

June 2010

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

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New Edinburgh Community Alliance

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, June 8, 7 pm

Stanley Park Fieldhouse

Meet friends, ask questions, join us for refreshments.

All New Ed residents welcome.



The New Edinburgh ANNUAL PICNIC



Stanley Park Fieldhouse
Sunday, July 11th
11:00 am - 2:00 pm
(rain or shine)

Everyone welcome, but please no dogs!
www.newedinburgh.ca

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A New Edinburgh Lane.

Painting by Gordon Harrison

Although this piece of New Edinburgh's built heritage on River Lane has been demolished, local artist Gordon Harrison has ensured that its lovely charm will not be forgotten. To see more of Gordon's work, be sure to attend his 8th Annual Garden Exhibit at his studio (81 John Street) on June 6-8. Contact the Gallery to receive an invitation (www.gordonharrisingallery.com).

Coming Soon to a Theatre Near You: Making History in New Edinburgh

By Joan Mason

Every community has its stories to tell—stories of small deeds and great endeavours that shaped the early history of Canada's small towns and big cities.

These stories are often lying forgotten in museums, in archival collections, in cemeteries, and in heritage properties. They are "hidden history" waiting to be transformed into "popular history" that engages community residents, visitors, and another generation of students unfamiliar with their local heritage. We can tell these old

stories to new audiences using today's technologies such as the Internet. We can capture the past before it's lost to Time. And in the telling of these old tales, we can engage our communities to value their history and heritage as a great gift from those who went before us.

Earlier this year, the New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA) began discussions with a multimedia company, History Lives Here Inc. of Picton, Ontario, to develop a pilot project to produce a series of video vignettes on local history themes in 2010

drawn from the rich heritage of the New Edinburgh area. The idea is to develop a series of two-minute vignettes, called History Moments, which showcase this local history while enhancing the profile of our community and its Heritage Conservation District. Over the long term, the project is designed to become an annual activity developing new revenue streams for NECA through the sponsorship of the series by businesses, government agencies and individuals.

Continued on page 5

The Queen to Stay in the Burgh

By NEN Staff

As part of The Queen's 22nd official tour of Canada, Her Majesty and His Royal Highness will spend Wednesday night, June 30, at their pied-à-terre here in the Burgh—Rideau Hall.

After arriving in Ottawa from Halifax on June 30, the Queen will rededicate the Canadian Museum of Nature after its multimillion-dollar expansion and renovation. Next, outside the National Arts Centre, the Queen will unveil a statue of the late Canadian jazz legend Oscar Peterson.

Later that day, the design for a "Diamond Jubilee Window"

being created to celebrate the Queen's upcoming 60th anniversary on the throne will be unveiled at Rideau Hall, where Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip will spend the night.

Following a portrait session the next morning and the delivery of an "official greeting" at the Canada Day celebrations on Parliament Hill, the royal couple will spend July 2 enjoying a private day of relaxation in the Ottawa area, presumably at the federal government retreat on the Quebec side of the Ottawa River in nearby Gatineau Park.

In addition to their stopover in our neighbourhood, The Queen

and The Duke of Edinburgh will also visit:

- Halifax from June 28 to June 30
- Winnipeg, Manitoba, on July 3
- Toronto and Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario from July 3 to July 6.

There will be many opportunities for the public to see The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh. A forthcoming 2010 Royal Tour website will provide Canadians with information and details regarding the Royal Tour and the Monarchy in Canada. (See Page 7 article for Royal etiquette tips.)



NECA President David Sacks Reports



As NECA moves to the end of another year of vigorous advocacy, we are sorry to say goodbye to board member **Dilshad Macklem**. Dilshad joined NECA's board in June 2006 and in June 2008 became our Secretary, employing her writing-editing prowess to deliver lucid, insightful minutes of our monthly meetings. To NECA's loss, Dilshad's current board term expires this month, and by prior arrangement she will step down as of our annual general meeting (AGM). We will miss Dilshad's refined and thoughtful presence and good counsel, as well as her toil in producing those fine meeting-minutes. We thank her sincerely for four years' service to the Burgh.

Thanks also to **Inge Vander Horst**, who stepped down this spring as NECA Heritage and Development Committee co-chair, after three years of sterling work. Since spring 2007, Inge had steered the committee alongside NECA board member **Paul McConnell**; she was essential in NECA's examining of—and occasional resistance to—local building proposals, including the controversial 132 Stanley Avenue plan that was thwarted in 2008. Happily for us, Inge remains as a commit-

tee member. We truly appreciate her commitment.

The New Edinburgh website, www.newedinburgh.ca, which is maintained by NECA, will soon be redesigned. Through efforts of a committee including board member **Joan Mason**, ex officio board member **Cindy Parkanyi**, and resident new-media enthusiast **Keenan Wellar**, NECA has engaged a professional web designer, Ottawa-based IT For Change, and is finalizing arrangements to revamp the site. The project, which has been gestating for months, stems from a decision to move to a wholly different technology, to free the website from reliance on an expert webmaster. Soon, a number of designated people will be able to add content; this change will more easily keep the site up-to-date; the site will be maintained without need to burden a volunteer webmaster or to pay for a professional one. Also, the new design will somewhat simplify the site's look and navigational stream. In lieu of a webmaster, Keenan has graciously volunteered to act as "communications advisor" regarding the site.

The redesign's transfer of information to a new format will involve some costs. To

cover these entirely, the NECA board has voted a one-time-only allocation of not more than \$5,700. This sum is intended to buy value for years, insofar as the new website will operate practically free of charge (aside from small costs for the web server and domain name). We eagerly look forward to developments this summer.

Actions near and far

Three other neighbourhood projects have claimed NECA attention in recent weeks: 1) NECA's partnership with documentary-film director Peter Lockyer over his intended *History Moments* video series in New Edinburgh, 2) the NECA-sponsored door-to-door petition for a 40-kph speed limit on certain neighbourhood streets, and 3) NECA's so-far-successful opposition to a building proposal in the Heritage Conservation District (HCD) that fails to comply with some important HCD guidelines. More information on *History Moments* and the traffic petition can be found in this issue, in articles by Joan Mason (Page 1) and by NECA Traffic Calming Chair **Roslyn Butler** (Page YY).

Meanwhile, NECA is monitoring certain concerns beyond

New Edinburgh that will affect us all in Ottawa. For example:

- On Monday, June 28, City Council will vote on the controversial Lansdowne Live development plan—whose opponents include our ward Councillor, **Jacques Legendre**, and the city-wide coalition Friends of Lansdowne Park (www.friendsoflansdownepark.ca). NECA's board agrees with Councillor Legendre that the current Lansdowne deal should be voted down, as being flawed procedurally (a single-bid award), financially (the City, not the investors, will shoulder the main burden), and conceptually (not the best use of the Lansdowne space). Burgh resident **Tim Plumptre** is liaising between NECA and Friends of Lansdowne, amid efforts to sway a handful of "swing" councillors before the vote date. If you wish to get involved, please contact either Friends of Lansdowne or me.

- On October 25, Ottawa will hold municipal elections. Accordingly, NECA has joined the preliminary planning for a local "meet the candidates" evening in autumn (mayoral and Rideau-Rockcliffe ward candidates only), probably at a Rockcliffe venue. Watch the New Edinburgh website for details.

On to the AGM

As previously announced, NECA's annual general meeting will be held **Tuesday evening, June 8, at 7 pm** in the Stanley Park Fieldhouse. Refreshments will be served. Each and every New Edinburgh resident is invited. We'll hear brief reports on items of interest, and hold elections to fill empty board seats. The AGM is your chance to find out more about the neighbourhood and the difference that residents' involvement—and a strong

community association—can make.

If you wish to vote at the AGM, you would need to be a New Edinburgh resident and be enrolled as a NECA member. You may enroll at the AGM door. Membership is absolutely free and without obligation.

This year's agenda will include at least two requests to the assembly to vote on policy decisions made by the NECA board in recent months. They are: 1) henceforth to make NECA membership one-time and permanent for residents, rather than renewable, and 2) to alter the wording of a NECA By-law item, to the effect that not "six" but "approximately six" board seats be filled at every AGM election (thus allowing for natural shortfalls from the ideal board quota of twelve).

Lastly, may I say goodbye? This is my final President's Report for the newspaper. As is already known, I plan to leave the president's job soon, and serve out my final NECA board year as a general board member. It has been my honour for three years to head-up a dedicated volunteer group that tries to do great good for our beautiful Burgh, and I intend to leave NECA in capable hands. At our final board meeting, later in June, I hope to nominate Joan Mason to succeed me as President.

Meanwhile, I hope to see you at the AGM. And best wishes for a happy summer.



Your NECA Representatives 2009-2010

Sarah Anson-Cartwright	745-4194	Neca.enviro@gmail.com	Environment
Roslyn Butler	746-8037	roslynebutler@hotmail.com	Traffic Calming
Gemma Kerr	745-7928	newedgem@magma.ca	Membership
Michael Larrass	744-0304	michael.larrass@rogers.com	
Philip MacAdam	741-9235	philip@macadamlaw.ca	
Dilshad Macklem	746-3951	ndmacklem@gmail.com	Secretary
Joan Mason	842-8693	apresfou@sympatico.ca	
Paul McConnell	746-4901	paulmcc@magma.ca	Heritage & Development
David Sacks	740-0650	dsacks1776@aol.com	President
Ernie Smith	744-8191	ernie414@rocketmail.com	
Jim Watson	745-7928	watamarack@aol.com	Treasurer
Ex officio:			
Susan Ashbrook	745-2742	communitycentre@rogers.com	CCCC Program Co-ord
Vickie Brennan	744-4345	neparkfriends@live.ca	Friends of the Park
Jill Hardy	746-1323		Fieldhouse Rentals
Michael Histed	741-1660	mhisted@uottawa.ca	Neighbourhood Watch
Jacques Legendre	580-2483	jacques.legendre@ottawa.ca	City Councillor
Cathy McConkey	746-0303	cjmccconkey@sympatico.ca	Crichton Community Council
Cindy Parkanyi	745-8734	newednews@hotmail.com	New Edinburgh News
Johan Rudnik	749-2811	johan.rudnick@gmail.com	CCCC President
Brian Torrie	747-7951	brian.torrie@rogers.com	Crichton Community Council

NECA MEETINGS: All Welcome

NECA meets ten times a year, traditionally on the **third Monday of each month at 7:30 pm**. No meetings in July, August, or December. In June we meet twice: for our annual general meeting (AGM) and, later, for a regular board meeting. Our AGM will be held in the **Stanley Park Fieldhouse**, 193 Stanley Avenue.

Our June and September Board meetings will be held at **St. Bartholomew's Church at 125 Mackay Street**, by kind permission of the church board and warden.

All community residents are welcome to attend any NECA meeting—and we urge residents to attend the AGM. Our next meetings are:

AGM: Tuesday, June 8, 7 pm in the Fieldhouse

Board Meeting: Monday, June 14, 7:30 pm at St. Bart's

Board Meeting: Monday, Sept 20, 7:30 pm at St. Bart's

Any changes to this schedule would be posted in advance on the New Edinburgh website, www.newedinburgh.ca, and on outdoor bulletin boards at the Fieldhouse and 200 Crichton Street.

“Heritage Districts Work!”

Paul McConnell
Co-Chair, NE Heritage & Development Committee

This is the emphatic title and conclusion of a major province-wide study of Heritage Conservation Districts (HCDs) completed last year. More than 90 HCDs have been designated in Ontario since 1975, when new legislation recognized that heritage preservation involves more than protecting a few individual buildings; it can include an entire neighbourhood, with its collection of different structures and spaces, local landscapes, lanes, and other distinctive features.

This study, coordinated by the University of Waterloo, set out to determine whether HCDs were achieving their intended goals in protecting the special character of a neighbourhood. It also examined if residents were satisfied with the controls placed on alterations and new development, and how property values had been affected by the HCD designation.

Critics of HCDs often complain that the designation means loss of control over one's property and an inability to make alterations – hard to imagine when you consider all the construction projects in the NE heritage district since 2001. They also fear the HCD regulations will be a disincentive to buyers and drive down property values. On the other hand, advocates of the HCD concept believe the potential benefits, including a high standard of maintenance and design, a more stable environment, developing a shared sense of community, and a potential for increased property values, do not receive sufficient attention.

The Stronger, the Better!

The study examined the experiences of 32 of the oldest HCDs – our New Edinburgh HCD was not included because

it is a relative newcomer, having been created in 2001. And the main findings?

- In most cases, the goals and objectives set out in HCD Plans are being met.
- Over 75% of people surveyed reported being “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with living or owning property in an HCD.
- Most residents did not find the application process for property alterations to be too onerous.
- Property values in HCDs generally rise faster than surrounding areas, and often resist downturns in the market.

“Perhaps most interesting are the findings regarding HCD rules”, notes Catherine Nasmith, past president of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario. “The analysis revealed that: ‘consistent enforcement results in higher property value increases.’ Moreover, there were more complaints that the rules were not strict enough than there were complaints that rules were too strict.” She also observes, “Where enforcement was lax and inappropriate alterations permitted, property values were lower.”

As reported in the last issue of *NEN*, we recently had a reminder of the need for steadfast application of the HCD

Plan & Guidelines in New Edinburgh. In her article “Message to the City: Uphold the Heritage Guidelines”, heritage supporter and NECA Board member, Joan Mason, explained the significance of opposing a precedent-setting oversized addition on Crichton, and the importance of our collective stewardship of the heritage district.

Not surprisingly, one of the key recommendations in the HCD report is the need to get word out to the public, realtors, new residents, City Council, and others about the existence and benefits of the HCD designation. Certainly, this is a priority for the NE Heritage & Development Committee. Hopefully, if we can promote and explain more effectively the benefits and obligations of living in the NE heritage district, the more we can all enjoy our neighbourhood, as well as avoid problems when contemplating heritage alterations.

Chainsaw Massacre

As residents who enjoy the historic ambiance of the heritage district, we can never take our surroundings for granted. This corner of Canadian heritage is always at risk, sometimes in quite surprising ways. One recent Saturday, the chainsaws came out and sliced through the old red-painted tin and wooden double garage on River

Lane, behind 192 Stanley (see Gordon Harrison painting on front page of this edition). The garage was one of the quirky features that make strolling down our lanes such a popular pastime.

The demolition was illegal and the City has delivered an enforcement letter to the owner, the first step in determining remedial action and penalties. But the original structure has been lost, and another bit of our history has been erased. Spurred on by this little tragedy, we are forging ahead with producing the new brochure on the self-guided heritage walking trail through New Edinburgh, one of several current initiatives aimed at promoting our heritage credentials.

Thanks, and Welcome

I'm delighted to have this opportunity to acknowledge some changes to the H & D Committee. First, after several years of invaluable service as

Co-Chair, Inge Vander Horst finally relinquished this title, though I am relieved to note she will continue as a member of the committee. On behalf of the community, I warmly thank Inge for her remarkable contribution. She accomplished so much that we need two people to replace her! Well, there's also the number of “educational” initiatives that we've embarked upon. So I'm happy to welcome Katherine Arkay and Anne-Sophie Belzile, who join me in forming a “triumvirate” to guide the work of H & D. And I'm also pleased to welcome Paula Thompson as a new committee member; you can find further information about members on the NE website.

To view the HCD report, visit <http://www.fes.uwaterloo.ca/research/hrc/projects/>. Add'l Sources: *Built Heritage News* issue 145, and *Heritage Canada Foundation's Heritage magazine* vol XII no 3.

NECA Proposes Move to Permanent Memberships

By Gemma Kerr, NECA Membership Secretary

At the moment area residents are contacted annually to ask if they wish either to join the New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA), or to continue their existing NECA membership. The permanent option, which was first discussed at the 2009 Annual General Meeting, would mean that once a resident has signed up, that person remains a NECA member until he or she leaves the Burgh or asks to have the membership discontinued. Since there is no annual fee, this way of managing membership is feasible, and it is allowed under NECA's by-law.

One can find arguments both for and against permanency. In support of permanent membership there is the reduced effort needed to maintain and increase membership numbers.

Difficulties presented by permanent membership include:

- How to identify members

who have found another interest, moved out of the Burgh or passed on;

- member contact information (changed email address etc.) my become out-of-date;
- Reduces regular dialogue with constituents.

The NECA Board has discussed the issue several times this year, and is of the opinion that the main disadvantages of permanent membership can be mitigated by ensuring that residents are periodically contacted about their membership. Once every three years is suggested as a suitable contact frequency. So, each year one third of the total membership list would be contacted for updates.

We would like to know what NECA members think about the permanent membership proposal. You can contact me at newedgem@magma.ca, or better still, come to the NECA Annual General Meeting on June 8 and register your vote on the motion.

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

P.O. Box 74038, Ottawa, K1M 2H9

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

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

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

Editor: Cindy Parkanyi, 13 Avon Lane
Tel: 613-745-8734, Fax: 613-745-4766
newednews@hotmail.com

Advertising: Brian Holland
Tel: 613-257-7762 / 262-4299
nen-ads@hotmail.com

Senior Writer: Jane Heintzman, 613-741-0276
jancheintzman@hotmail.com

Breezy Bits: Joyce Dubuc, 613-745-9904
breezybits@hotmail.com

Distribution: David Horley, 613-745-6156
horlat@magma.ca

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

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

Printed in Renfrew, Ontario by Ottawa Region Media Group,
a division of Metroland Media Group Ltd.





Ottawa City Councillor Jacques Legendre Reports

Rockcliffe Parkway – NCC Rehabilitation Works

One project involves the rehabilitation of the retaining walls (Phase 1 already underway), starting approximately at Acacia Avenue and extending east for approximately 410 metres (Phase 1 = 300 metres; Phase 2 = 110 metres – later on). It is anticipated that the Phase 1 reconstruction will last approximately 2 months. The impacts will primarily be with regards to traffic circulation. The traffic management plan will involve closing one lane of the Parkway by means of traffic cones and be controlled by flagmen on a daily basis, Monday through Friday, during the off-peak periods from 9:30 am – 3:30 pm.

As part of this project, new railing will be installed as now required to meet modern road safety standards. The retaining walls were built from the 1900s through the 1920s and

do not conform to current safety requirements.

The other project is a continuation of the NCC's Rockcliffe Parkway Pavement Rehabilitation program. This phase will involve work on two stretches of the Parkway. One is a short length from Princess Avenue to Tea House Road. The other starts at a point 100 m east of Tennis Court Crescent to 300 m west of Aviation Parkway.

The work generally includes milling, full depth reclamation of asphalt, iron adjustments and hot mix paving. This project is planned to start in this summer.

The contractor will be required to maintain two lanes of traffic, one in each direction, during the peak hours of 7:00 am to 9:00 am and from 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm on weekdays. Traffic maybe reduced to one lane of traffic using partial lane closures for short periods.

Ottawa to replace 226 articulated buses

The City of Ottawa has been presented with a unique opportunity to replace its aging articulated bus fleet with state-of-the-art buses at the same cost it would take to keep the older buses on the road.

As a result of the economic market in the North American transit industry, New Flyer Industries has presented an unprecedented proposal to the City that includes offering buses at a much discounted cost and with a number of value-added features.

The New Flyer proposal includes the purchase of 306 new articulated buses (instead of the 80 which had been planned) at an aggressively discounted price, which includes a buyback of 226 articulated buses—the entire existing fleet of 2001-2004 models and replacing them with the new 2010 model. The purchase would be made under the City's existing agreement with New Flyer to supply articulated buses (hence, this cannot be considered a "sole-source" arrangement under the usual meaning of that term). Also included in this proposal are long-term warranties, and improved material and maintenance management support.

nance management support.

In addition to the price and maintenance advantages, the proposal includes considerable environmental and financial benefits, including:

- Significant emissions reductions and a 26% reduction in fuel consumption;
- A 15% maintenance cost reduction;
- Lower inventory costs; and,
- A cost-reducing Anti-Graffiti Package.

This renewal of OC Transpo's articulated fleet will improve bus availability, reliability and performance, which will result in significant benefits for our customers.

When all 306 of the new buses have arrived, the OC Transpo fleet will be 90% low-floor. In fact, it is now expected that the fleet will be 100% low-floor by 2014, well ahead of the original target date of 2017.

Transit Services and Finance have evaluated the proposal and determined that the cost to purchase the new buses is less than maintaining the older buses over the next nine years, due to required overhaul and extensive maintenance issues presently facing older fleet models.

In short, this procurement strategy will cause no new tax pressures. The total cost of this proposal is \$155.7 million. The total savings is \$156.9 million. It will also allow the City and Transit Services to realize a number of customer service, efficiency and environmental benefits.

You can communicate with me at (please include a telephone number):

City of Ottawa
110 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa ON K1P 1J1
Tel: 580-2483, Fax: 580-2523
Email: jacques.legendre@ottawa.ca
Website: www.rideau-rockcliffe.com

Lansdowne Park

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MPP Ottawa-Vanier Madeleine Meilleur Reports

2010 Ontario Budget: Progress and Prudence

Ontarians have made real progress over the past six years. Progress in our schools where class sizes are down and test scores are up. Progress in our hospitals where we have hired more nurses and wait times are down. We are rebuilding our roads, bridges, schools, hospitals and transit systems, after years of neglect. We are protecting the environment and improving the quality of life for our most vulnerable.

When the global recession occurred, the McGuinty government helped lessen the impact on Ontarians through short-term stimulus investments that created jobs and helped restore growth. The government also protected education and health care. As a result, Ontario, like other jurisdictions in Canada and around the world, has a fiscal deficit.

As announced in the recent Throne Speech, our five-year Open Ontario plan will create new opportunities for jobs and economic growth. On March 25, we unveiled our latest Budget, which moves that plan forward and protects the progress Ontarians have made in our schools and hospitals as we eliminate the deficit caused by the global recession.

