

Mayor Proclaims Thomas McKay Day

> See Article on page 7

October 2012

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

www.newedinburgh.ca



Passion at its fiery best at Lumière 2012.

Photo: Andrew Alexander

New Bridge Won't Solve Ottawa's Traffic Woes

A coalition of communities (including Manor Park Community Association, Rockcliffe Park Residents Association and New Edinburgh Community Alliance), demanding a smarter solution to the National Capital Region's traffic problems engaged Freilich and Popowitz to objectively review and critique the Interprovincial Crossings Study.

>The full review and critique is provided on page 22.

The New Edinburgh
Halloween Howl
Sunday, October 28
3:00pm - 5:30pm
Stanley Park Fieldhouse
Ages 0-7

Pumpkin Parade
Thursday, November 1 at Dusk
Bring your lit Jack O' Lanterns to the
Stanley Park Fieldhouse & enjoy the
spooky Pumpkin Parade glow show!

New Edinburgh Community Alliance

**ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING**

**Wednesday, October 17, 2012
at 7 pm**

St. Bartholomew's Church

Meet friends, ask questions, join us for refreshments.

All New Edinburgh residents welcome.

On Beechwood, No News is Bad News

By Jane Heintzman

What began as a tragedy in March 2011 became, as the months rolled by without visible signs of progress, a growing inconvenience, and finally an outrage as both residents and businesses in New Edinburgh and the surrounding communities approach the end of their collective rope in the face of the changeless, derelict site of the once commercial heart of this area. Many of us still find it breathtaking and deeply disturbing that the decisions and actions of a property owner can have such a profound impact on the life of a whole community, but that's the brute reality of urban life.

Jean Barton's powerful message in her announcement of the imminent closure of **Books on Beechwood** (see page 3), a cherished institution in our community for nearly two decades, underscores the desperate need for changes in the structure of tax and other regulatory incentives to promote constructive commercial development in core urban areas. Discouraging the kind of open-ended deterioration of empty, derelict properties that has bedeviled the commercial core of our own community for decades should be a priority. The loss of Books on Beechwood is a body blow to this neighbourhood. There are grounds for real concern that before the logjam on Beechwood is broken and a redevelopment launched, we may lose yet more of our few surviving businesses as they, like Books on Beechwood, are squeezed out by the ongoing drop in regular clientele.

Perhaps we should be grateful for the small mercy of the

solid hoarding placed along Beechwood in the course of the summer, which serves at least to mask the scarred landscape that weighed so heavily on our spirits for over a year, as well as to provide a more effective barrier to entry on to the site, which had become a hazardous magnet for adventurous young folks and even thieves attracted by loose bits of copper pipe and other marketable materials.

After the structure was erected, it wasn't long before the frustration of some local residents boiled over, and a large banner was emblazoned on the hoarding with the message: OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU TO BUILD SOMETHING-NOW!! Needless to say, the property owner had the banner removed in short order, and

Continued on page 5



Photo: Louise Imbeault

Beechwood Village Alliance's inaugural event—Art in the Parking Lot—was a big hit. >See article on page 29.



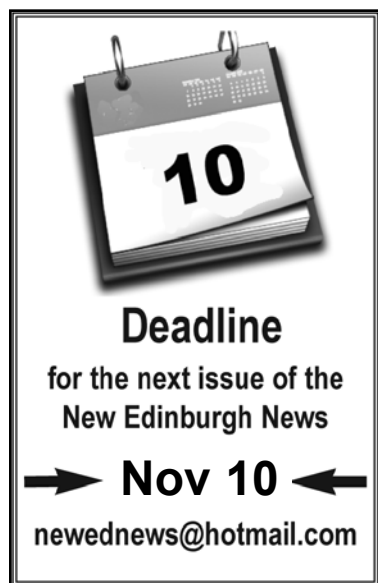
NECA President Joan Mason Reports

Happy Birthday Thomas Mackay

NECA offers belated birthday wishes to Thomas Mackay on the occasion of his 220th. Thank you to the City of Ottawa for recognizing the founder of New Edinburgh's remarkable achievements by proclaiming September 1st **Thomas Mackay Day**. Thank you to the *Ottawa Citizen* and the *EMC* for covering the story so well.

It is as important to raise the profile of our historic neighbourhood as it is to question inappropriate development. In the spring, we plan to host a reception to honour the day with some of Thomas' relatives in attendance.

Annual General Meeting



We hope to see you all at the **NECA AGM, October 17, 7 pm at St. Bartholomew's Church Hall, 125 Mackay Street**. We will report to you on our progress to date, and what's ahead in these changing and challenging times. If you are not a member of NECA, please come and sign up. We need your consideration on votes concerning the NECA Bylaws and to elect members to the Board. For those who would like to be nominated to the NECA Board please get in touch with me (see contact info below).

AGM information, such as proposed bylaw changes and reports, will be available as handouts at the meeting, on the website and emailed to the membership.

Featured at the AGM this year will be the popular BRICK Awards, the New Edinburgh Heritage Panels we commissioned last year, and a preview of the design of the new street signs for the Heritage Conservation District (HCD). NECA needs your support and fellowship; please join us for wine and cheese following the meeting.

NECA would also like to remind residents that there are many ways to participate. Please get in touch with one of the NECA executive and let us know if you would be willing to assist.

The Landscape

As a mature community, with the extra responsibility for a HCD, NECA has taken a lead in advising City studies into development issues. One example is the new **Infill Guidelines** that define what is and is not appropriate infill. This helps to prevent the massive, intrusive structures that have invaded us in recent years. NECA's Heritage and Development Committee (H&D) will have more tools to work with when they challenge the inappropriate.

As we reported in June, there are pending proposals for developments on River Lane. The lanes are not public streets and are a recognized historical part of New Edinburgh. These proposals would change the pattern of development on the lanes and we are vigorously opposing them. The first is **192 Stanley Ave.**

We, the residents and present caretakers of New Edinburgh, cherish the life and ambience of New Edinburgh, as so many of you tell me. We are one of the most desirable places in Ottawa to live, as the real estate people tell me, and NECA needs your support to keep it so. The results from the Heritage Ottawa/Waterloo University **HCD Study** will be out soon to reinforce the viability of the HCD concept.

The Ottawa Built Heritage Advisory Committee has been disbanded and will be replaced by the **Sub-Committee on Built Heritage**. The majority on this sub-committee of the Planning Committee will be Councillors who are known as 'Heritage Advocates.' This is a bold statement and NECA really hopes it turns out to be true. Our Councillor Peter Clark has volunteered to sit on the sub-committee. If anyone wishes to sit on the new committees please see www.ottawa.ca/en/city_hall/volunteerservices/volunteer_ottawa/.

New Things

The New Edinburgh HCD is the only one without significant street signs as it is the signage which helps to add character and define the district. Councillor Peter Clark, has agreed to cover the costs of designing the new signs and work is under way. New pole banners are also on order and should be up very soon.

The 'cash-in-lieu of parklands fund' is adding new features to parks. NECA, working with Councillor Clark's office, has been able to acquire new exercise equipment for the park, and in collaboration with the Crichton Community Council is seeking a new structure for the playground.

New Edinburgh House and NECA will be hosting New Edinburgh Night at the Theatre, November 2. Do join us for a pre-performance reception of wine and canapés as New Edinburgh resident Janet Uren's Linden House presents another of its' wonderful productions. This time it's George Bernard Shaw's *You Never Can Tell*. For tickets call 813-842-4913. Proceeds of the evening will go to New Edinburgh House.

Congratulations to New Edinburgh House and the MacKay United Church on successfully sealing the deal that permits our community to have a Centre. We are very for-

tunate to have such dedicated people caring about the community. It is ours to make of what we will. NECA is happy to be involved in helping with the heritage and museum aspects.

Please join New Edinburgh residents Katherine Arkay and Janet Uren as they team up with Heritage Ottawa on October 7, 2 pm at 62 John Street, the Fraser Schoolhouse, to take you on a guided tour of New Edinburgh's industrial past. Get to know your community's roots! For information call 613-230-8841 or visit www.heritageottawa.org.

NECA is investigating the closure of the southern curve of Stanley Avenue from River Lane to the apartment driveway. This would return the area to parkland, eliminate the dangerous curve where the NCC bicycle path, the entrance to the Fieldhouse and children's playground, and the parking lot, all converge. It would also calm traffic on Stanley Avenue, which is crossed by most going to the park. This, plus the new speed humps on Crichton between Keefer and Queen Victoria, should help further discourage drive-through traffic.

A note of Caution

There was a burglary on Stanley Avenue, so let's be sure we lock our doors.

Beechwood Rebuild

NECA is monitoring the situation and clarifying information with the Councillor. He says, "No news is not good news." It is a shame that the major Beechwood landowners are content to let the main street stagnate. The City does have a policy that addresses demolition by neglect concerning heritage properties. They should also have one that makes it difficult to let main streets deteriorate, thus depriving communities from having a thriving shopping district close at hand.

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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:

October 15, 2012, 7:30 pm, at St. Bartholomew's
October 17, 2012, 7 pm, AGM at St. Bartholomew's
November 19, 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.

Letter to the Community:

Books on Beechwood is Closing its Doors

By Jean Barton

Books on Beechwood is closing. After eighteen years in the business of book selling it is time for me to move on. There are many reasons for my very difficult decision. The main reason is that business is down dramatically and I cannot afford to operate at a loss.

There are two primary reasons for the loss of business. One is the increasing use of e-readers. We looked at the possibility of selling e-readers but quickly realized that the moment we sold our customers the readers, they would have no reason to return. While many of our customers tend to be older and well read, we/they are at least as likely to embrace this new technology as the young due to the features offered on these devices such as increasing the size of the font, back-lighting, and the option of audio books.

The second reason is one about which I have quite a lot to say. A year and a half ago, the fire that wiped out a dozen businesses in the next block took its toll on all the other remaining businesses in the neighbourhood. It takes a critical mass of people to make any commercial enterprise work, and we lost ours. It seems

inconceivable that there has been no progress in rebuilding the block on Beechwood, but that is the case. It will be at least another two years from the time the property is sold before any real progress is made. There is no indication that a sale is imminent.

When Mary Mahoney and I opened our first store in 1994 at 86 Beechwood Avenue we expected some revitalization in the surroundings. There were empty commercial spaces with notices of application for rezoning and other signs that plans were afoot. Eighteen years later nothing has changed. Building after building remains empty and derelict. Presumably the landlords or landowners can afford to sit on all this real estate indefinitely. That makes no sense. Our neighbourhood has stagnated due to all these eyesores. The city is missing an opportunity to increase its tax revenue and the residents

are missing convenient local services. Owners of vacant commercial properties should be encouraged to develop or sell by means of annual tax increases on those properties or by some other punitive means. At some point, holding onto undeveloped commercial properties would become unaffordable.

Having said all that, I cannot afford to wait. We did battle with the giants, the deep discounters, and the online book sellers, and held our own, thanks in part because of the friendly, efficient service, and in greater

part because of the loyalty of our customers. I will not keep operating until I'm in a position to have to declare bankruptcy. I do not want to leave any debts. My plan is to stay open until the end of January, sell as much inventory as possible and pay all my bills.

It is extremely difficult for me to close. I have had huge support from our customers

and the community. Books on Beechwood has become a local institution. I know that there are many people who will miss us. I know we will miss them and are devastated having to let them down. Our team will miss each other. Every member of the staff, Hilary Porter, Antoinette Fracassi, David Rostenne, Jill Moll, Bridget Barber, Di Bethune, and not least Tika and Dickon, and Tilly, when she's allowed, will miss the store more than any-

one, and not because of the paltry salaries they were earning.

All the staff members are well aware of the financial situation of Books on Beechwood, and all are unwilling, in the present climate, to take over responsibility of ownership with the very real prospect of operating at a loss until Beechwood Avenue again becomes the "High Street" of the community.



Proposed Changes to NECA By-law

The NECA Board has requested to make the following changes to the NECA by-law, for improved clarity and to remove certain procedures deemed impractical. These proposed changes will be offered for a vote by the assembly at NECA's Annual General Meeting on October 17.

Item 1.1 (current): "The New Edinburgh Community Alliance, henceforth referred to as NECA, is an association of people resident in the community of New Edinburgh in the City of Ottawa."

Proposed change: Add at the end: "...in the City of Ottawa, and owners of property in the said community."

Item 3.1 (current): "The affairs of NECA shall be managed by a Board with a maximum of twelve and a minimum of seven Directors who shall include a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Only members

of NECA in good standing are eligible for election as Directors."

Proposed change: Reword as follows: "...a minimum of seven Directors who shall include the following officers: a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The officers shall be appointed by the Board of Directors. Only members of NECA in good standing are eligible for election as Directors."

Item 3.2 (current): "The Directors shall be elected for two-year terms at the Annual Meeting of NECA, with approximately half of them being elected every year. A Nominations Committee containing up to four NECA members and one Board member shall oversee selection of potential Directors. The officers of NECA shall be appointed by the Board of Directors."

Proposed change: Delete all sentences but the following:

"The Directors shall be elected for two-year terms at the Annual Meeting of NECA, with approximately half of them being elected every year."

Item 3.3 (current): "NECA shall publish a call for volunteers for the Nominations Committee in the February edition of the New Edinburgh News, giving the name of the Board member appointed to the Nominations Committee as contact. If fewer than four people volunteer for the Nominations Committee by March 1st, the Board member/contact is empowered to approach NECA members to fill remaining vacancies on the Committee."

Proposed change: Delete all the existing wording, and reword as follows: "Through publishing in the New Edinburgh News and through informal contact, the Board will seek to identify potential candidates for election to the Board."

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

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

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NEWS FLASH: The House Is Ours!

The Board and staff of the Crichton Cultural Community Centre (4Cs) are delighted to announce that after many months of collaboration with representatives of MacKay United Church, the purchase of the former Church Manse (minister's residence) at 255 Mackay Street closed on July 31st, 2012. The 4Cs is now the proud owner of a splendid heritage home for the community.

The new location, affectionately known as "New Edinburgh House" (NEH) since the 4Cs originally relocated there in the summer of 2011, is a heritage building of considerable historical significance in the community. In 1894, the Manse was donated to what was then MacKay Presbyterian Church by Christina MacKay, a daughter of New Edinburgh founder Thomas MacKay. It was built by Henry Avery, a former cabinet maker for Thomas MacKay and a contractor for many New Edinburgh buildings.

The 4Cs look forward to revitalizing the building and reinforcing its central role in the life of the wider community. The leadership and congregation of Mackay United Church share our enthusiasm for a renewal of New Edinburgh House, and are particularly pleased that plans call for revitalizing the property, while also taking care to preserve its heritage features for future generations.

Bethann Robin, Chair of the 4Cs Board, is delighted by the acquisition of New Edinburgh House, which she sees as a triumph for the New Edinburgh

community after many years of hard work and dedication on the part of 4Cs board, staff and community volunteers. She is optimistic about the prospects for growth and success in the new location and is pleased to be a key part of the first ever community-owned and run enterprise.

With the help of our design team, **Sean Flynn, Paula Thompson and John Jarrett, CSV Architects** and the **City of Ottawa**, we plan to launch a major renovation project later this fall. After such a lengthy and demanding period of preparation, we are thrilled that we can at last begin renovations to our new facility, and will make sure to share news of our progress with the community as we wait for our new home to be finished; stay tuned for more news on our website www.crichtonccc.ca and in the next edition of the NEN! In the coming months we will be launching a new website complete with a construction blog. Please check in with us as we add pictures and details of the construction.

As we head into the fall, staff members at the Centre are working hard to make sure that 4Cs programming runs with little to no interruptions during this construction phase. The majority of our community programming will take place in Memorial Hall, and work on the interior of the house will be scheduled between our fall and winter programming sessions.

When the work is done, we look forward to having fresher, better designed and more creative spaces that serve as a focal point, or one-stop shop,



New Edinburgh House is Ours!

Photo: Stéphane Lauzon

for all of our arts-related activities and initiatives, along with additional facilities for more programming for your toddlers and children. And, of course, if you have always hankered for a chance to try your hand at painting or perhaps a yoga or fitness class, there will be lots of new adult programs from which to choose!

Once our renovations to New Edinburgh House are completed in early 2013, our new combined facilities, including the Auditorium in Memorial Hall, will include:

- Beautifully appointed arts studios
 - Large studio/performance space with a stage for recitals and presentations
 - Mini gym for afterschool programming and fitness programs
 - Fully-equipped art studio for drawing and painting
 - Children's garden
 - Administrative offices
 - Wheelchair access
- Needless to say, acquiring

New Edinburgh House and undertaking the renovations required to meet both community needs and the safety standards established by the City and the province, has been a tall order for a small non-profit community group such as the 4Cs.

We have worked hard to develop a solid and credible plan by means of which to finance this ambitious project, and to establish our operations on a financially viable footing for the longer run. But to meet this challenge, we need your help and support, and the support of each and every one in the community who values the presence of a thriving hub and home for community life and a centre for the creative arts. Our main fundraiser "**Buy a Stake in Your Community Centre**" invites you to purchase a fence picket for \$50 and paint it for the new picket fence that will enclose the children's garden. Charitable receipts will be available to donors. Funds

raised will go directly towards the renovation.

You can also help in all kinds of other ways, whatever your age, stage, talents and financial resources. Here are just a few examples:

• **Participate** in our programs and special events.

• **Volunteer** your time and talents on a Committee, on the Board, in the centre, or at a program, special event or fundraiser.

• **Send us your ideas** and suggestions for new programs, activities or other ways and means of engaging the community in the life of the 4Cs.

• **Make a donation** to help cover the costs of our major renovation project, or just to help us keep the facilities and the property in top shape.

• **Join us at our fundraising events** this fall and winter, and do your bit to make our new house truly a home for the community!



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After the Fire...

Continued from page 1

signs have since appeared in an attempt to ward off the posting of any further colour commentary from the neighbourhood. This may be difficult to suppress, however, as even before the hoarding appeared, some witty local wags had plastered the windows of the cavernous corner building at MacKay and Beechwood with signs advertising "FREE HOUSING IN NEW EDINBURGH... IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY! MOVE IN THIS WEEKEND!" All in the spirit of "it's better to laugh than cry!"

While there is little confirmed intelligence about the current state of play on Beechwood,

possibility that the tenants of the corner buildings could be successfully relocated in new premises.

When we went to press, no settlement had yet been reached with **Bread and Roses Bakery**, which has three years remaining in its lease and a five-year renewal option. As we reported in our last issue, the landlords attempted to have **Chris Green** and his Bread and Roses team evicted from the premises on the grounds of a technicality in the lease prohibiting a wholesale operation, but Chris has fought back and the case is scheduled to be heard in court on September 20. In the interim, he contin-

port Chris and his team by shopping regularly and often at Bread and Roses for their baked supplies, and I hope we can all do so with enthusiasm! And in the final analysis, let's hope that in the interests of fair play, Chris will ultimately receive a reasonable settlement for the time remaining in his lease and the costs of a forced relocation. When the dust has settled and a new development has finally emerged on Beechwood, the bakery will return to its familiar location in our midst. Stay tuned for more news on the situation on the community website at www.newedinburgh.ca.

Lester Clark's action against the property owner for premature demolition of his headquarters also remains unresolved, and at last report, the



Photo by: Louise Imbeault

Justice Kershman stopped short of rendering a decision, he directed both parties to go back to the table to collaborate on a resolution of the dispute, and set out a clearly-defined process for arriving at a settlement. Among the five steps he prescribed in that process, the first- and probably most challenging- entails the identification of a new location for the bakery which both meets its needs for production and retail space, and remains reasonably close to its traditional market in New Edinburgh and environs. Justice Kershman also

recognized the need for Chris to be adequately compensated for the costs and dislocation involved in the move and refit of new premises, stipulating that an assessment of these costs be carried out by an independent third party. Lawyers for both sides were directed to report back to the judge in two weeks time to give an account of progress towards a settlement. Keep an eye on the community website at www.newedinburgh.ca for an update on developments as the process unfolds.



Photo: Dave Rostenne

we understand that the property owner's insurance claims appear to have been settled, presumably opening up the possibility that demolition of the MacKay Street buildings could proceed, and a sale of the site be pursued, if in fact that is still in the cards.

However, in an interview with **Michelle Nash** of *Ottawa South EMC* earlier this summer (see www.emcottawa-south.ca/20120607/News/Beechwood+fire+site+to+remain+empty+for+now), property owner **Helene Carter** was non-committal about whether she intends to sell the property or carry out the rebuild herself, and is quoted as saying that a possible sale and redevelopment of the site may not happen until 2015—another three years to go, and no doubt several more to the completion of construction.

