

June 2012

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

www.newedinburgh.ca

After the Fire: Something's Got to Give

By Jane Heintzman

As we head into a second summer with no signs of movement to address the increasingly derelict, scarred landscape at the site of the fire, it is no surprise that many residents and merchants in the community have become dispirited by the lack of action to rebuild our commercial core, and concerned at the potential dangers posed by the neglected site, with its readily breached wire fencing, piles of toxic rubble and broken glass, gaping holes, untended garbage and lack of lighting. It seems fair to say that it's not only an eyesore at the heart of our community, it's an accident waiting to happen.

NECA is acutely aware of the aesthetic affront and physical threat posed by the site, and has approached the City to explore the possibility of enclosing the area with some form of plywood fencing which could be beautified by local artists and/or decorated with panels depicting the history of the community. Early indications are not promising, as the erection of a hoarding on City property would be a costly undertaking, while the chances of obtaining permission to build on the land

belonging to New Edinburgh Centre are negligible. The new Beechwood Village Alliance (BVA) is also concerned about the problem, and hopes to play a role in developing mitigation measures later this summer. Stay tuned as plans unfold (www.newedinburgh.ca).

At the time of writing, progress towards the closing of the sale of the property to Minto remains firmly stuck in the glue, as the landlord's insurance claim reportedly remains unresolved. Lester Clark's lawsuit alleging the premature demolition of his shop is ongoing, and no agreement has yet been reached with Bread and Roses Bakery, one of the two remaining leaseholders. At this point, it seems likely that Minto may be stepping up the pressure to resolve the remaining impediments to consummation of the deal, and to get on with the launch of its redevelopment plans. As noted in earlier issues, it's our understanding that these plans will likely involve two six storey buildings, with commercial space at the ground level and residential accommodation above. Until

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New Edinburgh

ANNUAL COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

Saturday
September 15, 2012

9 AM - 3 PM
(RAIN OR SHINE)

For further information, call Cathy 613.746.0303
www.newedinburgh.ca



Photo: Mark Bisby

Isobel Bisby and Jack Horowitz lead the way through New Edinburgh park on the May 5 Jane's Walk.

Inaugural Jane's Walk in New Edinburgh Celebrates Heritage Saviours

"Cities have the capability of providing something for everybody, only because, and only when, they are created by everybody."

— Jane Jacobs, 'The Death and Life of Great American Cities'

By Isobel Bisby

On Saturday, May 5, one hundred people, or thereabouts, gathered in the garden of New Edinburgh House to begin the first ever Jane's Walk in our neighbourhood. Much to the organizers' delight, people just kept on arriving. The event was jointly planned by New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA), Crichton Community Council, and Crichton Cultural Community Centre.

Jane's Walk celebrates the ideas and legacy of urbanist Jane Jacobs by getting people out exploring their neighbourhoods and meeting their neighbours. Free walking tours held on the first weekend of May each year are led by locals who want to create a space for residents to talk about what matters to them in the places they live and work. Since its inception in Toronto in 2007, Jane's Walk has expanded rapidly. In May of 2011, 511 walks were held in 75 cities in 15 countries worldwide.

Why a Jane's Walk in New Edinburgh?

The **Parks not Pavement** campaign, organized by the people of New Edinburgh over 20 years ago, was just one

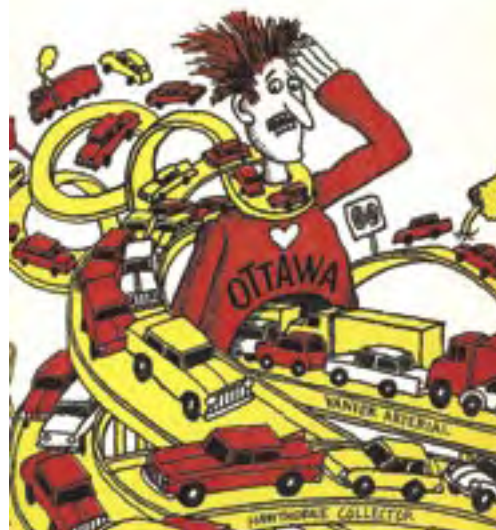
battle in a long war over linkages between Ottawa and Hull/Gatineau in which there have been both winners and losers.

New Edinburgh was a winner when it saved Stanley Park by stopping the Vanier Parkway extension. I wasn't living here then, but today, and for all time, my family and I are the beneficiaries. Between the Rideau

speech by Amy Browell on the steps of New Edinburgh House. Twenty years ago, Amy had almost singlehandedly begun the battle to kill the Vanier Parkway Extension—a development which would have obliterated the park along the Rideau and seriously impacted our quiet hamlet. After several years, she passed the baton to the community, under the leadership of NECA, which continued the fight through the **Parks not Pavement** campaign.

Jack Horowitz remembers those days, and throughout the walk reminisced about planting trees and hanging helium balloons along the path of the proposed expressway route; how eight families got together and planted the Butterfly Garden in Stanley Park, directly in the path of the planned extension; he also talked about building our fine Fieldhouse, strategically situated to undermine the possibility of any future Vanier Arterial bordering our houses. Heady and frightening days certainly, but it's important to acknowledge that, though our community won that battle, other communities were not so fortunate and still suffer today from the unresolved problem of truck traffic in the downtown core.

The Jane's Walk New Edinburgh organizing committee, including Sue Hall, Roxie Clark, Roslyn Butler and myself, decided to include other



Parks not Pavement Campaign Poster.

River and the community lies a tranquil green park, with walking and cycling paths, a playground, benches, two ice rinks and a splash pad with a community-managed Fieldhouse nearby; there is a soccer field, basketball court, tennis courts, and an off-leash area for dogs.

The Walk

Participants in the recent Jane's Walk in New Edinburgh were blessed with a glorious sunny day. Since this year's theme was *Heritage Saviours: Past, Present and Future*, what better way to start than with a rousing

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NECA President Joan Mason Reports

A summer break will be greatly appreciated by NECA and its committees. It has been a demanding year as the City and NCC presented the community groups with much to digest and comment upon.

Stanley/New Edinburgh Park

The park was officially re-opened on May 14. The final stage of the NCC remediation of the park has been the planting of a forest. There are a great variety of trees, both evergreen and deciduous, tastefully grouped. The paths that were disrupted by the ice-clearing workers have been restored. A sitting area will be created at the old railway bridge foundation.

This fine addition to the urban canopy is most appreciated, especially as the city is losing so many ash trees. The park has moved from neglect and contamination to what will be a beautiful and restful place for the next century. Many thanks to the NCC and their landscape planners.

New Infill Guidelines

There is cause for celebration as City Council has passed new infill guidelines that will help mature neighbourhoods such as ours to retain their streetscapes during this time of intensification. NECA participated in this two-year study by City

staff that looked into updating guidelines and creating new by-laws to help enforce them. The controversial 'grade' issue has been resolved, and a new urban tree conservation by-law put in place. Our councillor, **Peter Clark**, was a staunch supporter of these much needed changes.

Raising Our Profile

Along with better regulations to help protect the look and feel of the community, NECA has been working to raise awareness of our history and the need to preserve mature neighbourhoods, as well as the Heritage Conservation District (HCD). NECA's Heritage and Development (H&D) Committee has met with developers, attended Planning Committee and Committee of Adjustment meetings, and, when necessary, made presentations to the Ontario Municipal Board. The regular H&D columns in the *New Edinburgh News*, the Walking Tour brochure, Heritage forums, street banners and the recent and very successful **Jane's Walk** (organized in collaboration with the CCC and CCCC), are examples of some of the other awareness-raising initiatives that NECA has undertaken.

I met recently with **Mayor Watson** and Councillor Clark at a breakfast hosted by the Mayor. I asked if Ottawa was

serious about heritage and mentioned that conservation through conflict is not the way to go. I reminded them that the City needs to embrace its heritage, promote historic tourism and appreciate the work done by residents in all the HCDs.

In an effort to highlight the importance of New Edinburgh's history to the City, NECA has asked that Ottawa proclaim **September 1st Thomas McKay Day**, and will ask Mayor Watson to read the proclamation at a reception at New Edinburgh House. Check the New Edinburgh website (www.newedinburgh.ca) for details over the summer.

University of Waterloo HCD Study Comes to New Edinburgh

Heritage Ottawa is working with the University of Waterloo, Heritage Resource Centre, which is conducting province-wide surveys of HCDs, to assess the effectiveness of HCDs at heritage conservation and the level of satisfaction for those living in them. The New Edinburgh HCD, along with Rockcliffe, Lowertown and Centretown have been chosen for the study as they are most at risk from intensification, demolition and infill.

Sometime in June, residents of the New Edinburgh HCD—an area bounded by



Photo: JF Noble

Construction on 245 Crichton is now complete and the building is full of activity. "Official" opening is on June 6.

Sussex, Mackay, Dufferin and Stanley—may receive a knock on their door by a team of local volunteer surveyors, asking them to respond to the survey.

The final report will be due in August. These surveys have proved to reveal the degree to which Ontario's heritage is under stress, and how HCDs are sought out by many as places of choice to live.

245 Crichton Officially Opens

The project known as '**A Collective Act of Kindness**' will be officially opened by Mayor Watson, **June 6, at 11:30 am with a BBQ**. NECA was one of the many partners in the Ottawa Community Housing project, which also included all the building trades and participants involved with the construction of the Convention Centre. All the work and materials were donated. This is a fine example of generosity and caring, and we are proud to have been a part of it. Congratulations all round.

The former 106-year-old building, left derelict by the City, was demolished. However, NECA is very pleased that the new building respected the footprint, mass and height of the original. 245 Crichton provides six apartments that are

so sorely needed. It is wonderful to see lights on and activity around the building again, and we warmly welcome the new residents to New Edinburgh.

Beautification of Beechwood Fire Site

NECA's efforts to ascertain what can be done to brighten up and make safer the site of last year's devastating fire have come to a grinding halt. We investigated City regulations and found out the security fence and sign are considered adequate by the City. If people are seen accessing the site, we are instructed to phone the police... Never mind the pit they may fall into!

Upon looking into hoardings: first we would have to have permission from the owner. Calls to the owner have not been returned. If the hoarding is placed on the City road allowance the fee is \$1.34 per square meter per day + \$52.63 processing fee to generate the permit. It is renewable every 90 days. As we would be looking at the hoarding being up for several years, this is cost-prohibitive. We would also have to assume all responsibilities and liabilities. Ideas welcome.

I wish you all a wonderful summer, enjoying what is close to home, and on your travels.

Your NECA Representatives 2011-2012

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NECA MEETINGS: All Welcome

The NECA board meets nine times a year, normally on the **third Monday of each month at 7:30 pm**. No meetings in July, August, or December.

All upcoming NECA meetings will be held at **St. Bartholomew's Church at 125 MacKay Street**, by kind permission of the church board and warden.

Meetings are open to all New Edinburgh residents. Anyone wishing to make a presentation to the board should please contact Joan Mason in advance to arrange scheduling. Our next meetings are:

June 18, 2012, 7:30 pm, at St. Bartholomew's
September 17, 2012, 7:30 pm, at St. Bartholomew's

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



Heritage and Development Committee - Comité Patrimoine et Développement

Michael Histed
Chair, H&D Committee

Updates

First a quick update on the Heritage and Development Committee files reported in the last edition of the *New Edinburgh News*:

61 Queen Victoria

The H&D Committee prepared and submitted a position document to Doyle Homes and the City of Ottawa on April 15, 2012. In it, the Committee:

- supported the proposal for the property fronting 61 Queen Victoria Street
- opposed plans for new construction along River Lane based on the fact that the plans contravene the Heritage Overlay, Zoning By-Law and the City's Official Plan, and
- noted concerns related to adding additional parking along the lanes, such as snow loading, access for emergency vehicles and garbage collection.

280-282 Crichton

The H&D Committee has not heard officially from the neighbours or their lawyer with respect to the new design

for the apartment building. Although the height of the building has increased by 2.7 metres, it is still within the overall zoning height limit of 14.5 metres. The Committee agreed that, despite the added height, the new design for the front of the project would still meet the needs for compatible streetscape along Crichton.

205 Crichton Street

The H&D Committee submitted a response to the developer, Vert Design, and the City. The response pointed out that, as a "Gateway Property", the design did not meet the requirements of the Heritage Overlay. The Committee also indicated that they felt the proposed project would cause issues for the immediate neighbour with balconies, and did not adequately address parking issues. Vert Design has since contacted the Committee to discuss its concerns.

296 Crichton Street

The Chair of the H&D Committee contacted Timber Ville construction and they have confirmed that the garages will be placed at the rear of the property as previously agreed.

67 MacKay Street

The H&D Committee supported the proposed kitchen addition to the property with no changes.

132 Stanley

The H&D Committee responded to the Public Notice for Severance, recommending that there be a postponement of Committee of Adjustment hearings until development plans were available. The City's Planning Committee has approved the severance into three lots: one to include the existing bungalow, and two side-by-side lots along Queen Victoria. They also approved a right of way behind lot 3 for parking access off River Lane.

192 Crichton

The H&D Committee has met with the developer and has recently received a list of proposed variances. These are currently being reviewed by the H&D Committee.

New Activity

Recently, the H&D Committee received for review a proposal for a new garage on River Lane, associated with 165 Crichton and replacing one that was recently demolished.

The H&D Committee submitted comments to the City of Ottawa objecting to the size and mass of the proposed structure, which would require a significant variance from the Heritage Overlay.

very easily be overrun with development if not protected. As a community, we must all work together to protect what we love about New Edinburgh, its heritage and village character.

Protecting the Lanes

The village-like atmosphere of New Edinburgh is worth preserving, and in particular the lanes. The H&D Committee is committed to working with the City to help maintain the character of our lanes, which could

If you have concerns about a proposed development or would like to get more involved with NECA's Heritage & Development Committee, contact the new Heritage and Development email account at NECA-HD@hotmail.ca.



DEADLINE
for the next edition of the
New Edinburgh News
Sept 10

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are available at

www.newedinburgh.ca

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

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From the Editor's Chair



It has been a good year for the *New Edinburgh News*. The paper continues to thrive, attracting support from local advertisers despite economic hard times. We very much appreciate this, and encourage our readers to *shop local and shop often!*

It is also a good time to highlight the dedication and service provided by our cast and crew.

The Core Team

We are sincerely blessed to have the energy and experience of **Senior Writer, Jane Heintzman**. Besides writing large swaths of the content each edition, she also encourages and guides new contributors. Thank you!

Photographer/Columnist Louise Imbeault has truly become our "go to" gal for photos and personal profiles. And we look forward to what

she has in store for next year!

Our newest addition this year is **Ad Manager Brian Gallant**. He has expertly taken on his new role, and is putting his publishing pedigree to work. Way to go!

Our new **Bookkeeper** this year, **Kathryn Sabetta** has been working hard to keep the NEN books in good order.

We are very happy to welcome to the team our new reporter-at-large, **JF Noble**.

The dedicated (and often late-night) efforts of proofreader **Sandra Fraser** ensures typos, run-on sentences and grammar snafus are kept to an absolute minimum. Kudos!

The Home Delivery Team

Thank you to newcomer **Distribution Manager Jonathan Blake** and to the team of volunteers who deliver the paper to your doorstep each edition: **Philip McAdam, Kathy McConkey,**

Isobel Bisby, Margo Silver, Stephen Marmara-Burns, Lise Gagnon, Veronica Nostitz-Tait, Jim deFaye, Liba Bender, Roxan Clark, Roger Hardy, William Beddoe, Susan Boyd, and Ian Fraser.

The NEN Advisory Board

Thank you to **Barbara Benoit, Joyce Dubuc, Jane Heintzman, David Horley, Gemma Kerr, Cathy McConkey, Dave Rostenne, David Sacks, Janet Uren and Jim Watson** for providing important support and insight for editorial and administrative decision-making.

Volunteer Opportunities

Want to get more involved in the community? Give us a call—projects come in all sizes from simple scanning for our electronic archive (yes, it's still ongoing...) to participation in production, administration or editorial decision-making. Come and join the team!

Cindy Parkanyi



Homeowner's Guide to Earning with Solar

By Sarah Anson-Cartwright
Homeowner **Dennis Jackson** was keen on earning revenue by adding solar panels to his roof. What he did not expect was to end up saving money as his electricity bills fell. By adding solar panels, Jackson became a lot more aware of his home's energy consumption and that led to easy ways to reduce and save money.

Granted, an investment in solar panels is a long-term proposition. However, I learned at Ecology Ottawa's **Investing in Home Solar Power** workshop on April 12 that it is an opportunity to passively earn a return while actively contributing to alternative energy sources.

Surprisingly, Ottawa is in the second best area for solar power generation in North America. With the Ontario Government's MircoFIT program (where FIT stands for feed-in-tariff), homeowners with solar panels can enter 20-year contracts with the program which pays at rates that yield a 7% return on investment guaranteed. With the program, you generate power for the grid (not your home) and are paid accordingly.

While the program has seen more take-up in rural areas, we need solar power in urban areas for efficiency in the grid, says **Janice Ashworth**, of

Ecology Ottawa. The bonus with solar panels is that peak energy consumption in the summer is matched by solar power generation.

Dennis admits that he was scared about an investment of \$30,000 in solar panels. The panels do degrade over time, with the result that less energy is produced. However, Dennis is completely won over now by the fact that despite having a less-than-ideal slope of roof (22.5 degrees, rather than the ideal 37 degrees), he is generating \$3,200 annually, which covers his property taxes. At tax time, he is also able to write off the capital and other expenses against the revenue.

Here is what you need to know when considering solar panels:

- Slope of the roof: 37 degrees is best.
- Azimuth: a roof's direction straight south is best, but due east and due west are also fine.
- Shade is a critical issue, but some shade is okay. Determine whether there will be any shading over the next 20 years near your house. Be sure to check the City's density plan for building zones on the south side, for example.
- If you have a heritage home

or live in a heritage conservation district such as New Edinburgh, you may want to check with the City's heritage planners to acquire a permit to add panels. The key is to ensure the aesthetic integrity of the house. This is usually feasible since panels are mounted on racks a few inches above the roof and can be removed in a way that keeps the roof intact.

- Solar panel companies usually do free estimates, according to **Graham Thomas** who works at **iSolara**.

Facts in brief:

- Panels last 25-40 years.
- Test your home location's solar potential by visiting www.greenpowerlabs.com.
- Between April to September, solar panels produce 75% of their revenue.
- It typically takes four days to install panels on a roof.
- It is usually a 3-4 month process from the time of applying till the connection to the grid, which happens about two weeks after installation.

If your house is not suited to solar panels, you can still invest in solar power by joining the **Ottawa Renewable Energy Cooperative**. OREC sells membership (at \$100) and shares (at \$5,000 each) for 20-year investments with reasonable returns of 5% or better.

All in all, there are options for taking advantage of the sun and earning a return on an alternative energy investment.

If you missed the workshop and are interested in solar power, here is an opportunity to learn more:

Invest in solar. Get the facts. Saturday, June 16, 9 am - noon, City Hall, 110 Laurier Ave. Free entry.

Farmers' Markets in Ottawa

Ottawa Farmers' Market: Brewer Park, just South of Sunnyside Ave. Sundays 8 am - 3 pm, May through October.

Main Farmers' Market: 223 Main St. (St. Paul University). Saturdays, 9 am - 2 pm, May through October.

Ottawa Byward Market: 55 Byward Market Square. 7 days/wk, 6 am - 6 pm, May through October; 9:30 am - 5:30 pm, November to April.

Ottawa Parkdale Market: Parkdale near Wellington, Hintonburg. 7 days/wk, 7 am - 6 pm, April through December.

Ottawa Organic Farmers' Market: Canada Care Building, Bank and Heron. Saturdays, 10 am - 2 pm, year long.

Quartier Vanier Farmer's Market: Scotiabank Parking Lot, Montreal Rd & Hammond St. Saturdays, 9 am - 1 pm, July 7 to October 8.

Green Bin Maintenance for a Hot Summer

Come November, we will have the start of bi-weekly garbage collection.

So now is a great time to exploit the weekly green bin pick-up—our future mainstay waste collection.

Dealing with the green bin is lot like coping with your garbage bin. In summer, we are always aiming to avoid smells and pests. Just like the garbage bin, the green bin requires us to apply all the same common sense and practical tips—and a few more for good measure. With a hot summer ahead, good habits are all the more helpful.

Tips to cut down on smells and pests in your green bin:

- Wrap your organics waste in newspaper or put it in Bag to Earth lined bags or paper bags. (We end up with a lot of wrapped bundles in our green bin. The paper absorbs moisture, which can really develop in summer heat.)
- Line the bottom of the green bin with leaf waste or newspaper.
- Store your bins in the shade or in a shed.

- Freeze really mucky waste (like fish scraps or grease) until collection day (and keep it well marked as Green Bin waste).
- Don't leave food waste exposed. (If fruit flies arrive with warm weather, you can capture them with a bowl of vinegar covered with plastic wrap with several small holes in it.)
- Secure the lid of your green bin; we use a bungee cord over top of the lid.
- Move your green bin to the curb on the morning of collection; don't move it the night before, when it could attract pests.
- Rinse or hose your green bin with water occasionally after pick-up, to cut down on odours and pests.

You will notice that by feeding more to the green bin—giving it all your food scraps, paper towelling and food soiled cardboard—that your regular garbage will be less. By going more green this summer, you'll be ready for the bi-weekly garbage pickup in the fall, and less waste to the landfill.



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Going Green, Getting Local

By JF Noble

Fast becoming a green hotspot, Ottawa opened the season with **Eco Expo** on April 21-22 at the RA Centre, celebrating Earth Day weekend with over one hundred environment-conscious businesses and organizations together with hundreds of citizens across the city.

One pillar of sustainability is going local. Not only does it reduce transportation needs, but also encourages the growth of local micro-enterprises, stimulates community economic development, and increases certainty that the businesses acts responsibly. Beyond mere transaction, the business and customer develop a relationship.

Happily, Ottawa is brimming with local green businesses. Among those showcased at the expo, the following sampling offer a simple yet relevant practicality.

The Healthiest Home: With its mission to make green building products readily

accessible to homeowners and builders in Ottawa since 2003, The Healthiest Home has become one of Canada's premier suppliers of environmentally friendly building products and services and healthy home construction solutions, from zero-toxin paint and flooring to roofing and construction services. If you are new to green building products, The Healthiest Home is a good place to start. Visit them at: thehealthiesthome.com.

YOGO: Locally made, items from this top quality active wear clothing line typically outlast a decade. Made from bamboo and 100% cotton, this yoga/comfort apparel will easily become your favourite apparel, period. Each item ordered is sewn and handled individually, accommodating special sizing or length requirements. While most clothing is outsourced overseas with cheap labour and materials, owner Jo-Ann Oosterman is com-

mitted to YOGO being 100% Canada made—in Ottawa, to be more precise. With the care and the spirit that goes into YOGO apparel, it will easily please customers for a long, long time. Check out YOGO online at: www.yogo.ca.

ECO EXPO OTTAWA HEALTHY LIVING SHOW

Bee Glorious: Making its debut at Eco Expo, the new Ottawa-based company Bee Glorious offers food-grade skincare products that “you can eat,” literally. Partnering with small, sustainable producer communities in Asia and practicing fair trade, all products manufactured are truly natural without a touch of chemicals, organic where possible, not tested on animals, and packaging is increasingly

made from recycled materials and are themselves recyclable. Bee Glorious also carries local artisan handcrafted fashion accessories and household items made from sustainable materials. Learn more at: www.bee glorious.com.

Healthy Beauty for Life, by Sierra Club Canada Foundation (a not-for-profit organization, not a business): It's no secret, cosmetics are laden with chemicals... applied on our biggest organ (the skin), it's downright hazardous (think carcinogens and hormone disruptors). It's bound to happen: women and girls are bound to use cosmetics at one point in their lives. Enter the Healthy Beauty for Life campaign. Raising awareness among teen girls, the campaign asks mothers, grandmothers, aunts, and godmothers to have a dialogue with their teens about choosing products with ingredients that will not cause them harm, particularly during this crucial

stage in their development.

The perfect ice-breaker: a beauty kit containing safe and eco-friendly cosmetics products. Sierra Club Canada Foundation has worked with several manufacturers of non-toxic, natural cosmetics and has put together a ‘beauty kit’ available for purchase at \$20 (\$100 value) and \$50 (\$250 value). The kit includes different products from natural and eco-friendly cosmetic lines, including Ottawa-based Revolution Organics and Dr. Hauschka. Start the conversation and order your kits at: www.sierraclub.ca.

As “green” becomes the new cool, going local in Ottawa makes sustainability immediate and relevant in our daily lives and in our communities.