We are investing \$32 billion in job-creating stimulus, which is supporting more than 220,000 jobs this year, while rebuilding Ontario's aging infrastructure. And we are providing additional support to our Second Career program, so that an additional 30,000 laid-off workers can train for a new career.

Our plan for education includes implementing full-day learning for four- and five-

year olds, which will increase student achievement, build a stronger workforce and help break the cycle of poverty. We are also providing \$310 million in new funding for 20,000 new spaces in Ontario colleges and universities this September, so that every qualified Ontarian who wants to pursue postsecondary education will find a place.

The McGuinty government is stepping in and continuing to fund the child care spaces abandoned by the federal government. This investment will equal \$63.5 million a year, and will help 1,000 child care workers keep their jobs, and maintain about 8,500 Ontario child care spaces – a crucial investment that will help keep Ontario families working.

We recognize that all of us who are paid through taxpayer dollars must do our part to help

eliminate the deficit, as public sector employee compensation costs account for the majority of Ontario-funded program spending.

To that end, we are proposing to freeze the compensation structures of non-bargaining political and legislative staff for two years. Compensation structures for all non-bargaining employees in the Ontario Public Sector and the Broader Public Sector would also be frozen for two years. We will lead by example through legislation that would extend the freeze on MPP pay from one to three years. These measures will help redirect up to \$750 million toward sustaining schools, hospitals and other public services.

For employees represented by a bargaining agent, the government will respect all current collective agreements.

When these contracts expire and new contracts are negotiated, the government will work with transfer payment partners and bargaining agents to seek agreements of at least two years' duration that do not include net compensation increases.

These steps are necessary to secure Ontario's long-term future. Combined with other measures outlined in our recent Budget, we will cut the deficit in half in five years and eliminate it in eight years.

The Open Ontario plan is fair and balanced, while focusing on the priorities that we as Ontarians share. I am confident that by working together, we can attract investment, create jobs and preserve the quality of public services Ontarians depend on and deserve, as we build a stronger Ontario for tomorrow.

History Moments...

Continued from page 1

Initial research of potential stories to be included in the series has been undertaken beginning with a profile of Thomas McKay, a mason who made his fortune building the Bytown locks in the Rideau Canal system and who used his money to build Rideau Hall and establish New Edinburgh. Community partners such as Rogers Cablevision Ottawa have expressed interest in participating in the project by promoting and broadcasting the series on their station. The Mayfair Theatre has expressed interest in playing the vignettes on their screen before movies. We are discussing the project with local schools, archives, museums and other heritage organizations to encourage

their participation in this innovative pilot project.

The series will be produced with funding from sponsorships of individual vignettes. In return, sponsors receive acknowledgment in the closing credits of the vignette, distribution to significant advertising audiences through broadcast of the series on cablevision, in local cinemas, distribution of the series into schools, libraries, museums and archives, and online broadcast through the New Edinburgh and History Lives Here websites. A gala evening to premiere the series is planned for the fall or early winter of 2010. We are encouraged by the response of potential sponsors who agree the series has high media interest and enduring value as an

educational and promotional resource.

The concept of the History Moments was developed by former CBC journalist Peter Lockyer, who drew on his broadcasting experience to promote the restoration of an historic cemetery in his hometown in Prince Edward County. Launched in the fall of 2009, the series is a popular mainstay of programming at a local cinema in Picton, on cablevision in the area, and in local schools and museums. The series is also available online at www.historyliveshere.ca. A second series is under development for launch as part of the Canada Day celebrations in Picton.

We hope to build on this success in New Edinburgh by producing our own series in partnership with History Lives Here Inc. This is the year we intend to make history!

Thank You!

As we draw to the close of our 2009/2010 publishing year, the *New Edinburgh News* would like to take this opportunity to thank the many contributors to the success of this community newspaper:

DELIVERY TEAM: Philip McAdam, Cathy McConkey, Isabel Bisby, Margo Silver, Stephen Marmara-Burns, Marika Willms, Veronica von Nostitz-Tait, Celine Amdur, Liba Bender, Raymond Dubuc, Roger Hardy, William Beddoe, Susan Boyd, and John Cox.

PROOFREADING: Sandra Fraser, Cathy McConkey, Elizabeth Jorgensen

NEN ADVISORY BOARD: Barbara Benoit, Joyce Dubuc, Jane Heintzman, David Horley, Gemma Kerr, Cathy McConkey, David Sacks, and Jim Watson.

BUSINESSES: We would also like to thank all those who support our local community by purchasing advertising in this newspaper, sponsoring community events and providing high quality products and services to New Edinburgh residents.

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From the Desk of...



Mauril Bélanger
Member of Parliament for
Ottawa-Vanier



An Eastern Bridge

I thank the *New Edinburgh News* for the continued opportunity to share federal news and views with constituents of New Edinburgh.

Let's revisit the bridge issue and the option I am putting forward in the spirit of finding a workable solution.

I have always supported the construction of a new bridge to get the heavy trucks out of the core of the city. I cannot however support an option which would put them in another community, thus ruling out option 5 (Kettle Island corridor), which passes right through several populated areas on both sides of the Ottawa River, or option 6 (Lower Duck corridor), that would go through a densely populated and long established community on the Quebec side. As for option 7, I have strong reservations with the work of Phase 1 consultants who needlessly included a

swath of Convent Glen in the prospective corridor.

What we need is an option that considers a corridor away from established communities, that does not punch a hole through the green belt, and that provides an economic development opportunity. The Canotek option considers a corridor on the Ontario side of the River, immediately east of the Canotek Industrial Park and the R.O. Pickard Sewage Treatment Plant, as well as entirely west of the green belt, thus avoiding it.

The corridor would cross the River, touching on the eastern tip of Lower Duck Island and making a landfall on the Quebec side where there is a soon to be abandoned quarry; then northward to Route 148 — which provides an easy access to the Gatineau Executive Airport and Highway 50. You

can see and read about this option on-line by visiting either www.pourunmeilleurpont.org (French) or www.stopthebridge.org (English).

The Canotek option necessitates prior modifications resulting in several positive impacts:

- 1) Fixing the split (where highways 417 and 174 meet).
- 2) Widening highway 174 from the split to at least the 10th Line and perhaps further.
- 3) Extending the proposed light rail transit way from Blair to Canotek.
- 4) Ensuring that the Canotek corridor and the Rockcliffe Parkway do not intersect.
- 5) Moving further east the Montréal Road "on and off" ramps in order to align them with the Canotek corridor, thus ensuring that the heavy trucks would not use Shefford Road to access the Industrial Park, and that the additional commuter traffic

is directed to the Queensway and not Montréal Road.

The Ontario Municipal Board has stipulated that the next bridge should be located within the green belt. Again, in the spirit of finding a workable solution, I propose the Canotek corridor. Being more than a kilometre away from Beacon Hill, this route is not only avoiding residential areas but it is also the only option which would not touch the green belt (unlike options 6 and 7).

At the end of Phase 1, the Ontario government asked that 3 criteria be given more consideration: community well-being, encouraging transit use and economic development.

The Canotek option puts heavy trucks away from established communities. Should the light rail project be immediately extended to Canotek from Blair (and eventually across the bridge to link up with the Outaouais transit ser-

vices), it would provide more incentives for transit use. So would the creation of park and ride facilities in the immediate vicinity. Finally, linking Canotek industrial park to the Gatineau Airport would create a new economic development infrastructure that would help the east end of both Gatineau and Ottawa.

It behooves the National Capital Commission, as well as both the Ontario and Quebec transportation departments, that one way or another, the Canotek corridor is seriously considered. Indeed, the creation of Phase 2A was to inject enough flexibility in Phase 2B to enable the consultants to look at an option such as the Canotek corridor. Should that not be the case, I believe Ontario and Quebec should seek suspension of the entire process until the ability to examine the Canotek option is secured.

Hon. Mauril Bélanger, M.P.

Doors Open to Ottawa's Built Heritage: 2 Days, 119 Buildings, Free Admission

On June 5 and 6, the doors to many of the finest buildings in the nation's capital will be wide open—and free of charge—to the public. The weekend event has become a favourite Ottawa spring tradition appealing to residents and visitors of all generations.

Ottawa was the second city in North America to launch the popular *Doors Open*, which is based on a successful European program dedicated to built heritage, architecture and design.

Each year, visitors experience first-hand the stories that have shaped the National Capital region.

The New Edinburgh area is well represented this year with 10 properties open for viewing including: 7 Rideau Gate, Rideau Hall, City of Ottawa Archives (111 Sussex), Crichton Cultural Community Centre (200 Crichton), Delegation of the Ismaili Inamat (199 Sussex), the French Embassy (42 Sussex), Gordon Harrison's Artists Studio (81 John Street), the Lester B. Pearson Building (125 Sussex), MacKay United Church (39 Dufferin), and the Ottawa-New Edinburgh Club Boathouse (Rockcliffe Pkwy).

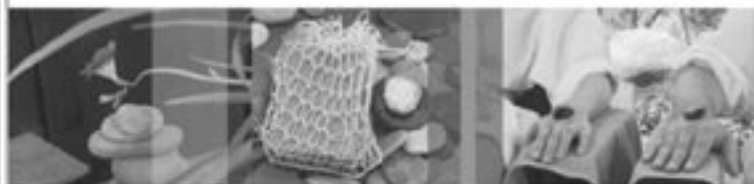
Event organizers also welcome 18 new buildings this year, including the Embassy of

the United States of America, designed by David Childs, architect of the new One World Trade Center in Manhattan.

Two exceptional science labs are among the other new buildings. The Transportation Safety Board lab analyzes black box data as part of its investigation of marine, railway, pipeline and aviation accidents. And in the Parks Canada lab, visitors can watch conservation scientists at work and examine unique objects recovered from historic shipwrecks.

For a full listing with descriptions and locations, visit ottawa.ca/doorsopen.

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Jacques Legendre



Letters to the Editor are always welcomed.

Opinions are the writer's and do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.

Please be sure to include your name and contact information for verification purposes.



Governor General
of Canada

Gouverneur général
du Canada

What's On at Rideau Hall This Summer

Dear Editor,

Cottage season is here!

Remember, it is law in Ontario to have working alarms on each storey and outside all sleeping areas in your cottage, as it is in your home. Please also check your local laws regarding carbon monoxide alarms.

Fire Chiefs across cottage country want you to have 'Peace of Mind At Your Piece of Heaven' so heed these tips:

- 1) Change all smoke alarm batteries at least once a year;
- 2) Replace all smoke alarms over 10 years old;
- 3) If your cottage has a fire-

place, or gas or propane appliances, install at least one CO detector;

- 4) Clean heating appliances and BBQs before use. Ensure all combustibles, as well as children and pets, are kept well away while grilling;
- 5) Check with local authorities for restrictions on campfires or burning brush.

Visit www.safeathome.ca for further tips.

Chief Bruce Burrell, President
Canadian Assn of Fire Chiefs

Patrick Burke, Ontario Fire
Marshal

Rideau Hall is the largest official residence in Canada's Capital Region and the only one open to the public. The residence houses rooms for State functions, offices and other work spaces, including kitchens, and a greenhouse run by the National Capital Commission (NCC) where plants and flowers are grown for use in all six official residences.

Heads of State and royalty stay at Rideau Hall during visits to Ottawa. In fact, this June, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will stay at Rideau Hall for one night during her Royal Tour of Canada.

Visiting the grounds: The grounds opening hours are from 8 am until one hour before sunset. Stroll through the grounds of Rideau Hall at your leisure and explore the paths along the flowerbeds and gardens of this green oasis in the city. You can also come for a picnic and enjoy the play structure with your children.

Visitors Centre: As of May 15 the Visitor and Interpretation Centre will be open to the pub-

lic daily from 10 am to 5 pm. There you can learn about the role and responsibilities of the Governor General through interactive displays, or browse through the gift shop for souvenirs and Canadian products.

Visiting the residence: Guided tours of the residence are free and are also offered on statutory holidays. From May 1 to June 27 tours are offered Saturdays and Sundays, from 10 am to 4 pm. From June 28 to September 6 tours take place daily, from 10 am to 4 pm.

Ceremonial changing of the guards: In this much-loved ceremony, watch sentries, led by a piper, march to their posts at Sussex Gate and at the residence's façade. From June 28 to August 27 the ceremony takes place every hour, on the hour, from 9 am to 5 pm.

Children's activities: Meet at the Visitor Centre to participate in the Tell-A-Tale Trail treasure hunt with your family and discover heraldic art and national symbols through creative activities. From July 1 to September 6: daily, at 11 am and 1:30 pm.

Summer concerts: Everyone is invited to savour the sounds of summer on the grounds of Rideau Hall during the Governor General's *Summer Concerts Series*. In partnership with the International Chamber Music Festival, Rideau Hall is proud to present:

Saturday, July 24, 1 pm:

Songs and Tangos from the Americas with the Gryphon Trio and Patricia O'Callaghan

Saturday, July 24, 3 pm:

The Band of the Ceremonial Guard

Sunday, July 25, 1 pm:

African String Quartet

Sunday, July 25, 3 pm:

Time for Three

For more information about summer activities or guided tours, please call 613-991-4422 or 1-866-842-4422 (toll free) or visit www.gg.ca.

Please note that Rideau Hall is also a working residence and scheduled activities may be cancelled due to official ceremonies.

How to Greet the Queen

NEN Staff

With the Queen's June visit looming, it's a good time to bone up on proper etiquette. Who knows, The Royals might just take one of their famous 'walkabouts' around New Edinburgh, so we do want to be ready.

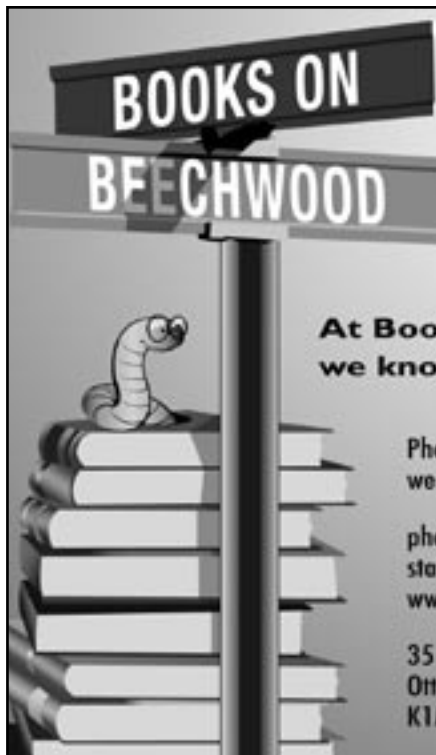
According to Canadian Heritage (www.pch.gc.ca) "members of the Royal Family wish any elements of protocol to be in tune with what is generally acceptable in Canadian society." The following simple guidelines are designed to help people feel comfortable and prepared in the event of a Royal encounter.

Addressing the Royals: The Queen is called "Your Majesty" initially and "Ma'am" (rhymes with jam) as the conversa-

tion continues. The Duke of Edinburgh is called "Your Royal Highness" initially and "Sir" as the conversation continues.

Curtsy/bow: It is up to the individual to choose whether or not they wish to bow/curtsy or simply shake hands. For men, the neck bow is just a little more than a nod of the head; for women, a curtsy entails placing the right foot behind the left heel and bending the knees slightly. It is quite in order to shake hands if the opportunity presents itself and a member of the Royal Family offers to do so.

If you have any doubts about the proper etiquette to use, keep this rule in mind, do as she does.



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BURGH BUSINESS BRIEFS

- By Jane Heintzman -

Vrtucar: Happy 10th Anniversary!

Exactly ten years ago, Vrtucar, Ottawa's pioneer car-sharing business, launched its first Ottawa operations in the Glebe and Centretown. In the decade since then, it has steadily expanded throughout the National Capital Region to encompass 50 stations in Ottawa and 20 in Gatineau, with an additional station and/or shared vehicle added as each new group of 18-20 members comes on board. Ottawa's was the fourth Vrtucar business to take root in Canada, preceded by Montreal, Vancouver and Toronto, and swiftly followed by numerous other Canadian cities now spanning the continent from Halifax to Victoria.

With a current tally of 1,600 Vrtucar members and counting, it seems safe to say that car-sharing has caught on in Ottawa, where it has become an increasingly attractive choice for walkers, transit users, cyclists and those opting for an environmentally friend-



VRTUCAR (l to r): Operations Manager Barbara Griffin, Member Service Staff member Courtney Edward and General Manager Wilson Wood.

ly (and economical) alternative to owning a car. The system is enormously popular in Europe where gas prices are prohibitively high, but Vrtucar General Manager **Wilson Wood** points out that even here, where fuel prices may still be within manageable range, the annual costs of owning and operating a car remain significant, with CAA

estimates averaging \$7,500/year when insurance, maintenance and depreciation are factored in.

Wilson reports that the leading uses of Vrtucar's shared vehicles are shopping expeditions, recreational activities such as skiing and hiking, visiting family and friends outside the public transit area, and pet-

related excursions, whether to veterinary appointments or to pet stores to collect large and unwieldy bags of kibble. Almost all Vrtucar members now make their bookings online, and Wilson notes that with a modest amount of advance planning, car share participants manage to combine a number of tasks into a single excursion, achieving significant efficiencies of time, energy and money.

He estimates that while the shared vehicle serves as a second car for a number of Vrtucar members in our community, as well as in Westboro, the vast majority of participants (over 90%) in the downtown area operate without a private car, depending on Vrtucar for all of their occasional uses.

As many readers are aware, our community is well served by Vrtucar, with two stations in New Edinburgh at **Beechwood and Marier** and underneath **New Edinburgh Square**, and five more in nearby Vanier. If you haven't yet investigated the system or are interested in cutting back on—or eliminating altogether—your use of a private car, check out the Vrtucar website at www.vrtucar.com, or give them a call at **613-798-1900**. We wish Wilson and his team a very happy tenth anniversary, and continuing success in building their environmentally admira-

ble enterprise here in Ottawa.

ZaZaZa Pizza: Open For Business!

Few would argue that well known local restaurateur **Ion Aimers**, creator/owner of the extraordinarily successful chain of **Works** gourmet burger establishments, has a keen eye for a winning business formula. If the popularity of his Works chain is any guide, the prospects are bright indeed for Ion's latest venture, **ZaZaZa Pizza** at **143 Putman** (at Beechwood), which opened its doors in late March and has since been a hive of activity as pizza enthusiasts of all ages discover this new local Mecca.

ZaZaZa is located in the former home of the first Works restaurant in Ottawa. More recently, it housed the **Fraser Café** until the **Fraser brothers'** culinary renown led to a move to their new, much larger quarters on Springfield Road where they can more readily accommodate a rapidly growing clientele. The Frasers haven't entirely departed the scene, however, as they are partners with Ion in the new pizza venture, and have played an important consultative role in the development of the pizza menu, and in particular, the signature, home-made thin crust which is among the hallmarks of the ZaZaZa menu.

If you haven't dropped in


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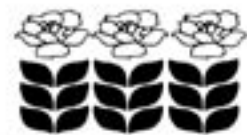
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Frank Tonon B.Sc. Phm.

**Full Service, Royal Bank ATM unit now located on
premises (Beechwood entrance)
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Photo: Louise Imbeault

PIZZA WITH PIZAZZ (l to r): Manager Caitlin Mark, Jenn Babluk, Cathy Chong enjoy the fruits of their labour—Beechwood Breaky Pizza, Curry Crazy Pizza, Feta Crunch Salad, fresh Lemonade and chocolate peanut butter banana cream cake from Da Bombe.

since the restaurant's transformation was completed this spring, there has been a striking change in the décor since the Frasers' days, with the walls of the restaurant now covered both inside and out with colourful works by local artists, including an eye-catching exterior mural by graffiti artist **Patrick Thompson**.

And now for the main attraction: The food! Kitchen Manager **Caitlin Mark** is extraordinarily proud of ZaZaZa's extensive menu which features more than 30 varieties of pizza (with many

more to come), created with 13 kinds of cheese, several different home-made sauces, ranging from classic Roma tomato to sweet pesto or creamy Alfredo, and an astonishingly long list of fresh toppings to appeal to virtually any palate.

The operative word at ZaZaZa's, and what Caitlin regards as the distinguishing feature of their fare, is fresh. All of the ingredients are freshly prepared each day, and toppings such as steak or chicken are cooked at the time you place your order. So if your idea of pizza is heav-

ily influenced by the dampish, slightly cardboard-flavoured product which arrives at your door about an hour after you place your phone order, you're in for an mouth-watering treat at ZaZaZa's.

Among the most popular picks at the new restaurant are reportedly the **Crazy Horse Pizza**, featuring a sweet pesto base with a topping of light mozzarella, spinach, roasted mushrooms (Portobello, shi-take and oyster), roasted chicken, red onions, goat cheese and pine nuts; and the **sweet and spicy Cajun Cowboy** (Caitlin's personal favourite) with a tomato sauce base, chipotle peppers, fresh sausage, sweet corn, caramelized onions, roasted chicken and spicy havarti cheese.

The kids in your family can still go back to basics with the **Marguerita**, which appeals to less adventurous palates with a classic combination of tomato sauce, mozzarella, fresh basil and pepperoni. And take note Mum and Dad: the restaurant is licensed, so you can sip a beer or glass of wine with your meal, while the kids wash down their pizza with old fashioned drinks such as black cherry soda and freshly squeezed lemonade. For those with some room left after their pizza feast,

ZaZaZa's also offers fresh gelato from **Truffle Treasures** in a variety of tempting flavours, along with a mouth-watering chocolate peanut butter banana cream cake prepared by premier Beechwood dessert-maker **Bill Ross of Da Bombe**.