Given the delays and complications following Minto's original offer, it's perhaps not surprising that the company's interest in the site appears to have fizzled for the moment. While we gather that Minto had also expressed interest in purchasing the remaining buildings at Crichton and Beechwood now occupied by the **New Edinburgh Pub**, the **New Edinburgh Pharmacy** and the **Physical Therapy Institute**, there are some very long leases in play there, and it seems probable that this approach was based on the now tenuous assumption that the company would redevelop the Beechwood and MacKay Street frontage, opening up the

ues to work with the property owners in an effort to arrive at an out of court settlement which allows him to maintain the business on a financially viable footing, and in a temporary location that remains close and convenient to his clientele in our community.

Against the backdrop of this continuing, complicated saga, the bakery carries bravely on, keeping us all well supplied with our favourite sweet and savoury baked goods, pies, quiches, granola and all the essentials for a well-stocked kitchen. Coming up this fall, in time for Thanksgiving, is a new offering of seasonal pies, including traditional favourites such as pumpkin and apple, with apple custard as a delicious variation on that theme.

It would scarcely seem a call for an act of heroic sacrifice to urge our readers to sup-

two parties were scheduled to engage in a mediation process. If, as seems probable, mediation is not successful, a court date will be set when Lester's case can be heard. As his faithful clientele is well aware, Lester has emerged from retirement and continues to work very happily with **Kelly Riley** at **Kelly's Barber Shop** beside Bridgehead Coffee house at **121 Beechwood**. We wish him luck in his efforts to secure some compensation for the loss of his original business and are grateful for his continuing presence up the street on Beechwood.

Update on Bread and Roses Court Case

Shortly before we went to press, the dispute involving Bread and Roses received a lengthy hearing in the Ontario Superior Court. While **Mr.**

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9th Lumière Festival Celebrates Light, Community and the Arts

By Stephanie Vicente

On August 18, roughly 9,000 festival goers gathered in Stanley Park for the **Evening of Light Celebration**, an event which marks the glorious culmination of the annual Lumière Festival's month-long engagement in all things related to lanterns, community and the arts.

Over the course of the enchanted evening spent in the summer air, the park came to life in the glow of thousands of candlelit lanterns, a variety of artistic performances and interactive activities for all. Festivities kicked off at 5 pm with a parade from New Edinburgh House at 255 MacKay Street, the new home of the Crichton Cultural Community Centre, over to Stanley Park.

Starting off the evening with a roar, **Cultural Horizons** captivated their audience through movement and elaborate masks, designed to mimic the faces found in the animal kingdom. On the topic of animals, a big hit this year was the comedic and engaging duo, the **Giant Seagulls**, who sought after food scraps and hugs, while victims of their routine laughed and egged them on.

Meanwhile, on the main stage, **The Ottawa Stilt Union** stood tall, bringing silliness and laughter to new heights, and captivating their audience with their costumes, gestures, and a universal language of grunts, groans and giggles. Among musicians, **Gillian Kirkland** returned to the festival, delighting the crowd with her beautiful voice and her

trustworthy accordion. New to the Lumière Festival this year, **The Musettes**, a local all-female folk band, attracted an impressive following of their own. Though young in years, their acoustic set and stage presence showed a degree of profession-



Photo by: Andrew Alexander
Lumière Stilt Skirt.

alism that holds promise of a troupe on the rise to artistic and musical success.

Georgia and **Itsyan** (of the **Blue Mushroom SirkusPsyshow**) danced their way to sword swallowing and fire breathing as audience members' jaws dropped in astonishment and curiosity. Later, **A Company of Fools** performed their own unique and Fool-ish interpretation of Shakespeare's **Henry V**,

attracting a large crowd eager to sit back on their chairs and blankets for a 90-minute show of delightful madness and a taste of the Bard. **Propeller Dance** returned to light up the basketball stage with yet another unique performance. And capping off the night were the always thrilling and captivating **Fire Weavers**, who, despite the daring nature of their craft, make fire weaving and twirling look so easy (and graceful, even!).

Creative activities were plentiful as well. **The Lantern Making Tent** was as busy as ever, and the always popular **Transformation Tent** gave the public a chance to look a little more festive, in keeping with the spirit of the evening. Embracing the celebration of light, **The Artelle Puppets** returned again this year, offering up a shadow puppet-making table for the little ones (though I saw some young-at-heart adults in that lineup, too) and a delightful shadow puppet show. The Ottawa Art Gallery brought their Art Tent, where hordes of children gathered to paint, mingle and share the excitement of the evening.

The Evening of Light Celebration is of course not the only event in the Lumière Festival, though it is unquestionably its crowning glory. Throughout the month of August, lantern making workshops were held as a means of bringing arts and community together. These workshops, led by local sculptor and Lumière's Lead Artist, **Rachelle Carrier**, are a unique method of directly involving the community in



Photo by: Isobel Bisby
The 4Cs Ellen Goodman.

creative process of the festival. Workshop participants take their lanterns home and then carry their creations with them on the night of the Evening of Light Celebration.

This was Rachelle's second year orchestrating the workshops, as well as producing her own lantern installations for the festival. "I love being a part of Lumière because it brings the community together through the means of art," she states proudly. Currently a secondary school teacher of visual arts and French as a second language, Rachelle is more than qualified to guide workshop participants of all ages in both official languages. "Everyone can create, no matter how old. I love seeing everyone's creations and their love for lantern making."

But all of this amusement would not be possible without the commitment of the Crichton Cultural Community Centre (4Cs) and its hard working staff and volunteers. Each year, the Lumière Festival is produced by the 4Cs, and if you aren't yet aware, the Community Centre has plans of a grand sort, reflecting its commitment to deepening the engagement of community in

the arts, and fostering artistic endeavour at all levels.

Having recently purchased New Edinburgh House, and, building on the nearly decade-long success of the Lumière Festival, as well as its deeply-rooted relationship with the MainWorks Artists Cooperative, the 4Cs is launching an **Artist in Residence** program designed to encourage and facilitate the development of new works in a variety of artistic media.

Melanie Davis, the Executive Director of the 4Cs, is confident that the Centre will evolve into a facility tailored to the community and to artists alike, and will be shared by a range of organizations as well as independents. "We're modeling our vision for the Centre on a fusion of a multi-use facility for the community and a centre for the advancement and production of arts," Melanie explains.

The months to come will prove to be a period of growth for the Crichton Cultural Community Centre, as well as for the Lumière Festival. This was the multi-talented **Artistic Director Scott Florence's** final year on board Lumière, but it was the biggest send-off he could have asked for. The 9th Lumière Festival attracted by far the largest turnout in recent years. Maybe it was the beautiful weather. Or maybe, the enchantment that is Lumière has captured more people under its spell. Thanks to all who helped to create this magical event, and special thanks to Scott for his three years of imaginative leadership.



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Heritage and Development Committee - Comité Patrimoine et Développement

By Michael Histed

Chair, H&D Committee

The summer has seen several new developments and updates to existing plans that have kept the Heritage and Development Committee busy.

192 Stanley Avenue

Since our article in the June issue of the *New Edinburgh News*, the developer has come back with a revised plan for the addition to the building fronting onto Stanley Avenue. This would involve increasing the mass of the building by over 60 percent, far exceeding the allowable 30 percent. The addition of two units would also increase the traffic and snow loading onto River Lane. From an esthetics perspective, the mass and size of the wall would create a fortress-like structure with over 17 windows that would impact negatively on the neighbours' yards. Taking all of this into account, the H&D Committee will raise objections to this development at the upcoming OBHAC and Planning committee meetings.

OBHAC

At a recent City of Ottawa

Council meeting, it was voted to abolish the Ottawa Built Heritage Advisory Committee (OBHAC) despite objections raised by NECA as well as other community and heritage associations. It has been replaced by a new sub committee of council looking at built heritage comprised of four councillors and three "experts". Until the new committee is established, OBHAC will continue to sit and review proposed developments.

Thomas Mackay Day – September 1

The committee would like to thank Joan Mason for her successful efforts to finally bring recognition to the founder of our neighbourhood and arguably one of the founding fathers of industrial Ottawa, Mr. Thomas Mackay. Bravo Joan for getting City council to pronounce September 1 as Thomas Mackay day.

Membership

The committee welcomes new member, Geoff Heintzman. If anyone is interested in helping preserve the unique heritage of New Edinburgh, feel free to call me at 613-741-1660.

By NEN Staff

If there had been "Community Builder" awards in the 1830s, you can be sure Thomas McKay would have been honoured with one. So it is not surprising to many that, in honour of the anniversary of his 220th birthday, September 1 was proclaimed Thomas McKay Day by Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson.

"It's about time," replied New Edinburgh Community Alliance president, Joan Mason, when asked about the proclamation that puts MacKay's accomplishments on the map. "His planning and foresight has led to the creation of the gem that New Edinburgh is today, not to mention the numerous exquisite buildings and infrastructure projects that he had a hand in designing and building throughout Ottawa."

Born in 1792 in Perth, Scotland, Thomas McKay immigrated to Canada in 1817. He and his young family first settled in Montreal, where he and partner John Redpath did the masonry work on the Lachine Canal. As a skilled stonemason and experienced builder, he was brought in to work on the Rideau Canal. After completion of the project, he and his family opted to settle in Ottawa. And so it was that, in 1837 he purchased 1,100 acres of land and laid down roots, planning a community

and going on to become part of political life in the nation's capital.

In establishing New Edinburgh, McKay achieved what we now refer to as an "integrated" approach – one that encompasses places to live, work and play—all within the community. Lots

Ontario—including a grist mill and a saw mill. His cloth mill won awards in England for the textiles produced here at Rideau Falls.

In addition to developing New Edinburgh (arguably one of the first "planned communities" in Canada), Thomas McKay (also spelled MacKay and Mackay) also applied his architectural and planning strengths to other major projects. He built what is now the official residence of the Governor General of Canada as his own pied-à-terre in Ottawa, as well as Earnscliffe, which now serves as the British High Commissioner's residence. The building of the Rideau Canal drew McKay to Ottawa and he was awarded the contract for the construction of the Ottawa Locks. Ottawa's first railroad, the Prescott and Bytown Railway, which came through New Edinburgh, was another project heavily championed and funded by McKay.

McKay's legacy lives on in the jewel of a community that he established for his family, friends and workers. The residents of New Edinburgh applaud the creation of Thomas McKay Day as a fitting tribute to one of Ottawa's premier community builders.



Courtesy of www.erudit.org

The Honourable Thomas McKay, from photo belonging to Miss Lily McLeod Clark of Elmwood, Ontario.

were laid out and assigned for residences, with lanes at the back for better access. At the Rideau falls, where hydro power was readily available, McKay built a significant industrial complex—an economic engine for eastern

Friends of the Park Priorities

By Marci Surkes

Chair of Friends of the Park

We hope everyone has enjoyed the park this summer, including the beautiful new river lookout area on the NCC side!

The Friends have been grateful to receive numerous emails over the summer from New Edinburgh residents with great ideas for park improvements and helpful notices about maintenance issues that require addressing. An example of the suggestions we received was to ask the City to construct additional fencing or netting to prevent foul balls

from reaching the playground and picnic area—and this is a suggestion we are pushing forward this fall.

Other priorities for the Committee in the coming months include ongoing discussions about the state (and smell) of the bio-filter, pushing for repair of the deteriorating river wall adjacent to the tennis courts, resurfacing of the tennis courts and the addition of designated dog waste receptacles in the dog park. The Committee has collaborated with City officials for additional signage marking off-leash and pedestrian-only

areas, and will continue to do so.

Finally, the Committee is grateful to NECA for dedicating the cash-in-lieu scheme to the replacement of the aging exercise equipment in the Park!

Enjoy the autumn and the beautiful foliage in our Park! Also, please remember to keep it clean, and to encourage others to do the same.

If you have suggestions for the Park or want to report an issue, please contact me by email: marci.surkes@gmail.com.

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From the Desk of...



Mauril Bélanger
Member of Parliament for
Ottawa-Vanier



Ottawa-Vanier Recipients of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal

I am delighted to inform you that the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal's Candidates Selection Committee for the riding of Ottawa-Vanier has finalized its work.

This year, a commemorative medal was created to mark the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the Throne as Queen of Canada. To be selected for this honour, individuals had to have made a significant contribution to their

community or an achievement abroad that brought credit to their community.

I brought together three distinguished individuals to form the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal's Candidates Selection Committee for the riding of Ottawa-Vanier. They were: Ms. Agnès Jaouich - former Senior Citizenship Judge at the Citizenship Commission, Ms. Maureen Boyd - Director of the Carleton Initiative for Parliamentary and Diplomatic Engagement, and Mr. Michael Allen - President and CEO of United Way Ottawa. The Committee examined each of

the numerous candidacies we have received to determine the most deserving individuals based on merit criteria.

Each Member of Parliament was allocated a total of 30 medals for distribution to deserving citizens in their riding. I kept three medals aside for each of the well-deserving members of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal's Candidates Selection Committee for the riding of Ottawa-Vanier.

Today, I am very proud to provide you with the names of the recipients.

For biographical references on the recipients, please visit my website at www.mauril.ca, under "Local News".

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

Récipiendaires de la Médaille du jubilé de diamant d'Ottawa-Vanier

J'ai le plaisir de vous informer que le Comité de sélection des candidats à la Médaille du jubilé de diamant de la reine Elizabeth II pour la cir-

conscription d'Ottawa-Vanier a terminé ses travaux.

Cette année, une médaille commémorative a été créée dans le cadre des célébrations du 60e anniversaire de l'accession au trône de Sa Majesté la reine Elizabeth II en tant que Reine du Canada. Pour être choisi, les candidats devaient avoir apporté une contribution importante à leur collectivité ou avoir accompli une réalisation à l'étranger, dont l'honneur avait rejailli sur leur collectivité.

Je réuni trois personnalités éminentes pour former le Comité de sélection des candidats à la Médaille du jubilé de diamant de la reine Elizabeth II pour la circonscription d'Ottawa-Vanier. Il s'agissait de : Mme Agnès Jaouich, qui a été juge principale à la Commission de la Citoyenneté, Mme Maureen Boyd, directrice du Programme de participation parlementaire et diplomatique de l'Université Carleton, et M. Michael Allen, président et chef de la direction de Centraide Ottawa. Le Comité a examiné les nombreuses candidatures que nous avons reçues

afin de choisir les personnes les plus méritantes en fonction de critères de mérite.

Chaque député s'est vu remettre 30 médailles à décerner à des citoyens de sa circonscription reconnus pour leur mérite. J'ai mis de côté trois médailles pour chacun des membres très méritants du Comité de sélection des candidats à la Médaille du jubilé de diamant de la reine Elizabeth II pour la circonscription d'Ottawa-Vanier.

Aujourd'hui, je suis très fier de vous communiquer les noms des récipiendaires.

Pour obtenir des références biographiques sur les récipiendaires, veuillez visiter mon site web, à l'adresse suivante : www.mauril.ca, sous l'onglet « Nouvelles locales ».

Je tiens à remercier le New Edinburgh News pour l'occasion qu'il continue de me donner de partager des nouvelles avec les commettants de la région.

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

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Ottawa City Councillor Peter Clark Reports

Safe Streets Campaign

Drivers, cyclists and pedestrians in our ward have been noticing some new signs as they travel in the community.

I used a portion of my office budget to purchase a couple of radar-activated illuminated signs to inform drivers how fast their vehicle is going. It appears that this kind of friendly reminder prompts many drivers to slow down.

We also plan to collect data on the speeds recorded to learn more about driver behaviour.

In addition to the above, and at the request of the Rockcliffe Park Residents Association, an all way stop sign was installed at Rideau Terrace and Acacia Avenue.

As part of the upcoming East-West bikeway construction on Hemlock Road there will be a new traffic control signal installed at the intersection of Birch Avenue and Hemlock.

Improving our Parks is a Priority

We are currently in the process of addressing improvements in all our area parks. A couple of improvements approved so far are new fitness equipment for Stanley Park and a new play structure in Riverside Memorial Park. The money for park improvements will not come from the taxpayer. The funds come from local builders who are required to contribute parkland fees as a condition of getting a building permit. The Planning Act requires that this money must be spent solely on parks.

Please let me know if you have any comments or suggestions on what you would like

to see.

Council's Process Made more Transparent

The City has appointed Robert Marleau as the City's Integrity Commissioner effective immediately. The Integrity Commissioner, whose powers and duties are set out in the *Municipal Act, 2001*, will report directly to Council and oversee the City's new Lobbyist Registry, which comes into effect on September 1, 2012. The purpose of the Registry is to provide accountability and transparency around lobbying activities that serve to benefit an individual or group of individuals with a business or financial interest. It is important to remember that lobbying is a legitimate activity within our governmental structure and is a manner in which a variety of viewpoints can be brought forward and considered within the municipal decision-making process. Communicating with those who are lobbying is not considered misconduct. The Lobbyist Registry is located at Ottawa.ca/lobbyist.

Councillors have also put all their expenses online for people to see where our funding is allocated.

Order of Ottawa Award

Nominate an outstanding resident now for the City's new Order of Ottawa award.

The Order of Ottawa recognizes outstanding residents who have made significant contributions to the city through their professional accomplishments in any of the following areas: arts and culture, business, community service, education, public service, labour, commu-

nications and media, science, sports and entertainment, and in any other field that benefits Ottawa. Nominations for the Order of Ottawa can be completed online at ottawa.ca. Nomination pamphlets are also available at local community centres, Ottawa Public Library branches or Client Service Centres. The deadline for submission of nominations is Wednesday, October 10, 2012.

The Order of Ottawa, which was created this year by City Council to recognize excellence in the community, will be awarded annually to up to 15 of Ottawa's most deserving individuals. More information regarding the Order of Ottawa can be found online at www.ottawa.ca.

OHBAC

The Ottawa Built Heritage Advisory Committee has been changed to a subcommittee of Planning Committee with citizen representation. Like a lot of heritage people, I fear that we will lose expertise in reducing the size of the group.....I will seek appointment to this committee, and try to set up an email comments list to collect a broader range of input on heritage matters. If you wish to be on this broadcast list, please send an email to our office Lynda.Moore@ottawa.ca.



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Back to School-Back to Safety

By Constable/Agent Ryan Pierce

It's hard to believe that the big yellow buses are once again back on the streets transporting students back to school.

It's important to remember just how much responsibility that you, as a driver, have in helping to keep students safe as they make their way to school.

Stop signs: *The Highway Traffic Act of Ontario* requires all drivers to come to a **complete** stop when facing a stop sign. This means that the entire vehicle must come to a complete stop. The often observed "rolling stop," whereby motorists slow down, pause and proceed does not meet this requirement and could result in a fine being levied against the driver. Spare a moment, save a life—come to a complete stop.

School buses: Motorists travelling in both directions must stop when approach-

ing a stopped school bus with its upper red lights flashing. Fines for not stopping start at \$400 for the first violation and can reach \$4,000 for each subsequent offence.



We're all in a rush—but taking a few extra seconds can help make our roads safer for all Ottawa students.

Parents can find tips on teaching their children to be school bus safe through the following Ministry of Transportation web page and searching "school bus": www.mto.gov.on.ca.

As always, feel free to contact me with any community safety concerns either by phone at 613-236-1222 ext. 8520 or email at piercer@ottawapolice.ca

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BURGH BUSINESS BRIEFS

- By Jane Heintzman -

Books on Beechwood: The End of an Era

The impending closure of **Books on Beechwood**, announced so eloquently by owner **Jean Barton** in her forceful message to readers, is a serious blow to our community; the latest in a series of misfortunes over the past two years and among the most painful of all. For nearly 20 years, the store has served as a hub and hearth in our neighbourhood by supplying the needs of the mind and imagination in much the way that the Home Hardware store supplied the nuts and bolts of our daily lives. Though I'm no expert in the statistical realm of "quality-of-life indicators," it would seem to me that the presence of a small and intimate bookstore has to be right up there among the leading contributors to the

enrichment of the life of a community.

Many of us have cherished our regular visits to browse in the welcoming atmosphere of Books on Beechwood, often seeking—and receiving—sage advice from our friends on the B on B staff about the latest releases, the best cook books, the most interesting biographies, or just the right selection for a child on our list. Over the years, we have come to depend on their marvelous personal service who have supplied us with special orders, gift wrapping, and for the writers in our community, book signing events and special promotions. In the final analysis, who wouldn't prefer to shop for books in the cozy atmosphere of a living room (within walking distance of home) than to navigate acres

of stacks in a vast, impersonal warehouse with long, tedious line-ups at the cash?

It need hardly be said that throughout its 18 years of operation on Beechwood, B on B has been deeply engaged in the life of our community, supporting innumerable local events including the legendary annual Rockcliffe Book Fair, acting as a ticket depot for performances and events, displaying posters, hosting readings for children and book signings for local authors. Also has contributed regularly to the *New Edinburgh News* with its wonderful columns on Christmas books and suggestions for summer reading. Its loss will be deeply and painfully felt by us all, and we can only be grateful to have been blessed with its presence for nearly two decades. We thank **Jean, Hilary, Antoinette, David, Jill, Bridget and Di** for all that they have contributed to the life of the neighbourhood, and wish them well as they move on to new ventures.