Ottawa Local Motives, organizer of Eco Expo, aims to continue to promote healthy living, stimulate community economic development, and environmental citizenship in Ottawa.

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Jane's Walk...

Continued from page 1

points of community interest and importance on the Walk. We strolled along MacKay to the site of the Beechwood fire, where **Chris Green** (Bread and Roses) and **Heather Matthews** (The Scone Witch) spoke about the sadness of losing our historic streetscape and the current impasse regarding rebuilding on the fire site. **Joan Mason** (NECA) assured everyone that the community is concerned, and is dedicated to monitoring the redevelopment carefully.

We then walked the route where the expressway would have passed, relishing the green beauty alongside the river on the left, and the heritage buildings on the right. We stopped at 245 Crichton and listened to **Jacques Legendre** reminisce about his days as City Councillor and his participation in the attempt to save this old building from demolition. We admired its recent reincarnation, which has been proudly brokered by NECA.

We stopped at the Fieldhouse, where **Cathy McConkey** related the history of this recreational facility. She also advanced the notion of closing Stanley Avenue at the Fieldhouse



Photo: Mark Bisby

During the recent Jane's Walk, Paul McConnell explains the role NECA's Heritage and Development Committee plays in protecting historically valuable properties, such as the Bell House on Stanley Avenue.

where the road curves, and returning it to parkland to make for a safer area for families visiting the park. We walked through the Butterfly Garden, a quiet and tranquil place that greatly needs some loving care to restore the flowers to once again attract the butterflies. We quietly observed the three huge boulders placed in the Butterfly Garden in remembrance of **Alice Dietrich-O'Connor**, who died of cancer in 1998, and

whose favourite song was *Ice Cream* by Sarah McLachlan... words inscribed on the stones are visible to this day.

We continued on and admired the historic Bell House, where **Paul McConnell** explained the work of the NECA Heritage and Development Committee that strives to protect these historically valuable properties. The last stop was at the junction of Stanley and Union where we saw more fine examples of early residences in our heritage community. We then returned to New Edinburgh House to drink tea and coffee, and continue our conversations. The walk was a wonderful experience, and hopefully the beginning of an annual tradition. Thank you Jane Jacobs, we think you'd approve...

Note: A limited number of Jane's walk T-shirts, featuring the Parks not Pavement poster, are on sale at New Edinburgh House. Adults \$15, Children and Youth \$10.

Letter to the Community Final Curtain



On April 28, 2012, at precisely 10:42 pm, the curtain fell on the New Edinburgh Players' final production, *The Liar*, a comedy by David Ives, adapted from the play by Pierre Corneille.

33 successful seasons (a total of 51 productions) have raised substantial funds for:

- the former Crichton Street School library
- New Edinburgh Community Alliance
- Crichton Cultural Community Centre
- MacKay United Church
- United Church Women
- MacKay Piano Committee
- St. Bartholomew's for Harmony House & The Bale
- Amethyst Women's Addiction Treatment Centre
- Ottawa Salus Corporation (Community Mental Health Services)
- ALSocares (development and growth of adult and family literacy in Ottawa)
- Citizen Advocacy (supporting a wide range of people with disabilities)
- Ottawa Humane Society
- Serenity Renewal for Families
- Ontario Lupus Association – Ottawa Branch
- Canadian Breast Cancer Network
- EcoEquitable (social economy enterprise to facilitate the integration of francophone immigrant women into the workforce), and
- the Burgh Carving Club.

We bid you all farewell and say thank you to the numerous fans and supporters and sponsors (Gordon Harrison Gallery, Rockcliffe Retirement Residence), former actors and

backstage crews and the organizers of the New Edinburgh Players' 30th season festivities, who contributed so much of their time, talent and enthusiasm to the success, laughter, good times, friendships and camaraderie which was shared among us all for so many years. As the founder and artistic director of The New Edinburgh Players, I would like to say THANK YOU from the depth of my heart to all of you and to our loyal audiences, who laughed and cheered with us year after year, after year...

What will I do without the theatre? To begin with, I shall take a rest, and then go with the flow. I would like to travel more often, dedicate more time to painting watercolours; possibly write my theatre memoirs; definitely continue the work on my graphic fantasy novel for children; study and learn to dance the Argentine Tango, in Ottawa and in Buenos Aires. And, somewhere in between, I shall join a dramatics society. Wherever there is a stage and a theatre, I can most likely be found, and it is there where I would very much enjoy welcoming you once again to a show of mine.

Ingrid McCarthy

Editor's note: For 33 years, the phenomenal Ingrid McCarthy has produced an annual play—in some seasons, two plays—providing much-appreciated dramatic entertainment to the community. We wish her all the best as she heads off to new adventures. We also salute all the dedicated members of the New Edinburgh Players' cast and crew for enriching our lives through excellent community theatre.

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If These Walls—and Doors—Could Talk ...

By Paul McConnell

New Edinburgh is one of the oldest neighbourhoods in Ottawa. Many of our houses were built over 100 years ago. Most have been around for several generations. These are real houses, with character and history. And they talk to us about their lives—if you know how to listen.

There are many ways we can discover the way our houses have evolved over the years. As heating, plumbing, and electrical services have advanced, for example, we might detect the tell-tale circular marks in walls, ceilings, and floors revealing the track of long-gone stovepipes. Or we learn to our surprise that the wiring we have taken for granted is really a fragile composite of the various technologies prevalent in different eras. Some of us have old 'summer kitchens' that would once have been a seasonal refuge for the family but which, through pressure on space (and the availability of artificial air conditioning) have now been insulated and converted to year-round use. And what about the complex and shifting pattern of property lots and rights-of-way in New Edinburgh? In some cases these tell us how large family lots had second houses built on them to accommodate grandparents and adult children, but became legally severed once the families dispersed.

Then there are the items we stumble across during renovations. How did that old German newspaper find its way behind the wall? Where did the horse-shoe, coloured medicine bottles, and doll's teacup come from that we dug up in the garden? In his rear garden, on

MacKay Street, **Dominique Primeau** was surprised to uncover dozens of rocks—not from the slabs of slate and shale that form our basement floors—but large, cut stones that must once have formed a wall. But what was the purpose of such a major project? Perhaps a boundary wall

Crichton is the empty brick house which, with its neighbouring apartment building (280 Crichton), is scheduled for demolition and the site redeveloped as "stacked townhouses".

These two buildings are fine examples of the style typical of New Edinburgh in the first two decades of the 20th century.

built by August Boehmer, a building contractor who was a prominent member of the local German-Canadian community. He helped found St. John Lutheran congregation, and built its church on Crichton in 1895. He built 282 Crichton in about 1909 and lived there until his death in 1937.

inside the two doomed buildings and was pleased to discover that some of the fixtures were still in place. Among his purchases from the Boehmer residence were eight solid wood internal doors, which are destined to find a new home during the restoration of Dominique's MacKay property. Interestingly, there were signs that the doors had been recycled already, having been previously altered for installation at 282 Crichton. But while stripping paint off them, Dominique discovered the doors had another story to tell. There gradually appeared, written in large, cursive handwriting, a list of names. A dozen names, like 'Donald Nelson' and 'William Musgrave'. Next to some of them, but frustratingly difficult to decipher, is another word—perhaps 'Mooney', 'Moving', or



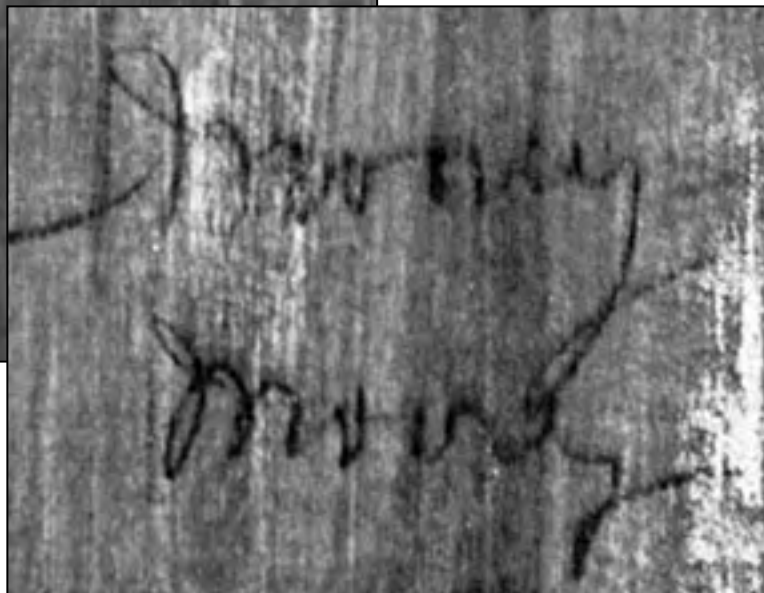
Photo: Paul McConnell

Dominique Primeau with one of the old salvaged doors with its peculiar manuscript list of men's names. Debtors? The local hockey team? Next to some of them is another word—perhaps 'Mooney', 'Moving', or 'Money'. Any ideas out there?

indicating an earlier lot line? Or perhaps it was a retaining wall needed at one time to stabilize the lot. In any event, the old stones will now take on a new life, above ground, in the landscaped rear yard.

Dominique had a second recent encounter with people from another time. 282

Sadly, being located outside the boundaries of the Heritage Conservation District, they are not protected from demolition. Strenuous attempts by the community to secure individual heritage designation for them were unsuccessful, and we shall soon lose these treasures forever. Both were



Back to Dominique and his recent discovery. He moved to New Edinburgh last summer after living several years in Vancouver in a house he had restored. As an interior decorator and designer with a special interest in heritage, Dominique managed to arrange a tour

'Money'. Any ideas out there? We'll probably never know the who, what, and why of this unique list from years gone by, but this is a fascinating reminder that New Edinburgh is a special place, with deep roots and a long history to share.

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From the Desk of...



Mauril Bélanger
Member of Parliament for
Ottawa-Vanier



Liberal Advocate for Co-operatives

“Co-operatives are a reminder to the international community that it is possible to pursue both economic viability and social responsibility.”
— Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary General.

Given the declaration by the United Nations of 2012 as the International Year of Co-operatives, I have been appointed Liberal Advocate for Co-operatives by the Honourable Bob Rae, Liberal Interim Leader.

The newly created role of Advocate for Co-operatives is based on openness, collaboration, awareness and avoids partisanship. It is a progressive, positive and evidence-based role. I intend to promote Canadian co-operatives and their values, as well as assist them to the best of my abilities.

Over 18 million people are members of Canadian co-operatives. There are approximately 9,000 co-operatives in Canada. These include: more than 2,200 housing co-operatives which are home to about 250,000 individuals, more than 1,300 agricultural co-ops, more

than 650 retail co-operatives, nearly 900 credit unions and caisses populaires with close to 11 million members, about 450 co-ops offering child care or early childhood education, more than 600 worker (employee-owned) co-ops with a total membership of over 13,000, and more than 100 health care co-operatives. Co-operatives, including credit unions, have an estimated \$252 billion in assets and the co-operative sector employs more than 155,000 people.

I thank the New Edinburgh News for the continued opportunity to share news with constituents of the area.

Le Défenseur libéral en matière de coopératives

« Les coopératives rappellent à la communauté internationale qu'il est possible d'allier la vitalité économique à la responsabilité sociale » — Ban Ki-moon, secrétaire général des Nations Unies.

Suite à la déclaration des Nations Unies qui stipule que l'année 2012 est l'année internationale des coopératives, l'honorable Mauril Bélanger, député d'Ottawa-Vanier, a été

nommé défenseur libéral en matière de coopératives par l'honorable Bob Rae, chef libéral intérimaire.

Ce rôle nouvellement créé de défenseur des coopératives est fondé sur l'ouverture, la collaboration, la sensibilisation et il évite la partisanerie. Il s'agit d'un rôle progressiste, positif et fondé sur les preuves. J'ai l'intention de promouvoir les coopératives canadiennes et leurs valeurs, ainsi que de les aider au meilleur de ma connaissance.

Plus de 18 millions de Canadiens sont membres de coopératives. Il y a environ 9 000 coopératives au Canada, dont plus de 2 200 coopératives d'habitation qui logent à peu près 250 000 personnes, plus de 1 300 coopératives agricoles, plus de 650 coopératives de commerçants, près de 900 coopératives de crédit et caisses populaires qui comptent près de 11 millions de membres, environ 450 coopératives de garde d'enfants et d'éducation des jeunes enfants, plus de 600 coopératives de travailleurs (appartenant aux employés) qui comptent au total plus de 13 000 membres et plus de 100 coopératives en soins de santé. Les coopératives (y compris les coopératives de crédit) ont des actifs évalués à 252 milliards de dollars et emploient plus de 155 000 personnes.

Je remercie le New Edinburgh News de l'occasion de partager des nouvelles avec les résidents du quartier.

*Hon. / L'hon. Mauril Bélanger,
M.P. / député, Ottawa-Vanier*

From the Desk of Mayor Jim Watson



Canada House

Little did we know that we would ignite an outpouring of interest when Councillors Rainer Bloess, Katherine Hobbs and I attended a meeting of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage on Tuesday, April 24, 2012. We were asked to testify on what we should be doing to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Confederation in 2017.

It seems to me that we should find a way to celebrate great Canadian achievements. We should be able to display, for all to see, artefacts that mean something to the real people of our great country. I proposed the idea of a Canada House to hold our most treasured national memories in the former US Embassy in Ottawa. This is an iconic space directly opposite Parliament Hill that would be greatly enhanced as the treasure chest of our nation. And it has been sitting empty for 10 years.

The possibilities are many: a replica of the Canadarm; Bryan Adams' first guitar; Banting and Best's chemistry set; Sydney Crosby's game-winning stick from the Gold medal game at the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics (or a reasonable facsimile, since I bet the Hockey Hall of Fame has the original for themselves).

These are just a few ideas, and we could find a thousand more in the bat of an eye. In addition to those above, other ideas I have mentioned are Celine Dion's first Gold Record, or

Terry Fox's t-shirt or maybe even Joseph Bombardier's first snowmobile.

People from across the country would love a glimpse of national treasures like these.

I have received a swath of Tweets and a batch of emails from folks in Ottawa and beyond. Everybody was taking a few moments to offer their own suggestions. Jane Osborne said, “We are totally behind you 100 percent. Love the idea we need it in Canada. We need to cheer on Canada.” Jean-Pierre Dubois-G suggested we should have the first edition of Anne of Green Gables. Noah Carroll wants to see, “Terry Fox's shoes? An original Bell telephone?” And Melanie Fulop told the Twittersphere that, “Having visited Washington and seen all the museums for free, I think this is a great idea!”

There has also been media interest. *Ottawa Citizen* columnist Joanne Chianello thinks the idea may be a hit—she wants to see a replica of the Galloping Gourmet's kitchen! I'm too young to become a museum piece, let alone name, just yet!

So send me your ideas for what should be included in Canada house by email to jim.watson@ottawa.ca or via Twitter @JimWatsonOttawa and use hashtag #CanBucketList. I look forward to working with the Federal Government to help bring this beautiful building back to life in time for 2017.

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Ottawa City Councillor Peter Clark Reports

Beechwood Fire

As of this writing the insurance claims are not finalized. It is disappointing, but we are hopeful it will not be too much longer.

Emerald Ash Borer

Emerald ash borer (EAB) is a non-native insect that is killing trees in many areas of the City. This pest is particularly significant since ash trees represent 25% of our forest cover. Unfortunately, the EAB does not have the natural controls that are found in its' native range. For this reason it has killed millions of ash trees in southwestern Ontario and throughout the United States. Although researchers are continuing to work on long-term solutions, there are currently no options to stop the spread or eradicate this pest. Since the discovery of emerald ash borer in Ottawa in 2008, we have been implementing the Council-approved strategy to manage our forest cover. This strategy has five main components, these are:

1. Regulation of wood movement and disposal.
2. Tree removal.
3. Selective tree injections.
4. Proactive tree planting and replacement tree planting.
5. Public consultation and outreach.

In Canada there is only one pesticide that is available for use against emerald ash borer, called TreeAzin, delivered through a tree injection. The City of Ottawa's EAB strategy includes tree injection as a mitigation measure to minimize the impact on forest cover, and we have been successfully adding ash trees to this program every year. To date there are over 2,000 trees that have been protected with this pesticide. This tree injection is meant to function as a protection for select trees and it is not possible to protect every ash tree on this program.

Our residents have the option to inject City-owned trees located on their property, at their own cost, if it is deemed

reasonable to do so. If residents have questions, they can call 3-1-1 and speak to City staff for advice on whether the tree may be a candidate for injection and how to proceed before engaging a qualified contractor. TreeAzin injections should only be performed by a qualified professional and trees must be re-injected every two years, potentially for the life of the tree.

Ash tree removals in response to EAB are not done in an effort to slow down the insect. In fact ash trees are only removed for consideration of public health and safety, once the trees have declined significantly in health and condition. All ash trees removed to date have been quite heavily infested with emerald ash borer.

Forestry Services has actively consulted with many groups, both internal and external. It was recognized that a "Made in Eastern Ontario Solution" was needed and this was addressed through the formation of a Regional Forest Health Working Group.

The City has also actively participated with EAB working groups across Canada and Ontario to provide advice and to seek expert advice from communities, such as those in southwestern Ontario who have dealt with the impacts of EAB longer than Ottawa. These communities have also seen EAB impacts in locations that Ottawa has not yet experienced, such as in forests and riparian areas.

Next Steps

The City estimates that there are 75,000 Ash trees on City streets. Thankfully, not all are infested at this time.

For this reason, staff will continue to monitor, expand the injection program and expand the interplanting program to help ensure that the Ash tree is around for future generations in some form.



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Let's Work Together to Make Your House and Community Safer

By Constable/Agent Ryan Pierce

Did you know that all Ottawa Police Service Community Police Centers (CPC) have a team of volunteers trained and ready to help make your house and community safer?

Listed below are two of our Crime Prevention Programs that are offered free of charge to all residents.

Operation Identification is a program that provides residents with an engraving tool to permanently mark their valuable belongings with a unique identifier. For items that cannot be engraved, residents are encouraged to take a photograph or videotape of such belongings. After returning the engraver, participants are provided with a window sticker which can be placed at their residence to alert people

that they have taken this proactive measure to deter theft.

Home Security Inspections are also offered to interested residents by CPC volunteers. At your request, these volunteers will come to your residence and perform a safety audit—assessing ways to make your home safer. The audit is based on a checklist. Participants are also provided with a booklet that identifies safety improvements, and crime prevention tips.

If you would like to participate in the programs listed above or any of our Crime Prevention initiatives (**Child Print**, **Neighbourhood Watch**, and **Business Crime Prevention**) please contact the Rockcliffe Community Police Center at **613-236-1222** extension 5915. More information can also be found at www.ottawapolice.ca.

Ash (genus *Fraxinus*)

Figure 1: Ash are typically large growing trees reaching up to 30m tall at maturity.

Ash Trees

Ash trees, genus *Fraxinus*, are common street, park, and forest trees (Figure 1). There are three species of ash native to the Ottawa area: white ash (*Fraxinus americana*) and green or red ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), and black ash (*Fraxinus nigra*).

Trunk and Bark

Young trees have smooth, light grey bark. Older trees have furrowed bark with a diamond shaped ridge pattern (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Young ash bark (left) and older ash bark (right).

Branches and Leaves

Branches and leaves grow in an opposite pattern. Where one leaf or branch emerges, another grows directly opposite. When making an identification, consider that branches and buds may die therefore, not every branch and leaf will be opposite another.

Leaves

Leaves are typically 5-15cm long and compound with 5-11 leaflets (Figure 2). Leaflets have either smooth or toothed margins (edges).

Figure 2: Green ash leaf.

Seeds

Ash seeds hang in clusters of single, oval-shaped seeds and are often shrivelled (Figure 3). Clusters typically stay on the tree until late fall or early winter.

Figure 3: Shrivelled clusters of ash seeds.

Similar species

Several common landscape trees may be easily confused with ash. Manitoba maple (*Acer negundo*) is the only other tree species with compound leaves and an opposite branch and leaf arrangement. Manitoba maple has distinctly lobed leaflets. Black walnut (*Juglans nigra*), Butternut (*Juglans cinerea*) and Hickory (genus *Carya*) also have similar leaves to ash however, these have an alternate leaf arrangement.

For more information on tree identification, refer to *Trees in Canada* by J.L. Farrar, published by Friesen and Whitridge Ltd.

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BURGH BUSINESS BRIEFS

- By Jane Heintzman -

El Meson: A Neighbourhood Institution Changes Hands

El Meson is a culinary landmark on Beechwood with a stellar reputation for fine Iberian cuisine, old world charm and gracious service. After 25 years as proprietors, **José and Maria Alves** have sold their business to **André Cloutier**, the successful young owner/operator of **Arturo's Market** across the street. André took over El Meson at the beginning of May, and at the time of writing, was working closely with the Alves' to ensure a smooth

and seamless transition.

In true entrepreneurial fashion, André had long been on the lookout for promising new opportunities, and approached the Alves' some time ago to express an interest in taking over El Meson, should they ever decide to call it a day. When the possibility of their retirement first came to light about a year ago, André began more serious negotiations towards a potential purchase, reading up on Spanish and Portuguese culture and food to deepen his appreciation for

the cuisine and ambiance of the restaurant. As a lover of seafood, it is perhaps not surprising that his interest soon blossomed into a lively enthusiasm.

In these early days of his proprietorship, André is keenly aware that he takes over a first class operation with deep roots in the community and a substantial clientele of loyal regulars. He is enormously appreciative of both El Meson's superb chef, and the gracious and thoroughly knowledgeable team of servers who contribute so much to the dining experience. He is rapidly learning on-the-job as he observes them going through their skillful routines. Indeed, the only change you're likely to notice at El Meson in the weeks to come is the presence of André himself stepping in as host and maitre d'!

As an energetic young multitasker, André will continue to operate his popular restaurant/deli, Arturo's Market, although for the next few weeks as he learns the ropes at El Meson, he will rely heavily on his capable new General Manager, **Cassandra Tonon** (yup, you guessed it, his wife **Marla's** sister!) Cassandra is a three-year veteran of Arturo's and, after graduating with a major in Psychology, has committed to spending some time in the GM's role at the restaurant.

We thank the Alves' for their two and a half decades of splendid service on Beechwood, and are especially grateful that they have chosen to keep the ownership of El Meson within our community. Best of luck to André and his team in this challenging first year operating not one but two of our neighbourhood's favourite dining spots!

Bloomstra Consulting

Earlier this year, Rockcliffe Park resident **Erin Crotty** launched her new business, Bloomstra Consulting, an organization which offers guidance and expertise in corporate etiquette; international protocol; business management solutions in such areas as recruitment programming, mentorship and coaching programs, team building and presentation skills training; and in general, all the "soft skills" required to gain a competitive edge in today's fast-paced, dog-eat-dog economy.

Erin has a broadly-based legal background, having started her legal career as a summer student in a number of law firms while she was still in her teens. She went on to earn her law degree from the University of Windsor, and subsequently practiced here in Ottawa, at one point serving as Managing Director responsible for the Articling and Recruitment, Professional Development and Business Development programs in a major Ottawa firm. Immediately prior to launching Bloomstra Consulting, she was Director of Professional Recruitment in the Ottawa office of Canada's largest national law firm. She retains close ties to the profession, and is a member of the Law Society of Upper Canada, the Canadian Bar Association, the Ontario Bar Association and the Women's Business Network.

Once having taken the decision to focus her energies on what she regarded as the critically important—and all too often neglected—realm of "soft skills", Erin obtained her certification as a Corporate Etiquette and International Protocol Consultant from the Protocol School of Washington, and by February of this year, Bloomstra Consulting was up and running. While her client base is steadily growing, she currently works with the career service development offices of the law schools at Queen's and University of Ottawa, and hopes to broaden this network to include the Sprott School of Business and other professional schools. She has been particularly struck by the absence



Photo: Michelle Valberg
Erin Crotty of Bloomstra Consulting.

of business background among students emerging from some of the professional schools, and hopes to be able to fill the gap with training in the fundamentals of marketing and business development.

Among her clients are professional associations, healthcare providers, small and medium-sized businesses, including many with an international dimension, and individuals, among them law students in need of experienced coaching for articling interviews, job interviews, co-op placements, and business meals or social events. (Readers with a son or daughter in law school who has recently endured this grueling rite of passage will be aware just how critical—and often decisive—these "soft skills" can be!) The fundamental objective of Erin's coaching is to help her clients develop the savvy and skills that are the key to cultivating new business and retaining existing clients, and to standing out above the competition in a hotly contested market.