While ZaZaZa's first priority in its early days is serving the clientele in the restaurant and on its 20 seat outdoor patio, at the time we went to press in May, they were phasing in a **Take Out service** which was offered on a limited basis when the eat-in crowds were thinner. If you're interested, just call them at **613-747-9292** and check out the lay of the land at that particular time. But better still, drop in and see what pizza can really be like when it isn't mass produced and "aged" in a cardboard box!

We welcome Caitlin and her 15 member team at ZaZaZa, and wish them a happy and successful summer season at Putman and Beechwood.

New Edinburgh Pharmacy: New Generic Drug Price Régime Poses a Daunting Challenge

In early April, the Government of Ontario introduced sweeping changes to the rules governing generic drug sales in the province, effectively deliver-

ing a body blow to the bottom line of pharmacies throughout Ontario, and sparking a storm of protest from pharmacists in both the large chains and the smaller independent pharmacies.

The major changes announced by Health Minister Deb Matthews, with the enthusiastic support of the Canadian Cancer Society, the Association of Retired Persons and the Ontario Federation of Labour, are twofold:

- the elimination of the sizeable sums referred to as "professional allowances", rebates, or in more sceptical parlance, "kick backs" which have been paid to pharmacies by the generic drug companies as a means of gaining competitive advantage for their products, and which are estimated to have totalled up to \$800 million/year; and

- the requirement that the prices charged for generic drugs be no higher than 25% of the cost of the brand name product, as opposed to the existing ceiling of 50%. (This rule goes into effect immediately in the case of drugs funded by the Ontario Drug Benefit Plan, and will be phased in over the next three years for private plans).

The province has justified the

Continued on page 10



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Continued from page 9

new measures on the grounds that the previous régime had kept generic drug prices artificially high—indeed among the highest in the industrialized world, in addition to being an excessive drain on the provincial treasury and an added spur to spiralling health care costs. The changes are expected to result in savings of \$500 million annually, or about 1% of the total provincial health budget. Needless to say, other provinces, in particular Nova Scotia and Quebec, are keeping a close eye on Ontario's bold move to contain generic drug costs, and it is speculated that many may ultimately follow suit.

As the current barrage of protests and petitions clearly attests, the impact of these changes on the bottom line of Ontario pharmacies is expected to be dramatic, potentially chopping up to \$200-\$300,000 annually from the coffers of Ontario pharmacies, some of which may not survive. Over the years, the burgeoning "professional allowances" from generic drug companies have become an increasingly important and integral component of the revenue stream of pharmacies large and small, reportedly enabling them to fund such services as 1-on-1 patient care and consultations, free delivery, longer hours, software upgrades, hiring, and swifter dispensary service. With the

abrupt elimination of this sizeable cushion, the pharmacists' community is reeling, and warning of imminent cuts to patient services and hours of operation, as well as the closure many smaller independent and rural pharmacies which will no longer be viable under the new régime.

Our own greatly revered community pharmacist **Frank Tonon** is, like his professional counterparts, deeply disturbed by what he perceives as a precipitous move on the part of the province. As anyone who knows him might expect, Frank's approach to the problem is infinitely balanced and reasonable, and very far from the shrill, self-serving rhetoric that has at times emanated from the large pharmacy chains.

The primary focus of Frank's concern and disappointment is that the province proceeded unilaterally to change the system "cold turkey", rather than proceeding through serious negotiation and, if necessary, arbitration to arrive at a reasonable compromise with pharmacists which might have led to a gradual phasing out the professional allowance regime, and an orderly transition to a new model. He points out that the province of Alberta succeeded in reaching precisely such an agreement with its pharmacists, and laments the fact that Ontario elected

instead to cut off discussions and let the axe fall.

Frank notes that the province had long been aware of the growing importance of professional allowances to the financial health of the pharmacy community, and indeed in recent years has required bi-annual reports from each pharmacy recording both the total allowances received and the services to which the revenue was applied. While Minister Matthews has promised an infusion of some \$240 million to assist pharmacies which are struggling to cover the costs of some professional services, it is estimated that the stores' net loss in revenue from the reform package will still be at least twice that amount.

At the time we went to press in mid-May, the Ontario Community Pharmacies Coalition had submitted a compromise proposal to the Ministry of Health outlining a three year process of transition to a new model similar to that adopted by Alberta, and including, among other measures, direct government investment in the patient services provided by pharmacies to compensate for the loss of "professional allowances". While at the time of writing, the province had not yet officially responded to the proposal, both government and industry sources reportedly suggest that Ontario may

ultimately agree to some form of transitional fund to provide pharmacies with short-term funding to facilitate the shift towards a new business model.

While Frank has joined with his professional colleagues in an organized protest against the rule changes, (many readers may already have signed the petition at the New Edinburgh Pharmacy), like other pharmacists throughout the province, he is having to take a long, hard look at the way he does business in the expectation that if the province does not agree to the Community Pharmacies Coalition's compromise proposal, or does not go far enough in its concessions, the new régime may take a serious toll.

For the moment at least, his plans and dreams of new initiatives such as information sessions, clinic days, Sunday opening and a library area will be shelved, and he will have to take stock of all existing services including the casual consultations with clients for which we have all been grateful over the years, as well as hours of operation, prescription fees, delivery charges, staffing and virtually every aspect of his operations.

We wish Frank well in facing the challenges posed by these new provincial measures, and have no doubt that he has the



Photo: Louise Imbeault

Guardian Drugs pharmacist Dima Rustom serves up prescriptions and a smile.

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Bread and Roses Bakery: More Room to Manoeuvre!

By the time our June publication is in circulation, if all goes according to plan, renovations should be well underway in the former premises of the **New Edinburgh News Stand** at 9 Beechwood in preparation for the expansion of Bread and Roses Bakery later this summer (with luck, by late June). Bakery owner **Chris Green** took over the long vacant space in early May, and is now at work on his master plan to move the retail portion of his store into these adjacent quarters, reserving the whole of the existing store as a production area for the bakery's signature breads, and sweet and savoury baked goods of all descriptions.

Not only will the planned expansion create significantly more room to manoeuvre for bakery clients to survey the array of tempting merchandise, (let's face it, it can get pretty cosy in the existing premises when half a dozen eager customers are vying to get a good look at the mouth watering display!), it will also allow Chris to broaden still further



Chris Green of Bread and Roses Bakery.

his product line, and to introduce frozen foods such as pies, quiches and pizza dough, as well as jams and other confections to complement his fresh breads, and a number of new items from **The Harvest Loaf**, his other store in West Wellington Village.

And how wonderful it will be to have a vacant Beechwood storefront once again filled with life and activity (not to mention food!!) Best of luck to Chris and his team at the bakery. We hope that all goes well with the expansion project, and look forward to having

new, more spacious quarters in which to shop for our favourite goodies.

Kimberley Wilson Bridal and Fashion Outlet: It's the Season!

Boutique owner **Kimberley Wilson** is a busy lady these days as the season of weddings, proms, graduations and gala balls gets into full swing. She reports that business has indeed been brisk at her boutique at **77 Beechwood**, to which brides to be, bridal parties and aspiring prom queens have flocked in search of that most elusive commodity in the women's fashion world: a thoroughly affordable but still strikingly attractive dress for a special occasion.

Through her extensive network of suppliers, Kimberley has been able to place special orders for her clients who arrive with a particular gown in mind, and (assuming the required size is available) to have the dress delivered swiftly and at a price well within budget. Among her special orders this spring has been a shipment of dresses for the **Elmwood "All-White" graduation event**. And of course, she has catered to a steady stream of brides and bridal parties, noting that the "black and

white wedding" is a striking trend this season.

Most women can recall having played the role of bridesmaid at some point in their career, and having purchased, often at significant expense, a dress which was never again taken out of the closet, despite their best intentions. Kimberley is well aware that the vast majority of these garments prove to be one-wear wonders, and for this reason, she makes every effort to keep her prices as modest as possible, offering, as she puts it, "outlet prices in a boutique setting."

To my amazement as one from the (ancient) generation in which the groom was strictly forbidden any preview of the bridal gown, Kimberley reports that in many cases, the husband-to-be accompanies his fiancée to the boutique and plays a part in the selection of the wedding dress. Many of her clients are embarking on a second marriage, and while some are at least initially low key in their approach to the choice of bridal wear, she notes that the majority are swept up in the excitement of the occasion and ultimately opt for the full, glorious regalia.

In the attractive surroundings and relaxed atmosphere

of her boutique, Kimberley has thoroughly enjoyed the long and companionable conversations with her clients which regularly unfold as dresses and accessories are carefully modelled and assessed by wedding participants or prom belles. She is also delighted by the friendly welcome she has received from residents and businesses in our neighbourhood, and looks forward to pursuing her flourishing business as the summer season of gala celebrations unfolds.

Beechwood Canada Auto Service: A Stitch in Time....

For **Pierre Fortier**, owner/operator of Beechwood Canada Auto Service, an institution in our community for three decades and counting, the old adage "if it ain't broke, don't fix it" is dead wrong in the realm of automobile maintenance. Just as we are now accustomed to a régime of preventative check ups and screening in the human health care domain, Pierre is firmly of the view that a regular routine of preventative maintenance is equally essential for automobiles.

He laments the fact that for many vehicles, the interval

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Continued from page 11

between oil changes is now considerably longer, allowing owners to put off the regular semi-annual inspections which can detect impending problems before they become acute, and in some cases, dangerous. Pierre's recommended protocol is a complete inspection every six months, including a full examination of the braking system; power steering; coolants; transmission; and potential carbon build up problems in the engine, as well as an oil change. Beechwood Canada Auto Service offers this complete package at \$89, and in each case, Pierre provides his client with a list of those problems in need of attention (if any), prioritizing his recommendations with safety-related issues at the head of the list.

For anyone considering the purchase of a used car, Pierre offers a **Complete Vehicle Inspection** and **MOT Safety Check**, a precautionary mea-



Photo: Louise Imbeault

(L to R) Pierre Fortier, Denis Côté, Carl Desjardins.

sure which he strongly recommends given the importance of such a major investment as an automobile. He and his technicians are well-versed in the problems of specific models, and can hone in on these areas in the course of their inspections. (In the wake of the headlining Toyota saga of recent

months, it is perhaps noteworthy that Pierre has never had any problems with these popular cars, and notes that carpet pile-up problems can occur in any model.)

If you're in the used vehicle market, or perhaps keen on ensuring that your car is in top shape for a long motor excursion this summer, drop in to **188 Beechwood** (at Marier) or give Pierre a call at **613-749-6773**.

Arturo's Market: Wining and Dining Italian Style

As of early April, Arturo's Market at 49 Beechwood had added beer and wine to its repertoire, and not surprisingly, business at the supper hour has increased exponentially, particularly on Friday evenings when the restaurant has been virtually filled to its 32 seat capacity. Owner **André Cloutier** reports that that while the new wave of enthusiastic diners was initially close to overwhelming. All is now well with addition of several new serving staff. Indeed, at the time of our interview, André was actively working on further expanding his seating

capacity through the addition of a 16 seat patio area between Arturo's and the neighbouring building.

In addition to celebrating the surge of new business that followed the introduction of beer and wine at Arturo's, André had another reason to celebrate in April: the **102nd birthday** of his beloved grandfather, Arturo, the family patriarch after whom the business is named! And speaking of celebrations, there is yet another big day on the horizon for the Tonon and Cloutier families this summer. On Saturday, August 28, André and **Marla Tonon**, the daughter of our long time community pharmacist Frank Tonon, will be married here in Ottawa. Congratulations to the happy couple and to their families, and here's to a long and sunny season of relaxing dining, Italian style, on Arturo's new patio.



Photo: Louise Imbeault

(L to R) Marla Tonon and André Cloutier will marry in August.

Ladell Landscaping and Gardens

For many of us, the early arrival of glorious, mild spring weather revived thoughts of the gardening season that lies ahead, and for some, the contemplation of new garden projects ranging from modest additions to our flower beds to more ambitious, full-scale garden redesign projects.

Whatever the scale of your garden/landscaping plans this summer, *NEN* advertiser **Jay Ladell** and his crew at Ladell Landscaping and Gardens are up for the job, and ready to help you follow through at every stage in the process, from the initial consultation to rough sketches; fully detailed plans fleshed out with the specifics of plant species, building materials, project dimensions etc.; installation of all the elements, whether decks, fences, interlock, flagstones or new planting; and last but not least, ongoing maintenance of your new creation.

Jay has been in the business for six years, and in addition to his credentials as the landscape designer on his team, he has significant horticultural expertise, having served for a time as a Committee Member for the Fletcher Wildlife Garden at the Experimental Farm, where he specialized in the cultivation of plants native to this area. Since we introduced Jay to the community in the Spring edition of the *NEN* two years ago, his business has grown steadily, largely by word of mouth, and he has tackled a number of projects in the area. Notable among the latter is a **full scale garden facelift at the corner of John and Thomas Streets**, featuring some artfully arranged planting and a pair of spectacular ornamental rocks at either side of the front entrance.

He notes that a growing trend in his business is a move towards low maintenance gardens with less lawn (or none at all) and self-care, drought-resistant perennials. In many of his projects, he works with the basic concept of the front yard as an informal courtyard, using plants, water features, bench seating and small trees

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Photo: Louise Imbeault

Scone Witch owner Heather Mathews helps customers make their menu choices.

or shrubs to maintain the privacy of the space. In New Edinburgh, where the quantity of garden space is generally much more limited than in the case, for example, of our neighbours in Rockcliffe, Jay focuses instead on the quality of the materials used in the garden design, often employing natural stone and other natural products to develop a distinctive neighbourhood character.

Interested readers can find out more about Jay's background and services by checking out his website at www.landscapottawa.com, or by giving him a call at 613-526-5251.

The Scone Witch

Since the opening of **Heather Matthews'** new Scone Witch location at **35 Beechwood** last Fall, business has become increasingly brisk, particularly on the weekends when the brunch crowd has flocked to the restaurant to savour a superb Scone Witch combo featuring an artfully presented array of all the major food groups. These include, for example, scrambled eggs, salad, fresh fruit, smoked salmon (or if you prefer, baked ham or sautéed veggies) and of course, your choice of a mouth watering scone topped off with Moss Berry jam or lemon curd. No wonder there are occasionally line ups at Heather's door! Indeed, she reports that for many families, her restaurant appears to have solved the perennial problem of intergen-

erational conflict over a place to eat, with kids, parents and grandparents all in agreement that fresh scones and all the trimmings top the list.

During the week, the Scone Witch also caters to the early crowd, with breakfast served between 8 and 10 am, followed by lunches featuring Heather's signature "SconeWitches" and "MealWitches", accompanied by fresh tea and coffee, Bottle Green sparkling drinks or iced tea. Many businesses in the area also take advantage of the Scone Witch's hearty catered lunches with tasty open-faced sandwiches on the menu.

Apart from her culinary and business talents, Heather is an imaginative and gifted visual artist, and a number of her works have recently been displayed on the walls of the restaurant, adding a distinctive Matthews caché to the establishment. While a good many of the clientele at the Beechwood Scone Witch are from the Burgh and surrounding communities, she reports that some come from much farther afield when her downtown location on Albert Street has been filled to capacity. So it seems that Heather has truly succeeded in transforming Ottawa into a scone-addicted national capital, with some scone aficionados even turning up at her door in their pyjamas over the weekend to purchase a freshly-baked batch for the family!

New Edinburgh Pub

In keeping with its now time-honoured tradition, the New Edinburgh Pub will host its annual **Charity Golf Tournament** on **Sunday, July 25** at the Pineview Golf Club, with tee-off beginning at 9 am. This year, all proceeds from the tournament will go to the **Brain Injury Association of Canada** to support its ongoing Brain Injury Awareness campaign of education and advocacy. You can register for this popular community event by dropping in to the Pub, and enjoying a cold beer on the patio and a tasty pub meal while you're at it. Lobster aficionados should also mark their calendars for the week of **June 21-27**, when the Pub's **Annual Lobsterfest** will be in full swing.



Paul and Tracy Williams with new grandchild Sophie.

Apart from his work running our popular community gathering place and pursuing his charitable endeavours, Paul's attention and energies have another focus these days: his beautiful new granddaughter **Sophie**, born April 7 to his stepdaughter **Jo-Leen**. Congratulations to all, and we look forward to Sophie's early introduction to the neighbourhood, and in particular, to the Pub community.

MusicalWays

It is now just over two years since private Voice, Piano and

Music Theory coach **Frank Wallace** launched his practice here on the edge of the Burgh in his home on Belvedere Crescent, and he continues to train students of all ages in the essentials of making, and most importantly enjoying, music.

Frank has a solid musical background, with degrees in both Piano Performance and Voice Performance, as well as a Masters in Music Composition. Prior to moving here from Vancouver two years ago, he had directed both a Seniors' Choir and a Chinese Language

Choir, and well as pursuing his own passion for singing as a member of the Vancouver Opera Chorus. He remains an active singer here in Ottawa, where he is a member of the highly regarded Ottawa Choral Society directed by **Matthew Larkin**, and at the time of our interview, was preparing for a major concert in mid-May.

Frank's private lessons are strictly tailored to the particular interests and capacities of each individual student, rang-

Continued on page 14

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Vanier Market Women's Only Location

Continued from page 13

ing from lively half hour sessions with very young beginners in piano, to longer (usually 45 minute) lessons with adult voice students, when warm up exercises are an important part of the process before tackling the repertoire. While he is ready and willing to coach piano students preparing for RCM examinations, the majority of his current charges are not in the RCM stream, and many of these are assigned pieces from Faber Series repertoire.

As Frank is well aware of the demands of a busy household schedule, he offers considerable flexibility in his lesson timetable, and readily accommodates lessons every other week. He also provides a discounted rate for those able to make a four month commitment.

Frank's lessons are ongoing throughout the summer, so if you and/or your offspring have an interest in exploring your musical talents over the summer months when daily pressures are less intense, give him a call at 613-255-2077 or e-mail musicalways@sympatico.ca.

La Ciboulette: Open For Business!

As we reported in our last edition, the *NEN's* erstwhile Recipe Correspondent **André Sanche**, former chef, Brand Manager and organic gardener at **Epicuria**, left Ottawa this past winter to open a new business in Midland, Ontario, in the heart of cottage country. André's new venture is modelled quite closely on his former home base at **Epicuria**, featuring gourmet prepared foods and catering services, with a special emphasis on fresh, locally-sourced ingredients and partnerships with



André Sanche in La Ciboulette et Cie.

local producers and suppliers.

After an extraordinarily busy winter renovating and equipping his new quarters in an old bank building on the main street of Midland, (a process which is recounted in entertaining detail on his blog at www.cibouletteetcie.blogspot.com), André proudly opened the doors of **La Ciboulette et Cie.** on Saturday, April 24, reportedly receiving a flood of enthusiastic new clients throughout the day to the point that supplies were very nearly exhausted by closing time. Not only were the sandwiches, main courses, dips and cheeses flying off the shelves at record speed, the welcoming community showered La Ciboulette et Cie. with offerings of flowers, plants and even a donated bookshelf!

Our congratulations to André and his new team on what promises to be a successful new venture, and we're hoping he stays in touch to keep us apprised of gourmet tastes and trends in cottage country. Interested readers who happen to be heading that way in the course of the summer can check out his website at www.cibouletteetcie.ca or better still, drop in at 248 King Street in Midland and sample the gourmet fare.

Burgh Business Bits

On the Terrace

Never let it be said that our community suffers from a shortage of pleasant spots to eat and drink in the open air through the warm summer months. Whether you are in search of a quick cappuccino, a gourmet meal or a cool beer to celebrate the season, you'll have no trouble finding just the right spot along Beechwood to savour your refreshment out of doors.

Here's a quick survey of the outdoor options at our disposal (all within easy walking distance for most of us):

- both of our "locals", the **New Edinburgh Pub** (Beechwood and Crichton) and the **Clocktower Brew Pub** (Mackay and Beechwood) have outdoor patios on which to sip a cool one and enjoy some tasty pub fare;

- Piccolo Grande** (411 Mackay Street) offers outdoor seating for lovers of gelato and fine coffee or tea, and right next door, you can settle down with your gourmet lunch or snack on **Epicuria's** mini-patio;

- Across the street at Beechwood and Charlevoix, **Farb's Kitchen and Wine Bar** serves delectable gourmet lunches on its patio between 11:30 am and 2 pm, while its close neighbour, **Da Bombe Desserts and Fine Foods**, also offers patio seating where you can savour a tasty sandwich and a tempting dessert;

- Further up the street at Springfield and Beechwood, you can sip a gourmet coffee from the **Second Cup** in the open air, and coming soon a few doors up at 49 Beechwood, **Arturo's Market** is planning patio seating where you can wine and dine while watching the action along Beechwood;

- Across the street at 94

Beechwood (at Charlevoix), **El Meson** offers yet another opportunity for fining dining al fresco;

- Bridgehead Coffee Shop** at 131 Beechwood (at Putman) has a generous patio area which has become a hugely popular meeting place in our community; and

- Last, but by no means least, pizza lovers can enjoy the fresh air and sunshine while munching away on their favourite combo from **ZaZaZa Pizza**, at 143 Putman (former home of the Fraser Café).



Eric Passmore from CD cover photo.

Nature's Buzz: There's Music in the Air!

When he's not busy placing orders for organic supplies and managing his thriving natural products business on Beechwood, **Nature's Buzz** Manager **Eric Passmore** has



Quartier Vanier Gala Honours Local Merchants

By NEN Staff

On May 6 the Quartier Vanier Merchants Association (BIA) celebrated its 25th birthday at

a serious avocation as a singer/songwriter. He has just produced a CD entitled *Pages of the Day* featuring ten of his latest songs, and if you've dropped into the store recently, you will have heard his dreamy, melodious tunes in the background. Interestingly enough, one of Eric's collaborators on the CD, who co-wrote the title track, is **John-Paul Gouett**, a Burgh resident and co-owner of **Nest** toy shop on Dalhousie Street, profiled in a recent edition of the *NEN*. Copies of Eric's CD are available at **Nature's Buzz**, so drop by, take a listen, and pick up a copy along with your organic supplies!

