward Avenue.

He objects to the attitude which planners, particularly the OMB have taken toward the project.

"I don't see why a plan similar to that in the Glebe couldn't be used to control traffic," he says, referring to the method of closing certain streets to restrict the flow of traffic in that community.

Knox is facing some opposition from the New Edinburgh Community Association, the executive of which he says "feels they have a mandate from the residents."

The community association is in favour of the project which it feels should be regarded as 'the lesser of two evils.'

Movie house for film buffs

By Richard Landis

"Kids around here are a lot nicer now. This used to be a very tough neighbourhood."

George N. Abraham, owner of the Linden Restaurant at 7 Beechwood, voices the consensus of many store-owners who have seen a big change in the area over the last 15 years.

The Towne Cinema, which has stood as a landmark of sorts for 35 years, has gone through more than a name change since 1967. It was in that year the owner, Casey Swedlove, who also owns the Rialto, leased the theatre out to Twentieth Century Theatres, and the name it had gone by, the Linden, ceased to exist.

Gone as well are Monday's Amateur Night (complete with birdcall imitations and magic acts), and Photo-Night on Wednesdays (with dishware giveaways)

Gone too are the Saturday matinees, so popular with the hundreds of kids who would line up and wait impatiently for the chance to see their heroes on 'the silver screen', Captain Kid, Batman and Robin, Superman and Captain Video.

The Towne's manager and projectionist, Fernand Milliard, has been with the theatre for the past 12 years. He sees a change in clientele as one of the biggest differences between the movie-house now and the old Linden.

"We cater mostly to a different crowd these days. I'd say 75 per cent of our customers are students. The people who used to come here on the weekend go to the Rialto now."

"We get the Prime Minister and Mrs. Trudeau down here, they usually sit in a special screening room upstairs, but once in awhile they'll sit downstairs. V.I.P.s get to see the show for free," he said.

For the past three years years the Towne has been featuring a permanent festival, changing movie titles daily. The

calendar, which the theatre puts out every two months (at a cost of \$5,660) lists the names of the films, a few incidentals such as the running time and name of the director, and a brief outline of the plot.

The theatre also spends about \$600 monthly for advertisements it runs in the three Ottawa daily papers: The Citizen, The Journal and Le Droit.

The calendars, or flyers as they are called, sometimes present a problem. The Towne, being an independent theatre, is classed as a third-run movie-house. Every other house in the city has priority over movies. So if the Towne has a film billed for a certain night and another theatre demands that print, it goes to the other theatre.