Erin's current practice includes weekly one-on-one coaching and mentoring sessions; group presentations; Lunch-and-Learn sessions for employees; half-day seminars on Business Etiquette and full-day seminars which follow up the Business Etiquette session with a seminar on dining. She tailors her approach to meet the specific needs of each of her clients, and topics may cover the waterfront from presentation skills to networking



Photo: JF Noble

José and Maria Alves (on left) have passed the baton to André Cloutier (see here with wife Marla).


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savvy, the art of small talk, job interview techniques, people skills, international protocol, and workplace civility and its impact on customer service.

Interested readers can check out Erin's excellent website at www.bloomstraconsulting.ca, or if you'd like to enlist her services on a group or individual basis, she can be reached at 613-614-4540 or ecrotty@bloomstraconsulting.ca. We wish Erin well in her intriguing new business, and especially applaud her efforts to bring workplace civility into the limelight as an important objective for organizations and their employees: amen to that!

Adam Kane, Branch Manager, TD Canada Trust, Wellington and Holland

In our April (Fools') edition of the NEN, we provided news of Adam Kane, former Manager of the BMO Beechwood Branch and a well-known figure in our community where he was actively engaged in a wide range of community causes. As many readers will since have discovered, not all of the reports on Adam and his family were entirely accurate, as the trumpeted arrival of **Trina** and Adam's fourth child, baby **Joseph**, has yet to take place and indeed is not expected until July. The time is now fast approaching, however, and in anticipation of the expansion of their family, Adam and Trina are currently building a more capacious family home in Orleans.

On the professional front, our report in April was in fact correct, and Adam is now in the saddle as Manager of the Wellington/Holland Branch of TD Canada Trust at 1236 Wellington Street. While the branch is much larger than his previous headquarters on Beechwood, with considerably more staff, Adam reports that the client base is remarkably similar and includes numerous small businesses from the bustling Wellington West community. He is greatly enjoying the vibrancy of the neighbourhood and the energetic, service-oriented culture of TD Canada Trust, and from time to time is surprised and

pleased to encounter a number of his previous clients from Beechwood.

Despite his move to Wellington West, Adam remains intensely interested in the fate of the Beechwood core area destroyed in last year's epic fire. Like the rest of us, he is distressed that the rebuilding process has yet to be launched, and is acutely conscious of the depressing impact on the community and local businesses of the derelict property at the site of the fire. Let's hope we'll have good news to report to Adam as events unfold in the coming months. In the interim, we wish him well in his new job, and look forward to reporting on the safe arrival of baby Joseph in the NEN's October edition.

Bryson Farms

After regular appearances in this column for over a decade, Bryson Farms needs no introduction to the majority of our readers. The 140+ tillable acre Shawville farm, jointly operated by **Stuart Collins** and **Terry Stewart**, now produces the largest crop of certified organic produce in Eastern Canada, and in recent years has enhanced its business through the introduction of a year-round greenhouse operation; an industrial kitchen for processing veggies and creating a new product line of prepared foods; an expanded home delivery service; and a retail outlet in Ottawa's first and only indoor farmers' market at the **Parkdale Field House**. Over the years, Bryson's legendary greens and veggies have turned up on the menus of some of the area's finest restaurants, from Les Fougères to the Rideau Club, and on the tables of our official residences at Rideau Hall and 24 Sussex.

This summer and fall, you'll find a colourful, veggie-laden Bryson's stall at the Parkdale Market, both indoors in the new Field House, and outdoors in front of the Field House along Armstrong Avenue. Depending on the availability of a sales team to manage a Bryson's booth, Stuart reports that they also hope to be a regular presence at the Ottawa Farmers'



Market, which moved from Lansdowne Park to Brewer Park early in May. Stuart's son **Bryson** and his partner have been on a working adventure through Australia and South East Asia for the past year, but he is hopeful that they'll be back in time to take over in the busy season at the markets!

The products of Bryson's spanking new industrial kitchen not only include a selection of frozen organic veggie favourites such as sweet corn, broccoli, and cauliflower, but also a variety of heat-and-serve prepared dishes, including vegetarian shepherd's pie, savoury squash pie, roasted vegetable stew and a range of tasty soups. As many readers will already have discovered, you'll find these items in the freezers at the splendid new **Epicuria** at 357 St. Laurent Blvd., as well as at the **Parkdale Field House** and the **Glebe Metro** (754 Bank Street at Second Avenue). Oh, and in response to client demand, there are yet more healthy new products in the offing, notably fresh or juiced wheat grass, and a new line of organic vegetable juices including such favourites as

carrot and tomato.

As the demand for certified organic produce grows in lockstep with the awareness of toxic effects of the chemicals, pesticides, herbicides and hormones widely used in conventional production, Bryson's has seen a steady increase in the number of clients on its year-round home delivery roster. The produce is fresh-picked the day before delivery, washed, dried, packaged in biodegradable, recyclable containers and delivered to your door on a neighbourhood-based weekly schedule. (You'll find all the details on the Bryson's website at www.brysonfarms.com). Stuart reports that the service has recently been expanded, with two delivery trucks out four days each week to cover the whole of Ottawa, south to Barrhaven, East to 10th Line, West to Carp and North to Chelsea. Within this broad network, there is a New Edinburgh drop, so if you're interested, check the website and join the 400 plus subscribers who keep their households supplied with healthy organic Bryson's veggies on a year round basis.

Needless to say, organic pro-

duction is notoriously labour-intensive, (just imagine hand-weeding an area hundreds of times the size of your garden), and Bryson's is now a major employer in the Shawville area, managing a team of up to 50 employees in the growing season, and a core group of 20 throughout the year running the greenhouses, the industrial kitchen and the home delivery service. It's perhaps not surprising that when the farm was threatened with closure several years ago, there was a hue and cry from the local community in support of this landmark business.

Delighted as he is that organically produced food has caught on in recent years and is now very much in demand, Stuart cautions that all that is local is not necessarily organic, and indeed, all that purports to be organic quite often isn't either. So as you browse the farmers' markets this summer, it pays to be vigilant about the origin of your purchases, and to check for those organic certification labels which guarantee that you've bought the real thing.

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Il Vagabondo

For an amazing 33 years, Il Vagabondo Ristorante at **186 Barrette Street** has been a fixture in our community, renowned for its fresh pasta made right on the premises, tasty sauces, specialty veal dishes, top quality meats, seafood and chicken, sumptuous (light!) desserts such as crème caramel or cestino di frutta, and perhaps above all, its welcoming, relaxed atmosphere. While the restaurant is tucked away just off Beechwood, passers by can't miss it thanks to **Karole Marois'** colourful mural of the former Eastview streetcar stop (circa 1909) which enlivens the front entrance. Il Vagabondo's current owner, principal chef, gracious hostess and moving spirit **Adriana Roy** has been with the restaurant since 1990, and has worked long and hard to build and maintain the quality and popularity of this local dining spot.

In recent months, Adriana has made some major changes to beautify and enhance her facilities. As Il Vagabondo clients may have noticed, both the interior and the exterior of the restaurant have undergone renovations, a new sign has been added and an access ramp has been installed to make life easier for clients with walkers, wheelchairs or impaired mobility. In addition to the introduction of a number of new menu items, the wine list has recently been expanded to include a selection of Italian and Chilean wines to complement Adriana's tasty Italian



Photo: Louise Imbeault
Does this look familiar? This photo of Adriana Roy adorns Il Vagabondo's exterior.

cuisine. The restaurant now has a new private dining room which accommodates up to 16 people for business lunches, meetings, social occasions or special celebrations. So, if you have an event on the horizon, give Il Vagabondo a call at **613-749-4877**.

In recent years, Adriana's area (at Marier and Beechwood) has attracted an increasing number of popular businesses, including Bridgehead Coffeehouse, Jacobson's, Mood Moss Flowers, Nuvo Optometry, Oresta Salon and Spa, and most recently, Kelly's Barber Shop. In the not too distant future, however, an even more intense infusion of residential life and commercial activity in the area is anticipated as The Kavanaugh takes shape at 222 Beechwood (current site of Kavanaugh's Esso), and it

seems likely that Il Vagabondo may see the pace of business pick up considerably as new prospective clients flow into the neighbourhood. We wish Adriana well and congratulate her for her many years of service to the community.

Ferme Lève-Tôt

Once a week, between late June and mid-October, local organic farmers **Charlotte Scott** and **Richard Williams** drive their produce-laden truck up to the entrance of **42 Crichton Fine Foods** at the corner of Crichton and Union, and spread large boxes of their freshly-picked wares on a long table in front of the shop window (fortuitously covered by an awning if it happens to be a rainy day). Charlotte and Richard are the young owner/operators of Ferme Lève-Tôt in Low, west Quebec, and for several years have participated in a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program through which they form a partnership with consumers (many of them here in the Burgh) to "share the risks, share the benefits and share the harvest" from their organic farm.

As many readers know from their own experience, participating households purchase a share of the harvest at the start of the season, and on a weekly or bi-weekly basis, collect a fulsome basket of fresh produce at a designated drop-off location, in this case, at 42 Crichton Street every Thursday afternoon from 4 to 6 pm. (For west Quebec residents, Ferme Lève-Tôt has three other drop off points, one in Gatineau, a second in Farrelton and another at their farm gate in Low). A weekly basket feeds 3 to 4 people for about a week, while a bi-weekly basket should be sufficient to supply the needs of 1 or 2 people for two weeks (unless, as Charlotte notes, there are especially enthusiastic veggie eaters in the household, in which case the weekly version is a better bet).

Ferme Lève-Tôt produces well over 50 different kinds of produce ranging from popular staples such as broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, cabbage, lettuce, tomatoes and asparagus (new this year!) to lesser known varieties such as kohlrabi and sweet hakurei turnips, a product native to Northern Japan which has a growing climate comparable to our own. Charlotte is happy to offer recipes and storage tips in the case of these less familiar varieties.

The contents of each weekly basket vary according to the point in the growing season,

ing consumer, and Charlotte relishes the chance to meet and share tales from the farm with the local CSA participants who flock to 42 Crichton every Thursday afternoon throughout the growing season. Fostering this kind of grower/consumer interaction is very close to the heart of 42 Crichton owner and superb chef **Susan Jessup**, and it is no surprise that she wasted no time in offering Ferme Lève-Tôt a local drop-off depot when Charlotte wandered into the store one warm afternoon with a baby under one arm, and a sheaf of advertising flyers in



Ferme Lève-Tôt's Charlotte Scott distributes produces at the CSA drop-off in front of 42 Crichton.

and interested readers can check the Ferme Lève-Tôt website to find sample lists for typical baskets in the early-, mid- and late seasons (www.fermelevetot.ca). As a rule of thumb, Charlotte and Richard include 8-10 different kinds of produce in each basket, with either lettuce or mesclun greens appearing each week. There are frequently choices on the weekly list (either chard OR kale, for example), and they include an Exchange Basket in their display at **42 Crichton** for those who'd like to make a substitution.

An important side benefit of the CSA drop off system is to provide the opportunity for a direct exchange between the grower and the city-dwell-

the other!

Last year, Ferme Lève-Tôt sold 62 shares in its organic harvest, representing about 100 families and individuals, and this year they're aiming to boost that total to 80. Sign up will continue until June 18 when their deliveries begin, so if you haven't already done so, you can sign up on their website at www.fermelevetot.ca. In the interim, you'll have a chance to actually visit the farm and get a first-hand look at an organic operation to see where your summer vegetables will come from, and the immense care that is taken to nurture and protect them. Richard and Charlotte are hosting an **Open House on Sunday, June 3**, so check their website for driving instructions and treat your family to a day in the country.

Much to their delight, for the first time this year, Richard and Charlotte have acquired and are operating their own farm west of Lac Bernard near Low, Quebec. For their first two seasons in the CSA program, they rented two acres at the Plate-forme agricole de l'Ange-Gardien, an "incubator" farm jointly operated by le Centre de développement technique agricole de l'Outaouais and the municipality of l'Ange-Gardien. They now have eight tillable acres on their Low property, 2 1/2 of which are cur-

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rently in organic vegetable production, and two single-walled greenhouses for more delicate crops such as cucumbers and tomatoes. Because the property had been in organic production for the previous two years, Ferme Lève-Tôt has retained its organic certification from EcoCert.

The demands of maintaining an organic operation are significant in terms of both the paperwork required to maintain certification, and the labour-intensive battery of cultivation techniques employed in crop protection, soil rotation, weed and pest control, and regulation of watering. Nonetheless, Charlotte and Richard are enthusiastic about the environmental benefits of these sustainable production methods, and even about the professional discipline imposed by an organic regime, a discipline which they are convinced leads to more efficient farming operations. They are looking forward to having a couple of interns on the farm this summer to assist with the harvest. As luck would have it, Richard's mother is a trained horticulturalist who lends a hand with the seeding and in the greenhouses.

Many readers may already have encountered Richard and

Charlotte through last year's CSA program, or at recent neighbourhood events such as the annual Plant Sale in Stanley Park on May 12, where they sold organic seedlings and spring salad greens. They were also one of the featured local suppliers at 42 Crichton's monthly Kitchen Party at the end of May, a regular event occurring on the last Saturday of each month when Susan Jessup invites the neighbours to meet the growers and artisans who produce our food and to savour samples of their wares. We wish them both a splendid growing season, an abundant harvest and a chock-full list of CSA subscribers for the summer of 2012!

New Edinburgh Pub

Calling all lobster-lovers: your time is coming as the New Edinburgh Pub's **Annual Lobsterfest** is just around the corner from **June 11-17**! And if Dad happens to be a lobster-lover, this could be the ideal way to celebrate Father's Day on June 17, so mark your calendars and be sure not to miss this annual Rite of Summer on Beechwood.

Another New Eddie Pub tradition will continue this year when the **Charity Golf Tournament** takes place on **Sunday, July 29** at the

Pineview Golf Course. This popular event has long been a hotly contested test of skill among Pub regulars, with **New Edinburgh Pharmacy's Frank Tonon** managing to come out on top on an astonishingly regular basis.

All proceeds are donated to a local charity, in keeping with **Paul Williams'** tradition of outstandingly generous outreach to the community. If you're pretty proud of your swing and eager to try your hand (for a great cause) in this friendly local competition, there will be a sign up board at the Pub starting in June, or you can call to reserve your place



Photo: Penny Thompson
New Edinburgh Pub owner
Paul Williams.

at **613-748-9657**.

Another excitement on the horizon for the Williams family is a trip to the Calgary Stampede, now in its 100th Anniversary Year. Paul is taking his wife **Tracy** as a special celebration in honour of her birthday, and it seems certain they'll have plenty of tales to tell when they return in mid-July.

Just a guess, but we'll be mighty surprised if there aren't a couple of brand new cowboy hats in evidence at the Pub later this summer! Happy trails to them both and best wishes for a great trip.

Physical Therapy Institute: Find Your Stillpoint

If you've recently encountered a friend or neighbour from the community whose demeanor is particularly, perhaps even surprisingly, calm and serene, chances are they may have attended one of the three recent Physical Therapy Institute workshops on "Finding Your Stillpoint," a therapeutic technique from craniosacral therapy that is intended to shut down your stress cycle and to help you to manage pain, poor sleep patterns, tension and anxiety. The PTI sessions were led by one of Canada's leading craniosacral therapists,



A leading craniosacral therapist, **Robert F. Harris** presented three workshops at the Physical Therapy Institute.

Robert F. Harris, co-founder of the Cranial Therapy Centre in Toronto and creator of the therapeutic "Becalm Balls" that are the key to the stillpoint technique. By helping workshop participants to properly position these twin rubber balls behind their skulls while lying on their backs, Mr. Harris' aim is to equip each of his clients with the skills to find his or her own stillpoint, and to bring about the state of profound calm which is the ultimate objective of the therapy.

Not surprisingly in this stress-filled, sleep-deprived culture of ours, the Stillpoint workshops were extraordinarily popular and successful,

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Lobsterfest - June 11 - 17
Golf Tournament - July 29

Live Entertainment Saturdays at 9 pm

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according to PTI owner **Pam Siekierski**, with many of the participants reporting a marked improvement in their sleep patterns and an overall reduction in stress levels. Pam is open to the possibility of hosting another workshop with Robert Harris, so interested readers are welcome to give PTI a call at **613-730-0480** if they would like to participate. For more details about the therapy, you can check out the Cranial Therapy Centre website at www.cranialtherapy.ca.

The Flatbread Pizza Company

Just when you thought you'd seen it all in the realm of small food-related businesses, a New Edinburgh couple has recently launched Ottawa's first (and only) mobile, artisan wood-oven pizza catering company, specializing in tasty thin crust pizzas with an eclectic array of toppings featuring fresh seasonal, local veggies, herbs, cheeses and meats. Ivy Crescent residents **Mark Snyder** and **Kendra Durnford** launched The Flatbread Pizza Company last May, initially setting up shop with their Italian wood-burning clay oven in the Ottawa Farmers' Market at Lansdowne Park (recently relocated to Brewer Park), with periodic appearances at the Main Farmers' Market on the campus of St. Paul University on Main Street.

Thanks to some helpful advance publicity, combined with the intriguing nature of their production process and the high quality and freshness of their tasty wares, Mark reports that they were inundated with clients from Day One. They have since had to buttress their staff team with well-trained helpers in preparation for this summer's busy season when they will return to the Ottawa Farmers Market

(Sundays, 8 am - 3 pm at Brewer Park), and take on catering jobs at weddings, festivals, cottage parties, corporate events and private homes. A number of readers may also have encountered Mark and his clay oven at the Ottawa Locavore Artisan Food Fair at Memorial Hall (or rather, strategically positioned outside the Hall) last December, and again this spring on May 12 when close to two dozen of the area's best known artisan producers gathered to display their wares and raise money for the School Breakfast Program.

Just how Mark and Kendra came to embark on this unusual enterprise is an interesting story. While Kendra is a trained chef and spent some years in the restaurant business, Mark's role in the realm of food was initially that of a professional still-life food photographer based in Toronto. He worked closely with Michael Stadtländer, a close friend and internationally renowned chef, and owner of Eigensinn Farm in the Collingwood area, which has been ranked among the top 10 in the world. Stadtländer is also a crusader in the locavore movement, and no doubt an important influence behind Mark's strong commitment to using seasonal, locally-produced ingredients in his artisan pizzas, (a commitment which, incidentally, recently moved him to join Savour Ottawa).

Kendra ultimately left the food business to qualify as a teacher, and currently teaches at Manor Park Public School. When Mark moved from Toronto to Ottawa to join her, his longstanding fascination with cooking in a wood-fired oven, inspired by his travels through Italy, combined with his personal quest for the perfect pizza crust, led to the acquisition of a splendid portable Italian-made pizza oven, and a unique business plan rapidly



Photo: Stephen Hutchings
New Edinburghers Kendra Durnford and Mark Snyder have launched a wood-oven pizza catering business.

took shape. Needless to say, a battery of government certifications were required before The Flatbread Pizza Company could swing into action and market its products, but once the requisites of health and safety were duly in place, the mobile oven with its decorative mosaic front was on the move, and has since become a popular fixture at the farmers' market and at gatherings throughout the area.

Anyone interested in energy efficiency will be pleased to learn that Mark's mobile clay-core wood-fired oven not only builds up sufficient heat to cook a full day's worth of pizzas, but also retains the heat for such a long time afterwards (up to 36 hours) that Mark is able to bake bread, cook up a pasta dish and roast a piece of meat on the day following his stint at the market. He points out that for many years, logging camps operated on precisely this principle, feeding hundreds of workers with a battery of wood-fired ovens at varying temperatures.

On market days, Flatbread pizzas are all made to order and come in 8" and 12" sizes, with four different choices each day, including the popular all-day breakfast pizza (tomato base, basil, chorizo, bacon or ham, potato, and a sunny-side up fried egg topped with mozzarella or curds), along with meat, vegetarian and market selections. In the case of cater-

ing jobs, Mark finds that at least part of the appeal of his mobile kitchen/restaurant and outdoor oven is the pleasure clients take in being close to the process of creation, from the hand-stretching of the dough to the dressing, topping and baking of the pizzas, right in their own backyard.

Readers who are interested in having an event catered by The Flatbread Pizza Company this summer can check out the website at www.flatbreadco.ca or give them a call at **613-741-6922** or **613-277-8046**. There is a \$150 set up fee to cover the costs of transporting and arranging their mobile kitchen, complete with oven, refrigerator, tools, tables, tent and food supplies, and a per person fee that varies with the menu requested. While the majority of clients opt for pizza and salad, Mark and his team will also provide dessert to round out the meal if you're catering to kids and/or hearty adult appetites.

And if you'd like to try a sample pizza before deciding on a catering gig, beginning in May, **Nature's Buzz** will carry Flatbread Pizza Company pizzas every Monday and Tuesday, so drop in to 23 Beechwood and try one when you're stocking up on your organic supplies.

Introducing Brian Bruni: General Manager, Governor's Walk

Retirement Residence

In our April edition, we reported on a changing of the guard at Governor's Walk Retirement Residence on Stanley Avenue, with former General Manager **Linda Meek** moving on to take over as Executive Director of the **Rockcliffe Retirement Residence** on Porter's Island, and **Brian Bruni** taking her place at **Governor's Walk**. While it is still early days for Brian in his new role, he is swiftly acclimatizing to the life of the residence and looking forward to becoming better acquainted with the community in the months ahead.

Brian's professional background is based in the hospitality industry where he has worked for the past two decades. He was intrigued by the retirement residence sector as a potentially fruitful opportunity for professional development, and through a network of contacts was put in touch with the parent company of Governor's Walk at about the time Linda Meek was preparing her departure. The rest history, and he is now fully immersed in the management and marketing of a well known neighbourhood institution with strong and growing ties to the community.

Brian is deeply impressed by the work of Linda Meek and her outreach team, **Tara Spour** (Community Outreach Manager) and **Millie Battaion** (Activities Coordinator) who remain at the residence to carry on the work which Linda set in motion. His plan is to build on these strengths, and to continue developing the residence's engagement in community life. Like his predecessor, he now serves on the Programming Committee of the Crichton Cultural Community Centre, and is actively involved in planning a range of activities geared to the needs and interests of seniors. Above all, in his new role, Brian is conscious of the need to cultivate a warm, home-like environment in the residence, and to minimize any institutional overtones. Part and parcel of achieving that aim is to create

a lively interchange between the residents and the community, young and old alike. We wish Brian well, and look forward to future reports from Governor's Walk.

Burgh Business Bits

Happy Anniversaries:

Several of our local businesses marked anniversaries in May, and we send our congratulations and best wishes to all!

BGGO Boutique

BGGO Boutique celebrated three years in its New Edinburgh location at Beechwood and Springfield (above the Second Cup), where owner **Bobby Gurung** has assembled an attractive collection of designer clothing for all occasions, along with an impressive array of jewelry and accessories to complete your ensemble. Bobby now operates a second outlet at **251 Bank Street** in the Glebe (almost next door to **Marc Clément** and **Isabel Lamarche**, the new proprietors of the Glebe's **Capital Home Hardware** store!).

CELADON Salon and Spa

On Saturday, May 12, **Morna Patterson** and her team at Celadon Salon and Spa celebrated their fifth anniversary at Rockcliffe Crossing on St.



The Celadon Team: (from left) Morna Paterson, Bethany Labyad, Veronique Lefebvre, James Pickard, Kim Kaskiw and Brittany Tosh.

Laurent Blvd., inviting friends and neighbours to the spa for an afternoon of free mini-services, draws for spa and beauty care products, and of course refreshments for all. The Open House was followed by a series of weekly anniversary specials throughout the month of May.

After five years, Celadon is still as elegant and restful as ever, and Morna takes pride in offering the ideal setting for beautifying and relaxing, whether you have only an hour to spare or can stay all day! The spa has a full range of services for men, women and children, with a menu that includes therapeutic massages, facials, restorative body treatments, manicures and hair care. Clean

Jet technology pedicure chairs, located in their own private room, are the epitome of indulgence and cleanliness. If you're pressed for time, Celadon offers express versions of many of its treatments, or you can recreate the spa experience at home. All the products used in Celadon treatments are available in the boutique.

The newest addition to Celadon's menu is **Jane Iredale**, the Skin Care Makeup. It's a mineral-based makeup providing UVA/UVB protection up to SPF 20. Her two latest products are Liquid Minerals which can diminish fine lines and provide total coverage for such common skin conditions as acne and rosacea,

and Tansasia which creates the look of a natural tan without the sun damage. Other popular treatments at Celadon include customized facial treatments from Institute Esthederm; long-wearing Shellac finish for nails; luxurious Misencil eyelash extensions and expert hair care featuring the Kevin Murphy line of paraben- and sulphate-free hair care products.

Give Celadon a call for an appointment at **613-746-3500** or check the website for complete information on its products and services www.celadonspa.ca.