"A Taste for Life: Food for a Good Cause"

Kudos to local food establishments, **Epicuria**, **Farb's Kitchen and Wine Bar**, **Clocktower Brew Pub** and **Le Saint Ô**, which participated in the April 28 fundraising event, Taste for Life: Food for a Good Cause, donating 25% of their sales to support those living with HIV and Aids.

BGGO: Happy First Anniversary!

Happy Anniversary **Bobby Garung** and the team at BGGO who recently celebrated with a grand reopening of the store at Springfield and Beechwood, following an extended closure for major renovations to increase their retail space by a whopping 40%.

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its Annual Business Gala. The Gala also celebrated the winners of the 2010 "QV" Awards for excellence in a number of categories.

Among the recipients were a number of our local Beechwood businesses. **Da Bombe** was recognized with an Up and Coming Award; **Farb's Kitchen & Wine Bar** and **Monson's** both received Talk of the Town Awards; **Monson's** was also honoured with a Cummings Longevity Award.

Cindy Parkanyi of the *New Edinburgh News* and **Sharleen Tattersfield** of the *Manor Park Chronicle* each received a Great Media Support Award for their coverage of Vanier BIA events and initiatives.

The evening event took place at Ashbury College in Rockcliffe Park.

Food Matters – Why Connecting with Farmers Makes Environmental Sense

By Sarah Anson-Cartwright

Back to first principles: food comes from farms; and our food choices have a big impact on the environment. After attending the *Food Matters* workshop on April 17, hosted by the New Edinburgh Committee on the Environment (NecoE) and Local Eco-Action Families (LEAF), I knew a lot more about how to shop for food for a lower carbon impact. Let me share some of what I learned from the three top-notch presenters.

Here's the good news: Ottawa is the largest agricultural centre of any city in Canada, and we are fortunate to have many local farms in the region. The sad news is that we are losing farmers at an alarming rate, reported workshop presenter **Heather Hossie**, the coordinator of **Savour Ottawa**, which promotes local food. In addition, we are losing valuable agricultural land to development.

In Ottawa, Hossie is part of a movement to help us connect with local food suppliers and learn how to buy directly from farmers. The Savour Ottawa logo is a guarantee that you are at an establishment that relies

on local sources for its food, whether it be a restaurant or a food shop.

Hossie espouses the idea of "eating your countryside," or rather eating products from your countryside. With industrial food production, we are losing genetic diversity and variety. Food is travelling great distances and fossil fuels are used in food production and transportation, as well as in chemicals, fertilizers, pesticides. By eating organically or naturally, we can reduce the carbon footprint very significantly.

Among Hossie's other helpful tips for getting in contact with real food:

- Know how to store your food. For example, garlic can last for months if it is fresh when bought and then properly stored.
- Grow vegetables.
- Have chickens in your yard (which prompted some comments about bylaws).
- Host a "buy local" potluck dinner.
- Plan meals based on what's available at the farmers' markets.

Organic farmer **David**

Charette, of **Terre à Terre**, then spoke from the viewpoint of a small-scale farmer who has been growing his business on the Quebec side. Started in 1988, Charette's farm doesn't stop growing now in the winter thanks to a greenhouse complex. He said it's a challenge to grow 12 months a year, but he wants to build for the future.



Charette's daughter **Elise** runs the CSA (community shared agriculture) operation at **Terre à Terre**. CSAs are a way for people to enjoy a regular weekly order of vegetables through the growing season, by investing for the season and sharing in the risk facing the farmer.

In a sign of the growing popularity of CSAs, *New Edinburgh News* learned of a

new CSA, **Ferme Lève-tôt**, that is arranging drop-offs at **42 Crichton Street Fine Foods** on Thursdays this summer.

Cordon Bleu chef **Susan Jessup**, owner of 42 Crichton Fine Foods, offered some suggestions on approaching our food, culled from her own experience:

- Care about where your food comes from; inform and educate yourself.
- Don't have a set menu; eat seasonally and enjoy the challenge.
- Create your own recipes and create your own family book of recipes.
- Eat from your own dirt first (locally grown), then add exotic products that are sourced carefully, including fair trade and organic.

Susan also reminded us that we do have sugar from local sources: maple syrup and honey. Listening to Susan's remarks it was clear that relying on local food need not be a constraint, but it does rely on bringing a certain attitude to the kitchen.

A founding member of Slow Food Ottawa-Gatineau, Susan called chef **John Taylor**, of **Domus Café**, "the godfather

of eating local" in this city. (Domus had generously provided scrumptious samples of the restaurant's food for workshop attendees.)

During question period, an attendee asked how one gets a farmers' market to locate in a neighbourhood. Hossie explained that that is a huge challenge because we do not have enough farmers. Our farmers are already at markets on Saturdays and Sundays, and they are tapped out, so to speak. Sometimes neighbourhoods organize to host a market but neglect to ask farmers.

Surely, a great step in improving the connection between us and our food is to meet a farmer and to frequent shops with local suppliers.

Resources to Explore

Websites:

www.justfood.ca

www.savourottawa.ca

Books:

The End of Food, by Thomas Pawlick

In Defense of Food, and *Food Rules*, both by Michael Pollan

Films:

Food Inc., *King Corn*, *Mad City Chickens*

Sarah Anson-Cartwright chairs the New Edinburgh Committee on the Environment, a NECA committee. Contact NecoE at: neca.enviro@gmail.com.

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The Friends of Beechwood support The Beechwood Cemetery Foundation and are committed to enhancing and promoting the educational and historical significance of Beechwood, through various events such as the Christmas Candlelight Service, historical tours and special commemorations. Our membership fee is \$25 per individuals and \$100 for a company.

We invite you to get involved with the Friends of Beechwood by contacting The Beechwood Cemetery Foundation office, either by phone at (613) 741-9530 or by e-mail at: friends@beechwoodcemetery.com

For more information on the Beechwood Cemetery, please visit www.beechwoodcemetery.com

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Rain, What Rain?

By Catherine McConkey

Annual Plant Sale

A big thanks to all who came to the wet and windy **11th Annual New Edinburgh Plant Sale** on May 8 at the Fieldhouse in Stanley Park. We had a good turnout throughout

the day as the clouds let down and wind blew the rain up and around. It was cold and miserable but a good day despite it all. The plant sale is a community fundraiser organized by the Crichton Community Council. The council's fundraising monies have helped

purchase the sprinkler pad, the climbing play structure, and maintain the Fieldhouse and rinks at Stanley Park.

A special thank you to **Mary Grainger** and her family **Jerry, Daniel and Martina Turchyn** for going the extra length to organize our supplier, **Nicole and Denis Lemieux's Garden Center** in Hammond, Ontario and all our volunteers. I would like to thank **Helene Cohen, Deborah Conner, Joseph Cull, Joyce and Raymond Dubuc, Jill Hardy, John Jarecsni, Brian Loney, Caroline Matt, Kathryn McKeen, Melody Salter, Brian Torrie, Gillian Campbell, Charles Wesley-James**, and anyone I may have forgotten to name. Until next year, happy gardening!

Family Community Picnic
Upcoming on the CCC's events calendar is the **New Edinburgh Family Picnic Day**. This year, the picnic will be held on, **Sunday, July 11, 11 am – 2 pm** (rain or shine) at the Fieldhouse. There will be foot races for all ages (starting at 11:30 am), BBQ, face painting, special visitors and more. Please contact **Brian Torrie** at **613-747-7951** if you would like to help out in some small way at this event. Everyone is



Photo: NEN Staff

Charles Wesley-James was aptly dressed to help out at this year's soggy, but successful plant sale.

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

Fieldhouse Manager

This is a part-time seasonal position (7 weeks, 30 hours/week) starting at the end of June. The Fieldhouse Manager will oversee the facilities at the Stanley Park Fieldhouse and manage the Snack Bar.

The Manager will also plan and implement community events including the New Edinburgh Picnic and weekly children's activities.

Successful applicants must be:

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

For further information or to submit an application, please email caroline@lectern.ca. The application deadline is Friday, June 4.

This job is funded in part by the Canada Summer Job Program. Members of visible minority communities are encouraged to apply.

welcome but please no dogs.

Summer Fieldhouse Access

The CCC's is happy to announce that the Stanley Park Fieldhouse will be more accessible to the community this summer. Many of you were thrilled last year when CCC members volunteered their time to open the Fieldhouse, man the snack bar, and provide access to the washroom facilities. With help from a Canada Summer Job grant, we will be able to hire a summer student to make the facilities even more available during the week. If

you are a high school student (16+) and interested in applying for this position, please contact caroline@lectern.ca for further information.

Anyone interested in renting the Fieldhouse please contact **Jill Hardy** at **613-746-1323** for more information on our very reasonable rates. We have recently purchased a new BBQ to be included for use with your rental. Or, you can visit www.newedinburgh.ca for more information on our and other community events by your local community organizations.



Spring Cleaning?

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In Our Midst

Michael Larrass – Now and ZEN

By Louise Imbeault

The summer profile for this edition is focused on an Ivy crescent resident and neighbour **Michael Larrass**. Many of you already know him thanks to his active involvement in NECA as a board member and for his contributions to the New Edinburgh Heritage and Development Committee. What you might not know is the scope and versatility of this multi-talented individual living in our midst.

Michael was reserved and poised at first but once he relaxed a few minutes into our conversation, he began oozing warmth, wit and European charm. This man is a real fountain of knowledge—very cerebral, precise and his vocabulary is out of this world...some might say he is “a walking encyclopedia”. He has mastered six languages to my three so you can imagine the animated interview volleying between English and French interspersed with Spanish and sprinkled with German (adding Russian and Italian to complete his six).

Michael is a veteran of words. His translation career spans over forty years. One of his many translations is a glorious hardcover photography book of KANADA (in German) which proudly sits on his coffee table. Michael is very much in demand and his home-based company Larrass Translations has a far reaching clientele and network base ranging from Europe to Asia, Russia to Indonesia and of course many right here

in Canada. He often works through the night adapting to the demands of time changes and critical deadlines. His specialty is “express” translations in more than 50 languages, so look no further and visit www.larrasstranslations.com.

As the famous quote goes, “Behind every great man there stands a great woman”—in this case her name is Margaret, his loving, supportive spouse who

few days ago (at time of print). Congratulations to the Larrass family addition.

I was intrigued and curious by the origin of his family name. Michael gladly shared that his ancestors are from Spain when in the 16th century they fled religious persecution relocating to France just to flee once more avoiding certain death during the French Revolution to finally settle in Prussia



Photo: Louise Imbeault

Michael Larrass is a man of many talents, as In Our Midst columnist Louise Imbeault has discovered.

Michael fondly refers to as the best decision he's ever made. They have been married for four decades and I quote: “they are still on their honeymoon.” They have raised four children (three girls and one boy) who are now all grown and parents themselves. Michael and Margaret now enjoy the luxury of spoiling their three grandchildren, the latest born a

(today's Germany). This has shed much light on the nomadic blood running through the Larrass descendant's veins.

Michael's family arrived in Canada in late August 1996, settling in the Niagara region of southern Ontario to help the late Canadian master magician Doug Henning with his “Veda Land” theme park. This unique consciousness theme

park was to incorporate magic and meditation teachings to initiate visitors to the mechanics of spiritual awareness and knowing thyself and the world, thus sending them on a path of discovery. It was a very ZEN project since Veda means knowledge, more specifically “knowledge of all the laws of nature”. Sadly after many years the project did not materialize and when Doug passed away, Michael and his family finally moved to Ottawa where their adventure continues.

After living in Manor Park for awhile, then in Rothwell Heights, Beacon Hill, Cardinal Glen and now in New Edinburgh (all this movement makes my head spin), Margaret and Michael appreciate and enjoy our community for its communicative quality, its heritage endeavors and its push for progress that balances harmony with nature and measured thoughtful development. Their present home is a semi-detached house with a great front lawn adorned with flowering Oleander trees; the back yard has more flowers and vegetables. A prized lemon tree bore its first fruit last summer. Since many species are Mediterranean, they don't mind digging them up each fall to place them into the house for warmth and light. That's dedication!

This charming abode is decorated in a vibrant European style. Michael's graphic art adorn the walls (did I mention he was an artist too?). He uses a technique with a cut-out of gold foil set onto a

silk pattern. A splendid accent to any room and I could see them on the walls of our many local art galleries and shops. So now we know that Michael is a well travelled professional writer, an artist, a gardener and yes, there is more, he is also a ballroom dancer. Michael and Margaret plan on starting Salsa dance classes very soon.

One more facet of this fascinating personality to share with you is Michael's playwriting skills. On the playful side of his pen, he writes musical theatre—one of which was performed in 2004 at the Great Canadian Theatre Company. In fact, Plenty Unlimited received good reviews. His latest creation is entitled Ich Bin Eine Indianer (I am Aboriginal) and needs a music composer to get it ready for production. I'm almost certain Michael doesn't waste any time idly sitting in front of the television or playing mind numbing video games ...

Before leaving I asked my final and most daunting question: “Where will you be and what will you be doing in 2020?” He paused, smiled and said, “Off my blackberry leash for one, semi-retired somewhere in the Gatineau hills not too far from the city. Simple life, in a little cottage, surrounded by nature with our newest pet – Jersey the cow. Margaret and I will enjoy fresh milk every day, as long as the municipal bylaws permit this luxury.” Now that's a plan I can relate to.

Best of luck to you both, may all your dreams come true in this lifetime. And a warm thank you Michael for sharing a glimpse of your life with our NEN community.



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Park and River Volunteers Deluged

By Gemma Kerr

We said we would go through with the Cleanup RAIN or SHINE, and boy, did it ever rain! A big salute goes to the more than thirty volunteers who braved wind, wet, and cold on May 8 to help remove garbage and recyclables from our park and riverbank. Volunteers included the team

from Beechwood Chiropractic who have joined in the riverbank cleanup every year since it started.

An impressive amount of garbage was collected—about 20 bags—and we are grateful to the City for removing it promptly. The City also supplied us with the equipment needed (the pickers are great for hard-to-reach places) and supplies including garbage bags and gloves.

A number of people contributed to the success of the cleanup. Vickie Brennan masterminded the park effort, and was helped on the day of by Rosemary Tovell, Pauline

Whelan and Linda Krishna. Gemma Kerr and Jim Watson were responsible for organizing the river cleanup, with Clare Robertson, Sarah Anson-Cartwright and Cindy Parkanyi helping to look after the volunteers on the 8.

The hot coffee provided by Bridgehead on Beechwood was especially welcome in this year's miserable weather, and was well accompanied by sandwich lunches from the Monterey Inn and snacks donated by our local Metro.

I think we were all thawed out by Mother's Day..... Let's hope we get better weather next year!



Photo: NEN Staff

Some of the hearty souls involved in this year's park and riverbank cleanup display some of the cool 'bling' offered to participants. The hot Bridgehead coffee was a big seller...

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Tea for 12 at Earnscliffe

By Jane Heintzman

Last Fall, my husband and I were lucky enough to be the successful bidders for one of the most appealing Live Auction items on offer at the CCCC's annual fundraising event, *Cocktails For Crichton*. The item in question was a certificate entitling us, along with 10 others of our choosing, to a **Tea and Tour of Earnscliffe**, the historic former home of Canada's first Prime Minister, Sir John A. Macdonald, and since 1930, the official residence of the U.K. High Commissioner to Canada. The donor of this wonderful package, and our generous host and guide for the event, was **Mrs. Clare Cary**, wife of the current High Commissioner Anthony Cary. Mrs. Cary has been a regular participant in CCCC exercise classes during her years at Earnscliffe, and when the call went out for Auction donations, she responded with enthusiasm.

As luck would have it, not long after the Auction, I happened to be in communication with **Governor's Walk General Manager Linda Meek** on *NEN*-related business, and discovered that she too had bid energetically for the Earnscliffe Tea and Tour, surmising (correctly as it turned out) that many of her residents at Governor's Walk would be over the moon to have such an opportunity. And so it was that the two highest bidders agreed to join forces and put together a party of 12, 2 from our household and 10 from Governor's Walk, including Linda herself as chief organizer. Participants from the residence included **Mrs. Davenport**, who had a special interest in the tour, having worked at Earnscliffe as a cipher clerk during World War II, **Mrs. Galambos**, **Mrs. Welch**, **Mrs. Martin**, **Mrs. Hall**, **Miss Gibbons**, **Mrs. Sawchuk**, **Mrs. Jones** and **Mrs. McIntosh**.

On the afternoon of April 1st, which, as we had all hoped, was a brilliantly sunny, warm day for the occasion, our party was ushered into the handsome reception rooms of Earnscliffe, a picturesque Victorian Gothic revival stone house, perched on a cliff overlooking the Ottawa River, right next door to the National Research Council on Sussex Drive (former home of the Edwards' Lumber yard in Earnscliffe's early days!) Here we were treated to a magnificent English tea, complete with an array of delectable sandwiches ranging from tasty

smoked salmon to perfectly cooked roast beef, and thinly sliced cucumber; scones with strawberry jam and clotted cream; and heavily laden plates of tempting biscuits and sweets. All of this was washed down with a very special English tea-Buckingham Palace blend, no less, and every bit as delicious as its origins would suggest!

Having graciously allowed us to have our fill of the bountiful tea, and to enjoy the beauty of our surroundings in the sun-drenched reception rooms, Mrs. Cary then led us on a lengthy tour of the residence, guiding us through virtually every corner of the house, and providing a lively and thoroughly knowledgeable commentary on its storied background.

Readers who did not have the good fortune to receive a personal guided tour from Mrs. Cary can readily satisfy their curiosity about this remarkable house and its place in our history. To mark the 100th Anniversary of Earnscliffe in 1955, the UK High Commission released a short history of the residence prepared by **Norman Reddaway**, a member of the High Commission staff from 1952-55, and history buffs can find this delightfully written account on the High Commission website at <http://ukinacanada.fco.gov.uk>. Suffice it to say that the story encompasses a wealth of information about Ottawa's early days, and in particular, the cast of characters who inhabited and shaped our own community of New Edinburgh.

Earnscliffe was built between 1855 and 1857 by John MacKinnon, the son-in-law and junior partner of New Edinburgh's founder Thomas Mackay, and husband of Mackay's daughter Annie. MacKinnon, who for a time was President of the Ottawa and Prescott Railway, moved into the house with Annie in about 1857, and remained there until his death in 1866. The property was then acquired by renowned civil engineer Thomas Keefer, brother-in-law of MacKinnon and the husband of Thomas Mackay's younger daughter Elizabeth.

Shortly after Confederation in 1868, the house was sold to Thomas Reynolds, another railway man (Manager of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Railway), who retained the property until his death in 1883 when it was sold by his son, John Junior, to Sir John A. Macdonald. Records indicate that Sir John A. rented the

house from Reynolds much earlier in about 1871, and it was at this point that it acquired the name Earnscliffe, an adaptation of Reynolds' original moniker "Eaglecliffe" using, at Macdonald's suggestion, the Old English word "earn", meaning eagle.

well as to accommodate Sir John's requirement for office space for both for himself and his private secretary, Sir Joseph Pope.

When Lady Macdonald and her daughter Mary returned to England following Sir John A's death in 1891, Earnscliffe was sold again, this time to Mrs. Ella Harris, widow of a wealthy American mag-

in 1929, and by all accounts the house was a hive of musical activity throughout that period. Conscious of the historical significance of the residency of their famous predecessor in the house, the Harrisses reportedly made a significant effort to acquire as many of Sir John A's possessions as possible, at one point energetically (and entirely inadvertently) bidding against each other at an Auction of his effects!

When Earnscliffe once again came on to the market in 1929, it was first offered to the Government of Canada as an official residence for the Prime Minister. Ultimately, however, then Prime Minister R.B. Bennett chose not to acquire Sir John A's former dwelling for that purpose, and it was subsequently purchased by the U.K. Government to serve as the residence of its first High Commissioner to Canada, Sir William Clark. It has retained this role ever since, and over the years, the incumbent High Commissioners have made every effort to welcome Canadians from all walks of life to this historic Canadian landmark.

As our memorable recent experience suggests, the Carys are no exception to this honourable tradition, and indeed have been especially generous in hosting countless individuals and groups at events at Earnscliffe during their tenure. Our Stanley Avenue party is extremely grateful to Mrs. Cary for providing us with an unequalled opportunity to have a close up view of this beautiful and historic spot, and for being such a gracious, welcoming and informative host.



TEA TIME! Part of the group from Governor's Walk who participated in the Tea and Tour at Earnscliffe auctioned off at last fall's Cocktails for Crichton event. *NEN* writer Jane Heintzman and her husband were the successful bidders.

Macdonald, his wife Agnes (later Baroness Macdonald of Earnscliffe) and their daughter Mary lived at Earnscliffe from 1883 to the time of Sir John A's death in 1991. During that period, the major renovations were carried out, principally to provide more rooms on the ground floor in which to receive the Macdonalds' many guests and official visitors, as

nate. Mrs. Harriss had by then remarried, and her second husband, Dr. Charles Harriss, was a distinguished British musician who had been persuaded by Lady Macdonald to emigrate to Ottawa, where he initially served as organist at St. Alban's Anglican Church.