Books on Beechwood's final few months coincide with the sixth—and sadly, last—season of the popular **Books on Beechwood Book Club**, an institution pioneered by **Jill Moll** who remains the moving spirit behind the monthly gatherings. Last year's club attracted just over a dozen regular participants, with numerous others taking part on a drop-in basis. This final season, the meetings are scheduled to take place on **the last Wednesday of the month** and as usual, will be held in the comfortable **2nd Floor Lounge of New Edinburgh Square at 420 MacKay Street**, beginning at **7:30 pm**.

Coming up on **October 31**, the club will focus on **Rudy Wiebe's** charming memoir, *Of*

This Earth, an account of his life as a young boy growing up in a Mennonite community in Speedwell, Saskatchewan. And on **November 28** (the final session), Book Club participants will discuss **Geraldine Brooks' novel *Caleb's Crossing***, the story of the improbable friendship of Bethia Mayfield, the daughter of a Puritan minister living in Martha's Vineyard in 1660, and Caleb Cheeshahtemauk, the son of a Wampanoag chief who departs from the old ways of his tribe to attend Harvard University.

Special thanks to Jill for her role in organizing the Book Club and adding so much pleasure, interest and sociability to the lives of participants over the past six years.

Shop Now, Shop Often!

Between now and the end of January, we hope readers will make frequent visits to Books on Beechwood to stock up on reading material, and as always, to shop for any and all of those on their Christmas lists. What an attractive and painless alternative to slogging through jam-packed malls! The store will also be hosting a series of events throughout the fall, and coming up in October you can drop in to meet writers **Elizabeth Radmore** with her new book *Cushla: Almost Magic* (**Saturday, October 13, 1:00-3:00 p.m.**); **Kathryn O'Brien** signing copies of her latest mystery novel *Murder Has a Memory* (**Saturday, October 20, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**); and **Deirdre Kelly** with her controversial new publication *Ballerina: Sex, Scandal and Suffering behind the Symbol of Perfection*.

Fraser Café: Wedding Bells, Celebrity Visits and 1st Anniversary for Table 40

Congratulations to Fraser Café master chef and co-owner **Ross Fraser** who married the beautiful **Laura Argument** (also a pillar of the restaurant team) in early July. We wish Ross and Laura a long and happy life together, and can only assume that over the years, the standards of cuisine in their house-

hold will be extraordinary!

Ross and his brother **Simon** scored yet another culinary coup in early September when internationally renowned chef **Michael Stadlander** chose Fraser Café as one of the three stopovers on his cross country road trip to promote the annual Canadian Chefs Congress, an event which took place this year in Grand-Pré in the Annapolis Valley on September 17 and 18. In a gala evening on Monday, September 10, the Frasers' new **Table 40** was the venue for a sold-out gourmet feast at which diners were treated to a six-course dinner. Three of them were prepared by Stadlander and his apprentices in a specially equipped school bus, complete with full kitchen, and the other three by Simon, Ross and their cohorts at Fraser Café.

Simon and Ross are no strangers to Michael Stadlander, and were in fact chosen by the latter to represent Ontario at the first Canadian Chefs' Congress at Stadlander's well known Eisensinn Farm in Singhampton, Ontario, in September 2008. Ross had worked on the farm several years earlier, and had joined the famous chef on a cross-Canada cooking safari, once again on a renovated school bus.

As it approaches its first anniversary in mid-November, Fraser Café's popular adjunct facility, **Table 40**, continues to thrive as a venue for special events, parties, presentations, corporate functions and gatherings of all descriptions.



Photo: Dave Rostenne

Host of the Books on Beechwood's Book Club Jill Moll.



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Photo: can-restaurantnews.com
Chef Michael Stadlander spent time recently with the Fraser Brothers.



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As many readers may be aware, **Table 40** now offers **Monday Dinners** featuring communal seating, family style service and a fixed menu, all for a fixed price of \$35 per person. Table 40 Manager **Steve Capyk** reports that the dinners have proven a great success, and that Mondays are hopping as diners gather to start the work week with an evening of relaxed sociability and a gourmet meal in the bargain. Interested readers can check the website at www.frasercafe.ca for details, and Monday Dinner menus are posted about



Photo: Louise Imbeault

a month in advance so you can pick your favourite and reserve in advance.

Compu-Home: Business is Booming

When **John Harding** and his son **Malcolm** formally launched their family business, **Compu-Home**, just over a decade ago, they were already seasoned veterans in the field of computer servicing and technical advice, having been for some years the “go to” experts for friends, acquaintances, family and John’s colleagues in the school system in the early days when computers were just beginning to emerge as tools in the classroom. Although at that point Malcolm was himself still a young school-aged child, he had both the interest and the aptitude to learn the ropes alongside his father, and like many young people, was particularly adept and adventurous in exploring the full range of capabilities of the computers of that era.

As knowledge of John’s



Malcolm Harding of Compu-Home.

expertise in the computing field gradually spread by word of mouth, he found himself taking on an increasing number of informal (and unpaid!) home visits to offer assistance and advice to computer novices. He became aware that there was a genuine need and market niche for a business to provide in-home help to the rapidly expanding population of personal computer users.

In the late 90s, as John was nearing retirement from his teaching career and Malcolm was in search of meaningful employment after qualifying as a Computer Service Technician at Algonquin College, plans began to take shape in the Harding household to launch a business. As luck would have it, Malcolm had participated in the YMCA’s Youth Entrepreneurship Program where he learned the ropes of preparing a business plan, and put together the blueprint for what has become the Hardings’ Compu-Home service. At the end of the school year, Malcolm’s plan received top honours from a review panel of members of the business community, along with a \$1,000 prize, a princely sum which ultimately covered the costs of Compu-Home’s first advertising campaign.

After 12 years in operation, Compu-Home is a thriving business serving clients throughout the Ottawa area from west of Kanata to east of Orleans, including a number in our own community, where Malcolm is happy to report that he has had uniformly pleasant experiences! Compu-Home’s range of services runs the gamut from problems with Internet connections (sound

familiar?) to computer slow-downs; spam, spyware and security programs; set up of home office networks; printer problems; transferring backup data; advice on the purchase of new computer equipment; cleaning up viruses; coaching in the use of popular software packages; and pretty much any of the daily challenges faced by our computer-addicted (though not necessarily proficient!) society.

John notes that two of the recent scourges the company has been dealing with are telephone scammers purporting to be Microsoft reps needing to take over your computer to fix imaginary “defects,” and email account hijackers sending out bogus messages to the victim’s address book. For advice on dealing with (or preferably avoiding) these and other contemporary computer-related plagues, John has prepared a number of helpful articles which are posted on the Compu-Home website under **Tips and Tricks** (www.compu-home.com).

Home visits can be sched-

uled between 1 pm and 9 pm, extended hours which Malcolm has found essential to accommodate working clients. The business remains very much a family affair, with Malcolm, who has now taken over from his father as owner, acting as the primary service provider on home visits, and the resident expert on hardware, software, networking and the internet. John remains on board for advice and website content, while his wife **Frances** responds to calls from clients, and manages scheduling and office organization. The Hardings have recently added to their roster an Algonquin College-trained technician, **Arjun Arun**, who works at the family home to deal with equipment repairs requiring attention in their workshop.

Needless to say, not all the calls received by Compu-Home require a scheduled home visit to resolve the problem in question. In many cases, the Hardings are able to suggest some possible solutions over the telephone. (I’m guessing: “shut down and reboot” is a frequent example!), and other cases, there is no charge for the consultation. They also take pains to determine in advance whether or not the problem falls within the domain of their expertise (for example, while they are proficient in any and all Mac software packages, some Mac hardware issues may require servicing by the manufacturer). Unlike doctors’ offices, where you may wait weeks or months for an appointment, Compu-Home

clients can generally depend on receiving a service call the next day.

Interested readers with frustrating computer challenges (come to think of it, who does NOT fall into this category?) can get in touch with Compu-Home at **613-731-5954** or check the website for details on the Hardings’ services (www.compu-home.com).

Host India: Happy 9th Anniversary!

On August 15, **Ravinder Tumber** and his team at **Host India** celebrated their 9th Anniversary in business at **622 Montreal Road**. In the course of the decade since the restaurant opened, Host India has built up a lively lunch trade as employees of the surrounding businesses, notably the National Research Council and the Montfort Hospital, flocked to the spacious white building at the corner of Borthwick and Montreal RWoad to savour the signature North Indian flavours offered in abundance at the daily Lunch Buffet. Ravinder notes that in recent years, the clientele has grown steadily, thanks to the ongoing development of townhouses, retirement homes and new businesses in the area. He anticipates further (possibly dramatic!) expansion once the nearby Rockcliffe Base area has been developed.

Host India also does a brisk business at the supper hour when residents of the surrounding communities, includ-

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ing Rockcliffe, Beacon Hill and Manor Park, have an evening out to enjoy a tasty selection of their favourite Indian foods. Indeed, Ravinder notes, many of his lunchtime regulars from farther afield often return for the dinner hour to introduce their families to the delicious fare they enjoy during the work week.

While the North Indian menu at Host India is voluminous, Ravinder reports that traditional favourites include butter chicken, tandoori specialties such as tandoori chicken, chicken tikka kabob, lamb tikka and tasty naan breads. There is also ample fare for vegetarians like myself, featuring flavourful dishes concocted from spinach, cauliflower, potatoes, lentils, cheeses and artfully spiced sauces. While dinners are à la carte from Monday through Saturday, if you're feeling adventurous and would like to sample a wide range of flavours, drop in for the Sunday evening buffet (5 - 9 pm), or stop by for lunch and sample to your heart's content!

Host India also has a private dining room which accommodates up to 40 guests, and is a regular venue for parties, presentations, business functions and other special events. Ravinder and his team generally provide a small buffet



Photo: Louise Imbeault
Ravinder Tumber and wife Gurdev greet patrons at Host India.

for the occasion, with a menu custom designed by the client in question. Interested readers can give the restaurant a call for details or reservations at **613-746-4678**, and perhaps check out the website for an advance look at the menu options (www.hostindia.ca).

Among the secrets to Host India's success in its first decade is undoubtedly the development of a strong and loyal team of employees, most of whom—including their wonderful chef—have been with the restaurant for the majority of those first nine years. We wish them all a successful 10th year in operation,

and thank them for their continuing support of the NEN.

Epicuria: In High Gear for a Busy Fall

As most readers have discovered, Epicuria has settled comfortably into its new, more spacious headquarters at 357 St. Laurent Blvd. and resumed its important role in the lives of its many regular clients as a provider of delectable prepared foods, gourmet delicacies and full service catering. For the first time in the many months since the fire, Epicuria owner Tracey Black is delighted to resume her traditional role mentoring her team and investing her creative and culinary energies in building her successful business, as versus tackling the daunting challenges of a major move and overhaul of her new premises. Tracey is extremely grateful for the support of loyal clients throughout the ordeal, and I can say with assurance that we are equally grateful to Tracey and her crew for weathering the storm and returning to the community as one of our gourmet headquarters.

Over the summer, when the crushing heat of July made cooking a thoroughly disagreeable prospect at the end of a steamy day, many of us came to rely on Epicuria for a tasty evening meal, prepared and presented to our families with minimal use of the stove. Tracey reports that many clients are also taking advantage

of the opportunity to sit at a table and enjoy a meal in the brighter, more spacious store.

Coming up this fall at Epicuria are new seasonal dishes both for entertaining and simply to relieve the daily pressures of meal providing in busy households. Tracey's plans include mid-week dinner specials, reasonably priced and healthful family meals, and more gluten-free and vegan options. As the weather turns colder there will also be hot lunches available at the store, along with the reliable popular hearty sandwiches and wholesome protein and veggie salads.

As always, Epicuria is offering a complete Thanksgiving meal with all the trimmings for those in search of a stress-free holiday feast, or you can simply supplement your own creations with a few of its tasty side dishes, desserts, veggies or salads. Pastry chef **Isabel** has designed new seasonal boxed shortbread selections for the nibblers in your household, or for use as hostess presents, and is also working on a repertoire of gluten-free desserts and mini-bites. And coming up in November will be splendidly gift-packaged fruitcake for those who missed them last year when the store was closed.

If you're planning a major

a couple of weeks advance notice to make sure you can be accommodated. Tracey is happy to welcome **Aaron Duke** back to the store as the new Service Manager in the catering department. Aaron and Dawn have new catering menus ready for the fall, and a number of interesting rental options arranged in collaboration with **Party Time Rentals**. Epicuria's new Catering Chef **Chris Tremblay** has reportedly received rave reviews in his first six months on the job, and is currently introducing his new fall menus to supplement the tried and true standards enjoyed by his catering clients.

Also in the works at Epicuria is a new website and blog, and a plan for greater engagement in the life of the community, so stay tuned!

Nature's Buzz: Talking Turkey for Thanksgiving!

To the great delight of their many regular clients in and around the community, **Eric** and **Chelsea Passmore**, **Nancy Phillips** and the team at **Nature's Buzz** have settled into their bright and spacious new quarters at 55 Beechwood. The Buzz is offering a full complement of fresh organic and local foods, environmentally-friendly cleaning and personal care products, and now has added, nutritional supplements, including a line of

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Photo: Louise Imbeault
Epicuria's catering team (left to right) Chris Tremblay and Aaron Duke.

event this fall, it's wise to move swiftly to arrange catering service from Epicuria, as they have a rapidly filling schedule and may need at least

vitamins and pro-biotics from NOW Canada, and NutraSea fish oil from Ascenta, a health-giving supplement recommended for the whole family—adults, children and even cats and dogs!

Many residents of the community depend on the store for their supplies of organic meat and fish, ranging from beef, pork, chicken and lamb, to locally produced elk and bison and fresh organic salmon. As Thanksgiving is rapidly approaching, you may want

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to drop in to place an order for your organic turkey from Les Viandes Biologiques de Charlevoix, Québec. While you're there, you can stock up on fresh organic produce for the Thanksgiving meal, including the essentials such as sweet potatoes, beets, greens, lettuce,

and whatever else is fresh from the farm.

New on the agenda at Nature's Buzz are a variety of delicious loose teas from B.C. with the arresting label, **Naked Teas**, as well as **Only Oats**, a gluten-free line of oats and oat

products, and fresh "**Finally**" **gluten-free bread** made here in Ottawa and delivered to the store on Tuesdays and Fridays. If you want to make sure that your visits to Nature's Buzz coincide with the delivery day for your favourite product selections, check the website for a listing of the delivery schedule (www.naturesbuzz.ca). In a nutshell, there are arrivals of fresh produce every weekday except Wednesday; bison and glass-bottled milk come in on Wednesdays; Field Gate Organic meats, along with ham, bacon, organic salmon and Little Stream bread, are delivered on Thursdays, and Friday is the day to pick up your fresh Liberté dairy products just in time for the weekend.

When time is short and you're in search of a flavourful prepared meal, don't forget that the Nature's Buzz freezers are well stocked with frozen dinners from **Les Fougères**, the popular Chelsea, Quebec restaurant renowned for its gourmet cuisine.

Coming Soon: Kavanaugh's Garage and Car Wash

As we reported in the last issue of the NEN, the end of an era is fast approaching as **Kavanaugh's Esso**



Photo by: Jonathan Lorange

Jennifer Francis offers piano lessons at her studio on Avon Lane.

prepares to close up shop by the end of this year to make way for Domicile's major mixed residential project, *The Kavanaugh*. Loyal clients need not despair, however, as Rupert's eldest son **Terry Kavanaugh** plans to keep the legendary family name alive in the community when he opens a full service garage and car wash only two minutes away from the present site at **145 Marier Avenue (at Père Blancs)**.

If you have long depended on Kavanaugh's for your regular servicing, oil changes, rust proofing, tire changes, car washes and all the myriad aspects of routine main-

tenance, you can continue to do so as Terry's Tech-Net Professional Auto Service certified team moves down the street to the new location. The only thing missing will be the gas pumps, and of course, the smiling faces of Rupert, Clarence and Joey Kavanaugh who are moving on when the station closes later this year. Watch for more details about Kavanaugh's Garage and Car Wash in our next edition.

Jennifer Francis Piano Studio: Reviving the Musical Salon Tradition

Since moving to Avon Lane about five years ago, pianist

Continued on page 14



Photo by: Louise Imbeault

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**Lobsterfest:
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Continued from Page 13

Jennifer Francis has worked with a clientele of piano students from the Burgh and surrounding neighbourhoods, teaching aspiring musicians of all ages, from young children to adults, and at all levels

of Music examinations, and take part in her studio's regular recitals along with their much younger counterparts.

To accommodate the children and teenagers who form the bulk of her clientele, most of Jennifer's lessons take



Esthetician Sylvie Sauvé.

of achievement from beginner to very advanced. She is delighted to be working with a number of adult students, including Vanier poet Michael Dennis and his wife who recently joined her studio to take regular lessons on alternating weeks. While Michael's wife had some previous musical background and is refreshing her skills at the keyboard, Michael himself has started from scratch and is methodically learning the basics of reading music.

Not surprisingly, Jennifer has found that the pressures of work and family obligations can often undermine her adult students' ability to stick with the musical program. Those that are able to commit to a regular practice régime will frequently progress to the point of taking Royal Conservatory

place after school hours on weekdays, with the occasional Saturday morning if the need arises. The length of the lessons varies depending on the age and stage of the student, but ranges from as short as half an hour for the younger set to as long as an hour and a half for more advanced students. In the latter case, when the student is working on a more ambitious repertoire, Jennifer draws on her skills as a violinist to play the violin section in a piece of chamber music while the student focuses on the piano part.

And speaking of chamber music, Jennifer was delighted to report on a highly successful musical salon which took place in her Avon Lane home in early August. To a modest audience of about 15 invited guests, she and three string players

from the Ottawa Symphony Orchestra performed a Brahms quartet concert after much practice. The evening ended with a convivial glass of wine and small reception. Indeed, the event was such a success that Jennifer has plans to organize another such home-based salon; perhaps with the addition of a vocal soloist!

Readers who feel inspired to revive their own skills at the piano, or to engage their son or daughter in a musical program conveniently close to home, are welcome to contact Jennifer at **613-601-3457** or drop her a line at **avonlanestudio@gmail.com**. Best of luck with your practice, Jennifer, and please let us know about your next musical salon on Avon Lane!

Sylvie Sauvé: Esthetician-Electrologist

Manor Park esthetician **Sylvie Sauvé** has been in the esthetics business for 35 years, and for much of that time, has been imparting her skills to esthetics students in Montreal, as well as learning new techniques and treatments in her continuously evolving chosen field. As we have reported in earlier columns about Sylvie's local business, one of her signature specialties is her work as an **Advanced Podologic Foot Care Technician**, in treating all manner of troublesome conditions such as ingrown nails, fungus, warts, and all the special needs of her older and diabetic clients, incorporating use of top-of-the-line products from leading suppliers in the foot care field such as Gehwol and Footlogix. Of course, if you're lucky enough to have healthy feet but are in need of a simple beautifying "foot lift," Sylvie also offers an excellent pedicure.

Sylvie's menu of esthetics services covers the gamut from

electrolysis to full body waxing for both women and men; facials; skin care, including special treatments for the eye area, neck and upper lip; treatment of acne and oily skin for her younger adolescent clients; eyebrow and eyelash tints; ear piercing; hygienic ear care; permanent makeup, and of course, manicures which now feature long-lasting Shellac Nails, a popular innovation which reportedly resists chipping and peeling for at least two weeks. Sylvie prides herself in her selection of top quality beauty products for use in her salon, notably Belnatur natural skin care products; Opi Nail products, Artdeco Makeup, and Renaissance exfoliating gloves.

Clients at Sylvie's salon range in age from the very elderly to young teenagers, and include both men and women. Unlike larger enterprises which work with several customers at a time, Sylvie's clients have the special benefit of private appointments during of which she is able to devote her time and attention entirely to their particular needs. Such service entails a thorough preliminary consultation, including a detailed questionnaire to acquaint herself with any health conditions or concerns which could affect the treatment for a particular client. On the basis of that consultation, Sylvie then customizes an esthetics program tailored to that individual, and makes a special effort to educate the client in the ongoing maintenance of healthy skin, hair and nails in the intervals between her professional treatments.

When I spoke with Sylvie in the late summer, her appointment schedule was rapidly filling up after the summer hiatus, as her clients began preparations for a return to work and school, and felt the need for

a treatment to repair the ravages of the summer sun and heat. We wish her a busy and rewarding fall, and thank her for her many years as a loyal advertiser in the NEN.

Dr. Sharon Letovsky: Clothes, Clothes Everywhere... and not a thing to wear!