Le Saint Ô

And on May 20, **Chef Philippe Dupuy** and **Maitre d' Natasha Dumont** marked the 20th anniversary of Le Saint Ô at 327 St. Laurent Blvd. (at Hemlock), and their 11th as proprietors of the restaurant. In celebration of the occasion, they announced a customer appreciation table d'hôte special beginning in May and continuing to June 15.

For the duration of the special, from Tuesday through Friday, lovers of fine French cuisine can enjoy a full course dinner, including a glass of red or white house wine, a choice of appetizer (soup, salad or charcuterie), a main course,

dessert and tea or coffee—all for an amazing \$30 per person! If you haven't already done so, make your reservations now at **613-749-9703**.

ZaZaZa Pizza: Purple Pizza Campaign a Great Success

Congratulations to ZaZaZa Pizza owner **Ion Aimers** and his team who sold close to 400 Purple Pizzas in memory of Daron Richardson, and raised over \$2,000 to promote awareness of teen suicide and mental health issues through the Royal Ottawa Hospital Foundation for Mental Health. The Purple Pizza Campaign ended in early May, but its impact is likely to be lasting as a growing number of young people and their parents have been awakened to the importance of tackling these troubling issues.

Clothes, Clothes, Everywhere!

We welcome first time advertiser **Sharon Letovsky** and her timely new business, Clothes, Clothes, Everywhere—a service designed to address the widespread affliction of "Stuffed Closet Syndrome," a condition with which most of us are all too familiar. We look forward to profiling

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Continued from Page 15

Sharon's work in the October edition of the NEN, and in the interim, interested readers can check out her website at www.ClothesClothesEverywhere.com.

New Edinburgh Bed & Breakfast Closes Its Doors

The New Edinburgh Bed & Breakfast on Union Street will close its doors this summer, receiving its final bookings in mid June. Proprietors **Noreen** and **Ken Watson** have thoroughly enjoyed meeting all the interesting guests they have encountered over the past few years, and are grateful to the community for their wonderful support. While they have some regrets about closing up shop, they are eager to spend more time travelling to visit their family who are scattered around the world, as well as to

have more leisure time to enjoy their summer cottage. We wish them well in their travels and thank them for the service they have provided to our friends and families over the past three years.

Host India's 10th

We wish a Happy Anniversary to **Ravinder Tumber** and his team at Host India who are currently celebrating their 10th year in operation at 622 Montreal Road (at Borthwick). This family-run restaurant is noted for its tasty North Indian cuisine and popular lunch time Buffet (also available on Sunday evenings), which is a favourite of residents and office workers in the area. We look forward to featuring Host India in our October edition, and in the interim, you can check out its tempting menus at www.hostindia.ca.

A Fond Farewell to Kavanaugh's Esso

By Jane Heintzman

As we signaled in our last issue, Kavanaugh's Esso, an institution on Beechwood for nearly six decades, will shut down its gas pumps and close its doors on December 31 to make way for construction of The Kavanaugh, a major residential/commercial development planned by Domicile. It need hardly be said that Kavanaugh's is not *just* a service station. For its countless devoted clients in the surrounding communities, Kavanaugh's has been a welcoming hearth where over the years, members of the Kavanaugh family have not only attended to our vehicles in good times and bad, but also brightened our lives with cheerful greetings, jokes and all the latest news of events in the community. For many of us, its closure will be more akin to the loss of a valued friend than to the simple inconvenience of having to find a new service station, and we are grateful to owner and family patriarch **Rupert Kavanaugh** for having stayed in operation to serve us for so many years.

Rupert began his epic career on Beechwood in 1953, working initially at a Shell station located on the current site of Bridgehead Coffeehouse. Two years later, he took over as Manager of the larger Esso station further east across Beechwood, and swiftly demonstrated his entrepreneurial prowess to the point that he was soon offered a partnership by leaseholder Milt Hurd. Within two years, Rupert bought Hurd out for the princely sum of \$5,000 and, though still only in his early 20's, launched into business for himself. Not long thereafter, his brother **Clarence** returned from the Sudbury mines to join him, and there he has remained to keep our spirits up with his warmth, good humour and infectious laugh.

In these early days on Beechwood, Rupert recalls that

the streetcar still plied its daily run past the gas station, turning up Oakhill and then along Maple Lane to Springfield, where it looped back down to Beechwood for its return journey across the bridge. At the time, there was very little development at this end of Beechwood (indeed, Rupert's first car wash was established in vacant horse stables along Joliette Avenue!), and the now bustling community of Manor Park was still in its infancy.

In parallel with his burgeoning business career, in the mid-50s Rupert began the second, and undoubtedly most important, enterprise of his life: the building of his remarkable family. In 1955, he married his beloved Mary, a young girl from a large family from the Lac La Blanche area, not far from Rupert's own family farm in Buckingham in west Quebec. Perhaps in anticipation of the seven children they would eventually raise together, Rupert and Mary made a bold move in 1959, purchasing an impressively large new house on Duford Street in Vanier where they have remained to this day. Daunting as the \$35,000 price tag must have seemed to young Rupert at the time, his shrewd financial calculation paid off handsomely as the comfortable house became a home and hearth to his five daughters and two sons. Even now, as Rupert and Mary contemplate a move to their pick of the new condominium units in The Kavanaugh, their offspring are far from whole-heartedly enthusiastic about giving up the family home on Duford Street.

In many respects, the Kavanaugh service station must have become as much of a home to Rupert's children as the Duford Street dwelling. Each morning, Rupert dropped them off at Baribeau Elementary School, later bringing them back to the garage at noon before chauff-

feuring them home to Mary for a hot lunch. Once again in the afternoons, they returned to the garage with Rupert before heading home for the evening, and by the time they reached their early teens, they began working for their dad on a part-time basis. Although in those days, it was unheard of for a girl to be found pumping gas, Rupert's daughters pitched in by cleaning windshields and greeting customers, while Terry and later Joey manned the gas pumps. When the time comes for the station to close at the end of this year, and for Rupert and Mary to move to a new condominium, it seems no exaggeration to say that the Kavanaugh gang will say farewell to not one but *two* beloved family homes, though undoubtedly the countless memories of the years passed in those quarters will live on in the storytelling family milieu fostered by Rupert's own shining example!

Like all gifted entrepreneurs, Rupert has always been quick to seize a promising opportunity when he saw one. As his business career was taking shape in the late 50s, Rupert purchased the 135 acre Kavanaugh family property in Buckingham when his father retired from farming, and not only managed to pay back his father without delay, but went on to buy two more farms in the vicinity. His 465 acre farm is now the largest in the area, with a farming operation that currently includes 100 head of beef cattle. Rupert and Mary have built a spacious 5,000 square foot log cabin on the property, where they continue to spend weekends, and Rupert still makes frequent visits to the farm to keep track of the farming operations once his early bird (5-9 am) shift at the gas station has wrapped up.

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Photo: Sharleen Tattersfield, *Manor Park Chronicle*

Three generations of Kavanaghs: (left to right) Joey, Rupert, Clarence, Terry, Kenny and Kyles, and Royal Shine Car Wash operator, Nektar Katsoulakis.

for Kavanaugh's employees), Rupert and his team continued to build sales at the station to the point that in 1960, Esso enlarged the operation, building an extension with new service bays fronting Marquette Avenue. A decade later, Esso added a sporting goods section to Kavanaugh's, and until the early 90s, you could purchase camping equipment or hunting and fishing gear when you gassed up or dropped in for an oil change.

1994 was a turning point for Rupert when he received notice that Esso was about to buy out his franchise and bring an end to the Kavanaugh family enterprise on Beechwood. Needless to say, after the blood, sweat and tears involved in building a successful business over close to four decades, Rupert was not about to accept this corporate dictum lying down. Once the community and local politicians were alerted, all hell broke loose, and it is a testament to the strength of community loyalty to

Kavanaugh's that Imperial Oil was subsequently inundated with irate calls and letters, (I still remember the steam rising from the page as I finished my own indignant screed!).

Rupert not only had the benefit of significant numbers of stalwart supporters, he had the backing of some heavy hitters with influence in the corporate board rooms, not least Senator Colin Kenny whose intervention did much to help change Imperial Oil's tune. In the end, Rupert successfully negotiated the terms for buying out the Esso franchise in 1995, insisting on a thorough clean up of the station, and removal of the old pipes and tanks, as a part of the package. Kavanaugh's was back in business, and Rupert's eldest son **Terry** joined him to take over the operation of the garage. That same year, a car wash was installed, soon to be rented out to **Nektar Katsoulakis** and his popular Royal Shine Car Wash, an operation which continues to do yeoman ser-

vice keeping our community "fleet" clean and ship shape.

As most readers will recall, Rupert was sidelined for some time after a serious snowmobile accident in 2002. However, after battling back through two years of intensive physiotherapy, he was back in the saddle in 2005 when Kavanaugh's celebrated its 50th anniversary following a major upgrade to the station. While his brother **Carl** had retired from the station by that time, his brother Clarence and sons Terry and Joey were all on board to maintain a strong family presence, and in recent months, Terry's sons Kenny and Kyle have been added to the roster on a part-time basis, making it a three-generation family operation as it heads into its final six months.

Life After Kavanaugh's Esso

Despite the inevitable wistfulness that accompanies the end of an era, Rupert regards the sale of the property to Domicile with considerable satisfaction,

having known and respected the Doran family for over 50 years when he first had dealings with current owner John's father. He was able to play a role in helping Domicile to negotiate the purchase of the adjacent properties to permit the set back of the high rise portion of The Kavanaugh as required by the view protection bylaw, and appears confident that the building will be an asset to the community. Canny businessman that he is, he had long since become aware that the value of the property far outweighed the prospective value of the business as gas prices floated steadily upwards, and margins were squeezed to the vanishing point.

When his retirement day does ultimately arrive at the end of this year, it seems highly unlikely that Rupert will sit idle. On the contrary, it's probable that his legendary energies will be directed to his many other occupations, including overseeing operations at the farm, fishing, gardening and of course, his family. Clarence, too, declares that he will stay active after the station closes down, and we hope he continues to be a presence in the community to keep up with his old acquaintances who will be missing their regular visits with him at the pump.

Terry has plans in the works to relocate the garage to a new location in this vicinity. So if all goes as planned, the Kavanaugh name won't disappear from the local commercial landscape. Stay tuned for more details in the October edition once Terry has con-

firmed the arrangement. Joey is contemplating his options at this point, but is hoping to get out of the service station business and try something new. We wish him well in his future endeavors, whatever they may ultimately be!

My Kingdom for a Full-Serve Gas Station!

It's no secret that the disappearance of Kavanaugh's all but eliminates the full-service gas station from the Ottawa scene. However, with characteristic concern for his loyal customers, many of whom are now elderly and disinclined to endure the rigours of pumping their own gas in the depths of winter or the pouring rain, Rupert is spreading the word about a Full-Service hold out, not too far from our community. Interested readers will be able to get the Kavanaugh treatment (though no guarantees of the smiles or the jokes!) at **Paul Saab Gas Centre, 1057 Cyrville Road** (at Ogilvie). If you don't mind a longer drive, another long-standing full-service **Esso** station also remains at **369 Island Park Drive** at Wellington Street, where John Newcombe (a respected acquaintance of the Kavanaghs) has been proprietor since 1973.

Taking the glass-half-full approach, we still have another six months with Kavanaugh's in business (though as of June 1, they'll be closed on Sundays), so in the interim, be sure to drop in to say your farewells, and of course, to stock up on jokes and stories to carry you through the winter!



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No Fooling – *The Liar* Was a Blast



Photo: Ryszard Mrugalski of ZoomExposure

From left to right: Ronald Miller (Dorante); Sonja Lishchynski (Clarice); Montecristo (in Sonja's arms); Elizabeth Chant (Lucrece).

By Barbara Benoit

Ingrid McCarthy, artistic director of the New Edinburgh Players, outdid herself this year, picking a hilarious script, assembling an outstanding cast and delivering a well-paced and elegantly staged and costumed production that did the writing every possible credit.

Oh, and there was a delightful long-haired chihuahua, Montecristo, who had the good taste to add to the period flavor without upstaging any of the human cast, as he was handed back and forth between the two ladies on the hunt for husbands: the flirtatious Clarice (**Sonja Lishchynski**) and her

best friend, the tongue-tied Lucrece (**Elizabeth Chant**).

The play is a loose—very loose—adaptation by American writer David Ives of Corneille's 17th-century French comedy, and aims purely to amuse. As the dryly sarcastic “weird valet” Cliton (**Kevin Anderson**) puts it in the prologue:

*Well, set your minds at ease,
reduce the strain,
And with your iPods, please*

*– turn off your brain.
Leave complications to our
evening's hero,
A lying genius, if a moral
zero.*

And indeed Dorante, the hero, (**Ronald Miller**) is a genius in the art of coming up on the instant with an outrageous whopper, generally to undo the complications of a previous lie, sometimes for nothing more than the pure pleasure of invention. The author too is a liar—a shameless plagiarizer (mainly of Shakespeare) who clearly enjoys making outrageous rhymes, as in Dorante's wooing of the beautiful and flirtatious Clarice (a girl he met yesterday):

*But then last year while here
on winter leave
By chance I glimpsed a corner
of your sleeve
In a coach window passing on
the Pont Neuf.
It was enuef, that innocent
lace ceuf.
I gave up arms for leuf.*

With a pathological liar on the loose, the opportunities for mistaken identity, cross-purposes, deliberate deception and other forms of confusion are virtually infinite, and the actors find their way through the complicated plot with joyous élan, perhaps most strikingly when Dorante and his volcanic rival Alcippe (**Stefan Dumas**) duel briskly with only imaginary épées. Adding further to the confusion is a pair of twin maids with very dif-

ferent personalities (a party girl and a puritan, both played with fine distinction by **Emma Drouin**).

The complicated situation can't hold. Even Alcippe feels the strain of deception:

*It's like I've grown this lying
inner elf.
What if my elf is lying to
myself?*


Then the plot unwinds with sudden and Wildean hilarity. Alcippe finally gets his father's permission to marry Clarice, his secret fiancée. In Lucrece, Dorante gets a wife who will keep him in line (and who also has amazing tits and a ski chalet). Alcippe's friend Philiste (**David Bromley**), who throughout has been the largely ignored voice of reason coming from the sidelines, confesses to a long-standing passion for the puritanical maid. The valet has come to rather different understanding with her twin sister. The final twist of mistaken identity comes when Dorante's father Geronte (**Walter Belyea**), who has been rendered almost apoplectic by his son's swift cycle of unlikely stories, confesses that Dorante had a twin brother, lost at birth:

*A tale far taller than your
fakery.
I left him with some crullers
in a bakery.*

It is, of course the valet, still carrying in his pocket the bag of crullers, who is Dorante's long-lost brother.

The Liar was the finest production I can remember in the Players' 30-some seasons of entertaining the New Edinburgh community. Thank you, Ingrid, and thank you to all the cast and crew, for delivering one more evening of outstanding theatre.



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Writing His Own (Pre)History: Local Hip Hop Artist Rhymes Across Ottawa

By Nicola Krishna

Sacha Krishna was never one to shy away from the spotlight. From an early age, he was always charismatic, and it showed any time he had an audience, whether it was drama class, musical theatre or in a garage band. Raised in New Edinburgh, Sacha grew up frequenting many local haunts, including The New Edinburgh Pub, Lester's Barber Shop and Stanley Rink, where he truly qualified as a neighborhood 'rink rat'. Sacha continues to remain close to his roots and still lives in the neighbourhood.

Sacha always knew he had a passion for music. He began creating his own music when he was only 13, starting a punk rock band with several friends, fellow New Edinburgh alumni **Matt Whittington** and **Justin Sharp**, as well as **John Aaron Cockburn**. "Our brief career was highlighted with a performance at the New Edinburgh skating party at the Stanley Skating rink," laughs Sacha, "where we rocked the crowd of six people into a frenzy!"

This soon transitioned into an interest in hip hop. "I soon realized that I had a knack for freestyling lyrics, which involves

making lyrics up on the spot to a beat. I was always good at improv in drama class and I think that helped with a natural progression into freestyling."

It was from these early years of music experimentation that a new persona was born: **Prehistoric**, the name Sacha performs under. When he was 16, Sacha began competing in freestyling competitions. When he was 19, he won the Last Man Standing competition and three years later he finished as a semi finalist in the No Bull\$*t \$1000 Freestyle Battle, solidifying his name within the local freestyling scene. "Written work is great because you connect with people and they listen to your story, but freestyling is interesting because it keeps you on your toes and it's never the same."

In 2005, Sacha released his first album *The Prehistoric EP*, followed by another, *Where Honesty Lies*, in 2007. He returned in 2011, with the mix-tape entitled *Sixty Second Salvation* featuring the song "This Life." This would become his first music video, shot by Ottawa's own Kyle Lucock. This past April, Sacha released the much awaited

album *Forgive the Hero*. Sacha feels it's his best work to date.

When working on putting together the album, the producer created beats that were made especially for Sacha. "All the beats were produced by Ottawa's Addaboe (aka Cobra) and we worked really well together. He always knew exactly the type of beats that were going to make my pen move." The album features the song "Maybe", which has an accompanying music video that was shot by Prentice Media on the evening he opened for hip hop legend Masta Ace at Ottawa's Ritual Nightclub. "I really feel that these new songs are more mature and more complex. I'm really proud of this album and what I've created."

Sacha's latest work is in many ways, a salute to his Ottawa upbringing. "So many of the people I work with are from Ottawa and they are all so talented." The album artwork for *Forgive the Hero* was done by Mark the Artisan (aka Ottawa rapper 9'4). Additionally, there are several other Ottawa artists who appear on the album, including Bender of the group Flight Distance and the talented female rapper / vocalist



Hip Hop artist Sacha Krishna has deep roots in New Edinburgh. Although he has traded in his 'rink rat' status for something a bit hipper, he still remembers the days when he "rocked the crowd" at the Stanley Park Skating Party.

Lay-D Shelz. When performing live, Sacha is accompanied on stage by Ottawa's DJ Alive.

With *Forgive the Hero*, Sacha truly exposes himself with his music. While some tracks are upbeat and happy, others are more introspective. Several tracks reflect upon different times in his life; however his creativity allows him to present an alter ego with Prehistoric, where he toes the line between reality and fiction. Sacha's cohesive sound, clever lyricism and smooth articulation helps him stand out in a genre that is often considered inaccessible or underground by the mainstream.

The album is really about pursuing dreams and not giving up. On the track, "Wasting Time", he rhymes, "enough days spent wasting time everyone's got a dream I'm chasing mine, and there will come a day when I wave goodbye, until then put your hands up and raise 'em high."

What's next? Continuing to do what he loves—making music. "I just want to continue working hard and getting my music out to people. I want to see how far I can take this and just enjoy the ride."

Find out more visit: www.papapre.com.

June 9 Is "Africa Night" in New Edinburgh

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By Catherine McConkey

We hosted our first ever **Bike Rodeo** during the first week-end in May; a lovely spring day and lots of participants. It was a blast!! Thank you to the **Ottawa Safety Council** (Erin Welch, Jordan Leblanc and Chris Majake) who set up and ran the various stations for all the kids, including helmet checks, hand signals, slow race and figure 8s. Also a big thank you to **Maureen Patterson** from **State Farm Insurance** for supplying water and juice and her side-kick, the **Good Neigh Bear!!** Another big thank you goes to **Governor's Walk** for the use of their popcorn machine and to **Katimavik** volunteers

Joanie Tremblay-Flamard and **Tegan MacKinnon**. Thank you to **Debra Connor**, who coordinated the whole day with on-site assistance from **Isobel Bisby**, **Martina Turchyn**, **Mary Grainger**, **Caroline Matt**, **John Arnold**, **Paula Thompson**, **Carol Geller**, **Grumpy Dad**, **Jeff Redmond**, **Gillian Campbell**, **Kathryn Verey** and **Guy 'Loitering Around'**. A special thank you goes to **Alex**, **Angus** and **Caelan McLaurin**, **Nicky Paquin** and **Julien Magee** for assisting with the street closure and barricades.

I want to give a big thank you to everyone who came out on a beautifully sunny spring day for our **13th Annual New**



Photo: Cathy McConkey
Bike Rodeo participants run through their paces in Stanley Park on a beautiful day in May.

Edinburgh Plant Sale. We had an excellent turnout throughout the day, and we want to thank each and every one of our neighbours and friends who supported the event. A special thank you goes to **Mary Grainger**, **Jerry** and **Martina Turchyn**, who organized our community fundraiser. Thank you also to our supplier, **Nicole and Denis Lemieux's Garden Center** of Hammond, Ontario. I would like to thank volunteers **Roger Hardy**, **Michel Giroux**, **Deborah Conner**, **Roxie** and daughter **Harmony**, **Caroline Matt**, **Kathryn McKeen** (our morning plant expert), **Melody Salter**, and anyone I may have forgotten to name. Until next

year, happy gardening!

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

tion of our Canada Summer Job grant and will be hiring a summer student. For the past two years, the CCC was able to have the Fieldhouse opened for use because we had a summer student. If you are a high school student (16+) and interested in applying for this position, please contact caroline@lectern.ca.

The **New Edinburgh Garage Sale** will be held **September 15, from 9 am to 3 pm** (it is always on the third Saturday in September). Rain or Shine! Please contact me at 613-746-0303 if you have any questions.

Anyone interested in renting the Fieldhouse, please contact Jill Hardy at 613-746-1323 for more information on our very reasonable rates. Visit www.newedinburgh.ca for more information on CCC and other community events organized by your local community organizations. Have a great summer everyone!

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Photo: JF Noble
This year's Plant Sale was very successful, thanks to all who came out to stock up on summer flowers!

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Rideau River Cleanup, New Ed Style

By JF Noble

Celebrating Mother Earth on Mother's Day weekend, twenty local residents and their children rolled up their sleeves to clean up the Rideau riverbank that runs along Stanley Park. Across the city at different locations, other volunteers also got together for the 6th Rideau River Cleanup, spearheaded by the grassroots and volunteer-driven local environmental group, Urban Rideau Conservationists who safeguard the Rideau River.

The children were most involved, picking up garbage from their beloved park and riverbank, feeling proud for every piece of plastic or paper they dumped into the garbage bag. The good news is that only about seven bags of trash were collected, including recyclables. That means our neighborhood park and riverbank were fairly clean.

It was not always so. Even in 2007, plenty of rubbish was still on our shores. Although the inception of the Urban Rideau Conservationists as a formal group did not take place until 2006, concerned citizens have been doing river and park cleanups in New Edinburgh for over ten years.

According to **Gemma Kerr**, New Edinburgh Rideau River Cleanup organizer, the healthy state of our riverbank and park today is, first and foremost, the result of consecutive years of Rideau River Cleanups. As well, she said that many dog walkers in the neighborhood pick up rubbish dur-



Photo: JF Noble

Gemma Kerr and a team of volunteers point the way.

ing their walks. In addition, this year, there was very little spring flooding—which usually deposits rubbish onto our shoreline.

A true community effort, New Edinburgh businesses, groups and individuals all played key roles in this year's cleanup. Special thanks to the Crichton Community Council, who organized the park cleanup event, to **Clare Robertson** who coordinated the riverbank volunteers, and to New Edinburgh Community Alliance and the City of Ottawa for their support. Our neighborhood shops also provided cookies, treats, beverages and coffee: **Da Bombe**, **42 Crichton**, **Metro**, and **Bridgehead**.

The New Edinburgh community has been committed to safeguarding the Rideau River since the very beginning of the cleanups, alongside the community of Old Ottawa East. Other communities that

have joined the worthy cause are Overbrook, Ottawa South (Brewer Park), Sandy Hill, and, this year, Bordeleau.

The annual Rideau River Cleanup aims to involve all the Ottawa communities bordering the Rideau in taking ownership of and safeguarding the river. It reminds us that we are all invested in this together, and that it takes a concerted effort to help care for Mother Earth—not only across geographic locations, but also across generations. The ripple effect of cleaning the river 10 years ago is felt today, and in different parts of the city. In the years to come, if we commit to keeping at it, ripples of the clean waters of the Rideau River will touch the fingers of our children's children.

On Mother's Day, the day following the cleanup, not garbage—but a huge green toad greeted the delighted shrieks of New Edinburgh children.

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, as well as plan and implement community events and weekly children's activities.

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- enrolled in high school (15+)
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- comfortable working with children
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For further information or to submit your resume and cover letter, please email NEFieldhouse@gmail.com. The application deadline is Friday, June 1.

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



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for the next edition of the
New Edinburgh News

September 10

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News from the House

Issue #3

June 1, 2012



From the CCCC Board

CCCC Strategic Planning Survey

CCCC will soon host its strategic planning session to define our strategic objectives for the next 3-5 years. We would love to get your input on what we do well, what we could be doing even better and on what we should be focusing. Please take the time and respond to the survey on our home page www.crichtonccc.ca.