The Harrisses remained happily ensconced at Earnscliffe until Dr. Harriss' sudden death

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For the Birds



By Jane Heintzman

For birders in our community, the arrival of an early spring, and with it, the influx of a host of returning feathered migrants, has been a highlight of 2010. We have been lucky enough to host a parade of interesting species at the feeders in our garden, some of which appear to be nesting nearby and regale us with song beginning at about 4:30 am each morning. First to sound the wake up call are **American robins**, followed closely by two breeding pairs of **Northern cardinals**, and before long joined by **song sparrows**, a **white-throated sparrow**, **black-capped chickadees**, **red-winged blackbirds**, **Common grackles**, **European starlings**, **white-breasted nuthatches** and a barrage of mingled finches, including **American goldfinches** in their brilliant yellow summer finery, **rosy purple finches** and **house finches**. From time to time, the morning symphony is also enhanced by the companionable quacking of **mallard** pairs dabbling along the shores of the river across from our house. So much for sleeping in!

We were particularly pleased by the appearance of a **purple finch** pair in our garden this spring, as these beautiful creatures, which Roger Tory Peterson famously described as "sparrows dipped in raspberry juice", have been gradually muscled out of their habitat by the explosion of the **house finch** population. The male of the species has a deep pink head with a brilliant raspberry crown, a brownish back bordered with pink, and a short, deeply notched tail. (The female is considerably less dazzling, with largely brown and white streaky markings). The purple finch's song is strikingly similar to the up-and-down cadence of the **red-eyed vireo's** notorious question-and-answer call, but happily it is far less incessantly repetitive!

Among the other regular visitors to our garden this spring have been **American tree sparrows**, a pair of gently cooing **mourning doves** which settled comfortably into a concave bald spot in our lawn right below the feeders,

and a group of six **dark-eyed juncos** which arrived in late March and foraged hungrily in the flower beds and under the feeders until May 1st, when a **white-crowned sparrow** flock swept in to take over the turf and drive the juncos out.

White-crowned sparrows are apparently well known for their hostility to juncos and **chipping sparrows** with which they refuse to share territory, although they will co-exist with their **fox sparrow** cousins. The latter are roughly the same size as the white-crowns (both are a strapping 7", or at the top end of the sparrow spectrum) and both are industrious ground feeders, often seen scratching in the dirt to unearth their next meal.



Photo: Wade Clare
Fox Sparrow.

As I write in the second week of May, the white-crowned group is still busily foraging in our garden, bulking up for the long flight north to their breeding grounds in the Hudson's Bay lowlands. There they will nest during June and July in open areas dotted with small trees and shrubs. Of all the avian "traditions" I look forward to each year, the regular return of white-crowned sparrows en route north in May, and south in October, is at the very top of the list!

Sorting Sparrows

If you are still struggling to distinguish one sparrow species from another, here are a few tips to help with the identification of the commonest species in this part of the world:

- **Song Sparrow:** Small to mid-sized (about 6"); whitish breast, heavily streaked with brown, and marked with a central dark spot; reddish-brown crown with a gray stripe down the middle; melodious song, usually consisting a few repeated notes followed by a throaty warble.

- **Chipping Sparrow:** Small (5½"); clear, gray breast; bright rusty-coloured crown; white eyebrows and a promi-

nent black eye line; distinctive song consisting of a lengthy, mechanical trill of evenly-spaced "chips"; often found in large groups flitting between open ground and the surrounding trees.

- **White-throated Sparrow:** Mid-sized (6½"); black crown* with a white central stripe; white eyebrows with yellow dots directly above the eyes; white "bib" at the throat; gray breast; unmistakable patriotic song: "Sweet, sweet, Canada, Canada, Canada". (*There is also a tan version of the white-throat, distinguished chiefly by the tan- as opposed to white-eyebrow colour).

- **Dark-eyed junco:** Mid-sized (about 6"); readily distinguishable by the uniform gray colouring of its head, back, throat and breast, and contrasting white belly; white outer tail feathers which are strikingly visible in flight; tends to hang out in flocks and can be pushy with other species around feeding stations.

- **American Tree Sparrow:** Mid-sized (6"); clear, unstreaked gray breast with central black dot; gray face with rusty red eye line; reddish crown; two-toned bill (dark above, yellow below).

- **White-crowned Sparrow:** Large (7"); boldly black and white streaked head, (but with no yellow eye dots like those of the white-throat); clear gray breast; whitish throat; hangs out in groups and normally feeds on the ground, scratching at debris with both feet in search of seeds and insects.

- **Fox Sparrow:** Large (7"); reddish-brown streaking on gray head and back; white underparts, heavily streaked with reddish-brown, and with a central dot on breast; feeds on the ground, and may appear to jump back and forth clearing debris to uncover food.

Sparrow Look-Alikes:

- **European House Sparrow:** Mid-sized (6"); this guy is not related to the sparrow clan, but belongs to the **Weaver Finch** family; the male has a black bib, gray crown and cheek, brown back and neck, and powerful, conical bill; stays around all year, and comes to feeders in large numbers. (Probably the most widespread and commonly seen "sparrow" in urban areas but is actually an impostor!)

While there are countless other sparrow species which you may encounter in our area, these are probably the most common, and those most likely to be found around backyard feeders. As noted above, the majority of these sparrows prefer to forage on the ground



Photo: Wade Clare

Great Blue Heron.

in flower beds and beneath feeding stations, as opposed to entering the competition for a perch on the feeders themselves. This year, however, I was startled to observe a white-crowned sparrow busily chowing down on a perch at our nyjer seed feeder, somewhat to the consternation of the American goldfinches, house finches and purple finches which had been the unchallenged occupants earlier in the spring.

Rambles to the River and the Rockeries

In addition to the large and colourful cast of characters in our garden this spring, we have encountered a number of other interesting species in the course of our daily dog walks through the Rockeries and down to the Ottawa River, notably a **wood thrush**; a pair of **ruby-crowned kinglets**; a solitary **Eastern phoebe** wagging its tail in characteristic phoebe fashion; **tree swallows**; a **red-shouldered hawk** fleeing a group of **crows** in hot pursuit, and letting fly with its ear-splitting "kee-ah" distress call; a **common loon** (heard, not seen); several **blue jays**, a **Great Blue Heron** flying overhead towards the Gatineau side of the Ottawa River; an **Eastern kingbird**; a **sharp-shinned hawk** staring us boldly down from a low perch in a tree by Mackay Lake; and a **savannah sparrow**, surveying the scene in an open field off the Ottawa River bicycle path close to the Rockcliffe Yacht Club. While not a regular at backyard feeders, the savannah sparrow is reasonably common in open, grassy areas, and is distinguishable by its stripy breast and back, and a pale yellowish streak above its eyes.

Closer to home on the Rideau River, we have spotted several pairs of **common goldeneye**; **hooded mergansers**; numerous **mallards** and inevitably, **Canada geese** which regret-

tably appear to have made themselves at home on both Green Island and Maple Island. Perhaps because of their noisy presence, I have yet to spot the **Great Blue Heron** which in recent years has regularly returned to its fishing perch in mid-river, almost opposite our front door.

Regular readers may remember that this time last year, I reported on an active **sharp-shinned hawk's** nest in Rideau Hall grounds just off Princess Avenue. Earlier this spring, I had high hopes that the sharpies might be back to occupy the nest once again, and indeed, for about a week in late March, I did spot the female perched on the nest, with the smaller male standing guard on a low branch nearby. Sadly, however, the hawk pair appears to have given up their nesting project, at least in that location, as there has been no trace of the family since early April. Perhaps the marauding crow population in the vicinity proved just too inhospitable this time.

Reports from Our Readers:

Birding enthusiast **Edwin Daudrich** has been swift to get back to his favourite haunts this spring to observe the influx of returning migrants. Highlights of his visits to Mud Lake in April and early May have included **white-breasted** and **red-breasted nuthatches**, **common goldeneye**, **cedar waxwing**, **lesser scaup**, **common mergansers**, a **common raven**, **pine warblers**, **chipping sparrows**, **yellow-rumped warblers**, a **Cooper's hawk**, **pied-billed grebe**, **palm warblers**, **black-throated green warblers**, **yellow warblers**, a **Northern waterthrush**, **great black-backed gulls**, **blue-headed vireos**, **brown-headed cowbirds**, a **ruby-crowned kinglet** and a **double-crested cormorant**. A birding first for him at Mud Lake in mid-April was

an **Eastern Screech Owl**, a smallish owl with feathered ear tufts which is reportedly quite common in urban areas, and takes readily to man-made nesting boxes.

In his recent visits to Mer Bleu, Mr. Daudrich had equally good luck, spotting **fox sparrows**, **Eastern phoebes**, **white-throated sparrows**, a **sharp-shinned hawk**, a **rough-legged hawk**, a **Northern harrier**, **barn swallows**, a **yellow-bellied sapsucker** pair, **ruffed grouse**, **swamp sparrows**, **bufflehead**, a **Cooper's hawk**, a **winter wren**, a **hermit thrush**, **black and white warblers**, a nesting pair of **brown thrashers** and **yellow-rumped warblers**.

Highlights of his visit the general area encompassing Andrew Haydon Park, Constance Bay, Shirley's Bay, Constance Creek, Dunrobin and Richmond included a **red-headed woodpecker** (another birding first for him), **purple finches**, **green-winged teal**, **hooded mergansers**, **ruffed grouse**, a **Northern harrier**, **eastern bluebirds**, **yellow-bellied sapsuckers**, **herring gulls**, **wild turkeys**, **greater scaup**, **ring-necked ducks**, **American tree sparrows**, **osprey**, **bufflehead**, an **American kestrel**, an **Eastern phoebe**, a **brown thrasher**, a **bald eagle**, **merlin**, **gadwall**, **American widgeon**, **hermit thrush**, **green-winged teal**, **osprey**, **golden- and ruby-crowned kinglets**, **northern pintail** and a **sharp-shinned hawk**.

His tally in the area South of the Ottawa Airport featured such highlights as a **great blue heron**, **Eastern meadowlarks**, **brown-headed cowbirds**, **Eastern bluebirds**, **vesper sparrows**, **field sparrows**, **savannah sparrows**, **Wilson's snipe**, an **American kestrel**, a **red-tailed hawk** and both **tree** and **barn swallows**.

Another of his favourite haunts this spring was the Fletcher Wildlife Garden where he encountered **golden-crowned kinglets**, **common raven**, **brown creepers**, **tree swallows**, **house finches**, a **Cooper's hawk** and a **long-eared owl**. The latter was an



Photo: Wade Clare
Long-eared owl.

especially interesting find, as this owl is a nocturnal hunter and rarely seen in the daylight hours. As its name implies, it has conspicuous ear tufts, as well as an orange facial disk and white feathering on its face which forms a large X between its eyes.

Closer to home in New Edinburgh and environs, Mr. Daudrich has come across **hooded mergansers**, **chipping** and **song sparrows**, **Northern cardinals** and **double-crested cormorants**.

Interested birders can find Mr. Daudrich's complete Spring Birding Report on the community website at www.newedinburgh.ca.



Photo: Francine Streeting
Male Northern harrier.

Naturalist/photographer **Francine Streeting** captured some magnificent wildlife shots in her excursions this spring, notably a series of photographs of a male **Northern harrier** which she observed in an open area just east of Ottawa. She watched as the bird swooped low over the field in search of prey, ultimately setting its sites on a hapless **Eastern meadowlark**. While the latter managed to escape into a tree at the eleventh hour with only a few missing feathers, Francine reports that it was a close call. As she continued to observe this regal creature, the hawk came to rest on the ground where it proceeded to scratch away in the dirt in search of small rodents, snakes or other edible items, pausing periodically to drink some groundwater and at one point, bestirring itself to fend off a challenge from a group of **American crows**.

The Northern harrier is a long-winged, long-tailed hawk, and the male of the species (unlike the innocuous mottled brown female) is strikingly handsome, with a pale gray back and hood and bright white underbelly. Most males mate with two females at a time, and some energetic lotharios apparently pair up with as many as five. Unlike the majority of hawks, the Northern harrier relies on hearing as well as sight to bag its prey, and its facial feathers are stiff to efficiently trans-

mit the sound. While its diet consists principally of mice and other small mammals and small birds, it occasionally takes larger prey such as rabbits and ducks which it subdues by drowning.

Francine's skill and patience paid off in another notable avian encounter this spring when she managed to capture a mating pair of **killdeer**, with the male perched squarely on the back of the female. The killdeer is a heavily banded member of the plover family, best known for its artful "broken wing display" which it uses to lead predators away from its nest or chicks. Interested readers can check out this marvellous photo on her website at <http://www.redbubble.com/people/digitallys-till/art/5035052-1-lovedears>.

St. Laurent Academy Science Teacher **Mike Leveillé** reports that in early May, bird life in the vicinity of the Macoun Marsh included a varied cast of characters, notably, **black-capped chickadees**, **red-winged blackbirds**, **common grackles**, **Northern cardinals**, **American goldfinches**, a breeding pair of **tree swallows**, **white-throated sparrows**, **song sparrows**, a **chipping sparrow**, a **hermit thrush**, **American robins**, a pair of **Northern flickers**, **mourning doves**, **Canada geese**, **mallards**, **gulls**, **crows**, **European starlings** and a possible returning **warbler**, not definitively identified, but observed to have yellow markings (possibly the ubiquitous myrtle or yellow-rumped warbler?)



Photo: Mike Leveillé
Tree swallow.

Manor Park naturalist **Dave Collyer** has had great success this spring in his birding rambles near the Aviation Museum. So far he has spotted **savannah sparrows**, **Eastern meadowlarks**, a **ruby-crowned kinglet**, a **turkey vulture**, **black-capped chickadees**, **American goldfinches**, several **tree swallow** pairs, **song sparrows**, **dark-eyed juncos**, and **hairy, downy and pileated woodpeckers**.

My neighbour **Philip MacAdam** is delighted with his new squirrel-busting bird feeder from Lee Valley, reporting that "Phil's Avian Bistro" has been a popular haunt for **white-breasted nuthatches**,



Photo: Louise Imbeault

Canada goose with goslings.


house finches, **purple finches**, **white-crowned sparrows**, **Northern cardinals**, **American goldfinches**, **dark-eyed juncos** and "a very flamboyant" **blue jay**! Phil also reports the recent arrival of **white-throated sparrows** (perhaps fleeing my garden where the larger white-crowns are holding sway!), noting that one appeared to be a tan morph of the white-throat, with a yellowish tan coloured eyebrow.

NEN photographer/birding enthusiast **Peter Glasgow** spotted a pair of **hooded mergansers** close to the St. Patrick Street Bridge, as well as a pair of **wood ducks** near the tennis courts. Peter also observed **chipping sparrows** and a female **Northern flicker** in his rambles through the park, and encountered two telltale pairs of pigeon wings on the walking path, which he suggests may be evidence of a predatory hawk in the vicinity. Peter and


his daughter **Isabel** were lucky enough to have a close up view of a **yellow-bellied sapsucker** (hard at work no doubt!) in the course of a recent walk through Rockcliffe, and spotted **tree swallows** swooping over the former City Hall. On Green Island, they also encountered a protective pair of **Canada geese** with their enchanting fluffy **goslings**- such a shame they have to grow up!

Our intrepid **NEN** photographer **Louise Imbeault** had several birding encounters this spring, spotting a **wood duck** just south of the Bank Street Bridge, and several bold **red-winged blackbirds** who appeared to be willing photographic subjects. In the same area, she caught sight of a **purple martin**. In her own backyard, Louise has a pair of nesting **black-capped chickadees**, and was concerned about the effects of the spell of bitterly cold weather on their young.

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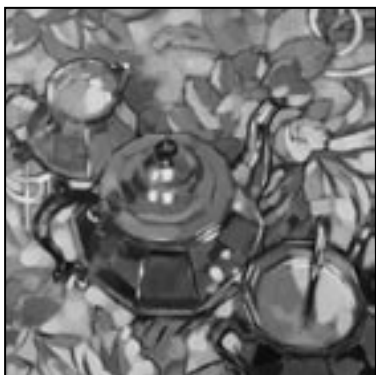
Welcome

(Thomas train + Lollipops)

The Burgh Arts Scene

Tea / Leaves Exhibition by Karen Bailey

Dale Smith Gallery,
137 Beechwood Avenue,
June 3 - 28, 2010
Vernissage: Thursday,
June 3, 7-10 pm



Silver Tea Service, acrylic on canvas, 30 x 30 in, 2010.

Each cup of tea represents an imaginary voyage. ~Catherine Douzel

Following the completion of my Kandahar series of military works, *Triage*, I recognized my need to embark on a theme closer to home.

At the back of a closet, in a small worn brown leather suitcase, I discovered pre-WWII photographs belonging to a relative. Represented in many of the photos were extended family members including Grannie Rose, distant cousins Cis and Jinks, Uncle David and Aunt Edie, all enjoying tea in a Scottish garden. The pleasure of tea was evident.

Alongside I found dozens of tiny black and white photos of young British children in India.

The owner of the suitcase,

was a Raj Orphan. "Raj Orphans" were children of the British in India, children deposited in Britain at an early age to be educated while their parents stayed on in India. The British served in the military or worked in business helping to build the Empire.

Jack managed a tea estate in Assam while his children were educated in Scotland. Every few years he and his wife returned to visit their offspring in Scotland while on "leave" from the tea garden. The children occasionally spent time with extended family but essentially grew up with local



Uncle David, Shipyard worker, acrylic on canvas, 20 x 10 in, 2010.

abandoned children in a foster home. I was struck by the paradox of tea as both a cause for abandonment and a universal provider of great comfort.

A tea leaf reading session, companionship over cups of tea in the garden, a solitary tea drinker - these images are displayed alongside portraits of the orphans of Oak Hall.

In *tea / leaves* I document the paraphernalia of tea: the requisite silver tea service, handpainted cups and bone china. Painting from observation allowed me to meditate on the beauty of these instruments and to consider the important role tea plays historically and socially.

Ultimately, in depicting scenes of companionable domesticity alongside portraits of lost children, I tell a story of fragility, strength and hope.

Tea / leaves includes images of:

- Orphans
- Kinfolk enjoying gentle companionship over cups of tea in a Scottish garden.
- The Paraphernalia of Tea

Karen Bailey

Editor's Note: Readers who are acquainted with Jane Gardam's immensely popular novel, "Old Filth", the story of aging British judge Sir Edward Feathers, will be familiar with the plight of raj orphans depicted in Karen's latest exhibition.



Gordon Harrison's Annual Garden Exhibit at his John Street Studio takes place June 4 - 6. Contact www.gordon-harrison.com for an invitation to this gala affair.

Gordon Harrison Gallery on the Move

By Jane Heintzman

Well known local artist Gordon Harrison is moving ahead with plans to move his Gallery in the Byward Market from its existing location at 100 Murray Street to **495 Sussex Drive**, which is currently home to the Carisse Studio Café and Galerie de Photos. The move will take place in August, and interested readers can check the website for details of the relocation (www.gordonharrisongallery.com)

On the immediate horizon is Gordon's eighth annual **Garden Exhibit** at his studio here in the Burgh at 81 John Street on the weekend of **June 4 - 6**.

This year, the popular exhibit coincides with *Doors Open Ottawa*, and Gordon's studio will be on the roster of Ottawa venues included in that event. Visitors to the Garden Exhibit can admire the open air display of Gordon's landscape paintings while sipping wine and listening to background music by jazz duo **Mary Moore** (vocals) and **Marylise Chauvette** on keyboard. A new addition this year will be the extraordinary works of sculptor/glass blower **Catherine Vamvakas Lay**, an award-winning artist whose work has been widely exhibited in Canada, as well as internationally.



Tea in the Garden I (Jean, Sis & Jinks), acrylic on canvas, 30 x 36 in, 2010.

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Crichton Cultural Community Centre



Summer Programs

Please contact instructors to get course details and to register. For most of our courses, registration is ongoing.

Children

SUMMER ARTS DAY CAMP FOR 6-8 YEAR OLDS

July 5 to 9, 9 am to 4 pm
Fee: \$235

Register at CCCC.

Experience the arts! This camp offers students the chance to sample Visual arts, theatre, dance and music all in a whirlwind week! For more details contact CCCC directly.

SUMMER ARTS DAY CAMP FOR 9-13 YEAR OLDS

July 12 to 16, 9 am to 4 pm
Fee: \$235

Register at CCCC.

Experience the arts! This camp offers students the chance to sample Visual arts, theatre, dance, music and literary arts all in a whirlwind week! For more details contact CCCC directly.

Additional Summer programs for both children and adults are

currently being organized. For information on these programs contact CCCC directly or visit www.crichtonccc.ca.

Visual Arts

COLLAGE YOUR WORLD: BASIC COLLAGE

July 24, 1 to 3 pm
Fee: \$52.50

Register at CCCC.

If you would love to learn how to make art but are too afraid you don't have skills it takes to do so, then collage is the perfect medium for you! In this workshop you will learn basic collage techniques and be amazed at how sticking things on a two-dimensional surface can not only become a wonderful work of art but also a great tool for organizing your thoughts, plans and dreams. This is a great course for budding writers, designers of all kinds or anyone who likes to play with their imagination.

PLEIN AIR SUNSETS IN

WATERCOLOUR

Leslie Anderson-Dorofi
Wednesdays, June 2, 9, 16 and 23 (4 weeks), 7:00 – 9:30 pm
Fee: \$84
Register at CCCC.

We will visit various local venues and paint the sunsets. This plein air course is for intermediate watercolour painters who have not painted outdoors, or those with limited outdoor experience, using your existing supplies. The first class will be held indoors to discuss supplies and equipment requirements. A list of locations will be provided to participants, via email, after the first class. In case of rain, we will meet at CCCC and paint inside, using preferably your own photos, not those from commercial publications.

ACRYLIC GLAZING WORKSHOP

August 14 and 21
Saturday, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm (2 days)
Fee: \$136

Register at CCCC.