If you are among those of us whose wardrobe tends to revolve around a very limited group of staple items (usually those closest to the top of the drawer), or who routinely rush out to buy "something to wear" for a special occasion, or a change in the weather, only to find that a perfectly suitable and attractive garment was already stashed away in our disorderly clothes cupboard, you'll be intrigued to learn about **Clothes, Clothes Everywhere**, a new consulting service launched by **Dr. Sharon Letovsky** earlier this year.



Sharon Letovsky of Clothes, Clothes Everywhere.

Sharon has a professional background as Management Consultant, along with a strong engagement in the field of arts and entertainment, who was inspired to branch out into the realm of the "Stuffed Closet Syndrome" while attending a lunchtime fashion show last spring. After a little research into the wardrobe habits of her friends, acquaintances and family members, it became clear to her that in many households, there's a need for a guiding hand to help weed out, reassess and better organize the contents of our clothes cupboards. To create a sense of order out of chaos, and to save money on needless purchases resulting from simple ignorance of what we already own, Clothes Everywhere meets our needs.

Sharon's guiding principle in the process of helping her clients to "go shopping in their own closets," is to swiftly and



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ruthlessly get rid of anything that doesn't fit, doesn't suit the wearer, is never worn, is out of style, or is simply worn out after years of use. Clients often need help with decisions about what to do with the cast offs, and whether they should be donated to charities such as The Well and Dress for Success which helps out women struggling to get back on their feet, or perhaps sold on consignment for a reasonable return. If the client chooses, Sharon will take care of the disposition of the outgoing piles of clothes, which in the case of one client, numbered a staggering 15 bags accumulated in a single afternoon!

As a general rule, Sharon finds that to do a thorough job on a "stuffed closet," takes several hours to ensure that all unwanted/unneeded articles are weeded out and designated for charity, consignment or the landfill, and to organize the wardrobe in question in such a way that its contents are truly accessible to and useable thereby returning a welcome sense of order. She notes with satisfaction that in one particular case, she was able to save a client the hefty cost of a new formal dress for a nephew's wedding when she unearthed a



The Rockcliffe's Victorian Strawberry Social with Linda Meek, Catherine Bourque and Binda De Amorim.

beautiful, unworn garment for the occasion, still bearing the \$1,500 price tag!

Interested readers for whom the "stuffed closet syndrome" resonates in their own lives are welcome to call Sharon at **613-293-6700** for more details about her services, or check the website at **www.ClothesClothesEverywhere.com**. Welcome to the NEN, Sharon, and best of luck with your new business.

The Rockcliffe Retirement Residence: A Warm Welcome for Linda Meek

As we reported in the April edition of the NEN, former Governor's Walk General Manager **Linda Meek** moved to **The Rockcliffe Retirement Residence** last spring to take up the challenging post of Executive Director. To the surprise of absolutely no one who is acquainted with Linda and who has experi-

enced her immense personal warmth, charm, energy and competence, the staff and residents of The Rockcliffe have embraced her with open arms and enthusiastically report about her early days on the job.

"Linda has shown us her wonderful sense of humour, inherent sense of fair play and has quickly become a favourite among staff and residents alike," reports Marketing Director **Catherine Bourque**. "Our Scottish import delights us all with her uncanny sense of fashion and clever wit, and now is a very important part of The Rockcliffe," in recognition of Linda's hard-working and dedicated approach to her new role.

Linda's arrival at the residence was celebrated at the annual **Victorian Tea and Strawberry Social**, where her colleagues contrived to provide her with a suitably "extravagant dress and hat" to ensure that she made an eye-catching debut in The Rockcliffe community, which, apparently, she did! The Victorian Tea was only the first in a social whirl of special occasions during Linda's early weeks on the job, and was followed by an elegant **4th Anniversary Celebration**

complete with champagne, music and dancing. Linda also hosted the annual summer staff party where she reportedly declared the "Amazing Race," well, simply amazing. No details about this event were provided (perhaps to protect the innocent!), but we gather the residents thoroughly enjoyed the "crazy antics" of participating staff!

Coming up this fall is a new series of events to which interested members of the community are warmly welcomed. On **October 14**, The Rockcliffe will host a **Walk-a-thon** in collaboration with **The Lions' Foundation of Canada: Dog Guides** to raise money for the Foundation's guide dog training program **www.dogguides.com**. Participants in the **Moving Forward, Changing Lives** event will be rewarded for their efforts with a post-walk barbecue and a party on the garden terrace.

Catherine Bourque reports that the residence is also delighted and proud to be hosting a **"Pearls for Girls"** event in late November to support the work of Help Lesotho, a charitable organization founded and directed by renowned

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Continued from Page 15

New Edinburgh resident **Peg Herbert**. The particular focus of the Pearls for Girls initiative is to provide girls and young women in the desperately poor, AIDS-ravaged Kingdom of Lesotho, with access to opportunities for leadership education and experiences. The three-day fundraising event will take place on **November 24, 25 and 26**, and will include a wine and cheese lecture, a fashion show, jewelry sale and other activities.

Perhaps not surprisingly, given Linda's Scottish background, the **St. Andrew's Day** celebration at The Rockcliffe this **November 30** promises to be an especially lively event, with Linda herself performing Robert Burns' legendary Toast to the Haggis, and Scottish country dancers, bagpipes and live music on hand to entertain the diners in true ceilidh fashion.

If you'd like more information about any of these events, or to make a reservation, give the residence a call at **613-562-3555**.

Business Bits

Studio A Fitness: Happy 1st Anniversary!

Congratulations to **Alex MacDonald** and her Studio A team who celebrated their first anniversary in September by introducing some exciting new additions to the fall program, including

- **Cardio Salsa**, offered every Friday evening at 6 pm by the hugely popular Zumba queen of the community, **Ximena Puente**. This is a Zumba-based program drawing on Latin ballroom dances and guarantees both a full-body workout and a ton of fun;

- **Socaramba** on Thursdays at 7 pm with personal trainer

Studio A's Alex MacDonald.

Alex Eloise; and

- **Relax and Renew**, a tension-relieving session suitable for all fitness levels, offered by Yoga instructor **Ruth Norfolk** on Wednesdays at 7:15 pm.

Interested readers can give the studio a call at **613-746-3909** or check the website for more details about classes and schedules, **www.studioAfitness.ca**

Arturo's Market: Happy 5th Anniversary!

Arturo's owner **André Cloutier** and his team—now totalling 13 staff members, including count 'em three chefs—celebrated five years in business on Beechwood in late June. The restaurant has evolved from what was essentially a one-man sandwich/pasta deli into a popular full-service Italian bistro and caterer with an impressive team of cooks and servers. The next time you drop by for a meal, be sure to pick up an Arturo's T-shirt and post a photo of yourself clad in the shirt on the Arturo's Facebook page. On October 31 (Hallowe'en), the staff will select the three most creative shots and award each of the winners a \$50 gift certificate to the restaurant. Congratulations André, and best of luck in your challenging dual role as the new owner and maître d' at **El Meson** as well as the owner/operator of Arturo's—perhaps you'll be

the first to defy the laws of physics and find a way to be in two places at once!

Monson's Saves the Day!

Superb service at **Monson's Deluxe Cleaners** is a well-established tradition in New Edinburgh, but this past summer, Monson's owner **Mark Kaluski** went above and beyond the call of duty to rescue our household from a near catastrophe. When my family discovered, to our great cha-

our immense relief and delight, he sped to our rescue at the store, beach towel still in hand, to produce an immaculately cleaned suit, fit for a wedding party. Now THAT'S service with a smile (and a towel!): thank you Mark—your heroic gesture won't be forgotten in our household!

Le Saint Ô: A Changing of the Guard

Le Saint Ô, which for many years has been a favourite haunt in our community for its superb French cuisine, changed ownership in the course of a two-week closure in July. We welcome new owners **Annie Durand-Brunet** and **Germain Brunet**, both of whom are embarking on their first forays into the gourmet restaurant realm after pursuing careers in government, and we look forward to introducing them to readers in our next edition in December. We say a fond farewell to former owners **Philippe Dupuy** and **Natasha Dumont** who



Photo by: Louise Imbeault



Photo by: Courtesy of Quartier Vanier BIA

Monson Cleaner's Mark Kaluski.

grin, that Monson's had closed early on the Saturday of the Canada Day weekend—effectively placing our son's dress suit beyond our reach, only hours before the wedding he was to attend—I turned to my much-valued Beechwood contact community and, with the help of a resourceful **Marwan el Rassi**, managed to reach Mark in the throes of an outdoor pool party. To

are taking a well-earned break after many years of grueling 60-hour work weeks. Both will remain a presence at the restaurant until mid-Fall, however, as they work with Annie and Germain to ensure a seamless transition. Philippe is also available now as a personal chef for private parties in your own home. You can reach him at **phildupuy@hotmail.com**

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Oaxaca Comes to South of Beechwood

By Marilyn Hart

Many interesting and creative people are moving into the South of Beechwood area. The empty Barrette Corner Store, for many years in the 'renovation stage', has been taken over by one of them. **Ana Collins**, also known as Ana Oaxaca, will soon be opening what we can only describe as a gourmet Mexican culinary experience.

Her friends and neighbours are solidly and enthusiastically supporting her. Walls are being measured, and ladders

ies, fighting for independence from Spain. But I like to think of her as being descended from the Zapotec high priestesses, who built their palaces in the ancient settlement of Mitla, south-east of Oaxaca.

As a consequence Ana's chosen name for her new establishment is Mitla; partly because that those who have never visited the interesting, historic, food-filled, town of Oaxaca, might not be readily able to pronounce or spell the name.

Although presently working

food, using locally found products as far as possible. There will be a variety of 'hand foods' to take away or eat on the premises, and also main meals of the day, to take home. On the theme of authenticity, freshly roasted coffee will be supplied by Pierre Richard from Mechanicsville's Happy Goat Coffee Company.

Inspired by Delish

Many readers will remember the famous Delish sandwich and catering store on Crichton. The operator of "Delish", **Judith Gripton**, now retired and a friend of Ana's, has been mentoring and guiding her in this new venture.

The format of "Mitla" is in many ways like the old "Delish". The premises are not a restaurant, but rather a welcoming drop-in place to buy delicious prepared food and snacks. A few seats will be available for a quick bite, coffee and conversation. Catering for functions will be an important part of the business. Serving staff can be provided too.

Hot meals will be prepared each day, one for each day of the week, featuring Oaxacan specialties. These you can pick up on the way home from work.

For light lunches there will be soups and salads, even a cactus salad, open-faced tortillas and quesadillas. Pan de yema (a sweet egg bread) will be freshly baked. Fresh fruit juices will be prepared, and at Christmas time, will be seasonal sweets.

A Titillating Experience for Ottawa's Foodies and Locals

Those of you who have spent vacations in Oaxaca will be able to re-live your memories. Those of you who haven't are in for a treat. Take home the goat stew, known as Barbacoa; it's guaranteed to remove any

last vestiges of a hangover. Or try the famous 'mole', spicy chocolate sauce in which many dishes are cooked: turkey mole will be on the menu, Mole con Pavo. Also fish, pork, stuffed peppers, and a dish known as Vuele de la Vide, return to life!!

How do you get to "Mitla"?

Mitla is located on the corner of Loyer and Barrette, one short block south of Beechwood. The hundreds of new residents in the Claridge Homes' high rises and townhomes can't help but to pass by on their way to the Metro supermarket.

Those on foot, coming from New Edinburgh, can walk to the new location of Nature's

Buzz, look across Beechwood, down Loyer and spot the bright blue façade. Especially easy for those in cars, is the availability of free short-term parking on the wide quiet streets nearby.

And for those on bikes, there is a special incentive. Perhaps in the non-winter months, a bicycle repair person will be installed at the rear of the premises. Have your bike tuned, and stop for a 'memela' as you wait.

These are interesting times for our neighbourhood, with an expanding Ottawa community. Get your taste-buds working; we all look forward to Mitla's opening in the late fall.

You may contact Ana, if you have ideas, or to help this community venture, at **613-868-6983** or by email : **anaoaxaca@gmail.com**.

NEN Welcomes Production Manager

By NEN Staff

The New Edinburgh News welcomes its newest member to the team, Production Manager David Rostenne. Some of you may recognize the name as he is well and truly ensconced in many endeavours around the community. Some know him as "the Computer Consultant", others as the smiling face behind the counter at Books on Beechwood. Now you will all see the fruits of his many hours of labour on these very pages.

David brings to his new role a wealth of experience in com-

puters, printing and graphic design. When he is wearing his consultant hat he offers one-on-one computer training and personalized computer support. "Sometimes I fix the computer, and sometimes it's the people I have to fix," reports David with a smile.

After an intensive initiation, as well as overcoming a steep learning curve, our new Production Manager has proven himself to be cool under pressure and up to the task. Bravo!



Photo: Ana Collins

hoisted, to transform the bland exterior of the store into a landmark which might rival Frida Kahlo's Casa Azul in its vibrancy. As a hint, think blue. Work on the outside is being done, as I write, over the Labour Day weekend. The Grand Opening might be late October, as many things have yet to be finalized.

The Proprietor(ess) and her Food Vision

Ana has spent a great deal of her life in and around the city of Oaxaca in southern Mexico. She studied International Relations in the town of San Cristobal in the neighbouring state of Chiapas. The Mexican part of her genealogical chart is descended from revolutionar-

as a French-English-Spanish translator, Ana has long had an interest in food preparation. During her years at Mount Alison University (New Brunswick), the then President's wife encouraged and trained volunteer students to prepare interesting meals for formal dinners. Ana was one of them.

In Oaxaca, Ana worked at the famous slow-food restaurant called "Itanoni," the local word for corn flour. It was there that she came to know the secrets of Oaxacan cuisine, which is primarily based on the local products of corn, chile, and yes, chocolate.

It is Ana's intention to re-create the authenticity of Oaxacan

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The Kavanaugh on Beechwood: It's Full Steam Ahead

By Jane Heintzman

It's full steam ahead for Domicile's major new commercial/residential development, **The Kavanaugh on Beechwood**, which will soon replace the legendary **Kavanaugh's Esso** at 222 Beechwood, an institution in our community for close to six decades. In early July, Domicile's rezoning application for the site was approved by City Council. Despite lingering reservations of the Rockcliffe Park Residents' Association and the Beechwood Cemetery Foundation with respect to the proposed height and mass of the building, and its potential impact on the protected view of Parliament Hill from the cemetery, Council's decision has not been appealed and the project will go ahead as planned. Although the building will in fact have only 10 floors of condominiums with a ground floor commercial level,

Domicile received approval for 11 storeys to allow for the addition of an enclosed rooftop area with covered terrace.

Domicile is expecting to receive Site Plan Approval from the City very shortly, and is currently busy preparing working drawings for its building permit applications. Early sales have reportedly been strong, and indeed are already closing in on 56 of the planned 132 units. Kavanaugh project manager **David Chick**, Senior Vice-President of Domicile, is confident that the company will be on target to begin construction as planned in January 2013.

There's no news yet about what businesses will be moving into the ground level of *The Kavanaugh*, but Domicile owner **John Doran** has been actively working with the company's leasing representative to review prospective com-

mercial tenants for the building, and is delighted by the number and quality of the applicants. Stay tuned for the scoop on the coming additions to our Beechwood business community!

As we reported in an earlier edition of the NEN, Domicile has made a significant additional investment in the project to bring increased electrical capacity to the site. We understand that in order to supply the additional capacity, Hydro Ottawa plans to run a cable from its Loyer Street sub-station and will be trenching along Beechwood to the Kavanaugh property at 222 Beechwood.

Interested readers can find out more details about the new development at www.thekavanaugh.ca. There are two fully furnished model suites now open at the on-site Sales Centre at 222 Beechwood, right next to the gas station. If you're interested in having a look, the Sales Centre is open Monday through Thursday from 12 - 6 pm, and on the weekends from 12 - 5 pm. The contact number for an appointment is **613-897-7873** or **613-868-7597**. The suites are expected to have



Liz Babiak from Canvas Pop, Councillor Mathieu Fleury, contest winner Erin Merrill, photographer Justin Van Leeuwen, and the MC for the day Larry Rousseau.

a variety of optional layouts ranging from one bedroom, to one bedroom with den; two bedroom; and two bedrooms with den/library.

Photo Contest and Block Party

Domicile wound up its *Capture the Kavanaugh* Photo Contest in late summer, and announced the winner at a lively **Kavanaugh Block Party** on Sunday, September 9, where local residents gathered to enjoy live music from local singer/song writer **Amanda Bon**, entertainments for the kids, treats from **The Merry Dairy**, **Grill Masters** and **Alpenblick Farms**, and popular local brews from the **Clocktower Brew Pub**. All proceeds from the event, which Domicile organized in partnership with the **Vanier Community Association**, the **Vanier BIA**, the **Vanier Beautification Committee** and the **Clocktower Brew Pub**, will be dedicated to the renovation of Vanier's

Optimiste Park, a project dear to the hearts of residents of the Vanier community who are the immediate neighbours of Domicile's new development.

And the Winner is.....

The Grand Winner of the Photo Contest, announced at the Block Party, was **Erin Merrill's** photo, "*Memories of Childhood*". Not far behind, were nine other finalists: **Pat Daly's** "*Fence Bench*"; **Ryan Aubrey's** "*Green Ride*"; **Veronique Moulard's** "*Bike Path*"; **Ann Harrison's** "*Sugar Shack*"; **Suzie Bougie's** "*Under the St. Patrick Street Bridge*"; **Mel McKay's** "*Cool Blue*"; **Perry McKenna's** "*Carrrrr*"; **Clara Luck's** "*Sticks 'n Stones*"; and **Steve Rathwell's** "*Bridge to the Village*". (You can check out all the many intriguing entries on Domicile's Facebook page). It's wonderful to think of all that creative energy focused on our community—a worthy subject if there ever was one!

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Looking up at New Edinburgh from South America

By David Paget

New Edinburgh has never looked as good to me as it does from my new vantage point in South America. Since leaving the Burgh a year ago and moving 6,000 km due south, I've naturally compared my new surroundings to my previous ones. This perspective may interest New Edinburgh residents because I think it points to things that we should not take for granted, and are worth preserving.

Though the following comments relate to the residential area of Lima where I am living, they could apply to many cities on this continent. There are two striking differences between my new neighbourhood and New Edinburgh. The first is that virtually all residences including apartment blocks are protected by high walls or steel fences right to the sidewalk, often surmounted by electrified wire or metal spikes. (This feature does not enhance the aesthetic appeal of the streetscape...)

The underlying reason for this would appear to be the great class disparity here. Long live Canada's mainly middle-class society! The openness of New Edinburgh's dwellings to the street is something I used to take for granted. Now I see it as an important symbol of civic strength and of a relatively low-crime environment. Having seen the alternative, I hope this feature of New Edinburgh never changes.

The other difference with

New Edinburgh is that there seems to be virtually no heritage protection for my new neighbourhood's historic buildings. Previously charming houses built in the early years of this district, reflecting the influence of gracious Spanish architecture, are being abandoned, demolished and replaced by mid-rise apartment blocks. And this is happening at a rapid rate. A few homeowners resist developers' blandishments, resulting in scenes of old homes being squeezed on both sides right up to the property line by much taller modern buildings.

I am well aware that New Edinburgh also is subject to development pressures, and that there can be struggles to balance "intensification" and heritage protection, and the need to observe appropriate design guidelines for alterations. But after witnessing a community that is fast losing its historic character, I can only hope that New Edinburgh residents, with the support of the City, continue to fight for the protection of its built heritage and its historic village character.

Buses and taxis also deserve mention. I used to take for granted a public transit system and municipally-regulated taxis. Here, virtually all buses are private and unregulated. There are innumerable old, polluting buses—large and small—jockeying for passengers, sometimes not coming to a complete stop as passengers

get on and off. Pedestrians trying to cross streets beware: impatient bus drivers show little consideration for the unwary pedestrian.

Another contributor to traffic stress and to personal insecurity is the huge number of unregulated taxis. You take one at your own risk. The least of your challenges is that there are no meters or even a zone fare system—every ride starts with a negotiation of the fare. The taxis clog the streets trolling for passengers, constantly honking at pedestrians to attract their attention. Far too many cars are old, poorly maintained and unsafe.

OC Transpo buses that serve New Edinburgh and the regulated taxis used by residents are further features of urban life that I think we in Ottawa should foster.

The purpose of this article is not to criticize Lima, which is booming and is making many improvements; including its transit system. There are lots of positive features here, from the warmth of its people, its temperate climate, location on the Pacific, gastronomy, and its access to sights such as Machu Picchu. My message is simply that New Edinburgh, compared to many other places, has a lot going for it and that we who love it should continue to be vigilant that it continues this way.

Visit The Burgh Online!