A message from the Board of Directors, CCCC

In close collaboration with our friends and colleagues at MacKay United Church, the CCCC has been hard at work completing the final stages of preparation for the purchase of New Edinburgh House (NEH)

and for the renovations to the building required by the City.

While a great deal of progress has been made, the City has recently introduced a number of unanticipated additional requirements which could add significantly to the costs and complication of the upgrade process.

We remain optimistic, however, that with the strong support of Councillor Peter Clark and our M.P.P., the Honourable Madeleine Meilleur, we can surmount these challenges and achieve our aim of acquiring NEH for the community. We'll keep you informed of developments on our website: www.crichtonccc.ca.

SUMMER CAMPS 2012

Make it a healthy and creative summer for your kids at New Edinburgh House!

July 16 - 20: Amazing Arts and Games Adventure!

Join us for a week-long camp designed for girls and boys between the ages of 6 and 9 who may be interested in a foolishly fun week of theatre, dance and art...games and outdoor activities.

Fee: \$240

Hours: 9 am - 4:30 pm

Pre and Post Care: available for \$10/day - 8:30 - 9 am and 4:30 - 5:30 pm

Location: Memorial Hall, 39 Dufferin Road.

August 13 - 17: All in One Art Fun!

This camp is designed for girls and boys between the ages of 10 and 13 who may be interested in acquiring new skills in improvisational theatre, clowning, dance, art...games and outdoor activities.

Fee: \$240

Hours: 9 am - 4:30 pm

Pre and Post Care: available for \$10/day - 8:30 - 9 am and 4:30 - 5:30 pm

Location: Memorial Hall, 39 Dufferin Road.

With memorable activities and outstanding arts programs, Lumière hosts a nurturing camp, where talented professional, caring counsellors and kids come together to share an exciting and unique summer experience. Call New Edinburgh House for more information and to register.

Wednesday Family Fun Drop In Camp

The Infant, Toddler & Preschool Playgroup is extending their program during the summer months. Program will have structured and unstructured activities for younger children and their older siblings. Wednesday's 9:30 - 11:30 am, starts July 4.

What's Coming Up at The House

PLANT WALK: Medicinal Herbs and Wild Edibles, with Amber Westfall

• JUNE 16 •

This fun, introductory plant walk is designed for people who have little or no foraging experience and want to learn about the free food and medicine growing all around us in the New Edinburgh community. You will be invited to take a nibble here and there as applicable. Participants are encouraged to bring a notebook, pen and a camera.

Saturday, June 16, 1 - 2:30 pm
Fee: \$15/person (children free).

Lumière Festival

• AUGUST 1 - 18 •

The 9th Annual Lumière Festival is gearing up for another year of exploring the creative flame that lives within us all! This year, Festival activities begin on August 1 and culminate with the **Evening of Light** celebration on August 18. This year's theme is *Stories*, and we'll be exploring not just stories inside books, but the stories in our community as well.

You can expect all your favourite activities—the lantern-making workshops, dance workshops, Lumière summer camp, the photo marathon—and a few new surprises too! Keep your eyes on our website, which will be updated through the month of June and July as we confirm more artists and performers. Once again the **Fireweavers, Propeller Dance** and a **Company of Fools** will be returning, and you can expect to see a whole lot more names added to the list in the weeks to come!

If you would like to perform at the Festival, or create a lantern installation, submit a one page proposal to artistic director Scott Florence

at scott@crichtonccc.ca, and if you'd like to volunteer, please contact us at volunteers@crichtonccc.ca. We are delighted to be partnering with the CCC again this year to hold lantern workshops at the Fieldhouse in Stanley Park and will also be working with our neighbours in Overbrook and Vanier to bring the Lumière experience to them as well.

1st Annual Thomas McKay Day

• SEPTEMBER 1 •

DID YOU KNOW that Thomas McKay, one of the builders of the Rideau Canal lock system, founded New Edinburgh? He bought the land at the junction of the Ottawa and Rideau Rivers in 1829 and created a village named for the city of Edinburgh in his native Scotland. This area is one of Canada's first planned communities.

The streets in the neighbourhood were named after McKay's family: Crichton was his wife's maiden name, Keefer his son-in-law, while Thomas, John, and Charles were his sons. The area was at first largely industrial, home to a number of mills using the power of the river. Originally part of Gloucester Township, New Edinburgh was incorporated as a separate village in 1866 by a special act of Parliament, but was annexed in 1887 by Ottawa. It is a community steeped in significant cultural and architectural heritage.

New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA) requested that Mayor Jim Watson proclaim September 1st 'Thomas McKay Day' as he was born on that day in 1792. This the Mayor did, declaring that September 1 be Thomas McKay Day in Ottawa to hon-

our one of the founders of the City. The first annual Thomas McKay Day will be celebrated this year, marking the 220th anniversary of his birth.

To commemorate this momentous first annual event, the CCCC will join with NECA and the Crichton Community Council to provide the community with a unique Labour Day Weekend experience and a novel new way of experiencing their community. The fun starts on September 1st at 1pm and will include the following activities:

The 1st annual **New Edinburgh Heritage Tour and Scavenger Hunt** will invite residents to explore our historic neighbourhood with an interactive DIY heritage tour. We supply the map and clues and you supply the curiosity! Along the route you will be competing for prizes and other goodies! The map will be a historical map where residents will get a stamp at marked locations along the route and find out more about the area's rich history. Participants who get all 10 stamps and unscramble the secret message will be entered in a raffle for gift certificates and prizes. The hunt is free to enter, open to all and is not a race. The hunt is based on the very successful New Edinburgh Heritage Walking Tour.

Next the participants of the Scavenger Hunt and other residents will meet at the Stanley Park Fieldhouse and join representatives of the three community organizations in a **parade** from the park to New Edinburgh House. Bagpipes will lead the procession.

The **Community Feast** will celebrate the many families and residents that comprise our neighbourhood. The meal will be served outside, in the New Edinburgh House gardens (in the case of inclement weather we will be hosting the meal inside Memorial Hall). Prizes for the scavenger hunt will be drawn at the Feast.

To wrap up the day, **movies** that highlight Ottawa's history will be played prior to a feature film. The feature film will be family-oriented and will begin at 8 pm (in the case of inclement weather we will be hosting the movie inside Memorial Hall).

With the overwhelming support and interest we have had from the community, we are confident that Thomas McKay Day will be the first in a long tradition of annual celebration. We hope you can join us!

Looking for a Way to Celebrate a Birthday?

Book your Birthday Party or Celebration with the CCCC! Let us host and organize your party! Whether it is a themed birthday party, anniversary or special celebration, we will work with you to ensure a memorable experience for all. Please contact us at **613-745-2742** for further information.

Renting Rooms: To rent rooms at the CCCC or Memorial Hall (our satellite location at 39 Dufferin), call **613-745-2742**.

Hours of Operation:

Monday – Friday: Office hours of operation are 9 to 5. However, the Centre's hours may vary, depending on programs.

Saturday & Sunday: Hours of operation vary, depending on bookings and events in the facility.

Please call **613-745-2745** for details. We are closed for all statutory holidays.

CCCC Arts and Entertainment Season in Review

By Isobel Bisby
CCCC Program Committee
Co-chair

Countries Shaped Like Stars

On Saturday, April 7, we were treated to a magical performance of *Countries Shaped Like Stars* by **Mi Casa Theatre Company** in the Community Room of New Edinburgh House. This talented pair, **Nick di Gaetano** and **Emily Pearlman**, had just returned home from a cross-Canada tour with this show and very generously donated this performance to us as a fundraiser for the Lumière Festival. We thank them both for their generosity, and for their wonderful performance.

New Edinburgh Players

Once again this year, the CCCC was the grateful beneficiary of a benefit performance by the New Edinburgh Players during the run of their annual spring production. This year, our community was treated to a series of hilarious performances of *The Liar* by Pierre Corneille as adapted by David Ives. Many thanks, as always, to **Ingrid McCarthy** and her entire troupe for providing such polished performances and for donating so generously to local community groups over the past three decades.

Night three of **Fun for Filmizens & Families from NFB** on May 11 was the concluding event in the winter/spring season of arts and entertainment at the CCCC. The evening was another feast of NFB films plus a special showing of *Park or Pavement?*—a documentary about the battle to kill the Vanier extension.

We were thrilled to have script writer **Michal Crawley** as guest speaker. Michal is a long-time resident of River Lane, and joined us for the evening to talk about her involvement in both *Acid Rain*, a 1980s documentary, and *Park or Pavement*. She provided a most interesting account of *Acid Rain*, displaying the newspaper clippings she had collected after the film was released and created a furor in the U.S. where it was labeled

“Canadian propaganda.”

Michal explained how she had also written the script for *Park or Pavement?*, the film sponsored by NECA twenty years ago. It seemed appropriate to show this film as a follow up to the **Jane's Walk: New Edinburgh**, of the previous weekend, and we are grateful to **Paul McConnell**, who searched his basement and found the film, allowing us to relive the community's battle to stop the Vanier Extension from obliterating Stanley Park.

The documentary told a fine story, and it was fun to try and spot existing residents back then. It was a good lesson in how a community can come together in collective action for a common cause, and win! The evening concluded with a showing of *Lonely Boy*, a film about Ottawa crooner Paul Anka, which afforded a fascinating glimpse of the pop industry of those days.

We thank **Jack Horwitz** and **Roger Wilson**, our exceptional production team. Both share a passion for films, and both pay meticulous attention to detail, so that the CCCC was left to do the gophering fully confident that the show would go on! We featured films for all ages in March, April and May, and the different programs attracted different people. The first night appealed to the older crowd, the second night to families (much popcorn on the floor that night!), and the last night a slightly more eclectic audience.

We are grateful to our enthusiastic volunteers, without whom these events could not happen, and our thanks go to **Bridgehead** for providing their wonderful coffee, to the **Bytowne Cinema** for donating door prizes and popcorn, to **Governor's Walk Retirement Residence** for loaning us their popcorn machine, and to **Katimavik** who helped out wherever needed.

Fun for Filmizens & Families from NFB wrapped up, not only a successful film series, but also the first season of **Friday Nights of Art and Entertainment** hosted by Crichton Cultural Community

Centre. Over the winter and early spring, there was a series of memorable evenings; a family zumba dance, an evening of slam poetry, dance performances by local artists, and our three evenings of movies featuring NFB films. We owe special thanks to talented local resident **Alison Melia**, who managed the three remarkable events in the art performance series.

The corner of Dufferin and Mackay is fast becoming an artistic hub for New Edinburgh and the surrounding communities. The CCCC arts and entertainment evenings, the Mackay United Church Chamber Music Series, the New Edinburgh Players, and all the other performing arts groups who are choosing to rent New Edinburgh House and Memorial Hall for their events, create a vibrant community of which we can be proud. And for many of us the events are just

a hop, skip and a jump away from our front doors. Doesn't get any better than that, does it?

Please keep an eye on the *New Edinburgh News* and our noticeboard at the corner of Crichton and Dufferin for notice of upcoming events or

check our website at www.crichtonccc.ca. And if you'd like to be a part of planning the next CCCC season of arts and entertainment please call 613-745-2742 or email communitycentre@rogers.com.

Spotlight on MainWorks

MainWorks Artists Cooperative has enjoyed a happy and productive relationship with the Crichton Cultural Community Centre since the Centre's beginning at 200 Crichton in 2000.

In 2011, MainWorks made the move to New Edinburgh House. The present eight artists in the co-op create a wide range of art including landscapes and figurative oils by **Alberta Dickson**, **Diana Bates**, **John Jarrett**, and **Wendy Simmons**; large farm

scenes (often featuring cows) by **Patsy Fyfe**; bold abstracts by **Frances Caswell-Routier**; East Coast watercolours by **Pierre Lagalisse** and eclectic works by **Suzanne Robertson**.

MainWorks artists hold an annual **Open House** in November, but visitors to the studios are welcome any time.

Artist, **John Jarrett** will be participating in **Ottawater**, June 5 - 24. The show depicts waterways in and near the Capital.

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How to Register

In-person registration:

Come to the CCCC office and register for your program. In-person registration is ongoing during regular office hours. With in-person registration, we accept cash, Visa, MasterCard and personal cheques.

Telephone registration:

CCCC accepts telephone registration during business hours. Call 613-745-2745 to register for your program(s).

We accept Visa and MasterCard over the phone.

After the Fire...

Continued from page 1

the deal closes, however, we will have no confirmation of the project details, less still of the timetable for the rebuild.

Bread and Roses Bakery: A Close Call

As most readers know, thanks to the barrage of media coverage that was occasioned by the debacle, property owner **Helene Carter** attempted to lock out bakery owner **Chris Green** and his staff immediately before the Easter weekend when the shop was literally laden with specialty baking and treats for the holiday. Chris was notified of the lock out at 2:30 am, and instructed by Ms. Carter to call off his staff for the following day. The allegation behind the lock-out related to a specification in the lease that the premises be used for a retail operation, whereas a portion of Chris' production is, and always has been, sold wholesale, a fact of which Ms. Carter has apparently been well aware since the start of his occupancy.

Needless to say, on the eve of a critically important long weekend, (and incidentally, very shortly after the birth of his baby daughter **Ella Jade!**), Chris was distressed and irate, and consulted with his lawyer on a course action. Armed with the assurance that a court order would be required to enforce the lock-out, Chris moved swiftly to have the locks removed, reopened the bakery, called in the staff and stayed in operation throughout the weekend, serving overflow crowds of clients who flocked to the store, as much to commiserate and express their support as to load up on the tempting holiday

baked goods. On the advice of his lawyer, Chris actually slept overnight at the bakery to turn back the bailiffs, should they attempt a second visit. On Easter Sunday when the store was closed to customers, Chris' wife **Emily** resourcefully arranged to have the Easter celebration brought to him, and a happy family party took place

retail operations. As we went to press in late May, however, Chris was informed that Ms. Carter remains determined to bring about his eviction from the premises, and he has been obliged to seek a court injunction to put a stop to that process. The court hearing is scheduled to take place on June 1st, and in the interim Chris is once again camping out at the bakery to avoid a recurrence of the late night lock-out which

ity fare. We wish him well in this distressing struggle, and we can all show our support by continuing to shop regularly and often at Bread and Roses—scarcely a hardship for those of us who consider our bakery an Essential Service!

Over the summer, interested readers can keep track of any developments in this ongoing saga on the community website at www.newedinburgh.ca.

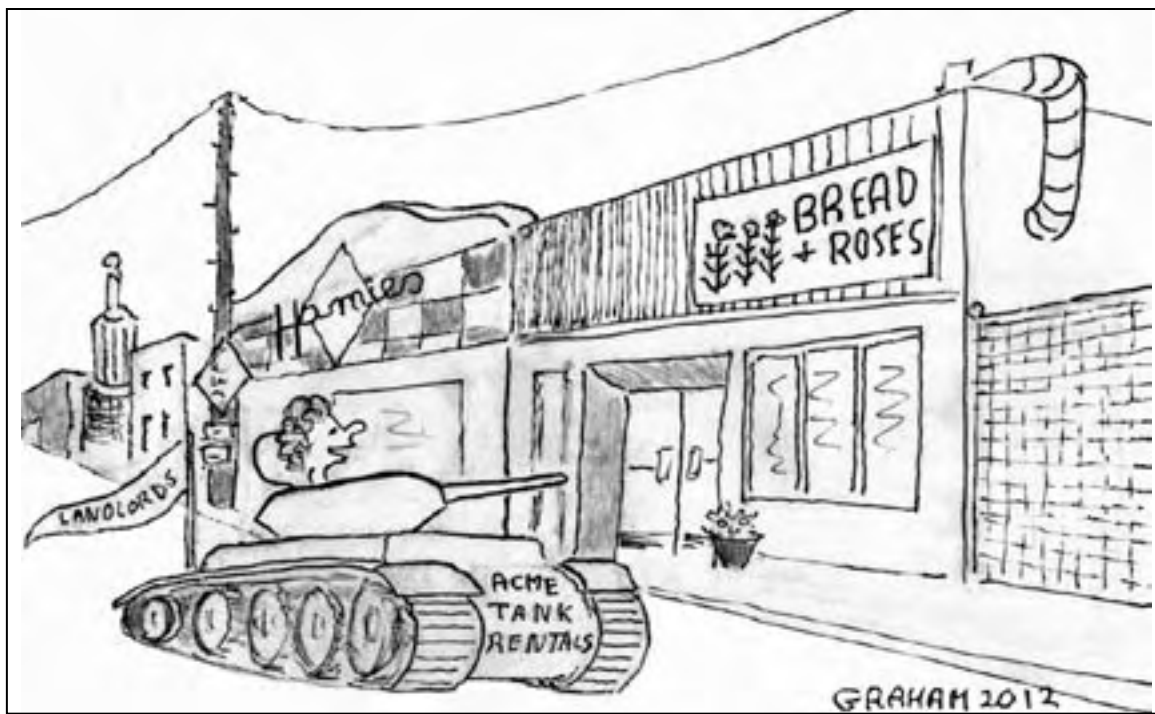
the daily sociability of serving customers, something he had greatly missed throughout the difficult year following the fire.

The Glebe store is larger than their previous quarters on Beechwood, and has a staff of 18 retained from the previous management. To Marc's delight, a number of their former clients from Beechwood have already dropped in, and he looks forward to greeting others as the word gets around of their new location. If you (like me!) are disinclined to make the trek to the big box alternatives, you can drop in on Isabel and Marc at the Glebe location, or, as Marc reports that New Edinburgh is on their regular delivery route, give the store a call at **613-234-6353** to arrange for a home delivery of those much-needed garden or cleaning supplies, batteries, light bulbs or other household necessities.

Much as we will miss them as our "local", we wish Marc and Isabel the very best in their new location, and hope to keep in touch with them as they become established in the Glebe.

Epicuria: Open At Last!

Epicuria owner **Tracey Black** had planned a low key opening of the new store at **357 St. Laurent Blvd.** in the Rockcliffe Crossing Plaza when construction was finally completed not long after Easter in mid-April. And indeed, it was low key, with only a simple announcement on the Epicuria website and no elaborate fanfare of any kind. What Tracey perhaps underestimated was the degree of pent up demand which had been building in the heavily-populated ranks of Epicuria's regular clientele, and which erupted in a flood of customers converging on the new premises when the doors were



Cartoon by John Graham.

Reprinted courtesy of the *Manor Park Chronicle*.

This is a polite notice that you have to get out NOW! And, by the way, Happy Easter!

amidst the bakery shelves!

Chris and his lawyer have attempted to continue discussions with Ms. Carter in an effort to reach a settlement which takes account of both the value of Chris' remaining lease (to 2015 with a 5-year renewal option), and the costs of a forced relocation in terms of business lost in the transition, as well as the significant investment required to refit new premises to meet the needs of his production and

occurred shortly before Easter.

Much as we would all like to see an end to the logjam and the start of rebuilding on Beechwood, I think it's safe to say that the community is strongly in support of a fair settlement for Chris, in recognition of the significant investment and long hours of hard work he has devoted to building a business which so successfully serves the needs of our neighbourhood with consistently high qual-

Success Stories!

Introducing Capital Home Hardware

In mid-April, former Beechwood Home Hardware owners **Marc Clément** and **Isabel Lamarche** became the new proprietors of Capital Home Hardware in the Glebe at **736 Bank Street at Second Avenue**. They are both thrilled with the new venture, and Marc is lyrical about once again being in a retail milieu with



From left to right: Marc Clément, Isabel Lamarche and Chuck Hillock (previous owner)

"We would like to thank everyone for their support over the last year!"

WE DELIVER IN THE BEECHWOOD AREA!



Marc Clément and Isabel Lamarche from Beechwood Home Hardware are proud to announce that they have purchased

**Capital Home Hardware
736 Bank Street
Ottawa
613-234-6353**

and would be happy to serve you at their new location!



Photo: Penny Thompson

Chris Green of Bread and Roses Bakery speaks to Jane's Walk crowd in front of demolished section of Beechwood.

finally opened. Tracey and her staff served 77 customers on Day One, and have since been working flat out to keep up with the brisk pace of business, and to keep the fridges, freezers and shelves stocked with their signature gourmet fare.

Tracey reports that within 24 hours of opening, the store had bounced back to the level of regular pre-fire sales, and she is both gratified and relieved that the risk involved in a costly relocation appears to have paid off handsomely. "It has been one big reunion for us in past few weeks," she notes with delight, "and it is so good to hear that the community missed us, and have been waiting for us to reopen.... I want to extend a big thank you to the community for their support this year: their phone calls and emails kept us going."

The new store has a wonderfully spacious retail area to accommodate the steady flow of old and new clients, and there are two cash registers in operation to mitigate the logjams at especially busy times such as the lunch hour. At the front of store are three small tables for two for those who'd like to relax and enjoy a cup of coffee and a sandwich or salad, and eventually, when operations are fully launched, there will be hot lunches to go for those in search of something more substantial.

In addition to Epicuria's own superb cooking (both its weekly gourmet menu, and a freezer full of frozen entrees), you'll find a range of new products available from such well known local artisan suppliers as Seed to Sausage Charcuterie, Fifth Town Cheese, Art-is-in-Bakery bread, Ishina Indian Food, Bryson Farms, and Pascale's All Natural Ice Cream. Epicuria's pastry chef **Isabelle** has also been busy creating a new line of

tasty products, including grain crackers, chocolate bouchons, cheese bites and cheese cake bites which will be available for sampling in the coming month.

Even the product packaging at Epicuria has been upgraded in an effort to reduce waste and promote recycling. Entrees are now packaged in compostable containers which can be reheated in both the oven and micro-wave, and if you happen to forget your own reusable grocery bag, your order will be packed into an old-fashioned paper bag for the trip home.

Since the reopening, Tracey has welcomed **Aaron** and **Jodi**, both avid foodies, to her new retail team. Aaron is the author of *Pop Tarts and Bacon* while Jodi writes the popular food blog *Simply Fresh*. On the catering side of the operation, you'll encounter **Dawn**, the Director of Catering, a long-time Epicuria staffer profiled in a previous edition of the NEN; **Chris**, the new catering chef; and **Johanne**, the new Service Manager.

The hours of operation at 357 St. Laurent Blvd. remain the same as those on MacKay Street: Monday to Wednesday, 9 am - 6:30 pm; Thursday and Friday, 9 am - 7 pm; Saturday, 9 am - 5:30 pm and Sunday, 10 am - 4 pm.

Since the store opened its doors in mid-April, Tracey and company have been too busy to focus on plans for a Grand Reopening celebration, but once the dust settles, she hopes to arrange an Open House when the community can drop in and tour the new facilities. Interested readers can keep an eye on the website for details (www.epicurial.ca). We wish Tracey and her team every possible success in their new location, and welcome them back to the community after a long and difficult year.

Trainer Tips for the Dog Park

Editor's Note: Our community was greatly saddened by a recent tragic incident in Stanley Park in which a small Chihuahua was killed by a much larger dog. Well known local dog trainer Chantal Mills offers some basic advice for dog owners on how to ensure off-leash play is safe and fun for all the animals involved.

**By Chantal Mills
Head Trainer
Ottawa Canine School**

For the most part, the dog park is a place where dogs can have some harmless fun, meet new friends, burn off some extra energy and perhaps be lucky enough to chase a squirrel.

One of the keys to keeping your dog safe at the park is being able to recognize what appropriate play looks like. Dogs at play use a lot of extra, unnecessary movements. They wiggle a lot, they run at each other in wide, graceful arcs and take natural breaks from play every minute or so.

Dog play can include snarling, chasing, showing teeth and pinning but it is cooperative. When dogs are playing appropriately, they are taking turns. If a dog is being chased and doesn't have the chance or the desire to have his turn chasing, this should be interrupted. Keep an eye on your dog and on the other dogs and interrupt play before it escalates.

Differences Can Be Dangerous

Size differences do matter at the dog park. Age differences and breed combinations can also contribute to disaster. A

vibrant and enthusiastic puppy may not be well received by an older, less tolerant dog. Some breed combinations can be cause for concern. A Great Dane may play well with a Jack Russell, but a different breed combination may not be as well suited for play. Rough play can turn into a dangerous game, especially if there is a size difference, an age difference and a breed combination that is questionable.

The dog park is not for every dog. Owners of dogs that are aggressive, timid, fragile or don't look like they are having fun should explore an alternative to the park, such as pet daycare or training facilities that offer supervised play dates for small or larger dogs.