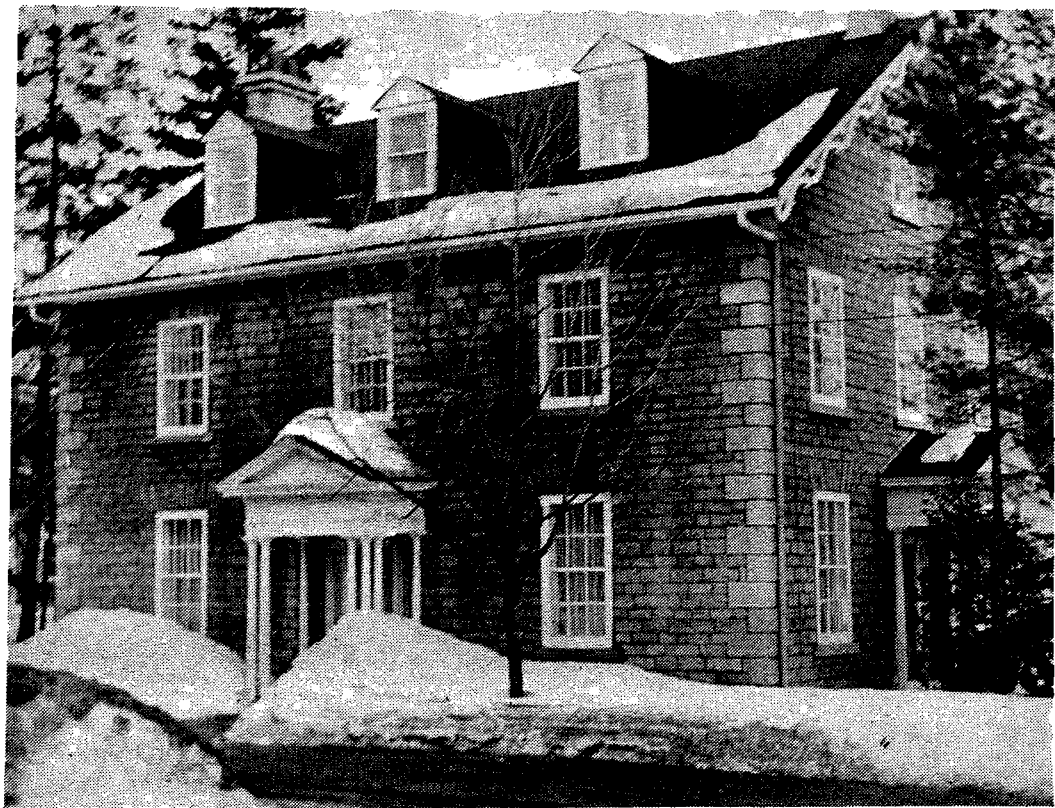
If certain movie titles seem to pop up regularly, it's because of popular demand. Such favourites as: The Sound of Music, The Rocky Horror Show, Dr. Strangelove, 2001, A Space Odyssey and The Night of the Living Dead are but a few of the films which continue to pack the 548-seat theatre every time they're shown.

"People come back and see the same bloody thing no matter what. We get the same people here every Friday and Saturday night," said Milliard.

The theatre hasn't changed much these past three and a half years and its format has remained consistent. On Sundays the films are attractions the whole family can enjoy; Mondays feature British films Tuesdays and Wednesdays are given over to French and Italian films; Thursdays to great directors, Fridays to great stars and Saturdays to film favourites.

The theatre is undergoing another facelift, a \$20,000 renovation job which will include a new ceiling (damaged during a fire three years ago) and carpeting.

Apart from the fix-up, little else is planned in the way of change. After all, why tamper with success?



Heritage home

This three-story stone house at the corner of MacKay and Thomas Streets is a good example of a property which might be considered for a Heritage designation. It is a duplex, with entrances off MacKay and Thomas Streets, with attractive porches and scroll-work around the eaves.

Year end is target date

Neighborhood study

By Marg Allen

"By working together, we can solve problems. I am committed to this philosophy," says Controller Marion Dewar.

"The whole concept of Montreal's Habitat planning was to let the people who were going to live there have some say in the development."

Controller Dewar is responsible for the community development department which includes the planning branch.

In 1973, a projected 10 year city-wide neighborhood study was established. Council has since accelerated the study, with an aim to an earlier completion.

Studies have been carried out in Overbrook, Glebe, Ottawa South, Westboro, Dalhousie Lower Town and Ottawa West. (The 1975-75 Lower Town study has cost the city \$140,000 to date; Ottawa West's study has cost \$198,000).

A neighborhood study is proposed for New Edinburgh toward the end of 1977. Dewar says the purpose of the study, which should be completed in one-and-a-half years, is to bring citizens and planners together.

"The citizens can look at their environment and have input into how they would like to see it develop over the next 10 years.

"Realistically, each study should be re-evaluated in five years."

Dewar says a neighborhood is usually divided into areas. Each area elects a citizen's group to represent them. This group becomes part of the citizen planning committee and works in conjunction with the profes-

sional planners.

"In the past two years, we have been successful in bringing the business community on to the citizen planning committee.

"We are not just looking at zoning and land use," says Dewar, "although New Edinburgh has areas which could get into massive redevelopment. We are also looking at recreation facilities, health care, open spaces and traffic.

"Public meetings, question-

naires and block surveys will be used to obtain public opinions. We want all the citizens to participate."