Learn this Old Master's technique applied in the modern day medium of acrylic paint. Glazing gives the artist complete control over colour mixing, allowing for richer, more subtle colours and greater suggestion of depth and distance in a more unified painting. Enhance your painting skills with the new techniques you learn in this workshop. Students will do a number of exercises as well as create a painting from their own resource material. This workshop is suitable for both beginners and more experienced artists. Workbook included.

ACRYLIC PAINTING

Susan Ashbrook
Tuesdays, July 6 to August 24 (8 weeks), 1:00 – 3:30 pm
Fee: \$139
Drop-in fee: \$20 per class

Register at CCCC.

A relaxed painting environment for those who wish to develop their artistic skills at their own pace. Open to all levels of painters, instruction is individual, although if the group wishes, any number of skills and techniques can be addressed as class exercises.

JOURNALING YOUR LIFE WORKSHOP

Michelle Casey
Sunday June 13, 2010 1:00-3:00 pm
Fee: \$52.50
Register at CCCC.

In this two-hour journaling workshop, you will use acrylics paints, magazine images, inks, rubber stamps, pens/markers, lettering and other ephemera to create a journal page that captures your feelings and reflections on




Crichton Cultural Community Centre is proud to announce that the 2010 Ottawa Lumière Festival will be held in Stanley Park this August.

Check our websites for dates and details as well as for dates and times of lantern workshops.

WWW.CRICHTONCCC.CA
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a specific life experience. I will demonstrate painting, collaging and rubber stamping techniques to help you along. As well, I will give you tips on creating an ongoing journal to document your life, travels or any special time period you want to preserve memories for. I will also provide you with sources to inspire journal making for future reference. Most materials will be supplied.

VISIONING YOUR DREAMS WORKSHOP

Michelle Casey
Sunday June 27, 2010 1:00-3:30
Fee: \$63
Register at CCCC.

In this two and a half hour workshop, you will learn to use collage to bring your dreams and visions for future projects to life. This project could be anything: your dream house; a garden you'd love to have; the body you'd like to have, a vacation you'd like to go on; a new career you'd like to pursue, etc.. By the end of the workshop you will know how to create a 2D collage touchstone from which to be inspired to acquire that vision. I will also give you some tips and reading sources to help you realize your dreams. The rest is up to you! Most materials will be supplied.

CREATING A VISION BOARD WORKSHOP

August 22, 1-3:30 pm
Fee: \$57.75

Register at CCCC.

In this two and a half hour workshop, you will learn to use collage to bring your dreams and visions for future projects to life. This project could be anything: your dream house; a garden you'd love to have; the

body you'd like to have, a vacation you'd like to go on; a new career you'd like to pursue, etc.. By the end of the workshop you will know how to create a 2D collage touchstone from which to be inspired to acquire that vision. I will also give you some tips and reading sources to help you realize your dreams. The rest is up to you!

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Events

DOORS OPEN OTTAWA

June 5 & 6, 10 am to 4 pm at CCCC, 2nd floor, 200 Crichton Street. (Enter through the Avon Lane doors.)

Join us to enjoy the architectural features and history of this wonderful old school building. Find out what goes on here, see what programs we are offering and try your hand at some of them!


THE OTTAWA LUMIERE FESTIVAL

In Stanley Park sometime in August, 2010. Date TBD.

For more information about the Festival and **lantern making workshops** contact the CCCC office.

Additional Summer programs for both children and adults are currently being organized. For information on these programs contact CCCC directly or visit www.crichtonccc.ca.

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For more information about the Centre call 745-2742.

To register for a specific program please call the instructor.

UPDATE: A New Spring in Our Step at the CCCC

With the arrival of spring, that long-awaited season of new life and growth, there is ample cause for optimism and excitement at the CCCC. Our new Director of Programming, **Susan Ashbrook**, buttressed by an expanded Programming Committee with representation from throughout the community, is hard at work on the development of new programs for all ages, including the growing numbers of young children in our area. In April, the CCCC introduced several new offerings, notably a series of visual arts classes ranging from Plein Air Sunsets in watercolour to a workshop in Collage Portraits. Many more programs are in the plans for summer and fall. (Keep your eye on our website at www.crichtonccc.ca for more details to come.)

Board Renewal

A new Board of Directors was elected at the Annual General Meeting in late April, with the majority of members returning to serve another term and to help move the CCCC yet closer to its ultimate goal of acquiring the building to "Keep Crichton Public" for generations to come. We extend our thanks to **David Tobin** who stepped down in order to focus his energies on a number of other commitments. At the same time, we warmly welcome **Jennifer Barbarie** who is returning to the Board after a four year absence on a posting at the Canadian High Commission in London.

The Bottom Line

Another cause for optimism this spring is the fact that despite the economic downturn of the past two years, combined with the absence of

any operating support from the City, the CCCC has managed to maintain a healthy financial position, finishing 2009 with a modest but gratifying surplus in its operating budget. The Board and staff are working hard to build up the CCCC's revenue stream through the exploration of new programming models, and a review of rental rate structures to bring the Centre more into line with comparable facilities in the city.

Lumière: New Directions and a Bright Light at the Helm

With the change in CCCC staff, the Board has taken the opportunity to re-examine the direction of the Centre's signature annual event, the immensely popular Lumière Festival. In recent years, the festival has, in a sense, become a victim of its own success, with increasingly large crowds of participants threatening to overwhelm the intimacy of the event, and stretching the capacities of our venue in Stanley Park almost to the breaking point. As a result, the Board has opted for a slight change of direction this year, aimed at both recapturing the magic of the evening in the park—which the early festivals presented so beautifully—and more clearly focusing Lumière on its roots as a crucible for artistic and cultural expression in a community setting.

After soliciting expressions of interest from the arts community, the Board is delighted to announce that the Artistic Director for Lumière 2010 will be **Scott Florence**, a prominent member of Ottawa's theatre community and best known as Artistic Director of the widely acclaimed *Company*

of Fools. Scott (a.k.a. The Big Fool) is a man of many talents and boundless energy. He has worked as an actor, clown, director, creator and teacher across North America, and is a veteran of companies ranging from Caravan Tall Ship Theatre to Eddie May Mysteries, Metaphysical Theatre, the National Arts Centre and the Odyssey Theatre. He has taught countless workshops from coast to coast, as well as here in Ottawa, and is an Associate Professor at Algonquin College and a resident trainer with the Canadian Improv Games.

Scott is no stranger to the CCCC: for several years, members of The Company of Fools performed at the Lumière Festival, and more recently, Scott has attended the event as an audience participant. Early last year, the Fools made use of the CCCC's spacious Dufferin Room as the rehearsal venue for their award-winning production of *A Mid-Winter's Dream Tale*, a characteristically zany adaptation of two Shakespearean classics. And those who attended the Cocktails for Crichton fundraising auction last October can't fail to have encountered Scott and fellow Fools **Al Connors** and **Brad McNeil** in their cameo appearance as 1920's cops, raiding the second floor speakeasy and engaging in a wild but vain attempt to apprehend the redoubtable Mama Morton (a.k.a. Joseph Cull).

While at this stage, Scott is



still in the early stages of discussions with CCCC Board and staff about both the artistic vision and the mechanics of this year's festival, the overall theme for the evening will be **Rebirth**, an especially appropriate concept in this transition year for Lumière, when we hope to recapture the intimacy of its early years, and to heighten the focus on a skilful blending of visual and performance art. The festival will feature the work of emerging and professional artists from throughout the region, with an emphasis on engaging audience participation in the magic of the evening's presentations.

As in past years, Lumière 2010 will be geared to participants of all ages, interests, and backgrounds, including families with young children, and we are looking forward to collaborating with volunteers in the community to make this

reinvented festival a truly community-based success. As participants in previous festivals are well aware, **volunteers are always needed** to ensure that things run smoothly, so if you are able to lend a hand, you'll be warmly welcomed: just give the Office a call at **613-745-2742**.

Lumière date in August to be announced: When we went to press in May, the exact date of the festival remained to be determined, so keep your eye on the CCCC and Lumière websites for details as plans unfold (www.crichtonccc.ca or www.lumiereottawa.com)

The Corridor Gallery

The walls of the Corridor Gallery are currently adorned with the work of our talented group of MainWorks artists following two CCCC exhibitions earlier this year. The remainder

Continued on Page 26

CRICHTON CULTURAL COMMUNITY CENTRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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To contact Board members please call
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communitycentre@rogers.com.

Announcing the third annual **Taste of Spring**

Saturday, June 19, 5-8 pm

Care for a stroll through the Burgh and a chance to meet your neighbours? Join us for a roving cocktail party featuring wine & food pairings in fashionable New Edinburgh homes, including:

123 Noel Street: Antipasto & Barbera
78 John Street: Chicken satay & Côtes du Rhône
51 Crichton: Red pepper-pesto crostini & New Zealand Sauvignon blanc
148 Ivy Crescent: Selection of cheeses & Port
50 Stanley Street (Governor's Walk): Strawberries and bubbly

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CCCC Update...

Continued from Page 25

of the year will be a busy one, as the Gallery Committee is preparing to issue a call for two new juried exhibitions, the first in October or December and a second in the spring of 2011. In September or October, the CCCC will partner with the Ottawa School of Art for a juried exhibition of new works by June graduates of the O.S.A.'s Diploma Program. Planning is also underway for the Gallery to participate in the X-Ottawa Photography Festival in late September.

On the Legal Front: One Step Closer to Acquisition

The CCCC is steadily advancing in its preparations to acquire 200 Crichton. The court decision which confirmed the CCCC ownership interest in the building also directed that a number of actions be pursued to prepare for a judicial sale of the building. Another appraisal is to be done to help the court decide on a reasonable price for the building. A review of the capital improvements over the years, including those that were publicly funded, needs to be undertaken to determine what, if any, value should be credited to the School of Dance (TSOD) in a sale. And finally, the actual terms and conditions of sale must be established before a sale can proceed – a key issue here is expected to be TSOD's interest in buying the building from itself!

One issue that had the potential to delay moving forward

on the court decision was the pending appeal of certain elements of the judgment. Shortly after the court decision, TSOD filed an appeal and in response, the CCCC filed a counter-appeal. Subsequently, TSOD withdrew its appeal and now, on the advice of its legal team, the CCCC has allowed its appeal to lapse. Had the CCCC elected to pursue the appeal, the result would likely have been to delay the sale. Given that our objective is to 'keep Crichton public' and acquire the building, it was felt that this purpose would be better served by focussing resources solely on planning for acquisition.

A Capital Plan

To position the CCCC for a bid to acquire 200 Crichton, the Board is updating and formalizing a business plan for operating the building following acquisition, and at the same time, developing a capital fundraising campaign. Board member **Colin Goodfellow** is hard at work with consultants, and with the CCCC's Fundraising Committee, to develop these plans. Should you have an interest or expertise in this area, a helping hand with this ambitious project would always be welcome, so please contact our office at **613-745-2742** or e-mail us at communitycentre@rogers.com.

A Tip of the Hat

We extend our sincere thanks to **Ingrid McCarthy**, the multi-talented Director of the **New Edinburgh Players**, for once

again staging a performance of the Players' spring production for the benefit of the CCCC. This year's delightful performance of George Bernard Shaw's *Getting Married* was in all respects a great success for both the company and for the CCCC, which benefited handsomely from the close-to sold out evening on April 28.

Wearing another of her creative hats, this time as a visual artist, Ingrid arranged for 15% of the proceeds from sales at an **Art Show and Sale at The Rockcliffe Retirement Residence** in mid-May to be dedicated to the work of the CCCC, and we are extremely grateful for her generosity and enterprise in bringing this about. Our thanks also to the management of The Rockcliffe, the accommodating hosts of the *vernissage* and art show, for their interest in supporting the work of the Centre. While the final tally was not yet available when we went to press, Ingrid reports that roughly \$700 was raised for the CCCC from sales at the show!

A Taste of Spring, June 19, 5-8 pm

Once again this year, our capable team of community organizers **Barbara Laskin** and **Margot Silver** have taken the lead in orchestrating another **Taste of Spring** evening at which participants can sample gourmet fare and fine wines in a number of attractive houses in our neighbourhood, with all proceeds going to support the CCCC. (Details are included in a separate notice in this issue). This has been an immensely

popular community event, not simply on account of the tasty fare on offer and the agreeable surroundings, but also because of its role in bringing together friends, neighbours and acquaintances, both old and new, for a relaxing evening of sociability—and all for a worthy cause! So mark your calendars for June 19, and give the CCCC Office a call to order your tickets at **613-745-2742**.

Doors Open Ottawa

For the first time in its nearly decade-long career, the CCCC will participate in the annual Door Open Ottawa event on **June 5 and 6**, welcoming both tourists and Ottawa

residents to its facilities on the 2nd Floor of 200 Crichton. A number of CCCC instructors will be on site for the event, offering demonstrations and mini-classes, and visitors will be able to try their hand at a range of entertaining activities. At the same time, **MainWorks** artists will open their studios to the public who can wander through and admire the many works in progress. While we hope all of our readers are already well acquainted with the Centre, and indeed regular users of our facilities, if you happen to have out-of-town guests for the weekend, please feel free to join us for this fun occasion!

Fondation du Cimetière
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Cemetery Foundation

Annual Historical Walking Tour June 13

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

This year's theme is the **Photographers of Beechwood**. The tour includes nine stops at the gravesites of men and women who were responsible for some of the most iconic images of 19th century Ottawa, including **William James Topley**, photographer to royalty and Governors General and **Isa May** and **Adam Ballantyne**, two of the founding members of the Camera Club of Ottawa. An animator will be at each gravesite to bring these historical figures to life. You will learn about the history of early photography in

Ottawa, and discover how quickly photography became an important industry in our nation's capital.

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

Date: June 13, 2010

Time: 2:00 pm

Beechwood National Memorial Centre
Beechwood Cemetery
280 Beechwood Ave

For more information call **Nicole at 613-741-9530 ext 223**.

Our event is outdoors. Refreshments will be served after the tour. Enter by Beechwood Avenue entrance. Tour and parking are free. Wear good walking shoes.

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MacKay Concert: And Now, For Something Completely Different...

By Linda Roininen

While the Chamber Concert Series is over for another season, MacKay United Church has one more "musical offering" to add to our fundraising drive for the new Grand Piano. **On June 11, at 7:30 pm** MacKay presents *From Ave Maria to Amazing Grace: An Evening of Sacred Music*. As the name implies, the audience will experience pieces ranging from Bach's *Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring* to the spiritual *Precious Lord*, to *Just a Closer Walk With Thee*, all featuring the musical talents of **Parvaneh Eshghi**, soprano, **Sheryn Sauvé**, mezzo-soprano, **Frédéric Lacroix** on piano and **Pierre Sauvé** on guitar.

All the musicians are accomplished in their own right. Parvaneh teaches piano and voice, as well as being the music director at MacKay. While attaining her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Music Performance, she trained with renowned pianists Jean-Paul Sevilla, Louis-Philippe Pelletier, and Andrew Tunis.

Parvaneh now studies voice with Isabelle Lacroix and internationally known bass-baritone, Ingemar Korjus. She will add an air of lyrical elegance to the evening.

Sheryn and Pierre are like MacKay's version of J-Lo and Mark Anthony — a very musically talented married couple

but plays a variety of instruments too. We are fortunate to have such a masterful duo in our midst.

Frédéric is not only a gifted pianist, but also a composer, international performer, and adjudicator, who teaches at the University of Ottawa, his alma mater, and also at l'Université de Montréal. He is currently working on his Doctorate degree in Keyboard Performance at Cornell University. With all this talent Frédéric is sure to make our piano sing.

You just can't afford to miss this kind of musical prowess combined with a program of spiritually uplifting music. Consider it "A CALLING"!

Tickets for the concert are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors and are available at the door, **Books on Beechwood** or by calling the Church office at **613-749-8727**.

HERE'S THE LATEST SCOOP ON MACKAY'S GRAND PIANO!

MacKay's Grand Piano will



who put on a great show together. What did you think I meant? Sheryn brings her many musical experiences (soloist, gospel groups, choirs, musicals) which culminate beautifully in the spiritual genre of the evening. Pierre not only sings a variety of styles including folk, rock and Celtic music,



Parvaneh Eshghi (left) and Sheryn Sauvé are two of the performers slated for the upcoming concert at MacKay United Church on June 11.

be arriving sooner than anticipated. With \$45,000 raised to date, MacKay is just \$4,000 shy of the funds required. However, Ottawa Piano has offered the Church an opportunity to purchase the Yamaha C7 Concert Grand Piano now, in advance of the HST while we raise the remaining amount by the end of the year. We are thrilled with the prospect of having the C7 in our Sanctuary for next season.

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the talents and vision of **Leah Roseman** who along with her musical colleagues have been the driving force behind our fundraising campaign. With a

Gala Concert in the works for **October 24, 2010**, Leah has worked her programming magic by retaining the services of none other than violinist **Jessica Linnebach** and pianist **Jean Desmarais** for what will be a truly memorable evening of music. Then on **November 21**, there will be a concert to showcase the new grand piano and to celebrate the **135th anniversary of MacKay United Church**.

Mark those dates on your calendar NOW as these are definitely NOT TO MISS events.

Come and join the festivities and revel in the music to which this community has so generously contributed.

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Don't Get Too Relaxed

By Michael Histed

Summer is finally here and we are all rushing to open the cottage, get out of town, get the kids to summer camps - in other words we tend to be away from home much more than usual. The weather is also getting warmer and we are all desperate to open up our homes to the fresh warm air by leaving our windows and doors open. As a result, our homes and vehicles are much more vulnerable than any other time of year.

Many families in the neighbourhood do not have air conditioning. In fact it is becoming the environmentally friendliest option to have fresh air passing through your homes. Nonetheless open windows and doors are very inviting to the criminal element. For the most part, these are not seasoned,

professional thieves and burglars. The most common theft is performed by persons under the age of 30 looking for items that can be easily converted to quick cash, for example, jewelry, small silver or gold items, or even cash that is simply lying around. These thieves patrol the neighbourhood after the bars have closed checking for open windows or unlocked doors.

Generally the thieves are looking to be in and out of your home in less than 10 minutes. They have not been watching your home for days. They usually tend not to destroy property (no time). Nonetheless, it is a very sad experience for the homeowner whose personal space has been violated.

This type of crime can be easily prevented:

- Lock your windows and doors on the ground floor and most particularly at night.

- Keep your garage doors locked at all times.

- Install an alarm system. Often just alerting a potential thief to the fact you have an alarm is enough to deter them.

- Don't expect that your presence in the home will automatically deter them. We have had cases of thieves entering homes while the occupants are asleep.

If you do hear noises coming from downstairs, call the Police at 9-1-1. This is not the movies. There is no need to put yourself at risk.

Lastly, our neighbours in Rockcliffe have been witnessing a rise in thefts from vehicles parked in their driveways. Again these tend to be opportunist crimes. Someone leaves their purse, valuables, money on the front seat or dash of the car. Again there are simple measures to help prevent this type of crime.

- Do not leave valuables in clear view (it does not matter if the doors are locked or not. Windows are easily broken).

- Remember if you do put your valuables in the trunk of the car, lock the car. The trunk release is usually just inside the car door - easy.

- If you are shopping and leave your car in a parking lot, you may be inadvertently making your home vulnerable. Many of us have GPS devices in the car with our home address and phone number programmed in. This tells the thief where you live and alerts them to the fact you are not at home. Hide your GPS when parked.

Remember if you witness a crime in progress (in yours or your neighbours home or car, call 9-1-1).

Have a safe and pleasant summer.

Antiques Appraisal at MacKay United Church

"I'm here to tell you what you really have", said Janet Carlile, as she began her appraisal of a full days worth of antiques at MacKay United Church in New Edinburgh on Saturday, April 24th. Ms. Carlile said she knew we had brought our treasures,

our keepsakes and our histories with us and carefully chose her words to prepare us for the best and the worst of news.

Over 120 people crowded into the sanctuary at MacKay for a fun filled day of stories, social history and good food. During the two sessions, Ms. Carlile appraised a wide variety of objects including stunning items such as a sweetgrass basket, a shawl woven with wool and sterling silver, a American shell shaped silver ladle from 1782, a writing table, a Corona portable typewriter, two 200 year old Sheffield silver candle sticks, a number of paintings including one by Canadian artist Bell-Smith, an art nouveau coco pot, samplers, watches, tea sets, clocks and objects made by well known marks such as Wedgwood and Doulton, to name a few.

The format was very civil allowing owners to give a brief history of the object as they knew it followed by Ms. Carlile's appraisal. Ms. Carlile's trained eye immediately caught the essence of the objects and

her great knowledge of social history gave life and depth to the appraisals. Explaining both how objects were made and also how they were used turned a simple appraisal into a learning experience for all in attendance. Ms. Carlile gave a clear and detailed explanation of the manufacture of old Sheffield plate showing the attentive audience why she is a considered an expert in her field. Her expertise went far beyond that as she was able to give depth and insight into every object, no matter its value or importance and place in history. It was a very entertaining experience and Ms. Carlile's sense of humour and honed delivery put everyone at ease and made even disappointment easy to take.

Even before the day was over one could hear members of the audience asking if this event could be repeated next year proving there is great interest in historical objects and social history.

The event was a fundraiser for MacKay United Church in New Edinburgh.



Appraiser Janet Carlile at MacKay United Church's recent Antiques Appraisal Day.

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NE Players Give Stellar Production of Shaw's *Getting Married*



Photo: Peter Glasgow

This past April the New Edinburgh Players entertained community theatre-goers with their production of George Bernard Shaw's *Getting Married*.