Prepping for a Busy Park Season

By Marci Surkes

The **Friends of the Park** wish to thank all the volunteers who helped with the annual park cleanup, both on the day of the event, and also those who helped with the advanced preparations and promotion. We'd also like to thank our local businesses, **Bridgehead Coffeehouse**, **Metro** and **Da Bombe**, for their generous donations of refreshments and cleaning tools. The event was successful in getting the park spiffy for summer, and a wonderful opportunity to build community!

As may have noticed, there has been considerable renovation activity on the NCC side of the park in recent weeks, namely around the off-

leash dog area. The NCC is in its final phase of the **Park Remediation Plan** which



Photo: Mark Bisby


NCC park remediation included the planting of many, many trees.


centres around tree and shrub planting, as well as the addition of a new lookout over the


Rideau River. This new lookout area will be a picturesque spot, complete with benches to enjoy the views. According to NCC officials, the work is on schedule for completion by the end of June, so just in time for summer! Once the dozens of new trees along the bike and walking paths have matured, they will transform this section of the park into a veritable oasis.

Your Park Committee continues to advocate for further improvements to the park, but we cannot do it without your help. Please be in touch if you have suggestions or questions about our park (marci.surkes@gmail.com).

Have a wonderful summer!







Raw Diamonds, inspired by nature's geological splendor and the craftsmanship of Classical times...

AVAILABLE AT OUR WESTBORO LOCATION
Rideau Centre | 799 Bank St | 430 Richmond Rd 1-888-9-MAGPIE | www.magpiejewellery.com

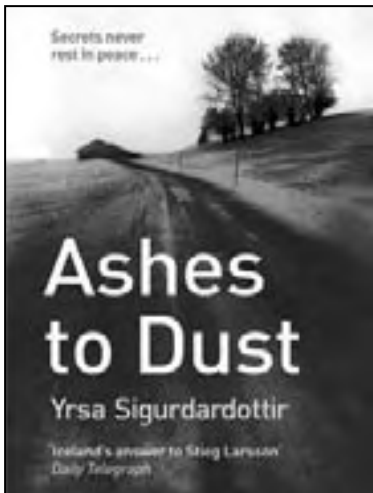
Summer 2012 Reading Suggestions from Books on Beechwood

Jean Recommends:

Jean's favorite book this spring is without a doubt *Waiting for Sunrise* by **William Boyd**. A young British man goes to Vienna in 1917 in search of treatment for a sexual dysfunction, returns to England cured of his problem, fathers a child he will never meet, and is conscripted into the world of espionage. A compelling read for sure.

Patrick Gale's *A Sweet Obscurity* has a happy, pastoral ending and an engaging story of intersecting lives.

Jo Nesbo, the Norwegian writer, economist and musician has written several thrillers that are well worth staying up late to read, *The Snowman* and *Headhunters* among them. Good atmospheric stuff.



So, too, is *Ashes to Dust*, a whodunit by the Icelandic

writer, **Yrsa Sigurdardottir**.

Moving away from fiction, I strongly recommend a gem of a book, *The Tao of Travel: Enlightenment from Lives on the Road*, a collection of travel essays compiled by **Paul Theroux**. "You go away for a long time and return a different person—you never come all the way back" is a quote from his own book, *Dark Star Safari*, and nicely sums up the appeal of travel and the appeal of this book.

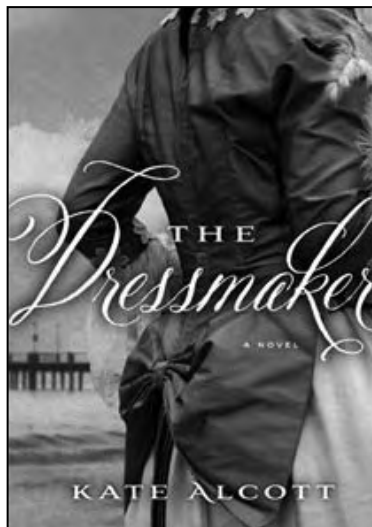
Hilary Recommends:

The Selection by **Kiera Cass** (YA 12+). Chosen to compete with 34 other girls for the heart (and hand) of Prince Maxon, America Singer must leave her family behind in pursuit of a future she could never have imagined and is not sure she wants.

When You Were Mine by **Rebecca Serle** (YA 12+). Have you ever wondered what happens to Rosaline after Romeo throws her over for Juliet? This is a lovely retelling of the story of Romeo and Juliet from the perspective of the jilted Rosaline. Filled with love and sorrow, it's a great summer read!

When She Woke by **Hillary Jordan** (Adult). In a futuristic America where criminals' skin is dyed to match the severity of their crimes, Hannah Payne wakes up in a sterile room with red skin after hav-

ing an abortion: something the government considers murder. Determined to keep the identity of her baby's father a secret, Hannah strives to reintegrate herself into a society that judges her only by her newly dyed skin.



The Dressmaker by **Kate Alcott** (Adult). Tess Collins, a young girl who wishes to be a dressmaker, gets hired as a maid to Lady Duff Gordon who is set to board HMS Titanic in 1912. Surviving the sinking is just the first step in Tess' adventures. Following the disaster, Tess must decide who is telling the truth and who holds her heart before she can truly start her new life in New York.

Antoinette Recommends:

Canada by **Richard Ford**, a new novel by the Pulitzer Prize winner, is gripping from the first few pages. It starts in Montana but ends in Saskatchewan.

Two short books on Queen Elizabeth, one by **Robert Lacey**, *The Queen: A Life in Brief* and *The Secret of the Crown: Canada's Affair with Royalty* by **John Fraser**.

A biography on the life of Celia Franca, *The Pursuit of Perfection* by **Carol Bishop-**

Gwyn, is a moving, complex portrait of Canada's prima ballerina.

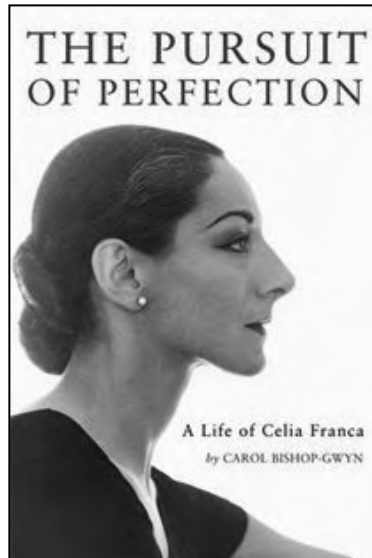
Out of the Blue by **Jan Wong**, former *Globe and Mail* columnist, is a moving and honest memoir of workplace depression and recovery.

Bridget Recommends:

In One Person by **John Irving**. John Irving revisits familiar territory in his newest novel, *In One Person*. A quirky boy recounts the crushes that shaped his early life in a private school in rural Vermont. In the tradition of *The World According to Garp*, the book is peppered with endearing transsexuals, wrestlers, coming of age angst and Irving's special blend of humour, warmth and redemption.

The Winter Palace by **Eva Stachniak is another treat for historical fiction lovers. It is a fascinating and compelling story of the rise of Catherine the Great told through the eyes of her maid and cohort in the young Catherine's rise from spirited teenager to empress amidst the traps, conspiracies and treacheries that surround them.**

Bring Up the Bodies by **Hilary Mantel**. Hilary Mantel continues her brilliant portrayal of Henry XIII's turbulent reign through the eyes of a surprisingly sympathetic Thomas Cromwell in *Bring*




up the Bodies. In this briefer, more flowing tome, Cromwell manoeuvres his way through the destruction of Anne Boleyn and possibly his position in Henry's court.

A Trick of the Light by **Louise Penny**. Coming in July will be the paperback release of Louise Penny's latest Three Pines mystery, which takes us back to the Eastern Townships village with all our favourite characters and Inspector Gamache embroiled in yet another mysterious death.



Death Comes to Pemberley by **P.D. James**. Another much anticipated paper release is the Dame's delightful mysterious extension of *Pride and Prejudice*, perfect for summer reading.

As always, there is an impressive array of books by local authors, from the handsome and moving guide to *Vimy: Canada's Memorial to a Generation* by **J Hucker** and **J Smith**, to **Brian McGarry's** account of the long and illustrious history of his family's funeral home business, *From Paupers to Prime Ministers*, to three new mysteries. **Linda Wiken**, former owner of Prime Crime Books and writing as **Erika Chase**, brings us the classic "cozy" set in the southern U.S.—*A Killer Read*. **Vicky Delany** is back with a third volume in her fascinating historical Klondike Mystery series—*Gold Mountain*.



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Brenda Missen has written a resonant mystery called *Tell Anna She's Safe* based very creatively on the murder of Lucy Stockman in Gatineau and her friend Ellen who is determined to find her killer.

David Recommends:

I just finished **Robert Sawyer's** trilogy: *Wake* (Book 1), *Watch* (Book 2), *Wonder* (Book 3) and loved it.

On my "To Read" list: **James Gleick's** *The Information*.

Anything by **Pratchett**: I see that *Snuff* is out, so that's next!

Since I read the other five, and I'm curious to see how she finishes off the series: **Jean M. Auel's** *The Land of Painted Caves*.

Heidi Recommends:

The Antagonist by **Lynn Coady**. Shortlisted for the 2011 Giller Prize, this novel has a great narrative voice, and is a page-turner to boot!

The Marriage Plot by **Jeffrey Eugenides**. The author absolutely nails the character of the angsty, ambitious, confused, in-love 22-year-old and has a lot of fun with the age-old literary "marriage plot" while he's at it. Another page-turner.

Di Recommends:

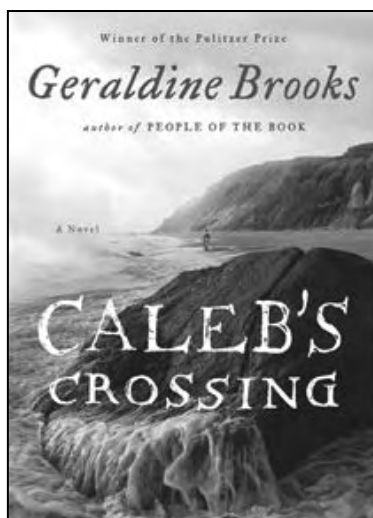
These Foolish Things by **Deborah Moggach**. Very funny read: basis of the new movie "The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel."

Jill Recommends:

Love and Summer by **William Trevor**. This novel was a semi-finalist contender for the 2011 IMPAC award. A perfect summer read. The story takes place in small town of Rathmoye, Ireland, where all is quiet and serene until a stranger comes for a visit.

Get a start on the Book Club reads for the Fall:

The Sense of an Ending by **Julian Barnes**. This winner of 2011 Mann Booker Prize is the story of Toby Webster, a middle-aged divorcee, who is forced to look back on his



youthful antics and the implications of those actions when he receives a lawyer's letter.

Of this Earth, A Mennonite Boyhood in the Boreal Forest by **Rudy Wiebe**. This is the autobiographical story of Rudy growing up in Speedwell, Saskatchewan. The rare photographs and memories that relate to them give the reader

an insight into a world that has since disappeared.

Caleb's Crossing by **Geraldine Brooks**. This is a must read for fans of Geraldine Brooks. The story begins in Martha's Vineyard, in the late 1600s. It is the story of friendship and love between Bethia Mayfield, daughter of a minister determined to convert the Wampanoag tribe, and Caleb, the son of the chief-tain. The two young people are reunited in Cambridge where Caleb is receiving an education and Berthia is working as a housekeeper. Eventually, Caleb becomes the first Native American to graduate from Harvard.

Children's Books:

As usual, we have a large selection of children's books. Intriguing new titles, old favourites, poetry, non-fiction, games, puzzles and much more!

If We Are What We Eat... What Are We?

Farmer, agriculturalist and international diplomat debunks common myths about food

OTTAWA, Ontario – Much controversy has surrounded the food and agricultural industries recently, particularly as they relate to the "eat local" movement, sustainable agriculture, organic food, factory farms, organic foods, and genetically modified foods. Indeed, how to know if the food we buy is safe to eat is a major concern of many.

Author and agricultural expert **Maurice Hladik** debunks common miscon-

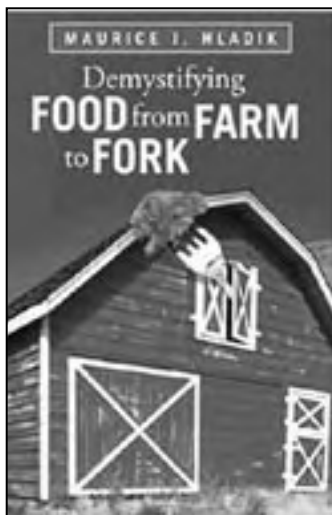
ceptions relating to these and many more issues in his new, all-encompassing guide to the food industry, *Demystifying Food from Farm to Fork*.

The information presented is

a culmination of Hladik's personal background as a young farmer, his professional experiences as an international agricultural diplomat to New Zealand, Germany, China, Thailand and South Korea and finally as an executive in an agriculture-based company.

Hladik's years of observation led him to draw two important, yet conflicting, conclusions about food: first, food production is the most devastating human activity for the global environment and second, the lack of food is the

most devastating circumstance for humans. Hladik addresses both of these issues in the book, giving advice to readers looking toward the future of the agricultural industry.



By Liba Bender

Just last week a neighbour mentioned he doesn't lock his car at all. This is because the windows have been broken too many times at night by thieves looking for small change or other things they think might be in the glove compartment. If we all are letting people take things as they please, there is a problem. It is not a healthy situation to invite theft.

As of now, June 2012, we don't really have an active Neighbourhood Watch for all of New Edinburgh. There has been one meeting of interested people on Ivy and Bertrand. What we have established is a mini-watch at this end of our neighbourhood. That is all.

In order to get other people involved in creating a community-wide New Edinburgh watch we need 50% or more of resident registration. We need block captains for each street. So far, no one has contacted me about their interest in doing this. If you would like to volunteer for this, please email me at libabender@yahoo.ca. Without you we cannot move forward on this important initiative.

Constable Ryan Pierce has outlined some of the Ottawa Police Crime Prevention programs available in his column in this edition. You can also go to www.ottawapolice.ca to find out more about these programs

or contact the community police centre at 613-236-1222.

The Home Security Inspection program allows police representatives to visit your house and provide you with a safety audit. This audit has a checklist and a website link which identifies safety improvements and provides crime prevention tips. It also promotes other Police Service Crime prevention initiatives.

At the time of writing this article, the Crime Stoppers Program of Ottawa was in financial jeopardy. Hopefully it will be rescued, as it has been a helpful way to follow crimes. You might not be aware that at one time Ottawa had a Block Parent Program, but it ended in 2008 after more than twenty years. It was a very successful program that helped to keep our children safe.

With this good weather upon us and garden work beaconing, please remember that even if you are in the back yard, your front door must be locked. Be aware of people that are coming and going, and report any crimes to the police.

If you see trouble, call 911

If you have trouble, call 911.

If you want to be a block captain and organize your street in New Edinburgh for the watch, please contact me at libabender@yahoo.ca.

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Organic Gardening at Rideau Hall

Pheromones, Nematodes and Weed Dragons, Oh My!

By Jane Heintzman

Since 2009 when the province of Ontario passed legislation banning the cosmetic use of pesticides, residents of our community, along with landscaping and lawn care companies throughout the region, have been on a steep learning curve exploring a range of organic options for keeping weeds and plant-pillaging insects under control. If you think this is a difficult task in your own back yard, just imagine the challenge of going organic in the vast 79-acre grounds of Rideau Hall, with its unique mixture of parkland, woodland, meadows, flower gardens, the Canadian Heritage Rose Garden and extensive greenhouses.

As **Manager of Grounds and Greenhouses for the Official Residences**, Mark Burleton has presided over the transition to organic practices on the grounds at Rideau Hall—a process which is ongoing, as a steadily widening range of organic options are tried and tested within the vice-regal domain. Mark and his team of gardeners grapple with much the same litany of gardening challenges as the rest of us (albeit on an exponentially larger scale), including turf-devouring grubs, Japanese beetles, aphids, dandelions, nutrient-depleted soil, invasive species, drought and a host of horticultural tribulations.

In the case of the infamous Japanese beetle, which has

plagued our community in recent years, Rideau Hall has tried a variety of methods, including the use of vacuums to suction up the little critters and **pheromone traps** to attract and kill them off. While the traps are reasonably effective, Mark points out that they can be a double-edged sword to the extent that they attract larger numbers of beetles to an area, not all of which may be protected by the placement of traps. So if you decide to go this route, it's best to ensure that your neighbours do too!

Mark's Rideau Hall team has also used **nematodes** to kill off the beetles at the grub stage, a method which can be effective, but which is expensive and somewhat tricky to properly execute given the crucial importance of timing in the process, and the risks of damage to the nematodes. Mark suggests that another option to deal with Japanese beetles at the grub stage is **milky spore bacteria**, a powder which is reportedly harmless to humans, pets, birds, bees and beneficial insects, but which effectively kills off beetle larvae and remains in the soil for up to 20 years, dispatching future generations of these destructive pests. He also notes that promising research is underway at the University of Guelph to develop grub-resistant grasses, so there may be a breakthrough on the horizon.

Once a grub infestation has taken hold to devour an expanse of lawn, Mark's best advice is to dig up the area, turn the soil over, let it rest and be exposed to the air, leave the residual grubs to be consumed by the birds, and then re-sod or re-turf the area. At Rideau Hall, the garden team has done this very successfully

in the private gardens where the grass continues to flourish nearly ten years after a re-turfing operation.

As avid gardeners will be aware, the internet is a rich source of information about **bio-pesticides** ranging from hot pepper oils to orange oils, fatty-acid based horticultural soaps and even a crushed garlic solution. Mark and his team have been testing a number of these options, and have had some success in particular with **Neem oil**, a strong smelling substance extracted from the root of the neem tree which can be sprayed around the base of a plant to kill off some insect pests and repel others. He offers a couple of cautions here, however: first, the oil may scorch some plants, so it's wise to begin with a limited test, and second, it does indeed smell foul! And in the case of all these bio-pesticides, he urges home gardeners to take the appropriate safety precautions during their application. Organic though they are, they are still corrosive.

In the realm of weed control, Mark's team has used a range of methods, including the application of **steam** to kill dandelions, a process which, though effective, can be expensive and requires repeat applications. Some homemade concoctions can also work handily, including **vinegar and water** and other acetic acid-based solutions, although Mark emphasizes that these are not suitable for application to your lawn. For hard surfaces, bare soil and gravel or stone pathways where weeds crop up between the stones, Rideau Hall has made use of a propane burner device called the **Weed Dragon** which scorches the offending growth. Needless to say, great care must be taken with this particular tool to avoid

unintended consequences!

As every gardener knows, properly fertilizing your lawn and flower beds is critical to maintaining healthy growth and developing resistance to pests, invasive weeds and drought. Rideau Hall is actively exploring a range of organic fertilizers, including an **alfalfa-based product** and **bark-based compost** to replace the traditional peat-based alternatives. The extraction of peat is now widely acknowledged to have serious environmental consequences, including the disruption of delicate ecosystems where the peat is harvested, and the release of huge quantities of carbon dioxide in the extraction process. Mark's team is also working with the City of Ottawa to explore the use of recycled materials in its fertilizing program.

If you happen to visit Rideau Hall's Canadian Heritage Rose Garden this summer, you may find that the garden is in the throes of a transition as Mark and his team undertake a major rejuvenation of the area, radically pruning back the leggy, overgrown shrubs; replenishing the soil; and replacing failing plants with hardy Canadian cultivars appropriate both to the climate and to the historical narrative which the garden is intended to symbolize. The object of the exercise is, of course, to create the conditions for a glorious, lush, long-blooming display of roses by this time next year.

A special challenge during hot, dry summers is keeping our lawns and gardens properly irrigated without putting undue strain on the depleting local water supply. At Rideau Hall, the vast expanses of lawn (regularly trampled by hordes of summer visitors) are watered with untreated water pumped directly from the Ottawa River without the added costs and expenditure of energy involved in the filtration and treatment system. Because the grounds of Rideau Hall are divided into horticultural zones, with specific landscaping guidelines applying to each zone, care is also taken to maximize drought-resistant planting appropriate to the soil type and exposure of the particular location, so water conservation is another guiding principle in Mark's gardening regime.

We wish Mark and his garden team well in their continuing quest for new and more effective organic gardening methods, and look forward to hearing news of their success stories to pass on to gardeners in our community!

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Unusual Perennials for Spring Planting

By Frances Phillips

You could say that **Suzanne Patry** began her gardening career as an eight-year-old, trundling around on the heels of a neighbour in suburban Ottawa. She recalls how his Rose Daphne, peeping through a rock pile, caught her imagination. Today, the retired school principal trundles around her own garden: all four acres of it, and all of it planted.

Suzanne has been market testing new plant varieties at her **Whitehouse Perennials** nursery in Almonte for 25 years. So she has plenty of survival tips on growing fashionable—and not-so-fashionable—perennials in our unforgiving Zone 5 climate. Here are some highlights from Suzanne's recent visit with members of the Rockcliffe Park Garden Club.

Trial and Error

There's no secret to growing some of the unusual perennials now coming to market, she says. "It's simply a question of planting them to see how they do." Suzanne explained how gardens frequently have several microclimates, so it may just be a question of moving

plants around until we find their sweet spot.

It's easy to get downcast when plants don't do well. But that's not to say we shouldn't keep trying. By way of illustration, Suzanne recalls a warning tag on a small Helleborus, saying it wasn't particularly hardy. A challenge too great to ignore, she took it home and now has "massive clumps" of purple and red Hellebores in her garden.

Then there's the fashionable cornflower blue Himalayan Poppy. "Almost impossible to grow without the right microclimate," she notes—as many of us can attest.

"Echinacea, being one of the hottest plants right now, means I've got my hands on all the new varieties to see how they do." A top performer is 'Pink Double Delight'. It has a compact form with double pom-pom pink flower heads that age to soft lavender. Echinaceas thrive in rich, well-

drained soil in full sun and will bloom from mid-summer to frost.

are rumored to give off sufficient flammable gas to ignite a match: they don't).

A showy plant with shiny deep green foliage, it's often used to set off taller Peonies and Daylilies. Handy, because Peonies and Daylilies are two more of Suzanne's passions.

Of the 50 Peony varieties in her nursery garden, she's had great success with the 'Itoh' Peony: a hybrid cross of Tree Peony with a regular herbaceous border-type variety. "Itohs have the vigour of a Tree Peony, without its woody stem, so flowers don't droop too much after a heavy rain."

Among the 1,000 varieties of Daylilies in the back field, Suzanne is hard pressed to name a favourite. She simply enjoys weaving through the Daylily plants, or surveying the sea of colour from a strategically placed bench with visitors. When choosing a Daylily, Suzanne recommends looking for a multi-branched

stem plant carrying a heavy bud count.

A clear favourite among the 300 Hosta varieties at Whitehouse Perennials, is 'Liberty'. Its blue-green foliage bordered with bright yellow will give a lift to any garden's shady spot.

Perennial growing tips

Suzanne's three top tips for successful perennial gardening are ...

- When preparing new planting beds, build them above grade to ensure good drainage. More plants are killed off by winter wet than cold.
- When planting in the fall, mulch generously around the roots. Otherwise, when the ground heaves in spring, exposed roots may surface and suffer frost damage.
- Late planted conifer trees and shrubs won't have the root structure to tide them over our long winters. To avoid the roots desiccating (drying out) give them extra water through the fall.

Rockcliffe Park Garden Club meets monthly, September through June. Membership \$35, or couples \$50. For information: F. Phillips 613-745-2551. Suzanne Patry can be reached at 613-256-3406.



Echinacea.

Photo: Walters Gardens

Favourites

A favourite in Suzanne's garden is the pink and white Dictamnus (often called Gas Plant for its flowerlets that

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Summer Rowing Camp at the ORC

By Matt Christie

Joining the ORC was one of the best decisions of my life. When I began rowing through the Summer Rowing Camp, I was new to the sport and

level and I am a valued member of the Queen's University Varsity Rowing Team. I started at the ORC Rowing Camp and now I am one of the Camp's instructors.



Photo: Mitchell Wasilik

From youth camper to competitive rower, the author at the Royal Canadian Henley Regatta.

in poor physical shape and condition. I stayed with the sport through two summers of camp and soon found myself in love with rowing. I joined the ORC's Development Program and soon after, the Competitive Program. I have now been racing competitively for almost seven years with the ORC. I have had the honour of racing for Canada at the National

Established in 1867, the Ottawa Rowing Club (ORC) has been full of success and pride since the very beginning with members such as past Prime Minister Sir John A. MacDonald to current Olympians Morgan Jarvis and David Blair. Located on the Ottawa River at 10 Lady Grey Drive off of Sussex, the ORC Summer Rowing Camp is a

place to learn a wonderful new skill.

There is nothing quite like spending warm summer days with a cool breeze on the Ottawa River with friends. Campers learn to row as well as participating in many fun, rowing-related activities throughout each day of the camp. No previous experience is required and all are welcome!