For the most up-to-date news of the neighbourhood

newedinburgh.ca

Rockcliffe Park Book Fair Begins Nov 2

By Sarah Baxter

Do you want your kids to be book lovers, as in *sneak-a-flashlight-under-the-covers*, *beg-for-a-nighttime-story*, *know-their-way-around-the-library* kind of book lovers? So along with a sturdy bookshelf packed with favourite

School's gymnasium). Deputy Headmistress of Frolic and Feasts, **Seanna Kreager**, also known as Book Fair Chair, reminds us that book donations are welcome in the bin at the front of the school. And don't forget—every dollar raised at Book Fair supports



Photo: Seanna Kreager

Muggles and Wizards taking a reading break. (L to R) Bryan Kreager, Sebastian Hayman, Amelia Kreager and Milena Hayman.

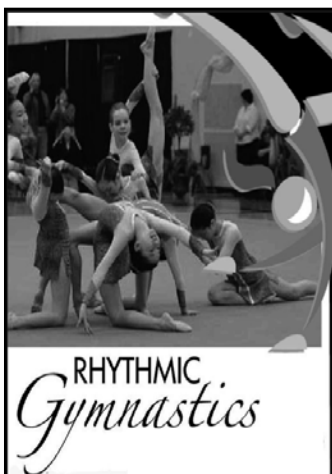
childhood titles and their very own library card, you should share a love of Book Fair!

Book Fair brings our community together around books, something as magical as the stories in the books themselves. And this year, Book Fair is conjuring up more magic than ever as it celebrates books and readers with a nod to the magical world of Hogwarts and Harry Potter.

Now in its 51st year, Book Fair opens Friday, November 2, and runs through to Sunday, November 4, in Queen Juliana Hall (Rockcliffe Park Public

the public school and literacy programs—so that more children can discover the magic of books too.

But it takes more than a few waves of a magic wand to make Book Fair happen. Book sorting is already underway and continues right up to November. And of course, help is always needed, with the set up, during the Fair itself and for the tear down. Please contact rockcliffeparkbookfair@gmail.com to volunteer. Everyone—muggles, wizards and witches included—is welcome!



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Scenes of Summer

In the summer, the Burgh is abuzz with activity, with events and leisure activities throughout the community. Every August, the Lumière festival attracts thousands to our magical part of the city. In September, it's the Annual Community Garage Sale that brings people in. This year we had a new draw: the Kavanaugh Block Party, with live music and entertainment.



Stilt Union at Lumière.



© Louise C Imbeault

The Lumiere Labyrinth.

Photo: Louise Imbeault



Amanda Bon and bandmates played at the Kavanaugh Block Party, which took place September 9.



The New Edinburgh Garage Sale!

Photo: Scott Meyer



© Louise C Imbeault

Lumière Lantern.

Photo: Louise Imbeault



Ms Donaldson's garden.



Michael Larrass' garden.



K Arkay's garden.



Photo: Louise Imbeault

NEN Photographer Louise Imbeault went on a photo discovery tour of the gardens of New Edinburgh, and brought us back these gems.



Lori Coulter-Brethour's garden.

Another Bridge Won't Solve Ottawa's Traffic Problem

By Dr. Robert H. Freilich
and Neil M. Popowitz

The National Capital Region faces a serious problem with the ever-increasing volume of traffic flowing across the Ottawa River, with downtown Ottawa facing the worst impact of heavy trucks passing through the middle of the city. No one disputes the problem is getting worse.

Sadly, the National Capital Commission's proposed solution – building a very expensive new bridge east of the downtown core – will not solve this problem. The NCC's own experts agree.

Despite the half billion dollar investment in opening a new bridge, NCC consultants admit that the present volume of truck traffic on the Macdonald-Cartier Bridge of 2,600 vehicles per day will remain the same by the end of 2031 while the number of cars using the Macdonald-Cartier

Bridge will actually increase from 4,000 to 6,000 per peak hour of traffic. Even if the Macdonald-Cartier Bridge were closed to trucks altogether, NCC consultants have concluded that most of the truck volume would continue to clog downtown Ottawa, with massive increases in truck traffic crossing the Chaudière bridge.

In sum, the proposed solution is no solution at all. Without making any meaningful change to the traffic congestion of downtown Ottawa, the new scheme will lessen the quality of life for the neighbourhoods experiencing the new bridge traffic. It will create an incentive for further costly suburban sprawl in lieu of greater fiscal savings achieved through infill and downtown development. Funds would be better directed towards public transit needed to shorten commuter travel time and expense in reaching downtown Ottawa, by creat-

ing walkable, transit oriented, mixed use development communities.

Amazingly, because the NCC won't initiate a comprehensive origin and destination study, i.e. where cars and trucks crossing the bridges are coming from and going to, its assumption that a new bridge will solve the traffic problem in downtown Ottawa is flawed from the start. Like a hammer in search of a nail, the NCC has focussed solely on building a bridge for traffic to the exclusion of addressing greater regional sustainability issues.

Is this a rational way to spend more than half a billion dollars of taxpayers' money?

Ironically, the NCC is simultaneously promoting Horizon 2067, a 50-year plan for the region, yet it doesn't appear to have a serious plan for 2012. The NCC has given little or no thought to the fiscal, social and environmental consequences

of a new bridge and the traffic impacts on the neighbourhoods and Greenbelt, to say nothing of the vast additional sprawl that would inexorably follow construction of a new major bridge outside Ottawa's downtown.

The NCC (and by extension its "partners", Ontario and Quebec and Ottawa and Gatineau) appears to be locked into 1950's thinking. Had the NCC properly utilized this unique opportunity rather than simply rush to build another bridge, it would have implemented a regional smart growth tier system with:

- appropriate light rail transit;
- disincentives for sprawl development by requiring adequate transportation public facilities and transportation impact fees;
- encouragement of new residential and commercial development consisting of walkable mixed use centers, traditional neighborhood development, public-private transit development and downtown infill.

Focusing development resources on these areas would render another bridge unnecessary.

In the shorter run, the region needs to get tough with the growing volume of traffic across the Macdonald-Cartier Bridge. Limiting heavy trucks to 5 - 7 a.m. and 7 - 10 p.m. would remove heavy truck traffic from downtown Ottawa during peak hours. Truck drivers would be forced to use

existing alternative routes.

The average car crossing the Macdonald-Cartier Bridge carries 1.2 people. Bridge tolls could permit cars with 3 or more persons to cross free and vehicles with 1 or 2 persons would pay sliding scale tolls to finance an alternative transportation system. Building a "park n' ride" on the Gatineau side of the bridge would encourage commuters to carpool to downtown or ride a bike.

Downtown Ottawa is already highly "pedestrianized." Instead of building a new roadway and bridge, the \$500 million would be better spent towards construction of an automated people mover light rail system that would loop around Gatineau and downtown Ottawa. The City of Miami Downtown Metromover System has dramatically reduced vehicle traffic while accommodating 30,000 passengers a day. Yet the City of Miami is only one-third of the population of the City of Ottawa. Light rail could be built to cross the Macdonald-Cartier Bridge on one lane of the bridge and carry commuters and tourists from "park n' ride" sites in Gatineau, depositing them within walking distance of all major downtown destinations.

It is simply incomprehensible that Canada's capital has set such a poor planning example for the rest of the nation. A sensible, sustainable, urbanist, non-sprawl regional plan would yield extraordinary

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savings in terms of reduced economic costs of commuter delay; lower road maintenance and repair costs; reduced air contaminants and greenhouse gas emissions; fewer auto and pedestrian injuries and deaths; and avoided cost of new infrastructure and new roads to support suburban sprawl.

There is no public necessity or public purpose in simply building another bridge to run through Ottawa and Gatineau neighbourhoods and business centers, while doing nothing to address wider regional sustainability needs. The entire bridge study should be completely redone and the NCC needs to embrace sustainable "smart growth" 21st century regional planning.

Over the past 40 years, the firm of Freilich and Popowitz, with offices in Los Angeles, Kansas City, Dallas and Aspen, has developed and implemented land use plans and regulations for sustainable smart growth for over 250 cities, counties and states in the U.S.A. Dr. Freilich is a co-author of the 2010 book "From Sprawl to Sustainability: Smart Growth, Sustainability, Green Development and Renewable Energy" and the "21st Century Land Development Code for the American Planning Association" 2008. Sadly, the National Capital Commission's proposed solution – building a very expensive new bridge east of the downtown core – will not solve this problem. The NCC's own experts agree.

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Six Misconceptions About Biological Diversity and Extinction

By **Michael Leveillé**
St-Laurent Academy
Elementary and Junior High
Teacher

The beauty and genius of a work of art may be reconceived, though its first material expression be destroyed; a vanished harmony may yet again inspire the composer; but when the last individual of a race of living things breathes no more, another heaven and another earth must pass before such a one can be again.

— William Beebe

Here are a few of the many misconceptions about biological diversity and modern extinctions which may contribute to a lack of public concern about the problem of species loss.

Misconception #1 – Species have always gone extinct so we do not need to worry about a few animals or plants disappearing. It is true that extinction is a natural process, but it is the rate of extinctions that is of major concern. According to the UN Environment Programme, the

Earth is in the midst of a mass extinction of life. Scientists estimate that **150-200 species of plant, insect, bird and mammal become extinct every 24 hours.** This is nearly 1,000 times the “natural” or “background” rate.

Misconception #2 – Losing a species does not affect humans. Do you remember the game Ker-Plunk? The game consists of a clear plastic tube, 30 thin sticks, and 32 marbles. The idea is to pull out as many sticks as you can without letting any marbles fall to the bottom. Well, imagine we are one of the marbles. How many species are holding us up? Plants and phytoplankton produce our breathable air. Our food and medicine come from the rich biological resources of the Earth. Decomposers like bacteria and fungi help to produce soil so we can grow our food. Worms and arthropods process this soil. Bees, wasps, birds, and bats pollinate plants. Some types of phytoplankton are responsible for a chemical substance called DMS that forms clouds over our oceans. This affects our weather and global climate.

Misconception #3 – Environmental news is all bad news! Absolutely not! Global networks of youth from the Ottawa-based **Biodiversitymatters.org** and the **GYBN** are actively involved with the Convention on Biological Diversity. In 2010, world organizations and governments met in Nagoya, Japan to discuss solutions to the biodiversity crisis. Youth presented an Accord on Biodiversity to express their ideas and fears. There is another gathering of the COP-MOP in Hyderabad, India this October. It is important to stress that **many species have been brought back from near extinction by dedicated biologists and committed individuals.** Some successes include the Bison, the Chatham Island Black Robin, the Mauritius Kestrel, the Pink Pigeon, and the Echo Parakeet to name a few.

Misconception #4 – Evolution will replace any missing species. Evolution will replace species, but it takes a very long time. It has been suggested that it could take 30 million years for nature to heal itself from



Photo: Mike Leveillé

Bohemian Waxwings over Ice.

the effects of humans on our biological heritage. A species can take hundreds of thousands of years to branch off from its parent group to form a new species.

Misconception #5 – All species have been discovered. Not even close! The total global estimate of species ranges from 100 million to as low as 5 million with new species discovered every year. About 1.3 million species have been cataloged in a central database to date. Each year, researchers report more than 15,000 new species. Not all of these life forms are small. In 2011, a new cetacean (called the Burrnan dolphin) was discovered in Australian waters. If you think that new species are only discovered in remote areas, consider the new species of frog announced in 2012 liv-

ing within New York City!

Misconception #6 – There is nothing I can do to protect the Earth's biodiversity. Habitat loss is the number one cause of extinction. The very best way to protect our biological heritage is to adopt green spaces in your community. A wonderful example of this is the **Macoun Marsh Biodiversity Project in Ottawa's Beechwood Cemetery**, Canada's National Cemetery. Teachers and students from St-Laurent Academy Elementary and Junior High have become stewards of this space and have recorded almost 1,400 species in this urban ecosystem. This initiative has grown into a Biodiversity Alliance of local schools with a three-part Mentorship Program for students.



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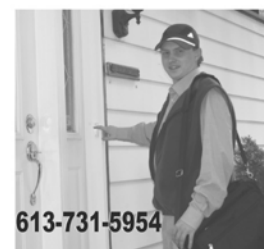
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Linden House Theatre Offers Special Performance to Benefit New Edinburgh Community

Residents of New Edinburgh are invited—on Friday, November 2—to attend a special benefit performance of *You Never Can Tell*, written by George Bernard Shaw and produced by the Linden House Theatre Company. Revenues from that performance will be shared 50-50 with the community. NECA and New Edinburgh House invite you to join them for this special benefit performance and for a pre-show reception at the theatre.

“We’re very pleased that our theatrical labour of love will be helping to support New Edinburgh community projects,” says producer Janet Uren. “This is an important turn in the road, as the community settles into New Edinburgh House and a new era begins. We’re glad to be there in support.”

Many New Edinburgh News readers will already be familiar with the work of the Linden House Theatre Company. Local resident Uren founded this company in 2007 with

a dedicated focus on classic British comedy. Over the past five years, the company has entertained audiences with annual productions of works by playwrights such as Noel Coward and Somerset Maugham, masters of the stylish and intelligent comedy of wit.

Linden House productions are staged at Elmwood Theatre in nearby Rockcliffe, which offers a wonderful stage, an elegant hall, comfortable seating and free parking. “We are incredibly lucky in terms of our stage,” says Uren. “In fact, it was access to this wonderful theatre space that inspired us to create a company in the first place. That and the desire to specialize in a particular kind of comedy.”

Another source of inspiration, Uren says, was the example of Ingrid McCarthy, who for over 30 years was the life and soul of the New Edinburgh Players. McCarthy retired in 2012 and will be sorely missed, both for the plays she produced and the

entertainment she provided, as well as for the support she gave to the community.

You Never Can Tell

From October 23 to November 3, Linden House will be presenting one of Shaw’s earliest as well as lightest and brightest, plays—*You Never Can Tell*. This is a work that critics have called Shaw’s “sunniest and funniest.” It tells the story of an impoverished dentist with an incurably romantic heart who has the bad luck to fall in love with an “advanced” young woman. A battle royal of the sexes ensues as they argue it out in typically Shavian fashion.

“Our audiences have been growing every year,” says director George Stonyk, “and the feedback is terrific. I think the secret of success has been our determination to stick with the very best playwrights, to recruit the most talented actors and crew available to us and to maintain our focus on ‘intelligent’ comedy.”

The play will be staged at



Photo: Mike Heffernan

Actors Janet Uren and Danny McLeod prepare for the Linden House production of *You Never Can Tell* by George Bernard Shaw, opening this fall at Elmwood Theatre.

Elmwood Theatre, 261 Buena Vista Road. On November 2—the night of the special benefit—you are also invited to a pre-show reception at 6:30 pm, hosted by the community, with the curtain at 7:30 pm.

Performances of *You Never Can Tell* will take place on

October 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27 and October 31 and November 1, 2 and 3 at 7:30 pm; Sunday Matinee, October 28 at 3 pm. Free parking available. Tickets at \$25 are available now at Books on Beechwood, 35 Beechwood; online at www.lindenpro.ca; and by telephone at 613-842-4913.

Quartier Vanier BIA Expands to North Side of Beechwood

By Jane Heintzman

It’s official! Effective in July, Beechwood’s north side became part of the Quartier Vanier Business Improvement Association (QVBIA) with the endorsement of a majority of commercial/professional business owners and non-residential property owners in the area, and formal approval by Ottawa City Council. **Monson’s Cleaners’** owner **Mark Kaluski**, who is a Board member and Treasurer of the QVBIA, as well as the Chair of its Economic Development Committee, is delighted by the long-awaited expansion, which he sees as a promising first step in the process of revitalizing Beechwood through a collaborative effort on the part of all the area businesses with a vital stake in its future.

Mark is looking forward to a major planning session in late November when the interested parties will establish priorities for the Beechwood corridor, and create a budget for the upcoming year when the north side businesses will become full fee-paying participants. He notes that the QVBIA is

always on the look-out for new members to contribute to the process of rejuvenating the area and stimulating new development. Interested business owners can get in



touch by contacting QVBIA Executive Director Suzanne Valiquet at svaliquet@vanier-bia.com.

The task of injecting new life into Beechwood is of course not limited to business and property owners alone, but vitally affects residents of the surrounding communities who rely on Beechwood as their primary shopping area and commercial hub. QVBIA has been working with the recently launched Beechwood Village Alliance (BVA) to support initiatives such as the successful Art in the Parking Lot event which the BVA organized in June, and looks forward to continuing collaboration with community associations and groups with a stake in the revival of the area.

Needless to say, both Councillors representing the Beechwood corridor, **Peter Clark (Rideau Rockcliffe)** and **Mathieu Fleury (Rideau Vanier)**, are strongly committed to supporting efforts to stimulate investment and human-scale development in the commercial area, and will undoubtedly be working with the expanded QVBIA to promote these objectives. While there are promising signs of new life at the north end of Beechwood where the Kavanaugh project is about to be launched, the picture is much bleaker in the core where progress is stalled on a redevelopment of the fire site, unused properties continue to languish on the south side of the street, and local businesses are increasingly feeling the pinch, to the point that our flagship Books on Beechwood will be calling it quits at the end of January 2013. We need all the help we can get to reverse this slow but steady decline, and look forward working with the BIA and the Councillors to explore the options for a revival of the area.

A Wedding in Kyiv

By Barbara Benoit

It was a privilege last August to be among the guests at the wedding of Christopher Glover (formerly of Dufferin Road) and Natalia Panyushkina at St. Volodymyr’s Cathedral in Kyiv (a.k.a. Kiev) in Ukraine. Chris, who articulated in Calgary after completing a law degree at U of T, has been working in Ukraine for the past several years, developing an oil and gas business, with drilling now under way. Natalia is also a lawyer, and works for a firm in Kyiv.

The Burgh was well represented at the wedding. Chris’s father, Michael, and sister, Alex (pregnant with a sibling for young Jackson Ward) flew in from Ottawa and Toronto, as did other members of the Bishop-Glover clan from British Columbia, England and Ireland. Charles Benoit was the secular best man (there was also a Ukrainian Orthodox best man for the cathedral ceremony), and the whole Benoit family assembled to help celebrate: Charles from Washington, Anne and her partner Tom Miller from Australia via the London Olympics, and the elder Benois directly from Noel Street.

Chris and Natalia looked every inch the happy couple and were at the same time, with the support of their Ukrainian family and friends, super guides, interpreters and hosts. We made the most of our brief

few days in this beautiful city with some dedicated sightseeing. The celebrations included a vodka-laced stag party (Natalia took the ladies out for a pleasant dinner and a glass of wine), a Friday morning Orthodox ceremony and reception with bride and groom both wearing traditional embroidered wedding clothes, an evening of kebabs on the beach, and a lavish Saturday



Photo: Jackson Ward

evening reception in an elegant boutique hotel (with the bride in a long satin gown and a gorgeous upswept hair arrangement). Alex and Natalia had prepared a surprise slide show of old family photos featuring the newlyweds at every age to introduce the two sides of the family. This also had the advantage of giving Chris’s late mother Kitty a presence at the event that would have given her such joy. Chris and Natalia, we wish you both a long and happy life together.

Summer Travels to maine and Grand Manan, New Brunswick

By Vicki Metcalfe

Some NEN readers know that I enjoy birding in Georgia during the winter. In fact, that's where I started birding—time on my hands and beautiful egrets and

through Amazon.

The first day the five of us—from Lakefield, Ontario, Christiansburg, Virginia and Ottawa—spent a long day with Bob at Baxter State Park in

were nuts.

The Marathon Inn on Grand Manan was ancient and quirky as all get out. One of our main topics of conversation was bathroom design – it made no sense in some of our rooms. The food was simple but excellent. Lobster one night had just come in from the sea. Dinners were at set times, with only two choices. When I asked what kind of white wine they had, the answer was “red or white.” Nonetheless, the service was accommodating, and I had a view of the bay from my room and a big old bathtub looked out onto trees at the back. Some of the best birding was done from the Inn.

Part of our package with Bob was a day on a sailboat looking for whales and birds. We were amazingly lucky with the weather—calm and warm. All the fleece and rain gear that we took stayed stowed below. We saw a lot of sea birds, a few whales, lots of porpoises and two species of seals. The scenery around the island was breathtaking.

Then back on the ferry and a night at the Eastland Motel, a lovely, simple, clean motel in Lubec, Maine. We had a terrific dinner in Lubec in the “most easterly restaurant in the U.S.” (It's actually pretty central by Canadian standards.) We had good birding there too and then headed back to Bangor.

Our company on the excursion included two retired chemistry professors (both accomplished birders) and a school social worker and her husband, a jewellery maker. We talked a lot about politics, and they sincerely wanted to know about our health care system and government structure in general. We even had civics lessons in the van some days.

We left our new friends in Bangor and headed south—by way of L.L. Bean in Freeport—to an exquisite B&B in York

Harbour. There was golf for the men, while we women just enjoyed wandering the charming village. It was a good deal less rustic than we had been used to, and no in and out of the van! Well, except for the outlet shopping at Kittery. But that's another story.