Controller Dewar says traffic in the Beechwood-Hemlock area and some proposed widenings will be a key issue in the New Edinburgh study.

She feels the neighborhood studies also provide valuable new training experience for urban planners, who are becoming more skillful dealing with citizens and in foreseeing legal pitfalls.

Carleton study

By Harvey Chartrand

The Carleton University School of Architecture is evolving a master plan for the New Edinburgh area.

The school will conduct a detailed inventory of the historic neighborhood, designating Heritage conservation areas and classifying buildings for renovation or remodelling.

There will be a scoring system for each building, encompassing four separate categories:

- 1-preservation musts
- 2-medium-value buildings (good bets for restoration)
- 3-poor buildings (demolition or restoration optional)
- 4-20th century buildings (anything built after 1907)

What are the current problems facing the New Edinburgh area?

The Vanier Arterial, which runs from McArthur Road to the St. Patrick Street bridge, may be one of them. There is talk that the arterial will eventually be linked with the MacD-

onald-Cartier bridge. No buildings will be demolished in New Edinburgh to accommodate the expressway, but parkland bordering the Rideau River will be affected.

The influx of town houses in the area is of some concern. The School of Architecture believes town houses are good if located properly (i.e. adjacent to low-priority buildings).

The study group intends publishing a 60-page booklet which will contain a map of New Edinburgh, its history, demography, and proposed design guidelines for the future.

The booklet will be submitted to City Hall, with a recommendation that the Heritage Advisory Committee be granted more say in reviewing building permits for renovation of historic dwellings.

The study group is under the supervision of John Leaning, Ottawa architect, planner and professor of architecture at Carleton University.

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

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Lighthouse program

Something for everyone offered

By Craig Kerr

Would you like to learn a little basic carpentry? Or how to speak French? Or maybe just get to know a few of your neighbors in New Edinburgh?

The Lighthouse Program, a community school project based at Crichton St. Public School, probably has something to offer you. At the same time, you can help the school and

the community.

New Edinburgh is undergoing basic changes. Older, middle-class residents will undoubtedly have noticed the increasing numbers of young professionals taking up permanent residence in the area. Some members of the community were anxious that these two elements might eventually find themselves alienated or even at odds

with one another, but at the same time doubted that organized political action would do anything to solve the problem. They wanted to find a way to bring down the barriers so that people would meet and interact with one another.

There was also a fear at the time that Crichton St. School might be closed due to low day time attendance. Certain citi-

zens felt the school could be used to the benefit of the community as more than a simple primary educational facility.

So the Lighthouse Program was started to provide an environment that would bring the residents of New Edinburgh closer together and at the same time retain Crichton St. School as a social tool for the community.

The Lighthouse Program sets about this aim in two ways

Educational programs are offered on a wide variety of subjects and interests, such as French, photography and smoking. A new innovation this year is a course on self-contracting. Technical experts, such as

plumbers and electricians, explain methods and give tips on how to improve your home. This course may be expanded next year to include do-it-yourself plumbing, heating, and plastering. A minimal fee is charged for all courses to cover costs

For those who simply want to get out and meet people, there are social gatherings held at the school.

Martin Lowe, the program chairman, admits that there are still problems in gauging the community's course needs, but invites any suggestions or inquiries at 741-2064. Information is also available from secretary-treasurer Sharon White at 746-9127.

Barrette-St. Charles

par Guy Lepage

Les résidents du district New Edinburgh ont depuis deux ans planifié et bâti leurs propres activités communautaires. Ils ont formé un groupe appelé Comité du Conseil Communautaire pour organiser les programmes pour le district. Ce conseil a été établi et est entretenu par les gens de New Edinburgh.

L'individu responsable pour l'établissement de ce conseil est M. Vincent Gratton qui est le directeur des écoles séparées Barrette et St-Charles. Il avait suggéré qu'il y ait un conseil qui étudierait la possibilité d'établir des cours à temps partiel pour ceux qui voudraient apprendre de nouveaux passe-temps mais préféreraient le faire dans leur propre communauté francophone.