The The Ottawa Rowing Club's Summer Camp teaches youths aged 12 to 17 the basics of the sport of rowing in an enjoyable and relaxed atmosphere. The camp is run by fully trained and certified staff members who have coached in highly competitive programs and competed at the National level. The ORC Summer Rowing Camp is designed for those who wish to try rowing without the time commitment of a competitive rowing program. The camp is run in week-long sessions from Monday, June 25 through Friday, August 24 with camp hours from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.

For registration and information about the camp and other programs offered by the ORC please visit www.ottawarowingclub.com.

51st Annual IODE House and Garden Tour

Focus on Heritage: Sandy Hill

Friday, June 8 and Saturday, June 9, 10 am to 2 pm

Laurentian Chapter IODE invites you to discover the character, the style and the stories of one of Ottawa's oldest and most interesting neighbourhoods. Open houses—eight of them—include the fabulous renovation of a stylish 1920s house, a loft apartment in the stylish Wallis House (the old Protestant Hospital), the Polish embassy complete with wine cellar, a fabulous Victorian terrace and—something for every taste—a bit of classy modern infill.

And there's more! History buffs will enjoy being invited into Besserer House, one of the oldest buildings in Ottawa and home of the original landowner in Sandy Hill. The former home of Senator Cairine Wilson (first female senator) takes us back to the famous Persons Case in 1929. Verdier House offers an unusual collection of old armour and historical oddities.

Experts will be on hand,

along with Laurentian chapter hostesses, to tell you about the houses and their story. **Senator Landon Pearson**, heritage renovator **Sandy Smallwood** and **Michel Prévost**, Archivist of the University of Ottawa will be there at certain times during the tour to answer questions and chat with visitors about everything from the significance of the Persons Case to the francophone presence in Sandy Hill.

Tickets are \$30 and available now in stores, online or by mail. Tickets are good for both days. For more information you can visit our website at laurentian.iode.ca or call Jo at 613-842-5304. Find us also on our Facebook page **IODE Laurentian Chapter** and our twitter **@IODElaurentian**.

Transportation: Free shuttle bus will provide transport along the tour circuit.

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Income from the tour will go mainly to Nelson House to support the ending of violence against women. Other educational projects will also be supported.

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York Street Student Takes Home Brian Doyle Writing Contest Award

Fern Hill Celebrates “International Week”

Well known Canadian author, and graduate of York Street Public School, **Brian Doyle** initiated a literary Arts award at his alma mater several years ago. Originally intended for a Grade 8 student it was presented at the Grade 8 Graduation ceremony. This year because of the school's 90th anniversary, the contest was expanded and two awards were given, one for junior students and one for intermediate students. All the students wrote on a single theme, community. Brian Doyle collected the essays, stories or poems and chose the winners. Brian Doyle, himself, was on hand at York Street's 90th anniversary celebration to present the intermediate prize to York Street grade seven student, **Ethan McKinley-Young**.

Told in the simple and honest voice of a 12-year-old boy, Ethan's true story, about three friends from Sandy Hill, speaks from the heart.

A New School: A New Community

By Ethan McKinley-Young

I spent my first six grades at a small school with a tight-knit community. In the fall of 2011, I changed to York Street School for grade 7. I was put in Mr. McNicol's grade 7/8 class. This made me very happy because my best friend Max was in the same class as me. Since Max is a year ahead of me, I hadn't seen him since grade 5. There was also a new boy from Arkansas in my class. His name is Christian and he is also in grade 8.

Our teacher is crazy about running. He runs everywhere. He was the coach of the cross country team. Max, Christian and I decided to join the team. We trained for weeks. The day of the meet, we were all excited. The meet was being held at



Ethan McKinley-Young's true story won him praise, and an award, from author Brian Doyle.

Terry Fox Public School.

I ran my race first because I'm in grade 7. After my race, I found a spot to watch my teammates. When it came time for the grade 8 boys' race, I spotted Max and Christian. When the gun fired, they started running side by side. As they went into the woods, they were in the middle of the pack.

At the end of the course, you run out of the woods, up a small hill, and then it's about 100m across a field to the finish line. After about half of the runners went by, Christian came out of the woods, up the hill and then stopped. We all started yelling at him to keep going, including the coaches. Christian just stood there, staring back into the woods, we were all confused. After a couple of minutes, he started making beckoning gestures with his arms. Max, who had stopped with a cramp in his leg, appeared running out of the woods. He ran up the hill and met Christian. My two friends ran across the

field and over the finish line together. It was the nicest thing I had ever seen.

I still miss the tight-knit community of my old school, but at that cross country meet, I was proud to be wearing my York Street School jersey and proud to be part of a new community.

By Elizabeth Gray-Smith

A student from the preschool class slams her hands on the drum standing in front of her. The instrument comes up to her chin but she quickly discovers that the size of it translates into wonderfully loud percussion sounds. She looks over to her friend who declares, "we're doing it, we're making music!" She is learning about the traditional music of western Africa through a drumming workshop led by The Baobab Group. It is one of many activities hosted by the Fern Hill School to commemorate International Week, held April 30 to May 4.

"International Week is a great opportunity to celebrate and showcase the many cultures of our school's community," says Fern Hill School Principal, **Deborah Gutierrez**.

Other activities included a traditional British Teddy Bear's Picnic for the younger students and a high-energy school-wide international trivia competition for the older students.

Canada was represented through a special presentation on Aboriginal culture by the Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health. Fern Hill announced their donation of funds to buy a tile for the hallway of the



new Wabano Mamawi Centre on Montreal Road designed by famed architect, **Douglas Cardinal**. **Ron Noganosh**, well-known Ottawa Native artist, was also invited to talk to the children about his craft and career. He guided the students through a hands-on lesson of making art with found objects.

To get the parents involved, Fern Hill opened its doors after hours for a potluck dinner of international fare. The kitchen from the British High Commission donated a cake, clad in the Union Jack, for the occasion.

International Week is an annual event at the school located on Vaughan Street.

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XVI Fighting Climate Change: The Invisible Enemy

Editor's Note: The following article is the sixteenth in a series of thought-provoking articles on climate change by environmentalist Hugh Robertson. All the articles have been published in past editions of the New Edinburgh News (NEN) and can be found at www.newedinburgh.ca where previous issues of the NEN are available online.

By Hugh Robertson

As weather records topple like ten pins and climate instability escalates, we seem to sink ever deeper into apathy, denial and paralysis.

In the US, the number of people doubting the existence of anthropogenic climate change has been steadily increasing. However, a poll just published in the NY Times indicates that the recent erratic weather has persuaded more Americans that there is some credence to the concerns of climate scientists. The poll was still not enough to persuade President Obama to mention "climate change" in his Earth Day mes-

sage because of fears of a right wing reaction. Politics not only interferes with science, it also intensifies the risks of social confrontation.

In Canada, public opinion on climate change is more closely correlated with the economy than with weather developments. When the level of economic activity drops, so does our concern for the environment. We do not experience the same extreme weather events that the Americans do, except in the Arctic; sadly that area has slipped off our radar screens. Not even warnings about the possible disappearance of two

of our iconic symbols – polar bears and shinny rinks – can jolt us out of passivity.

Now David Suzuki, another of our symbols – though far from disappearing – has acknowledged that the environmental movement has hit a dead end. Partly, he believes that it is because environmentalists have failed to sell the right message. The real question is whether any message would have been heard.

As a sentient species we are remarkably deaf to scientific evidence. Perhaps it is because science is so dispassionately rational that it does not possess the same power to move us as, in the past, the call to arms has inspired us to resist those foes who have threatened our freedom. Our need to mitigate the

ide and methane, both colourless and odourless. Unlike the chlorine that seared the lungs of the troops trapped in the trenches of Flanders, carbon dioxide and methane circulate in the upper atmosphere where they trap the heat that is inexorably warming the planet.

Global climate and weather aberrations clearly indicate that the war is already underway. Nature has struck first, provoked into launching an offensive. From the outset we are on the defensive, divided and unprepared with no clear tactical or strategic objectives.

Unlike World War II, when, except for a lone dissenter, the House of Commons was unanimous in its declaration of war on Nazi Germany, we are hopelessly divided. The battle lines are blurred because there is no common enemy, nor can we even agree on the enemy. We are shell shocked because we are caught in both

facturers to scale down the size of the peacetime descendants of those military vehicles, such as jeeps, hummers, trucks, land cruisers and SUVs to compact hybrids in order to wage war on ghgs.

Why have we failed to designate the automobile as "a weapon of mass destruction?" We declared war on tobacco but we refuse to launch a war against one of the major contributors to ghgs. Is it because of the power of consumers, voters, unions, executives, shareholders, the advertising industry or politicians? Perhaps we have to investigate more ethereal enemies in the form of ideologies that hold us captive, such as free market capitalism or unfettered economic growth, in an effort to isolate and understand the enemies of nature.

World War II entered a period known as the "phony war" from September, 1939 to April,

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destructive effects of climate change has to be expressed with the same inspirational energy which gave our predecessors the determination and courage to defend themselves against a more visible and tangible threat.

Confronting the climate crisis is an undertaking that may not have any historical precedents but it certainly has prescient parallels. Unlike previous conflicts, we are facing an invisible enemy and, moreover, an enemy of our own creation. To complicate the battle scene further, we are not only fighting ourselves, both in our attitudes and in our actions, but we are also fighting among ourselves. In Pogo's immortal words: We have met the enemy and he is us.

The fight must be aimed primarily at anthropogenic greenhouse gases (ghgs) – a foe as insidious as it is invisible. The main culprits are carbon diox-

the crossfire and friendly fire and we cannot distinguish one from the other. We are confused and demoralized.

The external threats, in the form of weird weather and changing climate, are not yet urgent enough to create a sense of national emergency. In 1939 the fear of German aggression in Europe was palpable and the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor in late 1941 transformed the US into a belligerent overnight. Future generations may well apply President Roosevelt's famous phrase, "a day of infamy," to our timid response to combat the serious threats to the environment upon which we are so dependent for life itself.

The economies of the allied powers were immediately converted to war-time production; within days tanks replaced cars on the assembly lines. Ironically, we cannot summon that will today and force manu-

1940 when there was little military activity in Western Europe. We are well into our phony war – a "war" characterized by phony ghg targets, phony policies such as cap and trade, and phony political rhetoric. Even the platitudes ring phony. As the planet heats up and the weather gyrates, there is a surreal phoniness to our efforts to combat climate change. "Fighting for the future" had meaning in Europe in 1939. Today it is an eerily empty phrase.

The Kyoto Protocol, signed in December, 1997 is part of a tradition of multilateral diplomatic conferences aimed at maintaining international peace and security. Kyoto is different because it targets environmental peace and security by laying out a strategy to mitigate the growth of global ghgs. Kyoto can also be viewed as a declaration of war on behalf of the environment. But in an endless



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series of rancorous UN-sponsored conferences over the past 14 years, the signatories have failed to agree to any binding commitments with firm ghg targets.

The parties made progress at the Copenhagen Conference in December, 2009 by drawing a line in the sand and agreeing that anything in excess of a 2 degree C increase in global temperatures in this century would catapult the planet into runaway climate chaos. Scientists now estimate that we are on our way to reaching this critical threshold by 2050. Countries, both developed and developing, are stampeding across that crucial line in a frenetic race to the bottom.

The scourge of nationalism, precursor of so many wars, still haunts us today. As resources become increasingly scarce, it will be economic nationalism this time pitting country against country in ruinous conflicts. The failure of international cooperation will initiate a free-for-all as conventions, protocols, and rules are ignored. Next on the feeding list will be the melting Arctic as its oil, minerals and fish become more easily accessible. The major players are already lining up in the north as the last frontier opens up for exploitation.

"Truth" is invariably the first casualty in war. Despite warnings, such as the thawing Arctic and the increased frequency of weather blitzes, such as floods and tornadoes, and the virtually unanimous scientific consensus that global warming portends major climate changes, the denial camp is undeterred. Their propaganda machine has been in assault mode for years.

In the words uttered by Abraham Lincoln shortly before the Civil War, are we in danger of becoming "a house divided against itself"? At the very time we should be uniting against an overwhelming threat to our survival, we risk unleashing a fratricidal civil war. Society could fragment in multiple ways. For example, we could split into climate believers and non-believers, reminiscent of earlier religious

wars. Alternatively, because high income earners create a disproportionate percentage of ghgs, society could fracture along socio-economic lines igniting a class war.

Earlier this year, some politicians suggested that environmental groups with "a radical ideological agenda," acting as proxies for foreign organizations, are undermining our national economic interests. Implying that those committed to the cause of global survival are a foreign financed fifth column sounds like George Orwell in modern guise. It also smacks of the repugnant McCarthyism of the Cold War era. Witch hunts do little to forge national unity.

Leadership, so crucial in prosecuting a successful military campaign, is lacking in the climate confrontation. We are leaderless at a time of crisis. Our armchair generals are busy concocting technofixes, such as carbon sequestration and storage rather than focusing on the real enemy – consumption and lifestyle. Other "weapons," such as buying offsets for our "carbon sins" are more closely linked to the medieval religious practice of selling papal indulgences than modern warfare.

The possibility of a common front in the climate campaign has just suffered a major setback. The government has launched a preemptive strike on the environment by using the budget bill as a Trojan Horse in order to conceal numerous measures targeting nature. We are faced with a crisis of conscience: do we fight for the future or do we capitulate?

The war for planetary security is not only a just and a moral war, it is also a revolutionary war because we have to change basic societal values regarding consumption, self-interest and waste. The war can never be won unless there is a fundamental transformation of our lifestyles which, at present, far exceed the sustainable capacity of the planet.

Individually, we are responsible for taking action; we cannot rely on the state. We have to wage a personal war, in the

peaceful tradition of Gandhi and Martin Luther King, against pollution, fossil fuels and environmental degradation.

It will undeniably require sacrifices in lifestyle but our commitment and dedication will surely be reinforced by the troubling questions our grandchildren will soon be asking: Which side were you on Grandma and Granddad? Did you fight for my future?



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For the Birds



By Jane Heintzman

If the extraordinary spring of 2012 was baffling to the human community, one can only imagine how confusing the wild temperature swings must have been to the bird population, and in particular to the returning migrants. In balmy mid-March, our resident **song sparrow** pair returned to our garden, and steadily increasing numbers of **American goldfinches** were filling up at our nyjer feeders, many of them well advanced in the transformation from their dull olive-grey winter garb to the brilliant yellow of their breeding plumage. At about the same time, the annual spring symphony in our garden started up in the early mornings, with **American robins**, **Northern cardinals**, **song sparrows**, **black-capped chickadees** and **American goldfinches** belting out their songs in what appeared to be a hotly contested competition for dominance. (If I had to declare a winner,

I'd say the Northern cardinal topped the list for loudest and most persistent!)

Life on the Rideau River was also picking up by mid-March, with pairs of **mallards**, **common goldeneye**, **common mergansers**, **hooded mergansers** and **double-crested cormorants** plying the waters in front of our house between the Minto Bridges and the Rideau Falls, and of course, the ubiquitous **Canada geese** making their presence felt (and heard) throughout the neighbourhood. Even before the ice went out on MacKay Lake, we spotted a **great blue heron** poised expectantly on the shoreline. A bit later in April, two beautiful pairs of **wood ducks** became regulars on our stretch of the Rideau, along with an **American black duck** pair, another dabbling duck recognizable as a much drabber, less colourful cousin of the **mallard**.

Perhaps the most entertaining duck encounter of my early spring season was finding a male **mallard** sitting rigid and erect at the top of a very tall tree in the scrubby wooded area off Sussex just past the Prime Minister's residence. My guess is that this statue-like fellow may have had to take swift evasive action to escape

one of the bold foxes patrolling the woods, though it's not clear why he didn't simply fly off over the river. Possibly "frozen with fear" applies equally to the duck world as it does to the human.

In our household, the companionable "quacking" of ducks across the road is as much a delight as the noisy honking of geese is an annoyance. The **female mallard** is the quacker of the pair, using her powers of vocal expression to communicate with her mate or with other ducks, and to keep her ducklings in line. While the male of the species doesn't produce the signature *quack*, he does engage in more muted forms of vocalization, including a grunting noise which seemed to me to have all the earmarks of a grumpy "back off" response to his heckling mate.

By early April, both **red-winged blackbirds** and **common grackles** had turned up in large numbers, and on one occasion, our garden was literally overrun with gleaming, imperious **grackles**, driving the smaller birds into safe havens under the cedars. The common grackle is both taller and longer than most blackbirds (including redwings), and is readily recognizable by its glossy, iridescent greenish-purple plumage; its long, shapely tail; its piercing yellow eyes and its very long legs, on which it struts around like the lord of its domain. It is notorious in agricultural country as the single biggest threat to corn crops, which are regularly pillaged by massive grackle flocks. Among its other less than attractive habits, the grackle eats garbage, steals worms from foraging robins, raids nests, and kills and eats birds of other species. Apparently though, it is fastidious and is known to indulge in "anting," a process in which ants are permitted to crawl all over its body and plumage, and to secrete the formic acid in their sting which rids the bird of parasites.

I'm ashamed to say that no tears were shed in our house when a **grackle** fell victim to a burly **sharp-shinned hawk** (most likely the female of species, which is significantly larger than her mate), which bagged its prey and proceeded to dismember it on our lawn in full view of the sunroom window. Thankfully it isn't every day that your backyard becomes a killing field, but ours seems to be under constant surveillance by this sharpie, and from time to time, not even our ample tree and shrub cover



Close encounter with a wild turkey. Photo: Amy-Jane Lawes

can save a hapless victim from its talons. I'm only glad the languid **mourning dove** that turned up minutes after the kill was not bagged for dessert!

A more welcome occurrence in our garden in April was the arrival of the **purple finches** and **house finches** which were nowhere to be seen over the course of the winter. They are now a regular presence at the nyjer feeders, fighting it out with the **American goldfinch**-



Photo: Mike Leveillé
Tree Swallow at Macoun Marsh.

es and quite frequently gaining the upper hand, although unlike the goldies, they are quite ready to forage on the ground underneath if the feeder traffic is too heavy. The **purple finches** in particular are spectacularly colourful in the breeding season, with their deep purplish-red heads, backs and rumps.

By late April, ground-foraging **juncos**, **white-throated sparrows** and **white-crowned sparrows** had turned up to join their **song sparrow** cousins picking away in the flower beds while the finches dominated the feeders. The white-throat regaled us frequently with its cheerful "Oh Canada, Canada, Canada" song, a vocalization which clinched its identification as distinct from its very

similar white-crowned cousin. While the white-throat also has yellow eyebrows lacking in the white-crown, these can be devilishly difficult to see in bright sunlight.

Other late April arrivals in the garden included several **ruby-crowned kinglets** and a pair of **yellow-rumped warblers**, the first warblers to return each spring. Interested birders will have noted that the spring of 2012 has become the year of ruby-crowned kinglet, which can be spotted everywhere throughout the community. These enchanting little birds (only 3 1/2 to 4" in length) are in perpetual motion, darting about among tree branches flicking their wings as they forage for insects. The red-crown of the male is not always readily visible, but I had good luck when one flew close to my window with his fuzzy, red Mohawk in full display, no doubt because of agitation at my presence. The female of the species lays a huge clutch of eggs (up to a dozen), often equal to her own weight. One can only guess from the numbers around this year, that last year's broods were extraordinarily successful!

As I write, I am only feet away from an **American robin's** nest on the ledge over the side door to our garden. Needless to say, the door is now unusable to human traffic until the nestlings have fledged, if indeed they come safely into the world. The nest is dreadfully exposed to both weather and predators, and in recent days, **grackles**, **starlings**, **crows**, **house sparrows** and even **house finches** have been lurking in the vicinity, no doubt ready to maraud or take over the nest if the nesting **robins** let their guard down.

Neighbourhood Rambles:

In the course of our spring rambles through the community, we encountered waves of

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slate-coloured juncos beginning in mid-April, numerous pileated, downy and hairy woodpeckers, an Eastern phoebe in its accustomed spot in the Rockeries, tree swallows, white-breasted nuthatches, a brown creeper in the Rideau Hall woods, several great blue herons flying overhead between the Ottawa and Rideau Rivers, a pair of stocky wild turkeys feeding casually on the front lawn at 252 Buena Vista Avenue, countless ruby-crowned kinglets flitting about throughout the neighbourhood, numerous yellow-rumped warblers, a pair of sharp-shinned hawks, chipping sparrows, white-

predominantly gray plumage often stained with rusty red, and a dark red patch on its forehead. Sandhills migrate in huge flocks each spring, and as it happened, a group of 36 was spotted in the Milton Road area east of Ottawa at just about the time the Avon Lane sighting took place.

As things unfolded, however, further reports went out on the network of what appears to have been a wild turkey in the same area, and indeed, one of the residents captured the bird in a photograph which confirms this hypothesis. Wild turkeys have been spotted throughout the community this spring, several as close



Photo: Mike Leveillé

Well camouflaged brown creeper at Macoun Marsh.

crowned sparrows, white-throated sparrows and a solitary Northern shrike, perched in a tree top behind the former City Hall.

The Northern shrike, or "butcher watchman" is a predatory song bird with a predilection for small birds and mammals which it may impale on barbed wire or a sharp stick to consume later on. The imposing bird is predominantly gray with a white throat and chest, black wings with a white marking, a black mask and a powerful hooked bill which it uses to kill its prey by biting through the neck to sever the spinal cord.

Reports from Our Readers

Big Bird on Avon Lane:

In mid-April, Avon Lane was abuzz with reports of an enormous mystery bird which had turned up in the yards of several startled residents. As descriptions of the creature made the rounds, it was initially identified as an errant sandhill crane, a tall (45"), graceful, heron-like bird with

by as the Rideau Falls/Minto Bridges area. While they too are extremely large (up to 49" in length), turkeys are stockier than cranes, with predominantly brownish, iridescent plumage and featherless, pinkish-red heads. So who knows which of these was the mystery bird of Avon Lane, or whether indeed both were!

Dave Collyer: Report from Central Alberta

Dave reports that the geese had arrived in full force by late March, with flocks of snow geese, white fronted geese and Canada geese flying over his property, along with a handful of trumpeter swans and red-tailed hawks. Flocks of snow buntings and unusually large waves of dark-eyed juncos were also in evidence in the early spring. More recently, in late April/early May, Dave's area has been awash in ducks, and on a recent excursion, he encountered 30 pairs of American shovelers, 10 pairs of Northern pintails, 5 pairs of blue-winged teal, 4 pairs of green-winged teal, mallards

by the score, American coot, Bufflehead, common golden-eye, gadwall and American wigeon. On the same outing, he spotted 200 snow geese, 100 white-fronted geese, over 200 sandhill cranes and 3 beautiful pairs of mountain blue birds.

Amy-Jane Lawes:

My neighbor Amy-Jane has been busy this spring, logging an impressive bird list in the course of her dog walks, and in her own backyard. In late March, Amy spotted a belted kingfisher engaged in "aeronautical acrobatics" over the Rideau River behind the former City Hall. In the same vicinity on several occasions, she also encountered the lone northern shrike referred to earlier, but never witnessed a kill or capture. Her later observations in the area included a territorial yellow-bellied sapsucker chasing off an encroaching hairy woodpecker, turkey vultures, a wild turkey, yellow-rumped warblers, a pied-billed grebe (unconfirmed, but probable), a Great blue heron and 3 Baltimore orioles at Dow's Lake. Closer to home in her own backyard, Amy has had a visiting pair of chipping sparrows, a very vocal Northern cardinal, a white-throated sparrow, several white-crowned sparrows, and numerous ruby-crowned kinglets and yellow-rumped warblers flitting about in the Lane behind her house, coming and going from our back garden.

Macoun Marsh:

Our Macoun Marsh reporter/photographer Mike Leveillé reports a variety of visitors to the Marsh this spring, notably a Northern flicker, several ruby-crowned kinglets, a superbly camouflaged brown



White-crowned sparrow.

Photo: Amy-Jane Lawes

creeper, and a cast of regulars including American robins, black-capped chickadees, American goldfinches, common grackles, red-winged blackbirds, European starlings, a mourning dove and a few Canada geese.

Phil's Avian Bistro:

Philip MacAdam reports that in addition to his cardinal and finch regulars, he has recently spotted a pair of white-crowned sparrows foraging under his feeders, as well as a ruby-crowned kinglet in the shrubbery across the road. In the course of an evening ramble along Thomas Street, he also met one of the numerous bold red foxes that have been observed throughout the neighbourhood this spring. Farther afield close to the Rockcliffe Pavilion, Philip had a close encounter with a sharp-shinned hawk.