By Barbara Benoit

Ingrid McCarthy never fails to amaze, and in the 31st season of the New Edinburgh Players she did it again, stepping aside from her usual directing capacity to play the part of the reluctant-to-wed Lesbia Grantham in a production of *Getting Married* by George Bernard Shaw. She also edited the venerable playwright's script. By ruthlessly cutting 80 minutes of didactic longeurs from a work originally written to play for three hours without intermission, she allowed the plot and the Shavian humour to emerge intact in a highly entertaining evening of theatre.

Director Joe O'Brien, with the assistance of Pamela Harrod and an accomplished and elegantly costumed cast of

14, delivered a sparkling, well-staged and fast-paced production exploring the manifold ways in which the institution of marriage is itself a barrier to stable and satisfying long-term relationships. The characters develop, but ultimately reject, arguments for espousing



a variety of alternative arrangements, including bigamy, polyandry and fixed-term, renewable unions as an alternative to messy divorces.

The plot revolves around the complex marital vicissitudes

of the respectable Bridgenorth family. Each couple's difficulties are revealed bit by bit as the generations gather for a family wedding and await the appearance of the bride and groom, each of whom, for different reasons, is suffering from cold feet. A resolution is eventually achieved through the ministrations of a greengrocer/philosopher and the beadle's wife.

The parts are very evenly balanced, and there are no particular "stars" in this play. Seldom, however, have the NEN Players achieved such a high level of ensemble work. Many of the faces in the cast are familiar to long-time Burgh audiences, and cast and crew together are to be congratulated on a stellar production.

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Summer Reading Tips from Books on Beechwood

Here are Books On Beechwood's staff suggestions for great reading all summer long. Once again this year, Hilary, David, Di, Jill, Antoinette and Jean all had something to say.

Hilary's Summer 2010 Reading Suggestions: Adults

Insatiable by Meg Cabot. Coming out in June of this year, Cabot's newest adult novel is a real treat for lovers of paranormal fiction. Meena Harper hates vampires but suddenly, they start taking over her life! Action, adventure, and fun! A great read!

The Shadowy Horses by Susanna Kearsley. Just re-released in a beautiful new edition, Kearsley's *The Shadowy Horses* is yet another wonderful work of historical fiction from this great Canadian author. History, love, and a few

chilling ghost stories make this novel a must have.

Young Adult books

Finnikin of the Rock by Melina Marchetta (12+). A young man sets out on a long, dangerous journey to fulfill a prophecy and save his homeland from an evil curse. Great fantasy story for boys and girls. Adults will like it too!

Starlighter by Bryan Davis (12+). The first in a new series by prolific fantasy writer Bryan Davis. *Starlighter* is a wonderful adventure story full of friendship, sword fighting, bravery and dragons.

Di's Summer Reading Pick in Fiction:

Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen Simonson. An outstanding first novel which everyone loves. Delightful characters deal with current issues.

David suggests a little Science Fiction:

WWW: Wake, the first of the trilogy by Robert Sawyer. What if the World Wide Web became conscious one day? All sorts of sub-plots woven in make for fascinating reading.

Jill's Picks for the Books on Beechwood Book Club, Sept through Nov 2010:

Fiction

Green Grass, Running Water by Thomas King. A very funny novel by Canadian Native writer, author Thomas King. This is the story of a small American town, a profitable dam project and the Blackfoot Reservation. The trickster Coyote arrives in town and complicates what is already turning out to be a rollicking tale of "approach and avoidance".

Through Black Spruce by Joseph Boyden. This novel

follows on the success of Joseph Boyden's *Three Day Road*. Through Will Bird, a Cree bush pilot, and his niece, Annie, the reader is introduced to Aboriginal life in the bush country of Northern Ontario.

Non fiction

The Wayfinders, Why Ancient Wisdom matters in the Modern World by Wade Davis. In This CBC Massey Lecture Series bestseller, Wade Davis discusses the importance of the culture of indigenous peoples, and what it will mean to our civilization should these ancient cultures disappear.

Jean's Suggestions:

Come Thou Tortoise by Jessica Grant. A funny, sad, and a wonderful whimsical story with very amusing word twists.

The Girl who kicked the Hornet's Nest by Stieg Larson.

The third Millenium book by Stieg Larsson is finally being released in North America this month. If you have not already read all three in the trilogy in French or Swedish...a real treat!

Ian McEwan's new book *Solar* is at least as good as "Atonement". A novel with a despicable main character for whom you wish the worst.

Antoinette's Summer Reading Suggestions:

Biographies

The Life of Irene Nemirovsky by Olivier Philipponnat and Patrick Lienhardt. Those who read *Suite Francaise* will want to read this book: an intimate picture of the author's life and the turbulent times she lived in.

Lois Marshall by James Neufeld. An intimate portrait of the famous Canadian soprano, from her encounter with polio to her relationship with her mentor and teacher, Weldon Kilburn.

This time together: Laughter and Reflection by Carol Burnett. Julie Andrews says "...it's funny, it's endearing, and very moving."

Just Watch Me: the life of Pierre Elliott Trudeau, 1968-2000 by John English. Whatever your political colours, an absorbing, well-written biography.

The Bridge: the life and rise of Barack Obama by David Remnick. An investigation of the circumstances and experiences of Obama's life and the ambition behind his rise.

Marshall McLuhan by Douglas

Coupland. One of the latest in the Extraordinary Canadians series. With humour and brilliance, Coupland reveals the prescience of McLuhan's ideas.

Environment

Locavore: from farmers' fields to rooftop gardens by Sarah Elton. How Canadians are changing the way we eat.

Diet for a Hot Planet by Anna Lappe. Seven principles for a climate-friendly diet and success stories from sustainable food advocates around the globe.

Eaarth : making a life on a tough new planet by Bill McKibben. Tom Flannery says McKibben is the most effective environmental activist of our age. Anyone interested in making a difference can learn from him.

This and That: Non-Fiction

Art and Politics: the history of the National Arts Centre by Sarah Jennings. This is a very well-researched story of the creation and first four decades of one of Canada's pre-eminent cultural organizations.

Spark by Frank Koller. Former CBC journalist Koller digs deep into Lincoln Electric's inner workings—revealing surprising lessons about what happens when managers view their employees as valued assets rather than costs.

The Authenticity Hoax : how we get lost finding ourselves by Andrew Potter. This book reveals how our misguided pursuit of the authentic exacerbates the artificiality of contemporary life that we decry.

Imagining India: the idea of a renewed nation by Nandan Nilekani. The author, a successful businessman, discusses the future of India and it's role as a global citizen and emerging economic giant.

Hooked on Canadian Books: the good, the better, and the best Canadian novels since 1984 by T. F. Rigelhof. A *Globe and Mail* reviewer of countless Canadian books, Rigelhof examines what makes a book a good read.

The value of nothing : why everything costs so much more than we think by Raj Patel. A thought-provoking book about the dramatic changes we must make to save the planet from financial madness—argued with humour and humanity.

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Local Volunteers Receive Civic Appreciation Award

By David Horley

On May 6, at the 9th annual **Civic Appreciation Awards**, the City of Ottawa honoured outstanding volunteers who give of themselves to better their communities and the lives of others. Among those receiving

awards were a group of three outstanding volunteers, two of whom are residents of New Edinburgh. Burghers **Henry Jacques** and **Andrew Hamlin**, along with **Riek van den Berg** were recognized for their diligent volunteer efforts.

The incomparable trio has fostered culture, encouraged volunteerism and built community spirit, and resulted in economic benefit to the City of Ottawa. Particularly notable among their ongoing contributions is their management of the main and secondary stages (in Confederation Park) of the annual Ottawa International Jazz Festival. But that is only one element of their work over the years. They do much more besides, as a team and as individuals. Each is a capable

and committed volunteer all year long, and has been for decades.

The fact that most of the stage volunteers for the Jazz Festival return year after year and that the festival is consistently a cultural and financial success attests to their leadership and character.

In addition to their core contribution to the festival, each of them has for years volunteered for other cultural and community organizations. This selfless trio has created volunteering projects themselves and inspired and recruited others to volunteer alongside them.

Space does not permit a complete account of their contributions but among their other

accomplishments, joint and individual, have been their work with the **Ottawa Little Theatre**, **Ottawa Folk Festival**, **Ottawa Race Weekend** and the **Great Canadian Theatre Company**.

They each consistently demonstrate admirable personal characteristics: trustworthiness, honesty, generosity, patience, independence, selflessness, intelligence, leadership, respect and a hard-work ethic. The example of their selfless contributions means that others are motivated to join and support their volunteer efforts.

Bravo, Henry, Andrew and Riek. We in New Edinburgh applaud you!



Photo: Bill Robertson

(L to R) Henry Jacques, Riek van den Berg and Andrew Hamlin were awarded the Group Award for Community Activism at the recent Civic Appreciation ceremony.

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June: A Time for Gardening?

By Doug Cornish

June is perhaps the most important month of the year. Why? That much loved season of summer begins in June. Need I say more?

Neighbourhoods come alive in June. They started to in May (this year was even earlier), but it's really in June where people really feel that they can live in the summer season. No more gloves. No more jackets (even light ones) during daytime hours.

June is a gardener's month. The initial planting begins, traditionally, at the end of May. By June the gardening season is in full force. For a gardener the garden centres and stores that sell flowers (and who doesn't sell flowers, these days?) are akin to a candy shop. Everything is in full bloom, so to speak, it's a display of colour and form, and it's irresistible.

Each year about this time, I marvel at the display and variety of flowers (and all of the garden accessories that go with the season), but there is a pessimistic part of me that says: 'Oh, why bother!' The winter will be back in a few months - then everything will be white and frozen again. Why go to all that trouble of gardening.

What really is the point?

I suppose if people really thought of the weather logistics of this country they might agree. Summer is such a fleeting thing. Winter always wins out. Gardening (outdoors) is such a temporary thing. This year I came very close to throwing up my hands in disgust and saying: 'What's the point. I'll just let the weeds take over and not try to beautify the surroundings because there is no point. I can wait a few months and the cold and misery of winter will be back again'.

Such thoughts, though, don't live in my mind for long. I get caught up in the season. I love walking through garden centres and nurseries and visiting neighbourhood plant sales. A Canadian needs a garden; however you care to define it. For some, it's just a corner of a balcony, for others it's a small patch of ground tucked in between the driveway and the house, for others it's an expansive lawn and garden with pots everywhere (hanging and otherwise), and elaborate and complicated landscaping.

For some people a garden is just something Canadians do every year. The flowers and plants are in the stores, so

as consumers we're obligated to buy. For me, though, and perhaps for many, it's much more than that. Even though

always triumphs in this country - winter. Summer, full of colour and life is a true alternative to winter, but of course Mother Nature doesn't see it that way, not in this part of the world, anyway. Getting lost in summer gardening is seasonal

Gardening creates that world of denial. Gardening eases the weather reality in this country. Gardening is a wonderful distraction, a magnificent obsession. Gardening gets people doing things outdoors. It also gets the neighbourhood chat going over the fence with conversations such as 'Oh, I like your roses', or 'You know I think I have just the trick to keep those pesky rodents from eating your flowers and destroying your garden.' Gardens are silent conversation starters. It's like a beautiful woman. The beauty speaks for itself, and always solicits a compliment. There is no way of ignoring a beautiful garden.

If big business is getting into gardening in a big way (and it does every year) then you know for sure that there is something there. They say that Canadians spend more on gardens than anyone else in the world, and I believe it, and I think that winter has a lot to do with this. Gardening is a secret drug that keeps us in a much needed (and nicer) state of mind. Gardens are our seasonal perfume, our seasonal entertainment, our seasonal distraction. We need gardens like we need to breathe. Gardens provide our sanity, our peace of mind, our satisfaction in knowing and creating another alternative to winter.



I know winter will win, and even though I know the season won't last for very long, being preoccupied with gardening and with trying to beautify my surroundings is my way of somehow putting up a good fight against the season that

therapy, and it's also a way of making denial a way of life. I know the season is short. I know that the nice weather won't last, but I prefer to live in this flowering denial that I've created until the harsh, cold reality returns and sets in.

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Canterbury Students to Participate in Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland

By Katie Macnamara

From May 26 to 29, the graduating drama class of Canterbury High School performed their original movement piece, *The Neon Bible Project* in the Barrie Alexander auditorium. New Edinburgh resident Anna Dubinski is a member of this unique piece of theatre. The production is based around the music of popular indie rock band **Arcade Fire**, with special rights to the music granted graciously by the band.

Canterbury was able to contact the band through alumni Richard Parry, who plays multiple instruments within the band, including the accordion and the celesta. Director Paul Griffin felt that the music's theatrical, atmospheric quality was an ideal backdrop to a physical theatre piece of this kind. Students entered the project with varied knowledge of the band, but all with equal interest in creating a show of this kind. The piece is unique in its story-telling through movement. There is minimal speaking in the play, with all of the songs from the album "*Neon Bible*" being used.



Since an elaborate set was not an option, students are using costumes, masks, and fabric that they themselves have designed and created.

"It's a really exciting concept because I've been told that communication is 80 percent physical, but how often do we ever get to see this demonstrated?" says Gabrielle Doucet, a member of the ensemble. "And it also gives us a great chance to gain experience, as most of us have never had a chance to do work like this" agrees Katie Macnamara, another student involved in the project.

The story exists in a futuristic world, over-run by technology. As with all utopian societies, the world slowly crumbles, throwing the second act into a destitute and primal habitat in which its members must fight for their very survival.

Not only is the class performing at Canterbury, they have also been scheduled to perform at the **International Children's Festival** on Sunday May 30. On top of this, they have been given the rare opportunity to perform at the world renowned **Edinburgh Fringe Festival** in Scotland this August. This is organized through the American High School Theater Festival (AHSTF), a program for which there were 2400 applicants this year. Out of these, Canterbury was one of only 60 North American schools chosen, and one of only 8 from Canada.

Since the group is travelling overseas, an elaborate set was not an option. Instead, they are using costumes, mask, and fabric that they themselves have designed and created. Because the show is a collective effort, most of the students are onstage

for the entire play. They also each play a role in the production aspect of the show such as publicity, lighting design, and stage managing. Perhaps the most difficult task that has been taken on so far by the students was fundraising, as they have an ambitious goal of \$21,000.

"Fundraising has been more difficult than I ever could have imagined, but it has given me the opportunity to learn so much more than I would have otherwise," remarks Anna Dubinski,

who organized the group's fundraising events along with Veronica Schleihau.

The entire class agrees that the rehearsal process is, and will continue to be, an intensive learning experience. "To think that this is the culminating event of our four years at Arts Canterbury is surreal, and I know we will have a great deal of pride in our final product," says Veronica.

For more information on the show, visit www.neonbibleproject.com.



Canterbury students put the finishing touches on one of the special backdrops made for their original movement piece, *The Neon Bible Project*. The production is based around the music of popular indie rock band **Arcade Fire.**



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News from the Ottawa School Board

By Rob Campbell, OCDSB
Trustee for Zone 9

Early Years All-Day and Extended Day Funding Woes

The Early Learning Program (ELP), or all-day learning, is coming to York Street Public School and several other OCDSB schools for JK/SK students next September as part of the Year One (of 5) rollout of the new program. Schools identified for Year One are supposed to be those with available space, ideally without school age care already on site and with a clear need for the program. If there is sufficient demand before and

after paid care may be offered at schools as well. Subsidies funding from the provincial government for this are still unclear as at time of writing though there is supposed to be some. Registration should commence soon.

There are some money woes associated with all of this for us however. The ELP cost to the OCDSB for the 50 all-day classrooms we are supposed to provide next September are underfunded by about \$1.3M. Enrolment is above expectations at one Kanata-area school—likely requiring OCDSB-only funding of two additional classrooms, for an additional \$0.3M. Readers

may recall that the OCDSB is facing an expanding structural deficit of \$14M forecast for next year. In order to roll out Year One of the ELP the OCDSB deficit will increase by about \$1.6M as a result. So, this will mean steeper cuts to core services for all of our schools. Certainly there are no easy decisions anywhere here.

The Extended Day Program (EDP), or before and after school JK/SK care, we must also provide is supposed to run on a market cost recovery basis. If run on a cost recovery basis however, the service likely would be priced out of market for most parents, or will in fact force us to incur further deficit.

The basic problem is that the Ministry funding of labour rates for the new teachers required for the ELP does not match our actual labour costs and also the Ministry is assuming that required Early Child Educators (ECE) earn less than they actually do in the Ottawa market. School Boards across Ontario have urged in particular that the EDP rollout be delayed a year to work out the

kinks in the ELP first but the Province seems to be pushing ahead at this point.

I certainly support the ELP and EDP as initiatives in general terms and do congratulate the government for beginning to move on this but I must LSO provide a critique about its implementation and the funding involved.

Inescapably, by adding to our already large deficit this new shortfall, the OCDSB will be forced to cut deeper into its core services and spending (on things like custodians, school budgets, spec ed

and ESL supports, other). The Province assumes that Boards have reserves and surpluses and somehow will be able to cope. This might be true for some, though likely not for most. It is manifestly not the case for the OCDSB this year. Stay tuned.

If you have a suggestion or a concern, or would like to be added to my e-newsletter list, then please contact me via rob@ocdsbzone9.ca or at 323-7803. Meeting and document info available at www.ocdsb.ca.



Rideau High Grade 9 students try out the Omnikin ball. It's a giant four-foot (1.22 m) diameter ball weighing only 2 lbs (1 kg). The goal is to get physical, cooperate, and yes, definitely have some fun.

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Slàinte to Karyn Brown

By Micheline Takla

Also in attendance at the recent production of *Getting Married* presented by the New Edinburgh Players, was **Karyn Brown**. Miss Brown is a former cast member and appeared in *Fools Rush In* in 1984, playing the role of Millicent. In fact, Ingrid McCarthy referred to her as “my first Millicent”!

Karyn has been part of the New Edinburgh community for over 30 years. She has lived on Union Street, Ivy Crescent, twice on Stanley Ave. and three times on Crichton, and has entertained family, friends and lovers at all these locations.



Photo: Ross Demkiw

Karyn Brown, a recent retiree of Foreign Affairs, is pictured holding the Olympic Torch in the lobby of the Pearson building at last year's Doors Open Ottawa.

Karyn's career has spanned 35 years and included a variety of incarnations in finance, crime prevention, travel, and policy areas. The longest period of devotion was committed to the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT). Karyn could be seen walking over the Minto bridges on her scenic trip to work during the summer and fall. For Karyn, spring is always heralded by a “BOOM- rattle-rattle”—the rite of passage

familiar to all New Edinburgh residents—as the ice is blown up!!

One of Karyn's most memorable life experiences was as a member of the Diplomatic staff at the Canadian Embassy in Ireland (1996 to 1997). Her close friends have come to refer to events in her life as either before Ireland (BI) or after Ireland (AI)! While in Ireland, she reconnected with her roots, her history, Irish humour, Guinness ale, and the countryside with its ancient, sacred teachings. She made friends in Ireland that will be friends for life.

More recently, symptoms of what would become Multiple Sclerosis (MS) appeared in early 2010. But this never held her back—mind sharp as ever, she continued to work and became Peer Advocate for colleagues in the Department—looking out for the rights of and respect for the disabled.

Treasured by her colleagues for her insight, sound advice and efficient handling of “frantic situations”, she is endearingly referred to as “YODA”! Karyn is now retired from formal government service and, being the organized planner that she is, has bought a lovely home in PEI, where she will be moving in September 2010.

Karyn was celebrated with a large retirement party attended by approximately 150 of her closest colleagues and friends as well as family members. Letters of appreciation and good wishes were sent from Berlin, Washington DC, and Afghanistan to name a few.

Karyn, we congratulate you on a wonderful career, and for your presence and participation in the New Edinburgh Community; we wish you the best life ever in PEI. We raise a glass of Guinness and ask you to leave your forwarding address and phone number!!

SLAINTE (“health”)



Dog Walkers, Stanley Park, Ottawa, 2010

Sketch by Martha Markowsky

BURGH ARTIST ON THE GO: From June 11 to 15, Martha is involved with an exhibition titled, “*Les 5 Crazy Ladies*” which will be held at Galerie Ouest, 37 rue St. Thomas, Ste Anne de Bellevue. Then, July 1 to July 4, she will participate in the Festival International Montreal en Arts. Further information can be obtained by contacting her by email at marthamarkowsky@hotmail.com.



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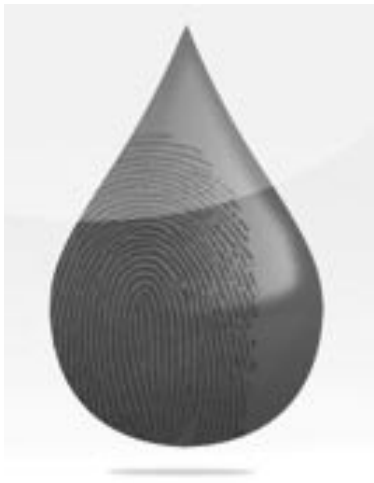
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Waterprints: Measuring Our Water Consumption



By Hugh Robertson

Have you ever considered how much water is required to provide you with your morning cup of coffee – excluding the 125 ml in the cup? On average, 140 litres of water is used to grow the coffee, prepare the beans, package and transport them to your kitchen ready to grind.

The concept of a “water footprint” or “waterprint” is a new technique that measures how much water we each use to sustain our lifestyles – everything from flushing a toilet to buying clothes to drinking a cup of coffee.

Our personal or domestic water consumption for cooking, cleaning, washing and flushing is probably only 10 percent of our total waterprint. The food and manufactured products that we buy and the fuel and electricity that we use contain huge quantities of embedded or “virtual water.”

Although we may only drink 4 litres of water, we actually “eat” and “consume” another two thousand litres daily.