If you're a keen birder, you can find the complete list of my 108 sightings on the trip on the community website at www.newedinburgh.ca. You may even be tempted to plan a trip of your own to Grand Manan and Maine next year!



Photo: Lynne Cotton

Atlantic Puffin, seen from the ferry between Black's Harbour and Grand Manan, N.B.

herons all around. This summer some Jekyll Island friends and I met “Down East” for some real hard-core birding, among other fun activities.

I learned a few things along the way: that Grand Manan is wonderfully remote and scenic, the scenery of coastal Maine is incredibly gorgeous, outlet shopping can result in terrific bargains, and GPS cannot be trusted. That last comes from an extra hour and a half in Montreal construction thanks to GPS. Oh, and that so much time in a car makes my back go out.

I saw over a hundred species of birds (21 for the first time, or “life birds” as we birders dub them) and made friends with some terrific people. We met our guide, Bob Duchesne, in Bangor, Maine at the start of the trip, and spent five days trooping around with him. Bob literally wrote the book on birding in Maine: *Maine Birding Trail: The Official Guide to More Than 260 Accessible Sites*, available

Maine, in and out of the van, dodging sudden splashes of rain. Bob showed us so many birds though, and the scenery is simply wonderful. Baxter State Park, with over 800 square kilometers of wilderness and semi-wilderness, was founded in the early 1920s by a Governor with the foresight to establish a significant endowment. They're able to keep the park free of development, and “Mainers” can enter free. Bob wasn't able to spot the **black-backed woodpecker** he had promised, but I did get a very good look at a **boreal chickadee** and a family of **spruce grouse**.

The next day Bob led a tour of nine to Grand Manan, New Brunswick. The drive and the ferry ride—an hour and a half—were spectacular. There was one sheltered spot on the ferry and guess who took it. There we were, a bunch of birders whooping and hollering at the site of a **red-throated phalarope**. I'm sure the other passengers thought we

Local Student Helps Raise Over \$40,000 for World Bicycle Relief

By Randy Ray

While taking a business course through Harvard University, Rockcliffe resident Mahmoud Abuwasel was part of a group of students that raised more than \$40,000 for a charity known as World Bicycle Relief (WPB).

The funds were gathered in less than two months this spring by teams of students involved in an online course taught by Harvard's Dr. Myra White that showed them how to build a high performance virtual team. The teams competed in a series of challenges; the final one involved raising money and awareness for a charity.

Abuwasel was teamed with four other students based in Washington, Boston, Miami and China. Together they developed a social networking plan that raised about \$5,000 for WBR, a nonprofit organization designed to improve individuals and communities by providing bicycles to students, entrepreneurs and health care workers in remote areas of Africa.

Since 2005, WBR has provided more than 100,000 specially designed, locally assembled, rugged bicycles and trained more than 750 field mechanics.

“By having bicycles, children no longer have to walk hours to school, and communities and

their entrepreneurs and farmers gain access to medical supplies and economic development opportunities such as taking their agricultural products to markets,” says Abuwasel, who earlier this year earned a Bachelor of Laws degree from Carleton University.

Abuwasel's contribution to the team was the creation of a LinkedIn campaign designed to educate business people about Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and at the same time solicit donations on behalf of WBR. Through LinkedIn, he connected with about 700 business people and companies who donated \$1,600 of the \$5,000 raised by his group.

Dr. White, author of *The Superstar Roadmap: How Ordinary People Build Extraordinary Careers*, believes everyone has a bit of superstar in them and her job as an educator is to bring it to life. “My students are so talented and have such positive energy that it seems a waste to give them ‘make work projects’ when they can do something of value to others and learn at the same time. This class was amazing,” said Dr. White, who is an expert on leadership, virtual teams and workplace performance. “They exceeded all my expectations and raised more money than any of my former classes.”



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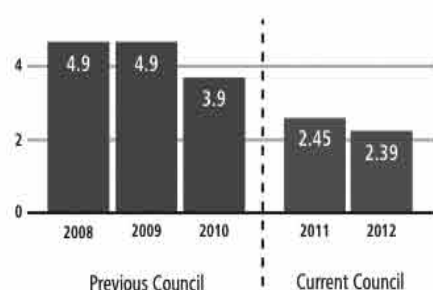


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- CFL and pro soccer franchises secured
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- Light Rail tenders are out: Contracts to be signed in December; Construction to start in 2013
- Four-year labour deal signed with OC Transpo
- Expanding O-Train service
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Tourism



- Sports Hall of Fame, Rink of Dreams and Barbara Ann Scott Gallery opened at City Hall
- Aggressive plan to attract major events:
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 - » JUNO Awards
 - » Women's World Hockey Championship
 - » Men's Basketball Championship
- Canada's 150th Anniversary Task Force created



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Fundraising Concert by Kids Helping Kids at MacKay United Church Nov 4

By Basia Walczak
University of Ottawa, second year law and music

In early November, the New Edinburgh community will once again have the opportunity to participate in a truly inspiring musical event. I am co-organizing a fundraising concert, featuring a team of talented young musicians aged 14-20, on **Sunday, November 4 at 4 pm at MacKay United Church** (39 Dufferin, corner of Dufferin and MacKay). All proceeds will help support the **Peaceful Children's Homes in Cambodia**. The concert will be followed by a silent auction and a reception.

This will be the seventh year that this concert is taking place, organized by **Kids Helping Kids - Enfants**

Solidaires, a group of young Ottawa-based musicians who give their time and musical talent to help less fortunate children in Cambodia.

The musicians featured in our program are an active part of Ottawa's music scene. Several performers are alumni of the Ottawa Youth Orchestra and are now continuing their musical studies at the University of Ottawa. Many of them have participated and won awards in the Kiwanis Music Festival, and received prizes at the Canadian Music Festival, placing among the finalists at a national-ranked level.

The repertoire will feature predominantly classical composers ranging from Bach to Beethoven.

The Peaceful Children's

Homes, located in Kandal Province and Battambang, were created in the 1990s to provide homes for orphaned children returning from the refugee camps in Thailand. Today, they provide a permanent, supportive environment to some 200 orphans, street children, children whose parents have HIV-AIDS, as well

as other children and youth in need. The children attend local schools, learn Cambodian music and dance, and, in some cases, continue on to technical or university studies. Each of the previous concerts has raised approximately \$4,000, which has gone towards the purchase of rice, seeds and tools that permit the children to self-reliantly grow their own food.

Tickets (\$5 for children, \$15 for adults) will be available for sale at Books on

Beechwood (35 Beechwood), at the Leading Note (370 Elgin) and at the door. We appreciate the support of the New Edinburgh community in the past and hope that you can join us not just for the music but, more importantly, for the worthwhile cause it supports.

If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact me at basia.walczak@hotmail.com. I would also invite you to visit the official webpage for the Peaceful Children's Home webpage at: www.fopch.org.



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Burgh Arts Scene

Art in the Parking Lot: Revitalizing Beechwood

By Tobi Nussbaum

What is normally a rather plain looking parking lot squeezed between Fraser Café, the Second Cup and Arturo's was transformed into a green, vibrant and participatory "pop-up park" on June 23. Hundreds of passers-by stopped to sit and read the paper under the patio umbrellas, play chess on the life-sized chess board, paint on the Beechwood mural, offer ideas on the "my Beechwood includes" chalkboard, make some paper flowers, eat some free hamburgers or simply chat with their neighbours.

Local artists displayed their works to the delight of many and sales were brisk. All this activity while spectators listened to spoken-word poetry, grooved to the beats of renowned Ottawa band The Brothers Dube, enjoyed melodic ballads or danced to DJ Morris' spins. The purpose? To demonstrate the potential

of Beechwood to be better—a better gathering place, a better arts space, a better commerce point and a better main street.

The event was sponsored by the nascent Beechwood Village Alliance, a collection of neighbours from all of the bordering communities interested in working to make Beechwood better. The success of the inaugural event suggests there is a huge appetite for more dynamism. And with the addition of north-side businesses to the Vanier BIA, there is an opportunity to focus more attention and resources on improvement. So, come out and join our efforts as we work with businesses, developers, city officials, landowners, neighbours and others to make our main street flourish. Contact us at beechwoodvillagealliance@hotmail.ca or Beechwood Village Alliance on Facebook.

See image on Page 1.

By Barbara Benoit

It was good to see the Electric Street Studio on Crichton Street in action as a gallery again, as artist **Jane Burnstein** held a *vernissage* for her latest show, "Next Wave", which opened on September 13.

Long-time owners, **Peter Honeywell** and **Rosemary Chapman** had been using the space for storage since the mid-nineties. Jane heard by word-of-mouth a little over a year ago that it might be available and moved straight in. She had formerly been sharing a studio space in Bell's Corners with nine other artists and describes herself as "hooked on the area," appreciating the calm both inside and out, and the option of clearing her head with a walk by the river. She also likes the "fishbowl" atmosphere of her studio (the façade still has its original shop windows), with people and their dogs constantly passing by. She

paints about three days a week and welcomes visitors, so if you see her at work feel free to rap on the door.

While there is enough studio space for only two working artists, Jane also makes the premises available for other

School of Dance.

Jane began her informal art training at the hands of her mother and three sisters, who have collectively been costume designers, jewellery makers, painters, sculptors and art gallery managers, and she holds a B.F.A. from Wayne State University in painting and art history. She has taught art in the U.S., Montreal and Ottawa, and has exhibited widely in the Ottawa area. The Electric Street Studio show features work she has done in the past two years.

"Fluidity and complexity," she says, "are fundamental in my work.... There is always a frantic struggle to break out of boundaries." Indeed, the narrative tension is palpable, as flowing or bouncing bodies fly outward, in a liquid movement of ink and paint, from fixed geometric frames.

Drop in for a visit. It's work that's very much worth seeing.



Photo: Åse Boardman

Electric Street Studio artist Jane Burnstein

exhibitions: the next is **Sherry Tompalski's** "Wrappings" (September 21 - 26). Down the road may be a show featuring the work of Jane's husband, fine art photographer **Len Burnstein**, who recently did some motion studies at the

Exhibition by New Edinburgh's Gavin Murphy on Display at Ottawa Public Library During November

New Edinburgh photographer **Gavin Murphy's** latest fundraising exhibition of women's photographs, titled *in situ*, will be held at the central branch of the Ottawa Public Library in November.

All proceeds from the sale of photographs will be donated to Breast Cancer Action Ottawa, a survivor-directed voluntary organisation founded in 1992 by a group of women who knew firsthand what breast cancer diagnosis meant to patients and families.

Murphy's style is unique. His photographs are taken spontaneously in their natural settings with minimal cropping or retouching.

"My images are utterly in the moment," he says. "What the viewer sees is essentially what the camera caught in its totality."

The 18 *in situ* photographs are large scale canvas prints featuring a shift in the artist's work from 35 mm film to digital photography. Pictures were taken in diverse locations from Ottawa to

Calgary to Washington, DC to Bournemouth, England between 2008 and 2012. Many of the images have never been seen before.

Murphy's last exhibition of women's photographs, 2012's *Transitions* presented by Meridian, was another fundraising initiative for Breast Cancer Action Ottawa. His 2010 *ThunderStruck* show also raised funds for Breast Cancer Action Ottawa. He has produced a charity calendar of photographs of women for Osteoporosis Canada-Ottawa Chapter and held two exhibitions featuring images of women to raise funds for CANHAVE, a local charity helping AIDS orphans in Uganda.

The *in situ* exhibition runs from November 1 to 30, 2012 on the second floor landing of the Ottawa Public Library, located at 120 Metcalfe St (corner of Laurier Ave W), in downtown Ottawa. The library is open seven days a week.

In situ is made possible

through the generosity of Meridian, Ontario's largest credit union.

For further details contact the artist at posingforthecause@gmail.com or telephone 613-741-4029.



Photo: Gavin Murphy

Shy Faye from *in situ*.

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By Cathy McConkey

Can you feel it, its coming, wait for it!! I'm sure I saw it, that first leaf drop! It is almost time to rake the leaves again and to celebrate another great summer in the 'Burgh with this October edition of the NEN. Let's recap the spring and summer. First, thank you to Joseph Cull who brilliantly arranged **the best cheering station** again. We are so good that the organizers of the Marathon weekend changed the route to have our neighbourhood at the 36km point; just when the marathoners really needed a boost to their energy level and help carry them along to the finish. Everyone did a wonderful job in cheering the athletes to reach their goal.

One more very important acknowledgement, the 3Cs have always been very grateful to the **New Edinburgh Pub**. **Paul and Tracy Williams** have been very generous in supplying council with hot chocolate for the skaters at the rink and hot dogs for the **Winter**

Carnival; for this we want to heartily thank them. Again this year, they really out did themselves and chose the council as beneficiary of their **annual charity golf tournament** for a third time. We were absolutely thrilled and delighted when we received the cheque and we want to thank Paul and his golf teams for their donation. We cannot thank Paul and Tracy enough for their generosity and continued support of council. Funds received this year have gone to renovating the kitchen in the Fieldhouse.

The 3Cs was also a grateful recipient of another **Canada Summer Job Grant** from the Government of Canada, enabling us to hire **Fieldhouse Manager Rowan Thompson**. For seven weeks in July and August, Rowan managed the **Stanley Park Fieldhouse** and worked on community events. Visitors, children and their caregivers welcomed daily access to the Fieldhouse to get out of the blistering heat and to buy a treat or a cool

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS drink at the Canteen. Rowan's weekly children's activities on Thursdays were very popular. Participants created beautiful butterflies, musical instruments, puppets, place mats and more. We would like to thank Rowan for all her hard work, her friendly demeanour and proactive attitude, and wish her all the best for her first year at Ryerson University. We would also like to recognize our volunteer supervisors who helped out during this period; **Cathy McConkey, Mary Grainger, Michel Giroux, Jill Hardy and Caroline Matt**.

And finally the **New Edinburgh Garage Sale**; council would like to thank all those who donated 10% of their proceeds. The Garage Sale is a key fundraiser for us (funds raised help to offset the cost of running the rink in the winter) so please drop off your donation envelope at either 137 Stanley Avenue or 369 MacKay Street or contact me at 613-746-0303 and I will be happy to pick it up from you.

Our next event on the calendar would be the **Halloween Howl** and the **Pumpkin Parade**. The Howl will be held Sunday, October, 28 from 3 to 5:30 pm for kids aged 0 to 7 years. The Pumpkin Parade will be held November 1 at dusk; bring all your carved



Photo: Garth Gullekson

Top Cheering Station Again!

By Joseph Cull

New Edinburgh has been chosen by Tamarack Homes Ottawa Race Weekend as "BEST CHEERING STATION FOR THE CITY OF OTTAWA."

Through the support of area residents and especially the residents of Stanley Ave and Crichton Street, this community again surpasses the competition in being chosen as the "Number One" place to be during Ottawa Race Weekend.

So, thank you to all the RESIDENTS of our great community and to Garth Gullekson of Darlington Mediaworks for capturing a great community at work and supporting all that is possible if you just BELIEVE!!

A very special THANK YOU to the organizers of Race Weekend; you make us all proud of our beautiful city!

Let's do it again NEXT YEAR, so put those creative thinking caps on!!!!

pumpkins to the Fieldhouse for a great reuse and recycle display.

Council meets every second Monday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Fieldhouse. If you are interested in joining or vol-

unteering please drop by or call me at 613-746-0303 for more information. The Fieldhouse is available for rent for your next event. Please contact Jill Hardy at 613-746-1323 to reserve in advance.

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Waste Not – Your Guide to Bi-weekly Garbage and More Recycling

By Sarah Anson-Cartwright

It's time to take stock of our garbage. As of October 29, the City moves us to bi-weekly garbage pick-up, while green bin collection stays weekly and the pick-ups of the blue and black boxes will alternate each week. In short, we can only put out our non-recyclable waste once every two weeks.

Change is not easy, but this shift in collection schedules will be combined with new dual-collection garbage trucks to cut down on the number of heavy vehicles and their emissions.

For residents, the key is coming to terms with the programs in place and realizing what constitutes "garbage" as compared to "recyclables" (which covers a broad gamut of household items including all food scraps, most paper items and almost all our plastics except for bags and Styrofoam).

Here's a simple mantra for managing our waste: separate, separate, separate, green, black and blue.

Separating our waste is the key to cutting back on what we put into our garbage, by diverting more to the recycling

streams. If we divert fully to organics and other recycling programs, we will be fine with the bi-weekly garbage pick-up.

When it comes to my household waste, I am not obsessive but I do get anxious about it. Let me explain. I like to recycle; I do a lot of it. And I love to compost so the green bin gets fed a great deal in our house, with food scraps, Kleenex, paper towels and cat litter.

But when it comes to the remaining waste—the real garbage, so to speak—I worry that we will have too much or

not cut back enough to meet the new regime. How will we survive with a bi-weekly pick-up schedule?

First, I had to come to terms with what makes up our waste. This week, for example, our green bin was full. Partly, it was full because my husband wraps up our compost in newspaper and those bundles take up space. But it is also full due to the volume of organics and related materials that we actually divert to the bin. This includes our rabbit's soiled straw and our cats' litter.

Under our main bathroom sink, I have an extra bin for used Kleenex and paper towels. This actually fills up (I am ashamed to say) quite quickly every week.

If you're not already putting pizza boxes in your green bin, start now. The same goes for cold fireplace ash. And the paper bags for potatoes and sugar.

Second, I needed to understand what ends up in our

regular (non-recyclable) garbage. Sadly, it is things that we should avoid bringing home in the first place like Styrofoam trays and plastic bags. What's even worse about these items is that they take forever (hundreds of years) to biodegrade in a landfill, and they cause other damage even as they are degrading ever so slowly.

Third, I had to review what goes where, amongst recyclables. The lists of eligible items for blue and black boxes and the green bin are worth revisiting. Visit ottawa.ca, and click on the Garbage and recycling tab to find out what goes into your black box, blue box, and green bin.



Window into History of New Edinburgh Closes with Passing of Dorothy (Stille) Klaas, Age 97

By John Klaas

Dorothy Klaas grew up in New Edinburgh—at 44 Dufferin Road directly across the street from MacKay United Church. She was born in 1914 and was the fifth and youngest child

up in New Edinburgh, they still used horse-drawn hearses—with horses sporting-black feathered plumes.

New Edinburgh was more of a working class neighborhood when Dorothy grew up.

Its Germanic roots were evident in the language used by the children in the playground of the day. In later years, Dorothy still used the expression in family talk: "Are you coming 'mit'?" (instead of "with").

For half the year her family would inhabit a country cottage on the Rideau River just past the Bank Street Bridge, now very much at the city centre. Moving five growing children (changing schools twice yearly) and their chickens in a

She attended Crichton Street Public School and the High School of Commerce in the Glebe. In her early working years she worked in the West Block on Parliament Hill—and one of her secretarial duties was to keep the fire going in the coal fireplace beside her desk.

While she lived for a brief period in the Somerset area of town and a few years in Deep River and Guelph, Ontario—she spent much of her 97 years within a kilometre or two where she grew up on Dufferin St. She married her beloved husband, Herman Klaas, in 1939 and together raised a family of five children on Maple Lane in Lindenlea. In later years, widowed, she lived in the Champlain Towers apartments on Rideau Terrace, and New Edinburgh Square Retirement Home.

Dorothy loved New Edinburgh – it always felt like home.

A memorial service was held for her at MacKay United Church on May 26. Her extended family attended from St John's to Vancouver.

With her passing, so to goes a bit of New Edinburgh history.



Dorothy (right) with her sister Winnie in front of their home at 44 Dufferin Rd.

of Fred and Lucy Stille. The house and attached garage/barn no longer exist.

As was common in that era, the family kept chickens in the barn. Growing up, it often fell to Dorothy to gather the eggs and keep the egg-laying statistics. She candidly confessed that with the hens flapping all about, the statistics were mostly a lot of random numbers. She wondered which hens unfairly ended up in the roaster because they hadn't been properly credited with the eggs they had produced due to her guesswork.

During her days of growing

rented vehicle was difficult for her parents, but cottage life was magnificent, with freedom to fish, swim and paddle, and to help themselves to sun-warmed raspberries any time they pleased.

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XVII Climate Change and Hope

Editor's Note: The following is the seventeenth in a series of articles on climate change by local environmental activist Hugh Robertson. All of 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. The next article in Mr. Robertson's series, entitled **Barriers to Mitigation**, will appear in the February 2013 edition of the NEN

By Hugh Robertson

Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I would still plant my apple tree.

Martin Luther.

Crisis has usually been the generator of major changes throughout human history. Whether it was the political changes wrought by the revolutions in the U.S. and France, or the economic impact of the Great Depression, or the social crisis of the Civil Rights era, change has frequently been driven by turbulence.