Vicki Metcalfe:

Vicki's birding excursions to Lauriault Trail in Gatineau Park, Mud Lake, Jack Pine Trail west of Ottawa, and around and about, including the Pond and McKay Lake, resulted in a wide-ranging list of sightings, including countless chickadees, robins, blue jays, juncos, yellow-rumped war-

blers, red-winged blackbirds, mallards, grackles, Canada geese (with 4 or 5 goslings at Mud Lake), yellow warblers (heard) and Blackburnian warblers in the Gatineau and at Mud Lake, hairy and pileated woodpeckers, a thrush (heard), a ring-necked duck at Mud Lake, warbling vireos (heard everywhere), wood ducks, a black and white warbler, and a field sparrow at Jack Pine.

A Moorhen in our Midst?

My neighbor Sue Abbott spotted what she believes may have been a common moorhen (aka common gallinule) in the reedy area at the bend in the Rideau River just as you enter the dog park.

The moorhen is a member of the rail family which inhabits marshes and ponds literally throughout the globe, using its long toes to walk on top of floating vegetation. The bird is predominantly black, with a reddish, yellow-tipped bill and a red forehead. While it swims like a duck, its bill is not flat and duck-like, but instead is triangular like a chicken's.

Please let us know if you think you may also have seen this critter (janeheintzman@hotmail.com or newednews@hotmail.com).



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When I Was a Kid in the 'Burgh...

By John Davies

I feel so fortunate that I spent my childhood where I did in New Edinburgh, and when I did in the 60s. Having returned to live in the neighbourhood a while back, I am enjoying my frequent walks through the beautiful streets and nearby parks, but I often experience a nagging feeling that something isn't quite right; something is missing. Children! Playing on the streets, riding their tricycles and bicycles on the sidewalks, playing hopscotch or jump rope, exploring the Rideau River shoreline and discovering the wonders of nature first hand, all on their own. Where have they gone?

As a child in New Edinburgh, there were kids doing all of those things in large numbers everywhere. Now, there is just an eerie emptiness to the sidewalks, parks and streets. I know there are far fewer families with kids these days, and even fewer with large numbers of them, but that's not why you don't see them out side anymore. They either just aren't allowed outside on their own anymore, or they're too busy indoors with their iPads, iPods and whatever else.

When I was a kid... WOW! My playground was massive! I'm talking downtown core massive. My friends and I practically lived at the shores of the Rideau River, looking for frogs and turtles or examining the amazing water insects like the Giant Water Bug, Water Scorpion or Whirligig beetle. Would kids now days even know what these creatures are? They no longer experience

the thrill of discovering these things on their own in a natural environment and holding them in their hands, then later looking them up in a book to see what they are called. This was the best way to learn about nature; the "hands on" way. I believe it actually nurtured our desire to learn. Newcomers to New Edinburgh may not know that a large area of the park near the old train trestles was once water. The extra park space was created with landfill consisting mostly of sidewalk chunks and other concrete components, some with rebar sticking out. You can still see the remnants of sidewalks protruding along the shoreline. Although it was possibly hazardous, this area was not closed off to the public during the process of the infill and for me and my friends it was a fabulous new play area to explore! Maybe it was hazardous, but none of us ever got so much as a scratch playing there because we had learned to play with caution and common sense and I guess we were pretty steady on our feet.

Our playground certainly didn't end at the Rideau River; the Ottawa River was a whole other world! I recently took a walk through Rockcliffe Park and as I looked down at the shale cliffs along the shore I remembered how we explored the entire shoreline (except where some spots were inaccessible) from just east of the Prime Minister's residence all the way to the Rockcliffe Boathouse! We would carefully find our way all along those cliff edges by the water. There were always people fishing



New Edinburgh backyard laundry.

down there. We fished there sometimes too. My friend had a habit of catching monsters on his line so big that they would snap it like nothing. A four-foot Bullhead catfish and huge Musky come to mind. We spent a lot of time looking for fossils in those same shale cliffs and saw our first Trilobites and Orthocones. Also worth mentioning, as long as we're in Rockcliffe, is the tobogganing hill which also used to be packed with kids on their sleds and saucers. And they didn't get driven there; they walked over from the 'Burgh' or other nearby neighbourhoods on their own. Now the access road is closed in the winter, and the hill is nearly completely unused. We also loved exploring in the woods in Rockcliffe and were always looking for salamanders under the rocks or finding suitable spots to build forts.

And let's not forget the Rideau Falls! Of course now days, thanks to our present 'nanny state', all access to any shoreline near the falls is forbidden, as it seems people can no longer be held responsible for their own actions (not even adults). But as kids we were down there on the rock ledge right beside the waterfall (although we may have been 'tweens' at that point, I can't remember for sure). In fact, my parents told me they used to walk right under the falls! It's frustrating to see more and more of this area fenced off to the public; and the fencing off of the main lookout area behind the Canada and the World Pavilion has been heartbreaking for me. It was a place I walked to almost daily, never getting tired of the view. We also used to enjoy playing in the Governor General's grounds sometimes, but there

really wasn't that much to do there and the RCMP would kick us out if we got too noisy. Sometimes we played on the swings and monkey bars at Stanley Park, but this wasn't as much fun as exploring. We even strayed as far as Mackay Lake sometimes.

We walked from the 'Burgh' over to Hobby House at its old location on Rideau Street on a regular basis and took the bus downtown to buy toys at Giant Tiger, or to look at the cool stuff at Army Surplus. I also walked to school by myself from kindergarten on up. Walking over to the old War Museum on Sussex Drive via the Minto Bridges and through Lowertown was probably our biggest journey, but well worth it. There used to be a Sherman tank out front, and we had discovered a gap in a panel underneath the tank that was just large enough for us to be able to crawl through and gain access inside! Can you imagine what a thrill that was for a bunch of pre-teen kids! That was soooooo cool! We were pretty disappointed when they repaired that panel.

Once in a while, say if I was good at the dentist's office, my mom might splurge and buy me a Matchbox car; but a lot of the time we built our own toys out of wood and metal using electric drills, saws, hammers, nails and paint. We made our own cars, boats, guns (oooooh, can't have those anymore!) and whatever we thought we needed for our next game or adventure. By the time I got old enough to take shop in school, it was all second nature to me. I have to mention one of my favourite memories from when I was a kid. We used to be crazy for those rubber band powered airplanes and we spent a lot of time custom

Sketch by Martha Markowsky

building them and launching them from the street outside my house. One of my friends once released his airplane and it promptly made a right turn and flew right into one of the neighbours' open bedroom windows! Ya, we got hell for that!

What you may not realize is that we did all of these things completely unsupervised and yet lived to tell the tales! I'm so grateful that my parents afforded us the trust and freedom to explore and discover all of the wonders that were around us first hand and on our own. It nurtured our imaginations, our confidence and desire to learn and taught us self-reliance, not to mention that it kept us physically active. I'm not sure if any other neighbourhood but New Edinburgh would have provided us with such an extensive area to play and explore. I realize it's a different world out there now and parents are scared to let their kids wander out on their own, but I can't help but think that it's gone too far. I feel certain that the freedom to explore and learn on their own adds tremendously to the healthy development of a child. I wonder what affect this predilection of keeping kids safe indoors and restricting their outdoor experiences to only organized activities will have on them.

I wonder if the present day children will get to enjoy all that this neighbourhood has to offer the way I did or will they be sheltered and protected, only seeing the world through a little screen on an iPad.



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A Journey Back in Time: The New Edinburgh Canoe Club



Photo: Canadian Airways Services

The Ottawa New Edinburgh Canoe Club in 1932.

By Alan McCullough

New Edinburgh fronts on two rivers, and water sports have played an important part in its history. For a decade before the First World War, paddlers from the **New Edinburgh Canoe Club (NECC)** were among the best in Canada. The NECC merged with the Ottawa Canoe Club in 1914, and its tradition survives today in the **Ottawa New Edinburgh Club**.

The Ottawa Canoe Club (OCC) was the first canoe club to be organized in Ottawa. Initially it had a floating club house at the foot of the Rideau Canal locks on the Ottawa River. In 1894, it built a permanent clubhouse on Governor's Bay. The OCC established a solid reputation in competitive paddling—D'Arcy Scott, a future mayor of Ottawa, won the American Canoe Association paddling championship in 1893 and 1897, and the club won the Canadian war canoe championships in 1898 and in 1904. It was also a social centre for Ottawa—the Governors General were patrons of the club and in 1901 it hosted a regatta attended by the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall (the future George V and Queen Mary) during their visit to Ottawa.

Some OCC members thought that "There was too much 'fuss' and not enough athletics

in the old club." They hoped to expand the club's activities into other sports—rugby, hockey, etc. When their ideas received little support from the executive, they formed the New Edinburgh Canoe Club and built a small floating boat-

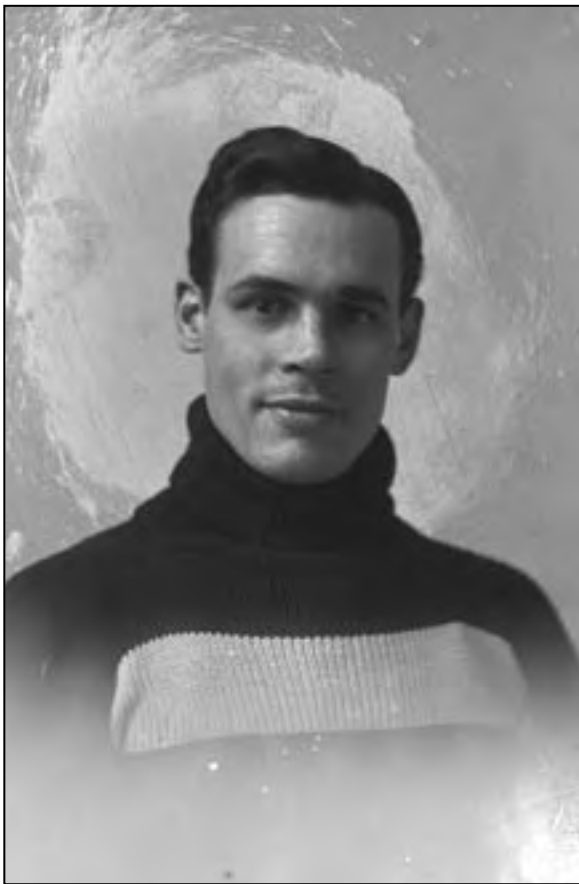


Photo: Library and Archives Canada

Horace Merrill, one the best paddlers ONECC produced and not a bad hockey player, too. This photo was taken in 1914 at the Topley Studio.

house a bit upstream from the OCC in 1904.

New Edinburgh and Rockcliffe residents formed the core of the club. An *Ottawa Citizen* article in 1923 identified Alf. Stitt, Wm. Johnston, H. Sims, F. Courtenay, W.T. Crowe, Horace Merrill,



Photo: Alan McCullough

The Ottawa New Edinburgh Club boathouse in 2011.

J. Bryne, F. Cherry, Geo. Snelling, Chas. Snelling, Eddie Gerard, Jack Ryan, Leslie Tubman, Morely Neate, and Edgar Woolsey as being active members.

The club included several experienced paddlers. **Edgar Woolsey**, who had paddled successfully for the OCC in the 1890s before leaving to serve in the South African War, became the captain of the NECC war canoe. **Maurice 'Morley' Neate** began paddling with the OCC about 1900. In 1901 and 1902 he won the Canadian tandem championship; his partner, Edgar Dey also became an NECC member.

NECC won its first national championship, the junior four man canoe race in 1904. From 1908 until 1913 it dominated competition in the Northern Division of the Canadian Canoe Association (CCA). **Horace Merrill**, who began paddling with the Rideau Club in 1902, won the Canadian singles paddling championship for the OCC in 1904 and for the NECC in 1908 and 1909. With Morley Neate in the bow, Merrill led the NECC to three successive (1909-1911) Canadian war canoe championships in the prestigious mile race.

Merrill also played hockey for the **New Edinburgh Hockey Club** from about 1904 to 1910 and was a member of the Cliffside, the first Allan Cup champions in 1909. From

last year with the Senators they won the Stanley Cup. Two other NECC paddlers, **Edgar Dey** and **Eddie Gerard** also played on Stanley Cup teams.

NECC was not a large club and in 1914 it accepted an offer to return to the OCC in order to build a new clubhouse. As a condition of the merger, NECC insisted that the amalgamated club be known as the **Ottawa New Edinburgh Canoe Club**. The new club also adopted the New Edinburgh club's colours—red, black and white. The new clubhouse, built in 1923, survives today as the Ottawa New Edinburgh Club.

I am researching the history of the OCC, the NECC, and of ONECC. Any reader who has memories of the club, photos, or documents relating to its history that they wish to share, may contact me at AlanBMcCullough@sympatico.ca or telephone 613-730-9278.

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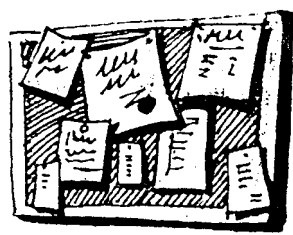
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Burgh Bulletin Board

June Events

Thu, May 31 - Sun., Jun 3

GARDEN EXHIBIT at Gordon Harrison's studio on John Street in New Edinburgh. Reserve at www.gordonharrisongallery.com.

Sat, Jun 2, 7:30 pm

PIANO CONCERTOS of Frédéric Chopin, at Southminster United Church. Pianists Zuzana Šimurdová and Mikolaj Warszynski, and the Mazurka String Quartet from Montreal will present these works in versions for string quartet and piano, much as Chopin would have played

them himself in the private salons of Paris. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$5 for students available at the Leading Note on Elgin, the Ottawa Folklore Centre, Compact Music (Glebe), as well as from the church office.

Thu, Jun 7, 7 pm

AN EVENING OF NORDIC MUSIC in honour of Swedish Soprano Jenny Lind, one of the most highly regarded opera singers of the 19th century. MacKay United Church. Tickets: adults \$20, students \$10. Reception to follow. 613-749-8727.

Thu, June 7, 6 pm

OTTAWA ART GALLERY – ART AUCTION. The OAG presents “le pArty”, an exciting annual art extravaganza featuring 65 works of art from some of the region's most talented artists. Cocktails and appetizers from leading local restaurants and caterers. For tickets, \$85 each (\$55 tax receipt), call 613-233-8699 or visit www.ottawaartgallery.ca.

Fri, Jun 8 & Sat, Jun 9

The 51st Annual IODE House and Garden Tour. This year's tour will feature nine homes in Sandy Hill. Tickets: \$30

available mid April. For more info: laurentian.iode.ca or call 613-842-5304. See article on page 30.

Sat, June 9, 7 - 8:30 pm

“AFRICA NIGHT” at St. John Lutheran Church, 270 Crichton Street. See article on page 19.

Sat, Jun 9 & Sun, Jun 10, 12 - 9 pm both days

LEMONJELLOW'S next show is *Bloomin' Art* in Westboro during Westfest! Drop by the garden art pArTy and sale and check out the happenings at Westfest. There will be a bouquet of artists showing their wares, playing live music, and making live art. There will be home-made goodies to munch on too! Drop by, have some lemonade, and flower us with your love! 310 Carleton Ave. (Near Wellington St. W) Westboro.

Mon, June 11, 6 - 8 pm

ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS TOURNAMENT at the Arrow & Loon Pub hosted by *also*. This event will raise money to support family literacy programming in your community. This is a great family friendly (kids 10+) event. Tickets are only \$10.00! We will also have a BOOK SWAP at the event. For \$5.00 you can “Bring a book and take a book”...as many times as you like. Trade in 1 book or 10 books, it is up to you. You can reserve your tickets by calling Kim at 613-233-8660 or email kim@also-ottawa.org.

Until Tue, June 12

EXHIBITION by Montreal artist Jocelyn Philibert, whose fascination for trees is translated by digital photography where the natural and the artificial meet. at Centre d'artistes Voix Visuelle. The gallery is located at 81 Beechwood Avenue, and is open from 11 am to 4 pm, Tuesday to Saturday. Information: Shahla

Final Consultations Before Bridge Corridor Selection: June 5 and 12

Last opportunity for public to weigh in on this important decision

The upcoming consultations will be the public's opportunity to see first-hand, and comment on, the technical design for each corridor, and to provide input on weightings of the evaluation criteria.

This consultation will be the **last opportunity** for public input before the technically preferred corridor is selected and presented this fall.

If you have concerns about a Kettle Island bridge, then make them known at either, or both, of these Open House events.

Gatineau Open House

Tuesday, **June 5, 3 to 9 pm**
Maison du Citoyen
25 rue Laurier
Gatineau, Quebec

Ottawa Open House

Tuesday, **June 12, 3 to 9 pm**
Shenkman Arts Centre
– Lower Lobby
245 Centrum Boulevard
Orleans, Ontario

For more information and updates, please visit www.stopthebridge.org.

Bahrami 613-748-6954 or info@voixvisuelle.ca.

Wed, June 13, 7:30 pm

IONA AT ST. ANDREW'S: A time for quiet and meditation, join us for our monthly contemplative service of prayers and music in the Celtic tradition. In the sanctuary of St. Andrew's Church, 82 Kent Street (at Wellington). Call 613-232-9042 or visit www.StAndrewsOttawa.ca.

Sat, June 16, 2 - 3:30 pm

STRAWBERRY SOCIAL at the Governor's Walk Retirement Residence, with music by Bill Luxton and the Grey Jazz Combo. Call 613-564-9255 or email gwactivities150@gmail.com.

Upcoming

Sat, Aug 18

LUMIÈRE FESTIVAL
Evening of Light at Stanley Park. See article on page 22.

Sat, Sep 1

THOMAS MCKAY DAY. Including a 1st annual New Edinburgh Heritage Tour and Scavenger Hunt (see article

on page 22). Check the community website (www.newed-edinburgh.ca) for updates on planned events over the summer.

Sat, Sep 15, 9 am to 3 pm

NEW EDINBURGH GARAGE SALE. Rain or shine. For more information, contact Cathy at 613-746-0303.

Ongoing

OTTAWA BRAHMS CHOIR welcomes new members under the direction of Denise Hawkins for its new season, starting Monday, September 10 at 7 pm, at Southminster United Church in Old Ottawa South on Aylmer/Bank street. We plan an exciting program for the new season. No choral experience required. Bring your good voice! www.ottawa-abrahmschoir.ca; contact Leo 613-749-2391.

OTTAWA-CARLETON WILDLIFE CENTRE reports that with gardening season underway it's important to apply a few easy tipsto avoid conflicts with wildlife living in and around your garden. Visit www.wildlifeinfo.ca for all your wildlife questions throughout the summer.

NATURE CANADA is looking for people in your community to take part in an important -- but fun -- program called PlantWatch. As a PlantWatch participant, you can enjoy the outdoors while helping us learn more about changes happening in our environment. Contact [Marlene Doyle](mailto:Marlene.Doyle@ec.gc.ca), Marlene.Doyle@ec.gc.ca or visit www.plant-watch.ca to learn more.

*Have a great summer.
See you in the fall!*

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The Kavanaugh on Beechwood

By Jane Heintzman
Domicile is moving briskly ahead with plans for The Kavanaugh on Beechwood, the mixed commercial/residential development at 222 Beechwood (home for nearly 60 years to Kavanaugh's Esso) which was featured in the NEN's April edition. In mid-May, Domicile hosted a three-day Open House, and officially launched condo sales to priority registrants on May 17. We understand that Domicile is also soliciting expressions of interest from area businesses seeking space on the ground floor commercial level. And just to add to the buzz, Kavanaugh paraphernalia is now making the rounds in the community, as Rupert Kavanaugh and his team generously dole out baseball caps and shopping bags to their many clients.

As we noted in our last issue, there remain two major impediments to full steam ahead on the project: first, the requirement

for City approval of a height variance to permit construction of a 10-storey set-back portion of the building; and second, continuing negotiations related to the protection of the view from the Beechwood Cemetery to Parliament Hill. In the latter case, we understand that consultations are ongoing, and that Domicile has made a further adjustment in their plans to move the building another metre away from the southerly vertical plane of the view shed. In the case of the approval for the requested height variance, we gather that the issue will be considered by Planning Committee and subsequently Council in late June or mid-July. Stay tuned for more news on the project in our October edition, and in the interim, you can keep up with developments on the community website www.newedinburgh.ca.

Readers with an interest in registering for one of the planned condominiums at 222

Beechwood can check out the Domicile website at <http://domicile.ca>. And while you're on the website, you may want to get the details on **Domicile's Beechwood Village Photo Contest** which runs until Sunday, June 24. (Click on the Domicile Blog). Domicile is looking for creative and interesting photographs taken anywhere within ready walking distance of Beechwood. The top 10 voted photos will be displayed at the Kavanaugh Presentation Centre, and the winner will receive "the ultimate Beechwood Village prize"! The winning photos will be auctioned off to raise funds to support the Vanier Community Association in its efforts to restore Optimiste Park.



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Congratulations

Congrats to **Robert Jarecsni**, of Noel Street, on his graduation from Ottawa Technical Secondary School. Good work, Robert. May the future bring you everything you have ever wanted!!

Noah Staudte of Vaughan Street, is in Grade 4 at Rockcliffe Park Public School and won the school's chess tournament and returned home with a gold medal. Check mate!

Congrats to **Kimberley** and **Mike Montgomery** of Rideau Terrace on the arrival of twins **Olivia Lynn** and **Cole Michael** on April 30!

Thank You

Thank you to whoever left the 13 lovely maroon carnations between my two front doors on Friday, April 13. They were very much appreciated! Signed anonymous!!

A conscientious dog owner has filled in all the holes and planted grass seed where the dogs have been digging in Stanley Park. So, PLEASE don't let your dog dig holes in the park!



Grad Robert Jarecsni.

Travel

Joyce Dubuc continues to enjoy her retirement with another trip to Europe and then a safari in Africa!! Bon Voyage, Joyce!

Laura Jarecsni and **Angus McLaurin** continue on their European adventures. Last update has them in Switzerland enjoying the mountains, cheese and chocolate!!

Kudos

New Edinburgh resident **Judy Dougherty** was recently featured in an *Ottawa Citizen* article celebrating four local artists whose work gives new life and meaning to old, discarded objects (Queens of

Trash, by Patrick Langston, *Ottawa Citizen*, Saturday, April 28, 2012.) Judy is renowned for her intriguing and colourful collages comprised of scraps of old newspapers, comic books, century-old children's books and assorted other found objects.



Judy Dougherty, Queen of Trash?

Kudos to Gillian Campbell, who helped to raise awareness and fund community supports for women's mental health by becoming a Royal Princess as part of "One Nite Wonders" at the Shenkmen Arts Centre.

Birthdays

Carlos Maggi (Dufferin Street) celebrated his 60th on April 30. Congratulations!



Carlos Maggi turned 60! BTW, what kind of an institution was that?

Bruce McLaurin celebrates his 56th birthday in June. When's the party? Happy Birthday, Bruce!

Get Well Soon

We hope to see **Pat Imbeault** up and about in the neighbourhood soon, and of course, his lovely sister **Louise** too!

Condolences

We extend our sincere condolences to the family of **Nicholas Fyfe**, who passed away in Ottawa on April 14. Our thoughts are with his wife **Patsy**, an artist in our local MainWorks Artists Cooperative, his sons Andrew



Photo: NEN Staff

New Edinburgh Cheering Station, Take One! On the Friday before Race Weekend, Cheering Station organizers and volunteers gathered for a pre-cheer session and interviews with the CBC's Sandra Abma.

(**Tessa**) and **Douglas (Alice)**, his grandchildren **Lilly, Robyn** and **Maggie**, his brothers **Robin** and **Toby**, and his

sister **Anne Mundy**. Nicholas will be sorely missed by his beloved family and his many friends.



Photo: Louise Imbeault

Mary (Polly) Hill (age 95) on left, **Joyce Bryant** (turning 90 in July) on right, with **Major Carl Gauthier**.

Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal Presentations at The Edinburgh

On Friday, April 20, at 6:30 pm in the Penthouse of The Edinburgh Retirement Residence, a special ceremony took place to honour two of its distinguished residents with the **Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee Medal** in recognition of their significant contributions to their country and community. **Mrs. Joyce Bryant, CM, BEM**, and **Mrs. Mary (Polly) Hill, CM, BA**, were presented with the medals by **Major Carl Gauthier, MMM, CD**, of the Directorate of Honours and Recognition, Department of National Defence. Both women are members of the Order of Canada, Mrs. Bryant for her dedicated service at Government House to eight Governors General, and Mrs. Hill for her work as an advocate for children's rights and needs. We extend warm congratulations to them both on this well-deserved honour.



Local floorball players ham it up in the 'host' seats of CTV Morning Live. Visit www.manorpark.ca for the CTV video and details on floorball summer camps.