Our waterprints are composed of 4 major categories:

- Food
- Manufactured products
- Energy generation
- Domestic

Water consumption in Canada breaks down roughly as follows:

- Energy generation - 55%
- Manufacturing - 15%
- Agriculture - 15%
- Municipalities - 10%
- Mining - 5%

Although it is important to cut our domestic water use, we are deluding ourselves if we believe that residential reductions alone will solve the planet’s water problems. Our waterprints are largely a function of diet, lifestyle and consumption patterns shaped primarily by income and wealth. Per capita, North Americans use more than double the European average and exponentially more than African countries.

Foods -- a major component of our waterprint -- are not all created equal. Crops, such as soybeans and rice have a high footprint and, per pound, corn-fed beef uses ten times as much water as poultry production. Eating local produce in season and less meat can dramatically lower your personal waterprint.

Some countries are introduc-

ing labels that indicate the level of embedded water in food products. Cultivating fruits and vegetables in Florida and California is water intensive. Importing these products -- with their high “virtual water” content -- raises the delicate question of whether we can refuse to sell water to the US in return.

Many consumer products contain high levels of embedded water. For example, manufacturing a cotton t-shirt requires 2,700 litres of water and a pair of leather shoes almost 25,000 litres. Consider applying the various Rs to your lifestyle purchases. Refuse, resist, reject or reduce your shopping impulses and recycle or reuse products, such as clothing by shopping second-hand when possible.

Various forms of energy, primarily transportation fuels and electricity generation, constitute the largest component of our waterprint. The Tar Sands are notorious for the amount of water used to produce a barrel of oil -- excluding the volumes of contaminated water that are flushed into Lake Athabasca after the refining process.

Soy-based biodiesel and corn ethanol use even more water. It is not just the fuel; vehicles are also water hogs. It takes 150,000 litres to manufacture an average sized car. When buying another vehicle, consider a reliable second-hand car. If you buy a new vehicle, drive it until it drops. Properly

maintained with lots of TLC should ensure a life of 15-20 years for a quality vehicle. Go small and fuel-efficient.

Coal and nuclear power plants lead in water consumption and their efficiency measured in terms of water use and electricity generated is remarkably low. These disadvantages do not even include carbon emissions, construction and maintenance costs, and radioactive waste. As responsible citizens we should cut our consumption of electricity dramatically to reduce the huge volumes of water wasted in the generating process.

The amount of water on the planet is fixed. For millions of years the hydrologic cycle has been recycling the water supply through a continuous process of evaporation, condensation and precipitation. It is a myth that Canada has endless freshwater. If we consume more than the annual precipitation in the form of rain and snow, water levels will soon drop, as is happening in the Great Lakes.

Excessive use of water is one problem but contaminating our scarce water resources is another. In the hydrologic process, water is purified as it passes through the atmosphere and filters through the ground into the deep aquifers.

Not only are we depleting the aquifers by extracting large volumes of pristine water to green golf courses, for example, but we are also poisoning

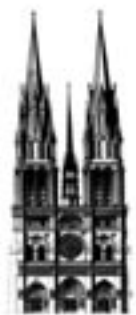
the groundwater by spreading agricultural chemicals, burying our garbage and pumping sewage underground.

Society has adopted an “out of sight, out of mind” attitude. The latest “bury our problem” approach -- euphemistically called geo-engineering -- is to sequester carbon dioxide in aquifers that have been pumped dry and also to store nuclear waste deep below the Canadian Shield. Not even the hydrologic cycle can purify groundwater once it has been contaminated with radioactive toxins and carbonic acid.

We are fouling the rain with the hazardous substances that we pump into the atmosphere. Glaciers, like aquifers, are also important repositories of pure water and they are being polluted with soot and other airborne contaminants that mix with snow. The side effects of our material lifestyles are overwhelming nature’s cleaning capacity.

Our lakes and rivers have become repositories of another kind: we dump mine tailings, radioactive tritium, phosphates and mercury and many other industrial and agricultural chemicals. Lake Erie has a vast oxygen-starved dead zone and blue-green algae is threatening lakes across the country.

Water is a fundamental human and natural right. It has passed from generation to generation since time immemorial, constantly recycling and revitalizing itself. Water is our common heritage. It is our moral responsibility to protect a resource so vital to our own well-being and to the health of the planet and to the security of future generations.



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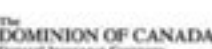
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Young Rockcliffe Actor to Train at Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London

Rockcliffe Park resident and ACTRA apprentice member **Emily Akada Waite** has been selected to attend the prestigious Young Actors Program this summer at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts (RADA) in London, England.

Waite, 17, was recommended as a candidate for the rigorous course of study by **Ms. Angela Boychuk**, her former drama teacher at **Elmwood School**. Waite, a 2008 CAPPIE Best Actress nominee, travels to London in July where she will try her hand at Shakespearean theatre; perform several plays using contemporary (20th century) texts; and then finish in August with a module entitled



Emily Akada Waite is off to London for a summer program in dramatic arts.

“devising theatre”, where the students will write, direct and act in a one-act play of their own making.

RADA, founded in 1904, is considered one of the premier theater training grounds in the English-speaking world. Graduates include Kenneth Branagh, Ralph Fiennes, Sir Anthony Hopkins and Diana Rigg.

“Attending RADA is the fulfillment of a dream,” said Waite. “I had a chance to visit the school two years ago during March break. I took a tour; saw a student production of a David Mamet play; and then, in the café afterwards, met Alan Rickman – better known

as Severus Snape of Harry Potter fame. I thought if you love theatre and acting, this is a great place to be!”

Her only worry? “The volcano in Iceland! I don’t want anything to interfere with my Air Canada flight from Ottawa to London!”

Waite has been active in theatre, radio and television in Toronto and Ottawa from the time she was ten. Her 2008 CAPPIE Best Actress nomination came for playing the role of a bright but somewhat nerdy and set-upon young student named Milton in a rural one-room schoolhouse in the Elmwood School production of “Schoolhouse”, which was also nominated as best play.

“I have played a lot of parts over the years, from a Chinese

gymnast in CBC’s ‘China Rising’, to the Red Queen in ‘Through the Looking Glass’ to Guinevere in ‘Camelot.’ But I must admit playing a 10 year-old botany-obsessed boy was my greatest stretch. But in the end I grew to love Milton – as apparently did the judges,” Waite said with a laugh.

Waite enrolls this fall at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA). She plans to major in anthropology, with a minor in theatre and film.

Waite is the daughter of **Robert Waite** and **Karen Shigeishi-Waite** of Rockcliffe Park. After attending Elmwood School for two years she boarded at The Bishop Strachan School in Toronto, where she will graduate in June with high honors.

Ottawa’s Swimming Season Set to Open for the Summer on June 19

Ottawa - Ottawa’s four supervised beaches - Britannia, Westboro, Mooney’s Bay and Petrie Island will officially open for the 2010 summer season on Saturday, June 19.

Despite the warm weather, swimming in Ottawa’s unsupervised lakes and rivers may pose great personal risk. As of Saturdays June 19, lifeguards will be on duty every day from noon to 7 pm.

Every day during the beach season, Ottawa Public Health takes water samples from all

four beaches and tests for bacteria levels. If unusually high levels of bacteria are found, a ‘no swim’ advisory is issued.

Residents can check the daily updates on water quality before they head to the beach. Starting June 19, updates will be available by calling the City at 3-1-1 or 613-580-6744, ext. 13219, or on ottawa.ca/health. Site signage and flag indicators will also indicate whether a ‘no swim’ advisory is in effect.

City beaches will close for the season on August 22.

The Rockcliffe Pond

The Pond, just south of McKay Lake in lower Rockcliffe Park, was originally a sand and gravel pit. It is now a popular swimming hole for local residents. Because of the delicate ecology of this closed-loop watering hole, swimming is only allowed in the Pond between the hours of 7 am and 2 pm, from June to September. There are no lifeguards on duty; residents swim at their own risk. There is no public swimming in McKay Lake.

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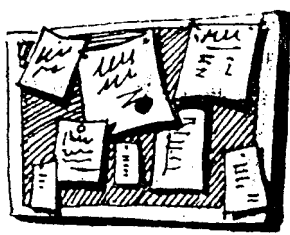
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June 1 - 19, 8 pm

OTTAWA LITTLE THEATRE *Present Laughter*, a classic by Noel Coward, Tuesday to Saturday. Sunday Matinee - June 13, 2 pm. For tickets call 613-233-8948 or visit www.ottawalittletheatre.com.

Thursday, June 3, 7-10 pm

VERNISSAGE for Karen Bailey's *Tea / leaves* exhibition at Dale Smith Gallery, 137 Beechwood Ave, June 3 - 28.

Saturday, June 5, 7:30 pm

STAIRWELL CAROLLERS. At its charity-fundraising spring concert the choir will sing spirited madrigals and seasonal sacred music, mainly from the Renaissance, in several languages. A delectable reception will follow. All profits from ticket and CD sales will go to local charities. Tickets \$15 (children 12 and under free); available at the door or in advance from choir members. Arrangements may be made for blocks of tickets at a reduced price for groups; phone 613-742-5196. St. Charles Church, 135 rue Barrette (Beechwood at St. Charles). Details: www.stairwellcarollers.com.

Sat, June 5

GOOD COMPANIONS WALK OF AGES. Join us at our upcoming walking event to raise funds to help seniors age well. You can walk for our organization or another charity that you wish to support. For more info go to <http://thegoodcompanions.ca/documents/WOApledgeform.pdf> or call 613-236-0428. Come out, have breakfast, and lis-

ten to the music of our very own Grey Jazz Big Band. Big prizes and lots of fun!

Sat, June 5 & Sun June 6

DOORS OPEN OTTAWA. Many of the finest buildings in the nation's capital will be wide open—and free of charge—to the public. For a full listing with descriptions and locations, visit ottawa.ca/doorsopen.

Tuesday, June 8, 7 pm

NECA AGM. Meet friends, ask questions, join us for refreshments. Stanley Park Fieldhouse.

Fri, June 11, 7:30 pm

SPRING CONCERT: From Ave Maria to Amazing Grace - An Evening of Favourite Sacred Music at MacKay United Church. Featuring: Soprano Parvaneh Eshghi, Mezzo Soprano Sheryn Sauvé, Piano Accompanist Frédéric Lacroix. Tickets: Adults \$15, Seniors and Students \$10. Proceeds for MacKay's new grand piano.

Sunday, June 13, 2 pm

ANNUAL HISTORICAL WALKING TOUR at the Beechwood National Memorial Centre, Beechwood Cemetery. For more information call Nicole at 613-741-9530 ext 223.

Ongoing until June 15

CENTRE D'ARTISTES VOIX VISUELLE showcases the work of four artists using photography and performance to translate the social and cultural reality of our time. Raymond Aubin combines photographic shooting and the

writing of haiku poems to dive back into his youth and childhood. Chantal Dahan's body of work presents real and imagined narrative scenarios that reflect « the Pontiac reality ». Doris Lamontagne explores the borders defining human and natural spaces, as well as the effect of these frontiers on their occupants. Through her performances, Belinda Campbell creates stimulating characters, which act as provoking agents, whose actions stem from complex concepts such as meditation, violence, humour and melancholy. 81 Beechwood Avenue, open from 11 am to 4 pm, Tuesday to Saturday.

Ongoing thru June

ORGAN TUESDAYS at St. Andrew's Church. Each Tuesday afternoon through June, 12:10 - 12:45, including works by Bach, Widor, Langlais and Howell. Freewill offering. 82 Kent St (at Wellington) www.StAndrewsOttawa.ca or 613-232-9042.

Sun, July 11, 11am - 2 pm

COMMUNITY PICNIC: At Stanley Park near the Fieldhouse. Family activities and fun for all!

Saturday, June 19, 5-8 pm

A TASTE OF SPRING evening at which participants can sample gourmet fare and fine wines in a number of attractive houses in our neighbourhood, with all proceeds going to support the CCCC. Order your tickets at 613-745-2742.

Saturday, July 24, 1 pm

RIDEAU HALL CONCERT *Songs and Tangos from the Americas* with the Gryphon Trio and Patricia O'Callaghan.

Saturday, July 24, 3 pm

RIDEAU HALL CONCERT The Band of the Ceremonial Guard.

Sunday, July 25, 1 pm

RIDEAU HALL CONCERT African String Quartet.

Sunday, July 25, 3 pm

RIDEAU HALL CONCERT Time for Three.

August - Date TBD

OTTAWA LUMIERE FESTIVAL in Stanley Park. For more information about the Festival and lantern making workshops contact the CCCC office at 613-745-2742 or www.lumiereottawa.com.


Ongoing

BECOME AN UMPIRE - The Eastern Ontario Umpires Assoc is looking for adults interested in officiating fast pitch and slo pitch softball. If you are interested in learning a new avenue of the game of softball, we are always looking for individuals like you. Training and clinics are provided. Please call Stuart 613-744-3967 or Dave 613-830-8350 now.

THE OTTAWA FOLK FESTIVAL has volunteer opportunities available for our festival weekend Aug 13-15! If you enjoy fabulous music, supporting the community, and meeting fun new people then consider volunteering for the Ottawa Folk Festival!

As a volunteer, you will receive a festival pass, free meals during your shifts, and a crew t-shirt. Applications for new volunteers open June 1. For details, visit www.ottawafolk.org. Hope to see you there!

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD Do you have a notice you would like posted in the Display Case outside the CCCC's at 200 Crichton? Contact Isobel Bisby by email (ibisby@sympatico.ca) or leave the notice in her mailbox at 143 Crichton. Please indicate for how long you wish the posting to last.



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CASUAL BABYSITTING by local, New Edinburgh, home schooled teen. Available evenings and daytime. Four years experience with Toddlers+. Homework help and tutoring services for lower elementary school children also available. Please call for information or to arrange introductory meeting. 613-749-8236.

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Governor's Walk Annual Strawberry Social

Please join us for an afternoon of great music and strawberry delights at our annual Strawberry Social; taking place June 19, 2 – 4 pm. We welcome back the Grey Jazz Combo, who will play for us while we indulge in delicious

strawberry treats prepared by our executive chef.

Summer Concert Series at Governor's Walk

Please join us for a summer filled of great music. Each month we will host a different performer who will give us a show we won't soon forget. Each performance will also

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

have home baked indulgences from our executive chef.

We would like to take this opportunity thank award-winning violinist Veronique Mathieu, who gave us our first concert on the May 16; it was spectacular!

June 1, 2010 – 7:15 pm

Outdoor Concert with the Gloucester Community Band

July 18, 2010 – 2:00 pm

Afternoon Concert with the Manotick Brass Ensemble

To RSVP or for more information please call 613 564 9255. 150 Stanley Ave. Ottawa.

Visit The Burgh Online!

Have you seen the New Edinburgh Web site? The site provides the most up-to-date source of information for the community and features:

- Upcoming Events
- Community News
- Heritage & Development updates
- Free Local Business Listings
- Minutes from NECA Executive Meetings
- local Community Group Information
- Links to Local Political Representatives



Remember, this is *your* community site. If you have a news item or event that you'd like listed, or you have a local business that you'd like listed in our directory, please send an email to webmaster@newedinburgh.ca.

www.newedinburgh.ca

Amazing Race for Literacy Saturday June 5

The 2010 Amazing Book Race is Saturday, June 5, 2010. Register a team with your classmates, colleagues, friends or family. You'll be helping support family literacy in Ottawa and have fun doing it!

What is the Amazing Book Race?

also's Amazing Book Race is a fun-packed day where teams of 4-5 people race around to Ottawa's downtown literacy checkpoints. At each location, the teams are given literacy-based tasks such as reading a story to a group of people or completing a word search. Once a team has visited all the checkpoints, they return

to the starting point to claim their prize and rest with some much-deserved refreshments and entertainment.

This year's post-race celebrations will be hosted by CBC reporter **Amanda Putz**. It's a great day out with family,

friends, colleagues, and neighbours – come and enjoy!

Since 2005, *also's* Amazing Book Race raises funds through individual pledges and institutional giving in support of this fun, literacy awareness event.

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Congratulations

Sundep Boparai and Mike Purdon of John Street welcomed **Theodore Casual** aka "Cat" or "Kitty" to their house earlier this spring.

Congratulations to Boston Marathoners **Nellie Staudye-Blondeaux** and **Renata Frankovich** (both of Vaughan St.)

Congrats to **Rob Salisbury** (Vaughan) on the delivery of his new baby—a silver 1978 Volvo in immaculate condition.

Charlotte Legault (Noel) will celebrate her 2nd birthday on May 20. When asked how old she will be, she holds up the appropriate number of fingers and replies "two". Bravo!

Babies

Victor Tannous and **Christine Hanson** (Crichton) are thrilled to announce the safe arrival of daughter, **Sophia Ruth Tannous**. Sophia was born on March 16 at 8:35 am and weighed 7 lbs 10.5 oz. Madeline is very excited about her new role as big sister to Sophia.



Sophia Ruth Tannous.

Congratulations to first time grandparents, **Paul** and **Tracy Williams** of the New Edinburgh Pub on the birth of their beautiful and healthy granddaughter, **Sophie Juliana Folz**. Sophie arrived April 7, and weighed in at 6 lbs, 4 ozs. Proud parents are **Jo-Leen** and **Steven Folz**.

Welcome to baby boy born to

Pamela and Tijs of Stanley Ave, brother for **Wim** and **Rassmus**.



Scott Hamlin (centre) with twin siblings Henry and Sarah.

Andrew and Joni Hamlin of Noel St. are busy with the newest members of their family, twins **Henry Mark** (7 lbs 11 oz) and **Sarah Kathleen** (6 lbs 1 oz). Big brother **Scott** is very happy and a great help.

Comings & Goings

Welcome to Crichton St **Jeanie Hunter**, **Chris Neale** and **Duncan**.

After almost ten years away, first in Montreal and then London, England, **Eric Wolfe** and **Elizabeth Reid** have returned to New Edinburgh. With their boys **Alec**, **Charlie** and **Jamie**. They are settling into their house on Rideau Gate and were heartened to see that the paint scheme they chose for their former house on Charles St. is still being used.

Also after almost ten years away, **Pascal Dubuc** has returned to Vaughan St., where he grew up. He left as a carefree bachelor and returns with wife **Roxy Clark**, and daughters **Harmony**, **Maya** and **Grace**. Thanks to **Bob Cronier** of **Fuoco Cronier** (also of Vaughan St.) who built a lovely "granny flat" attached to the house for the proud grandparents (**Raymond** and **Joyce**). It was a long and interesting journey, but they are delighted to stay on Vaughan and enjoy having their grandchildren so near. We'll see how they feel

by this time next year...

Condolences

Our sincere condolences to former Charles Street resident **Sylvie Lauzon** whose husband **Glen Shortliffe** died in early May. Glen was a long-serving and extremely prominent member of the federal public service whose career culminated in his tenure as Clerk of the Privy Council from 1992-1994. Following his retirement from the public service, Glen co-founded Sussex Circle, a prestigious consulting firm, well known in both government and private sector organizations in Ottawa. As Special Advisor to the Government of Ontario, he prepared a report which ultimately led to the creation of the amalgamated City of Ottawa.

Odds & Ends



Entrepreneurial spirit is alive and well and on Queen Victoria Street. On Sunday, May 16, author **James Ivison** (left) was selling copies of his latest book: *How to Draw! Evolutions of 5 Heroes*. This is the second issue in Ivison's series *How to Draw!* **Lucas Sezlik** (middle) was offering a tasty cool glass of lemonade. **Fiona Ivison** (right) was selling her lovely hand-crafted beaded necklaces. When you are out for your Sunday walk, you may be lucky and see chalk arrows on the sidewalk. This means the gang is open for business. Stock varies. Prices reasonable.



New Ed Square Mad Hatter Tea Party: (L to R) Greg Ryback, Dan Hoffman, Jenna Sloan, Wendy Martin, Ryan Hagen.



Photo: Louise Imbeault

Local artist Roy Macgregor at the Tulip Festival.

Folks have been commenting on the garbage and general untidiness on River Lane; perhaps it is similar in the other lanes. However, we have something good to comment upon: **We wish to thank whoever was involved for beautifying River Lane** between Union Street and School Lane. The City left quite a mess after pruning along the lane last year. It has now been bundled up and charming circular flower beds edged in rock have sprouted. Many visitors enjoying our walking tour, as well as residents, stroll our historic lanes, and it is much more pleasant to see gardens rather than garbage and piles of bush.



Photo: Louise Imbeault

(L to R) Dorothy Robinson, Judy Joannou and Donna Manery at Friends of Beechwood Cemetery Fashion Show fundraiser.

on the set as well as modelled. Lulu was also part of the school's water polo team which won first place in the city for the second year in a row.



Photo: Louise Imbeault

Joseph Cull and Kathy Godding at the recent YM-YWCA Strong Kids fundraiser JUST DANCE.

École Secondaire De La Salle held a fashion show on April 29 and **Lulu Vulpe Albari** (Vaughan) worked

Race Weekend through New Edinburgh is Sunday May 30, 7:30 am. The route has changed from last year. It will come into New Edinburgh via Sussex and MacKay, run down MacKay to Beechwood. The Official Cheering Station is MacKay and Charles this year, so spread the word and help makes us the Best Cheering Station in the City four years in a row!!!

Several people have reported thefts—laptops, GPS, etc—mostly due to easy access such as doors and windows being left open. So, be sure to lock up, even when just outside, enjoying the outdoors.

There are no fewer than six building permits on **Vaughan Street** this spring. The metamorphosis continues from a sleepy, mixed housing side street to a sleepy, slightly improved mixed housing side street. Best wishes to all those families who have taken the plunge and are renovating their properties!

NEXT DEADLINE: Sept 10