We are now facing turbulence of a different type – cli-

mate turbulence. But the climate crisis is different to all earlier crises because the physical forces it will unleash, once the point of no return is passed, will plunge the planet into an irreversible downward spiral, affecting everyone regardless of socio-economic status.

As Elizabeth Kolbert of the *New Yorker* points out, we may not be able to control the climate but we can still determine its direction. The window of opportunity to change direction, however, is rapidly closing as demonstrated by the extreme weather in North America this year.

The crucial question is how we motivate people to change their lifestyle behaviour to avert the impending crisis, especially when apathy is so widespread. Doom and gloom is not an effective message. Fear depresses many and information overload seems to paralyze most of the rest. But demoralization and ignorance is no excuse for inaction.

President Roosevelt nailed the issue succinctly in one of his fireside chats during the Depression: We have nothing to fear but fear itself. Now, we need a new narrative for the climate crisis: Hope itself is our only hope.

Hope, however, is a double-edged sword. Delusional hope and illusory optimism, devoid of action, is dangerous, and "stiff upper lip" fortitude simply entrenches inaction. On the other hand, positive hope driven by passion and action is inspirational and contagious – it is our only hope.

Alexander Pope's well known line "Hope springs eternal from the human breast" from *An Essay on Man* written in 1733, no longer inspires the same optimism. Today, we are more skeptical of Pope's confidence in hope and faith, and his notion of an ordered and divinely inspired universe.

Hope in action

A spirit of hope that is in harmony with nature, suffused with love and humility and underpinned by a program of action must be our objective. Faith, optimism and hope all need action for fulfillment. Constructive action nourishes our souls.

As Frances Moore and Anna Lappe point out in *Hope's Edge: The Next Diet for a Small Planet*, hope is an action verb, not a passive noun. We establish a self-perpetuating chain reaction when our actions inspire hope that in turn re-energizes the passion

for further action, driving an irresistible momentum.

We will need courage and tenacity because building a secure future for the planet will require a herculean effort. The challenge will not be for the meek of heart. It will demand, in Churchill's stirring words, blood, sweat, tears and sacrifice.

No species, certainly not humans, can claim entitlement to life on a stable planet. Optimism and hope for the future have to be earned. We have to learn to live within the regenerative capacity of the biosphere. That is hope's one and only bottom line.

Initially, the focus of our activism and advocacy must be on minimizing our individual carbon footprints. A carbon campaign, focused on fossil fuel reduction, is essential to slow the growth of greenhouse gases that are inexorably warming the planet. Your personal footprint, carefully quantified using the various calculators available, is a pow-

we absolving ourselves from the moral responsibility of acting? It may be easier to assuage our consciences by a Pollyanna approach to global warming rather than confronting our personal demons, such as excessive consumption.

Why do we seem to latch on to doubt and denial so easily? Misguided optimism may actually be a type of denial. Just as patriotism is the last refuge of the scoundrel according to Samuel Johnson, so has hope, short on action, become the last refuge of the climate denier.

It is a utopian myth to believe that governments or markets or technology will solve our environmental problems. Simply tweaking our lifestyles by changing light bulbs in the hope of slowing global warming is an irrational dream. Optimism can so easily lull us into complacency, but glibly professing hope for the future is akin to living in a delusional bubble if it is unaccompanied by a determined commitment

When hope dies action begins.

erful symbol of your level of hope and commitment.

Hope for the future then, means taking individual responsibility for our lifestyles. We cannot make excuses for our shortcomings, blame others or project our guilt on society. We cannot criticize unless we have set a personal example. We have to live our hope as individuals and in our communities and places of work.

Illusory hope

An artificial optimism seems to pervade our society today. Being endlessly up-beat has become a dominant cultural trait. But the social critic, Barbara Ehrenreich, has shown how the relentless promotion of positive thinking is crippling North America. By masking our feelings, by denying our dark sides and by trying to inure ourselves against pain, we are, in fact, living a lie.

Are we also hiding behind hope? By professing positive feelings and optimism for the future, as opposed to expressing our anxiety and fear, are

to adjust our lifestyles to the needs of nature.

The downside of hope

A school of writers that include Derrick Jensen and Paul Kingsnorth, founder of the Dark Mountain project, argue that not only is hope futile, but also it could be detrimental to initiating essential societal changes.

Jensen is regarded as the philosopher-poet of the environmental movement. In a widely read article in *Orion Magazine* in May/June 2006, he addressed the issue of "Hope." He writes that hope is a longing for a future condition over which we have no control. It is false hope to expect that a mythical savior will rescue us. Once we stop hoping for external assistance, we are then forced to do the hard work ourselves. When hope dies, action begins.

Why, he asks, are we afraid to express despair and sadness about the environment? It is a perfectly natural response to our present plight. Perhaps there is an underlying con-



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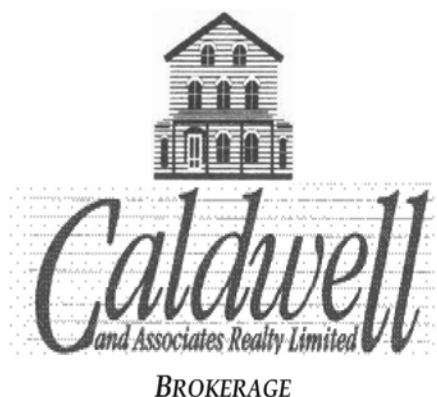
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cern that, if we actually allow ourselves to acknowledge the gravity of the situation, we may be forced into taking action. Despair, therefore, may be an excuse for inaction.

Giving up hope is liberating, he suggests, because we cease relying on others, such as governments and environmental groups, to solve our ecological problems. It also frees us from fear. When hope dies, the culturally conditioned "you" who allows others to exploit your hopefulness also dies, Jensen contends. The real "you" survives, sustained by your innate feelings of love for life and reverence for nature.

Both writers argue that hope is a construct of modern society and a control mechanism keeping us chained to a destructive political and economic system. Hope is a secular way of keeping us in line. Enchained by hope, we become puppets for politicians.

In a recent column entitled *The Mendacity of Hope*, George Monbiot of *The Guardian* echoed the concerns of Jensen and Kingsnorth that we can be easily co-opted by hope. Writing during the Rio + 20 Conference in Brazil in June 2012, he describes how a series of abortive international meetings since the success of the Rio Conference of 1992 have kept us hoping for decisive action and positive environmental developments. Nothing changes from one failed conference to the next – from Kyoto to Durban – but we never cease hoping.

Governments, bankrolled by elites, keep promising and the masses keep hoping, securely shackled by their naïve optimism. Society is powerless to

mobilize and initiate change because "we are endlessly seduced by hope," he writes. "Hope is the rope on which we hang."

Shades of Benjamin Franklin, who exhorted his colleagues at the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776 to hang together otherwise they would surely hang separately. To give the adage a modern climate twist: unless we all hang together now, we will all surely hang together ultimately.

Our only hope

It matters not that your passion for change may be driven by negative feelings, such as fear, anger or despair, but it is important to convert these sentiments into a positive activism rooted in compassion and gratitude. Anchoring our aspirations in action must be the watchword of our age.

Gratitude is our acknowledgement of the gift of birth and the privilege of life. Georg Simmel, the German philosopher, described gratitude as the moral memory of mankind. There can be no better expression of gratitude – and morality – than a campaign to revitalize the divinity of the trinity: air, water and soil. They constitute the source, soul and sustenance of all life on earth.

The path of restoration and revitalization is not only courageous but it is also ennobling because the benefits lie in the future, well beyond the horizons of our generation. But it is our role and responsibility as empathic trustees and guardians to ensure that our descendants inherit a healthy planet. We must make our hopes a reality for them.



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For the Birds



By Jane Heintzman

As always, the summer has passed at the speed of light, and the colourful, song-filled world of breeding birds that surrounded us in June has given way to the muted, bird-depleted landscape of fall, with the southbound migration well underway and many species disappearing for another season.

More than three quarters of all the bird species found in Canada spend over half the year outside of the country, braving the daunting perils of the migratory journey. These range from loss of habitat in the birds' stopover areas and wintering grounds, to pollution; collisions with towers, windows and power lines; unregulated hunting in some countries, and climate change. Such a pervasive scourge has led to increasingly violent weather en route, and a growing misalignment between migration times and food availability. Perhaps not surprisingly, a recent study found that bird population declines have been most dramatic among species that migrate farthest—between Canada and South America—while it is only in the case of some overwintering species that population numbers are on the rise.

Early Summer

The weeks of late May and June are a glorious interlude

for birders, as nesting activity is in full swing and species identification is delightfully simplified by the bright breeding plumage of the males and the daily round of familiar bird songs; musical clues which—for me at least—are often a critical factor in nailing down the identity of the bird in question. What a contrast to the early fall when molting is underway, colours are muted and muddled, the landscape is riddled with ID-defying immature birds, and there's barely a song to be heard, unless you count the raucous shrieking of the **blue jay**!

The cast of characters in our garden throughout this early summer period included **house finches, purple finches, American goldfinches, song sparrows, chipping sparrows, mourning doves, a pair of least flycatchers, a brown thrasher, a gray catbird, black-capped chickadees, Northern cardinals, downy woodpeckers, red-winged blackbirds, American robins**—including a nesting pair on the ledge over our garden door—and a visiting **Northern shrike**. The latter had obvious designs on the robins' nest, and was about to attack when I caught sight of it while working at my computer and lunged out the door to drive it off. In the end, my defensive actions were all in vain as the robins ultimately abandoned the nest, which to all appearances was entirely empty. Better luck next year!

In our rambles around Rockcliffe and in Stanley Park in early summer, we encountered an abundance of **great-crested flycatchers** belting



Photo: Daphnée Dubouchet-Olscheski, "The Elmwood Blogger" Great Blue Heron.

out their signature "**FWEEP**" from the treetops, **red-eyed vireos, Eastern phoebes, gray catbirds, chipping sparrows, red-winged blackbirds, Canada geese** (by the score...), **black ducks, mallards**, several **great blue herons** on the Rideau River, a variety of **warbler** species, including **American redstarts, yellow warblers, yellow-rumped warblers**, and **common yellowthroats**.

Perhaps the highlight of the early summer was the discovery of a nesting pair of **Baltimore orioles** in Stanley Park at the bend in the river in the dog park. The species was apparently so named due to its brilliant orange and black plumage, the colours of the heraldic crest of England's Baltimore family, for whom

the American city was named. In addition to its summer insect diet, the Baltimore oriole is a voracious fruit eater, preferring darker, riper fruit, which it plucks from heavily laden bushes and vines. The nest is a dangling, sock-like affair, woven from grasses, grapevine bark, horsehair and random other materials, with the eggs lodged in a bulging chamber in the bottom of the sock. Sadly, we have not succeeded in spotting it yet, but perhaps when all the leaves are down, we'll have better luck.

Georgian Bay

As in the sizzling Ottawa Valley, the month of July in Georgian Bay was an endless stretch of hot dry days, and we watched in helpless alarm as the vegetation on our island—including my prized blueberry bushes—gradually withered, shriveled up and died. One notable effect of the drought was to shrink the insect population dramatically, a fact which in turn resulted in a greatly reduced population of **warblers** and other insect eating bird species.

While we did encounter many of the usual suspects in the course of the summer, for the most part they were considerably fewer in number, and their presence was only intermittent. On hand in our immediate vicinity were **song sparrows, white-throated sparrows, red-eyed vireos**, large numbers of **blue jays, Eastern phoebes, tree swallows**, mixed flocks of **black-capped chickadees** and **yellow-rumped warblers**, a **worm-eating warbler** signal-

ing its presence with a call like a dentist's drill, **common yellowthroats**, an **ovenbird**, **downy woodpeckers, Eastern kingbirds, Common loons, common mergansers**, including dawdling processions of mothers with their ducklings, numerous **black ducks**, a lovely little female **bufflehead**, **great blue herons** (prevalent in August, though nowhere to be seen in July), **belted kingfishers, common ravens** and **common terns** in unusually large numbers.

The common tern is a sleek, aerodynamic creature with white plumage and a striking black cap, and is best known for its daring vertical dives, hitting the water head first at top speed to bag its prey. Though the species was threatened by pesticide use in the 1970s, its numbers have rebounded in recent years, to the point that in our corner of the Bay, its population now rivals that of the ubiquitous **ring-billed gulls** and **double-crested cormorants** that dominate our marine landscape.

To our great delight, the **osprey** nest across the bay was again active this year,



Photo: Louise Imbeault Cedar Waxwing at Macoun Marsh.

and we were able to closely track the growth of the single nestling, and even watch his maiden flight in mid-summer; an exuberant affair which was immediately rewarded by his mother with a sizeable meal brought back to the nest. The downside of our preoccupation with this cozy domestic scene was that at the time of our departure from the cottage in late August, we were greatly distressed to find that the young fledgling was still hanging about the nest, despite the fact all the other osprey in the area had long since begun their annual southbound migration. Not unreasonably, my husband drew the line at my bringing home a massive fish hawk to nurture through the winter, so I

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fear this young one's prospects may be grim.

One notable and much lamented absentee this year was the **wood thrush**, which in recent years has greeted us with its haunting, flute-like song from the heavily-wooded interior of a large island close to our cottage. In the early part of the 20th century, the wood thrush was among the most common forest birds in North America, but in Canada, its population has dropped by nearly 70% over the past 40 years, largely as a result of habitat loss in both its breeding range and in its wintering grounds in Central America.

Bad Hair Days: Its Molting Season

In the latter part of the summer, when the breeding season is definitively over for most species, many of the birds in our environs were well launched into their seasonal molt. "Bad hair days" seemed a frequent occurrence, particularly noticeable among the crested birds such as **blue jays** and **cardinals** whose normally sleek top knots looked increasingly like feathery dust mops.

The molt also poses a challenge to identification in the **duck** world, where many species lose all their flight feathers at once, leaving them temporarily more vulnerable to predators. The duller "eclipse plumage" which replaces the ducks' bright breeding plumage serves in part as camouflage for the flightless critters, but can also make it tricky for the birder to sort out who's who. By late August, a group of **black ducks**, which frequented the inlets of a large nearby island, had acquired rusty-coloured breasts in their eclipse plumage phase; a transformation that I confess occasioned a quick dive into our field guides in search of a new mystery species!

The State of Canada's Birds: www.stateofcanadasbirds.org

Last spring, a comprehensive overview, *The State of Canada's Birds*, was released by the North American Bird Conservation Initiative Canada (NACBI Canada), drawing on 40 years of data from both professional and citizen scientists. The report was prepared for the NACBI by a who's who of ornithological experts from Bird Studies Canada, Environment Canada, Nature Canada, the Nature Conservancy of Canada, Ducks Unlimited Canada, and numerous other organizations with a stake in wildlife conservation.

The report is available online

at www.stateofcanadasbirds.org and is well worth reading if you're an interested birder. Among its key findings are the following:

- On average, Canadian breeding bird populations have declined by 12% since 1970 when effective monitoring began;

- Populations have declined in the case of 44% of Canadian species, while 23% have shown little change, and 33% have increased;

- Aerial insectivores such as swallows and flycatchers have shown the most dramatic population declines, although the exact causes of the decline are not yet clear;

- The populations of grassland birds such as meadowlarks, longspurs and bobolinks have also declined measurably, largely as a result of habitat loss due to agricultural practices;

- Shorebird populations have dropped by almost 50%, with Arctic shorebirds leading the way with a decline of 60%;

- And now the good news! Raptor populations have rebounded strongly thanks to direct conservation measures and the elimination of pesticide use; and

- Waterfowl populations are also on the rise owing to successful wetlands managements and hunting restrictions (in the case of Canada geese, the term "population explosion" comes to mind!)

Reports from Our Readers:

Phil's Avian Bistro

Philip MacAdam's first report came early in the summer when he observed a "rapacious, villainous" (and OK, hungry!) **sharp-shinned hawk** capture and consume a hapless **house finch** munching at one of the bistro's four busy feeders. Later in the summer, Philip was treated to a much pleasanter scene when he watched a brood of little **black-capped chickadees** being fed by their conscientious parents.

His regular visitors have included **cardinals**, **American goldfinches** and **chipping sparrows**, and during the very hot weather, Philip particularly noted the cardinals' obvious enjoyment of bathing in his ceramic bird bath before lunching at the bistro, leading him to conclude that perhaps "I should rename it *Phil's Avian Spa and Bistro!*" Other notable local sightings on Philip's list over the summer were a **ruby-throated hummingbird** checking out a sumac bush; a **downy woodpecker**; and a **white-breasted nuthatch** at one of his feed-

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

ers. On an excursion to Lake of the Woods in Manitoba, he was lucky enough to spot three **bald eagles** and an eagle's nest, along with an assortment of **cedar waxwings**, **Northern flickers** and **black-capped chickadees**.

Macoun Marsh

Our principal bird-spotter at the Macoun Marsh, St. Laurent Academy Science Teacher **Mike Leveillé**, managed to photograph a baby **Virginia rail**—"as shy as it gets" in the bird world, as Mike noted! Among his other interesting sightings was a **chestnut-sided warbler**, a first in his experience at the Marsh.

NEN Photographer **Louise Imbeault** also had some fruitful birding excursions at the Marsh, spotting a female **red-winged blackbird** with a fledgling; a **song sparrow**; two gray catbirds; a juvenile **American Robin**; a **cedar waxwing**; and an **American goldfinch**, still in his brilliant breeding plumage. (See Louise's separate article on the impact of this summer's drought on life at the Marsh.)

Amy Jane Lawes

In addition to the **common loons** and **ruby-throated hummingbirds** she encountered in June, and much to the delight of her parents visiting from England, Amy had excellent luck spotting **herons** in our neighbourhood, and managed to photograph a **great blue heron** and a **green heron**. She also encountered several **black-crowned night herons**, but needless to say, the failing light at dusk (their feeding time) ruled out the chance of a decent photo. Amy was delighted to spot 5 fledgling **cedar waxwings** near the Rideau Falls, making "a heck of a racket" and earning the Ugly Duckling label with their scruffy, unkempt plumage.

Dave Collyer

From his new home in central Alberta, **Dave Collyer** reports a bounty of summer visitors, including large numbers of **yellow warblers**, **warbling vireos**, **mourning doves**, **American goldfinches**, **rose-breasted grosbeaks**, **Baltimore orioles**, **clay-coloured sparrows**, **tree swallows**, **Brewer's blackbirds**, **brown-headed cowbirds**, **Northern flickers**, **yellow-bellied sapsuckers**, **ruby-throated hummingbirds**, **house wrens**, **black-capped nuthatches**, **blue jays**, **gray catbirds**, **American robins**, a **Western meadowlark**, **mountain bluebirds**, **song sparrows**, **savannah sparrows**,



Photo: Amy Jane Lawes

Green Heron fishing.

vesper sparrows and a **great blue heron**. In the waterfowl department, Dave has had nesting **mallards**, **gadwalls** and a **sora rail** in the slough on his property.

Vicki Metcalfe

Vicki Metcalfe had a recent close encounter with an apparently injured **merlin** which advanced almost to her back door step before retreating to the lane when she approached it. Later in the summer, Vicki had an epic birding adventure in Maine and Grand Manan, N.B. which is featured in a separate article.

Daphnée Dubouchet-Olscheski

We're delighted to welcome a new birding reporter, **Daphnée Dubouchet-Olscheski**, (aka **The Elmwood Scoop Blogger**: check out www.blog.elmwood.ca).

Daphnée sent two marvelous photos of a **Great Blue Heron** she spotted several times during the summer, patiently fishing in the Rideau River in my neck of the woods close to Charles Street and Stanley Avenue. Many thanks Daphnée!

— R. S. Property Management —

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CELADON salon & spa

We are very pleased to welcome Isabel Velez to the CELADON team.

Isabel, who hails from Ecuador where she was twice voted **Stylist of the Year**, has over 20 years experience in the hair design business.

A graduate of **Vidal Sassoon Academies** in New York and Los Angeles, precision cutting and colouring are her passions. Along with marathon running!

Bring in this ad and enjoy **30% off** of your first **full colour or highlight** appointment with Isabel.

373 St. Laurent Blvd. (at Hemlock)
613-746-3500 www.celadonspa.ca

HAIR • SKIN • BODY • NAILS

News from the House

Issue #4

October 1, 2012



Fall Programming

The Crichton Cultural Community Centre (4Cs) has undergone a huge transition in the past several years. We've moved, hired our first Executive Director and added new programs and resources that we hope will help you see the Centre as a place for you, your family and friends.

While many things around us have changed, we are still all about enriching the lives of people in our community. We are a facility that is full of life, an organization that is growing, and an important piece of New Edinburgh history that is still thriving. What would that look like for you? Will you take an art class, enroll your child in afterschool programs, meet some friends for bridge, take a fitness class, or rent a room for a meeting? No matter how you engage with the Crichton Cultural Community Centre, we hope it adds to the way you and our whole community come together.