Tous les travaux et recherches ont été fait bénévolement par des résidents de la communauté. Un sondage a été pris dans le district et le comité a approché le Conseil des Ecoles Séparées d'Ottawa pour la permission d'utiliser leurs salles de classes. Le conseil a donné son approbation et le programme commença.

Au début, seulement un cours fut offert, le macramé. Maintenant il y a deux cours d'offres, soient le macramé l'après-midi et le crochet le soir. Il y a aussi des cours de tissage et de ski de fond. Une troupe de majorette est aussi sous l'autorité du conseil.

Le conseil est maintenant un organisme indépendant et ne reçoit aucune subvention de l'API. La seule source de revenu est le \$12 de frais d'inscription.

Approximativement 70 à 80 personnes se sont inscritent l'année dernière dans les programmes d'automne et d'hiver. Ils ont lieu à l'école Barrette au 50 de la rue Vaughan et à l'école St-Charles, 160 Rue Beechwood à Ottawa. 24 Rue Springfield à Ottawa.

La seule assistance extérieure que le comité reçoit provient d'Aline Roy, un agent de liaison entre le Conseil Scolaire d'Ottawa et le Conseil des Ecoles Séparées. Mlle Roy qui agit comme conseillère réserve les locaux et recherche des animateurs si aucun ne peut être trouvé dans la communauté.

"L'idée principale dans l'établissement des cours est d'impliquer des personnes de tous les âges. J'admets qu'au début, ils étaient plutôt orientés vers les dames, mais cette année, nous avons reçu une bonne participation des deux, hommes et femmes, dans le ski de fond," a dit M. Gratton, "et nous avons pu rejoindre les plus jeunes de la communauté avec le corps de majorette."

Le comité a déjà commencé à planifier pour l'été prochain. Ils veulent

utiliser la cours de l'école Barrette et l'équiper avec des appareils de gymnastique pour donner la chance aux jeunes d'avoir un endroit bien à eux pour se divertir.

Ceux qui sont intéressés à commencer un nouveau programme peuvent le faire. Ils doivent recevoir la permission du conseil.

Un sondage est pris pour déterminer le montant de participation auquel on peut s'attendre. Ensuite un animateur est engagé et la classe est ouverte pour l'inscription.

"L'aspect le plus important de ce programme est que nous, les résidents du district, avons pas besoin d'attendre qui que ce soit pour organiser des cours ou autres divertissements essentiels à la communauté" a dit M. Gratton, "nous sommes totalement auto-financés et nous prenons nos propres décisions."

Area loses two long-time residents

The New Edinburgh community lost one of its best-known residents with the recent death of Ted Donaldson.

Ted, who lived with his mother and sister at 142 Keefer Street, had a wealth of information about the area, and was fond of reminiscing about the "good old days."

The community was also shocked and saddened by the tragic death last month of

Betty Wentzlaff of MacKay Street. Mrs. Wentzlaff, also a long time resident of the area, had been a caretaker at Crichton St School.

The Ottawa Police Department, especially homicide detectives under the direction of Staff Inspector Lester Thompson deserve commendation for the way the investigation into Mrs. Wentzlaff's death was conducted.

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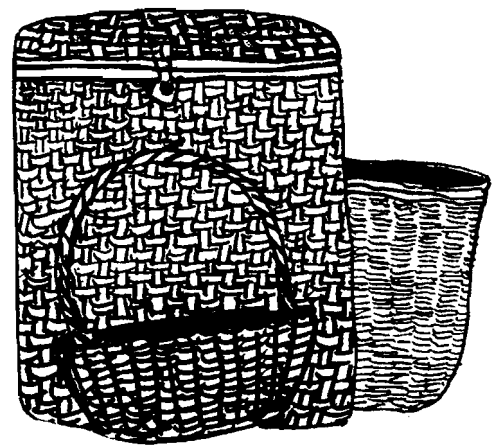
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