Registration for our fall programs is now open. We have a variety of programs available for infants, children, youth and adults. For infants, children and youth we offer programs such as Playgroup, Introduction to Guitar, Hip Hop, Martial Arts, Visual Art classes and Drama. For Adults, we offer programs

such as Digital Photography, Figure Drawing, Acrylic & Oil Painting, Print Making, Drawing & Watercolour, Yoga classes and a wide variety of Fitness programs.

We hope you take a look at our **2012 Fall Program Guide**. It is an exciting time for the 4Cs as we become more visible and more deeply engaged in the New Edinburgh community. If there is a program or course that you would like to see at the 4Cs, we want to know! Please email us at info@crichtonccc.ca.

OMG! – FRIDAY NIGHT IN THE BURGH!

Starting this fall, the 4Cs will be hosting a special event each Friday night at Memorial Hall, located at 39 Dufferin Road. From NFB Movie Nights to Family Zumba parties, to community gatherings, to theatre productions, to salsa dancing, New Edinburgh is the place to be!

October 5 Community Thanksgiving Potluck

Bring a dish of food to share, community cheer and a donation to the Ottawa Food Bank. There will be entertainment, a 50/50 draw and door prizes.

October 12 Playback Theatre

In Playback Theatre perfor-

Congratulations to Ellen Goodman!

Congratulations to Ellen Goodman who was awarded a Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal for her tireless work on behalf of the Crichton Cultural Community Centre (4Cs). Ellen was among the original moving spirits behind the 4Cs, which was established twelve years ago in an effort to save the former Crichton Public School as a public facility and a centre for community life. Despite the now legendary obstacles encountered in the organization's first decade, Ellen's commitment to the project has remained unwavering, and she is widely recognized as the heart and soul of the 4Cs, a passionate advocate and defender, an intrepid fundraiser, an imaginative and energetic programmer, and a support and inspiration to all of her friends and colleagues.

While Ellen has officially retired from the 4Cs Board, she will remain very much involved as an Advisor, and as founder of a Special

which she hopes to launch in early 2013. We wish her well in her travels to India this winter and thank her for her incalculable contribution



Photo: Carol West

From Left - Right Bethann Robin, Madeline Meilleur, Ellen Goodman

Needs Sub-Committee of the Programming Committee,

to the life of our community. Her award is richly deserved!

mances, stories are told live by volunteering audience members and then immediately re-enacted through the artistry of the ensemble's actors and musician.
7 – 8 pm

October 19 Literary for Literacy

The 4Cs in partnership with the Alternative Learning Styles and Outlooks (ALSO) family literacy program are hosting a LITERARY FOR LITERACY series starting in the fall. Authors are invited to donate a reading evening in New Edinburgh House to raise funds for family literacy and local arts programs. We are delighted that acclaimed local novelists Frances Itani and Alan Cumyn will be our first authors in the series, providing an evening for families and their children.
6 – 10 pm

October 26 Flick or Treat Movie Night

Films: The Apprentice, Batmilk, From Far Away, Land of Heads, La Salla, the Tender Tale of Cinderella Penguin, Sleeping Betty, Francis the Valiant, Molly in Springtime (and if we have time, Old Weird Harold, Blackberry Subway Jam, and The Dingles).
7 pm

November 2 Learn to Salsa!

The Salsa night activity is designed for absolute Salsa beginners. You will learn very basic footwork. The class will introduce you to basics of leading and following, Salsa music and timing. At the end of the

night you will be able to dance a short and simple routine. The goal of this activity is to allow participants to just feel the rhythm and move. Bring a friend and have a relaxing and fun time!!!
7:30 - 9pm, \$15/person

November 9 Family Zumba Night

Family Zumba Night will be held from 6-7:30pm on November 9th. Zumba is a fitness class that fuses international dance rhythms with easy to follow moves. This activity is designed for children, parents and grandparents. Everybody is invited!!
\$20/family or \$5/person

November 16 Family Movie Night

Enjoy the fall with a family movie night! Bring your blankets, pillows and get comfy for our family feature presentation! Canteen will also be open. (Movie selection will be announced on our website in early November.)
7 – 9 pm

November 23 British Comedy Movie Night

Featuring Comedy sketches from Tommy Cooper, Richard Hearne, Stanley Holloway, Max Wall, Norman Evans, Roy Kinnear, Harry Secombe, Michael Bentine, Spike Milligan, Peter Sellers, Peter Cook, Dudley Moore, Terry Thomas and of course the gang from Monty Python. Doors open at 6:30 pm.

November 30 Night of Dance

We are pleased to present the

2nd annual Night of Dance. Appearing this year are contemporary acts that have been featured around Ottawa and beyond. Stay tuned for more details.
7 – 9 pm

December 7 Community Holiday Party – Volunteer Recognition

New Edinburgh's Volunteer Recognition Awards highlight the efforts of community volunteers and lets them know their efforts are appreciated. If you or someone you know volunteers in the community, you won't want to miss this great event, which includes a special reception, entertainment and door prizes!
7 – 9 pm

SATURDAY, December 8 Homage to Leonard Cohen Movie Night

Following his concert in Ottawa, come out to celebrate one of Canada's most renowned poets, songwriter and singer with screenings of works by and about him, from animation to documentary and fictional narrative.
7 – 9 pm

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.

**Visit The 4Cs
Online!**

crichtonccc.ca



The 4Cs Get Together with Technology Program (GTT)

Technology, Resources, and Training for People in the National Capital Region who are Blind or have Low Vision

The GTT Program offers exciting new opportunities for people who are blind or have low vision to engage with accessible technology through consumer-driven training, hands-on experience with new technology, individualized and group skill development, and peer leadership and mentoring.

People of all ages and abilities can attend including users unfamiliar with specific equipment, those with preliminary training on equipment or requiring troubleshooting on familiar equipment, and more experienced users wanting information on updates, new equipment and apps.

The GTT coordinators

Kim Kilpatrick is an access technology trainer, workshop leader, music therapist and professional storyteller who is totally blind. She has worked in a wide variety of settings with people of all ages and abilities, including those who are blind or have low vision.

Ellen Goodman is a retired teacher of students with visual impairment with over 30 years experience supporting people who are blind or have low vision. She has been coordinating the Get Together program since its creation in 2006.

GTT PROGRAMS 2012-13

Apple Store Orientation Sessions

This hands-on workshop will provide a basic introduction to Apple products, services and the Apple store. Sessions will be created to meet specific group needs and schedules, and will be facilitated by Apple and GTT staff.

Location: Rideau Centre Apple

Store

Fee: \$10 per hour per user

Group Training on Accessible Technology

These workshops will provide demonstrations on a wide variety of accessible technology.

Sessions will be created to meet specific group needs and schedules and will be facilitated by GTT staff and / or guest presenters.

Location and Date: To Be Arranged

Fee: \$10 per hour per user

Monthly Technology Sharing Group

6 – 8 pm

3rd Monday of each month (Oct. 15, Nov. 19, Dec. 17...)

Come and share your expertise and learn from others who are blind or have low vision, to get the most out of tech devices. BYOT (bring your own technology) if you wish.

Location: Crichton Cultural Community Centre, Memorial Hall, 39 Dufferin Rd, Ottawa.

Fee: No charge

One to One Training

These sessions will assist individuals with their accessible technology. Trainers will have personal experience and training with this equipment.

Location and Date: To Be Arranged

Fee: \$10 per hour

Drop-in Technology Support

Need additional support to practice what you are learning? Attend a drop-in session with others to get help from a trained facilitator.

Location and Date: To Be Arranged

Fee: \$10 per hour

To Register for Any of These Courses: Email gtt@crichtonccc.ca or phone 613-745-2742.

RENTAL SPACE AVAILABLE

There are several spaces for rent at the Crichton Cultural Community Centre.

In our main building, the New Edinburgh House at 255 Mackay Street, we have two attractive spaces available:

- the Community Room, a lovely, light-filled space on the ground floor.

- the Attic Space is a cozy, wood-lined room on the top floor.

We also have studio spaces that can be used for office space or as art studios.

Feel free to contact us for further details at suehall@crichtonccc.ca or at 613-745-2742.

Henry Avery: History Comes Alive at New Edinburgh House

Crichton Cultural Community Centre (4Cs) Administrator Kiki Cliff had a delightful surprise as she welcomed visitors to New Edinburgh House in the course of the Doors Open Ottawa weekend in June. A lively older lady arrived with two of her adult children and began rummaging in her hand bag for what turned out to be mementoes of her great grandfather Henry ("Harry") Avery. Harry was a cabinetmaker for New

Edinburgh founder Thomas MacKay and the contractor who built New Edinburgh House! Our visitor, Mrs. Beverley Avery Love, mentioned too that her grandfather, Henry Clinton Avery, had also worked on the house.

Mrs. Love not only produced a photograph of her great grandfather and his wife, she also showed Kiki a tiny framed piece of embroidery he had made as a child, with a date inscription of 1845. Kiki

managed to get photographs of the memorabilia and of Mrs. Love herself with her daughter and son, Shauna and Bruce Love, seated under the picture of the former Manse.

Kiki also captured for the NEH archives a photo of Mrs. Avery between the two Ministers who had played a major role in her life—Dr. P.W. Anderson, who baptized her in New Edinburgh House, and Dr. John McKay, who officiated at her wedding in MacKay United Church. New Edinburgh's history is alive and well at the 4Cs' much cherished new home in New Edinburgh House! Stay tuned for more stories in future issues of the NEN.



Photo: Kiki Cliff

Beverley Avery Love, great granddaughter of Henry Avery, builder of New Edinburgh House, with son and daughter Bruce and Shauna Love.

Fun WorX on PD Days & March Break

A full day recreation program for children affected by school closures due to PD days for the Ottawa Catholic School Board, Ottawa Carleton District School Board and Le Conseil des écoles publiques de L'Est de L'Ontario

Le Conseil des écoles publiques de l'Est de l'Ontario

- Vendredi 27 Aout, 28 sept, 16 nov, 25 Jan, 7 Juin, 21 Juin
- March Break - March 11 – 15

Ottawa Carlton District School Board

- Friday Oct 5, Nov 16, Jan 18, Feb 15, Jun 7, Jun 27
- March Break - March 11 – 15

Ottawa Catholic School Board

- Friday Oct 5, Nov 16, Jan 18, Apr 26, Jun 7, Jun 27
- March Break - March 11 – 15

Fees

- \$40 per day or \$185 for your choice of any 6 full day sessions per child.
- \$200 for March Break Camp



All programming is designed for ages 4-12 years.

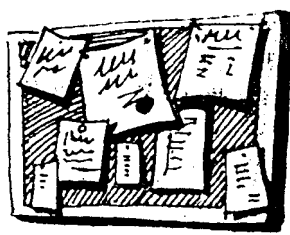
Crichton Cultural Community Centre

255 Mackay Street - 613 745 2742



Register online at www.crichtonccc.ca

info@crichtonccc.ca



Burgh Bulletin Board

OCTOBER EVENTS

Fri., Oct 12, 7:30 pm

CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT: A beautiful evening in support of The Leading Note Foundation and OrKidstra. Music of Schubert, Beethoven and Franck will be performed with cellist Margaret Tobolowska, pianist Parv Eshghi and violinist Leah Roseman. Please join us at Mackay United Church, 39 Dufferin Road. Tickets will be available at the door \$20 and \$10 for students. All proceeds from the concert will help give Ottawa's children from under-served communities the opportunity to learn and make music together.

Wed., Oct 17, 7 pm

NECA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at St. Bartholomew's Church...

Sun., Oct 21, 5 pm

TAKE A VETERAN TO DINNER NIGHT at Tudor Hall in Ottawa. Cocktails will be available starting at 5 pm with dinner following at 6 pm. This non-partisan event is simply an opportunity for community members to personally thank area veterans and their spouses by treating them to dinner. That is, a host buys a veteran's ticket as well as their own and both host and veteran attend the dinner together. We encourage hosts to invite veteran and spouse couples when appropriate. Tickets are \$50 per person (but there is no cost for veterans and their spouses) and the evening will include an introduction of veterans in attendance, a dinner, a guest speaker and much reminiscing. For more information about this event, please visit www.veteransdinner.ca. Hosts and honourees may call 613-239-4035 to order tickets.

Wed., Oct 24

ECO-GALA, Ottawa's environmental networking annual event will take place at St. Elias Banquet Centre, 750 Ridgewood Avenue. Join the 400+ concerned citizens and environmental leaders. Learn more, or purchase tickets at <http://ecologyottawa.ca/eco-gala-dinner/>, or call 613-860-5353.

Fri., Oct 26, 6:45 pm

THE KIWANIS CLUB OF OTTAWA WEST is holding its Fifth Annual Yuk Yuk's Comedy Night at the Ron Kolbus Lakeside Centre. All proceeds will go to support Christie Lake Kids. Tickets are \$35 and can be obtained by calling 613-787-9977. The evening features professional comedians Martha Chaves, Jeff Elliott and Jen Grant, cash bar, door prizes, 50/50 draw and Newport Restaurant pizza for purchase.

Sat., Oct 27 & Sun., Oct 28

NOTRE DAME CATHEDRAL BAZAAR - Baking, books, crafts, knitting, treasures, knickknacks, tea room, white elephant. Entrance 50 Guigues St. Sat. 9 am - 4 pm. Sun. 9 am - 2 pm. Free parking - Parent St. lot. For more information, call 613-241-7496.

Sun., Oct 28, Dusk

HALLOWEEN HOWL at Stanley Park. See article on Page 30.

NOVEMBER EVENTS

Fri., Nov 2 - Sun., Nov 4

ROCKCLIFFE PARK BOOK FAIR - Now in its 51st year, at Queen Juliana Hall (Rockcliffe Park Public School gymnasium). Used books, games, and more! Visit www.rockcliffebookfair.com for more information and hours. See article on page 19.

Sat., Nov 3, 1 - 4:30 pm

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S ANNUAL BAZAAR AND TEA ROOM. You'll find a great selection of books, jewellery, attic treasures, toys, and baked goods. And don't forget our most well-known tradition: afternoon tea and sandwiches in the Tea Room! For more information: www.stbartsottawa.ca/events.html.

Sun., Nov 4, 4 pm

KIDS HELPING KIDS CONCERT at Mackay United Church. See article on page 28.

Fri., Nov 9 - Sun., Nov 11

HOMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS TOUR - Join the 10th anniversary tour in support of The Hospice at May Court. Visit six Ottawa homes in the Glebe, Manotick and Rockcliffe Park decorated for the holidays as well as the

gift boutique and coffee shop. Tickets (\$40) available starting September 14 at www.hospicemaycourt.com.

DECEMBER EVENTS

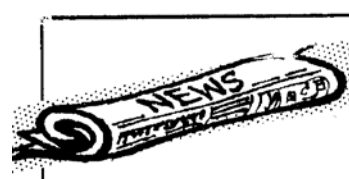
Sun., Dec 2, 3 pm

OTTAWA BRAHMS CHOIR 'In Dulci Jubilo' Christmas concert at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 2345 Alta Vista Drive, with new director: Denise Hawkins and Accompanist: Ioulia Blinova. Contact: 613-749-2391 or 819-568-8169. www.ottawabrahmschoir.ca.

ONGOING EVENTS

THE NEW EDINBURGH CHILDREN'S COMMUNITY CHOIR begins its third season of music on September 19, once again under the able direction of Dr. Erika Tanner. Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 6 to 6:45 pm at St. John Lutheran Church (beside MCA, the middle school on Crichton St.) The choir is open to youth aged 8+. No audition required. Music ranges from folk songs to musicals to popular songs. The choir meets at the church but it is not a church choir. Each year, the children perform in a concert and there is a great potluck dinner after the show. The fee is \$125 for the entire season from September to May, and \$75 for siblings. (Subsidies are available in confidence.) Registration forms will be available at the first rehearsal but if you have any questions, or would like to have more detailed information about the choir emailed to you, please contact Erin Anderssen at eanderssen@globeandmail.com.

OTTAWA BRAHMS CHOIR under new direction of Denise



Classified Ads

RATES: \$10, first 25 words; \$5, each additional 25 words, payable on submission of ad. Public service ads (such as lost & found) free. Call Cindy Parkanyi, 745-8734 or email newednews@hotmail.com.

DOG/CAT WALKING AND SITTING Your house plants are also safe with me!. Emergency and regular daily walking. References. Liba Bender: 613-746-4884.

HOUSECLEANING by longtime Burgh resident. Good references in neighbourhood. Available immediately. 613-744-8449.

Hawkins welcomes new members for an exciting new season. Rehearsals every Monday, starting Monday, September 10, from 7-9:30 pm at Southminster United Church, "Parlour Room", in Old Ottawa South on Aylmer/Bank Streets. No choral experience required. Theme for Christmas concert: "In Dulci Jubilo"; for spring concert: "Down the Blue Danube." For further information on dates of concerts please refer to www.ottawabrahmschoir.ca; contact info. 613-749-2391 or 819-568-8169.

CROSSING GUARDS NEEDED at two locations currently unstaffed by crossing guards, one for St. Brigid's Catholic School on Maple Lane and Springfield,

and the other at Rockcliffe Park Public School on Mariposa and Springfield. The Adult Crossing Guard program is made up of dedicated individuals who are committed to safety. The team is comprised of stay-at-home parents, retirees and self-employed individuals. They are not volunteers; they are paid employees of the Ottawa Safety Council. The OSC provides all of our crossing guards with on-site training, training in CPR and First Aid, Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities training, and provides all the equipment required. Our employees are screened to ensure they can work with the vulnerable sector. Contact Kathleen Cameron at 613-238-1513 ext. 224.



DEADLINE

for the next edition of the
New Edinburgh News

November 10

newednews@hotmail.com



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Paul Denys

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In Our Midst Louise Imbeault



Local WETLAND Dry but Alive!

It has been a bizarre summer to say the least. Do you remember back in March when a two-week hot spell gave us an early taste of welcomed heat? Well it gave me a clue that the weather wasn't going to follow the norm this year. After listening to a farmer's report on television, I wasn't surprised to hear that the local apple crops might be low due to the early onset of heat. Prognosis: Ontario would be buying their apples from British Columbia.

point.

One of these fires made my heart skip a beat. The Moodie Drive blaze came way too close to engulfing *The Wildlife Bird Sanctuary*. The verdict was unanimous, Ontario is facing a drought and we are all impacted one way or another. The scarce vital natural resource we take for granted — **water** — had become a stranger in our parts. Ironically, the Western provinces saw more than their fair share of this precious commodity. But for us, "*when will the rain come?*" was the question of the day, every day.



Photo: Mike Leveillé

Baby Virginia Rail at Macoun Marsh.

As the heat in the following months kept increasing and no substantial amount of rain was in the forecast, June and July proved to be the driest months in recent memory. Personally, I found the humidity brutal, the strong UV rays intolerable at times, and the bad air quality brought no relief at home (I have no A/C; just a few fans).

Daily water conservation warnings came on the local news so I watched my poor flower garden become increasingly stressed out. "Tinder dry" the newscasters said, and the smallest spark could set ablaze homes, properties and green spaces in our area. Sadly, they were right and many fires did in fact break out in and around the city. It was a dramatic time for the Emergency Services staff and volunteers who relentlessly scrambled to put out as many fires as possible, stretching the manpower and resources almost to a breaking

We needed a deluge to save the crops, provide nourishment to the wildlife, the birds and the crops, not forgetting our own consumption needs. Finally, a long anticipated storm arrived. It was July 23. The jubilation was short lived—it was too little, too late! By then, many gardens were fried, creeks and streams exposed their naked beds, and the trees were totally exhausted. And so were we.

Saddened by this trend and its environmental impact, I turned my attention to a local and fragile eco-system called **Macoun Marsh**. For several weeks during the summer, I observed the consequences of the drought on this local wetland situated in the Beechwood Cemetery at the St-Laurent Blvd entrance between Hemlock Road and Cardinal Glen.

Camera in hand, I meticulously examined the area and was shocked at first glance, to see there was only one quarter

of the water left in the marsh, exposing a muddy bed of earth. It was almost completely dried up. Stunned at this awful sight, I made my way toward the observation deck and sat quietly in disbelief.

I saw only a few black ducks in the marsh. They were clumped together on a small mound of grass in less than 1.5 feet of water; a child's yellow sand bucket to one side; debris slumped over clumps of bull-rushes on the other. This was truly a disheartening spectacle. Thinking out loud, I said: "*it would take at least 10 cistern trucks of water just to make a dent in replenishing this area, or a whole month of solid rain might bring back the marsh to its initial glory.*" Suddenly my thoughts were interrupted by the sound of a snapping twig on the path; someone was coming.

What a pleasant surprise to see it was **Mike Leveillé**, one of the curators and a science teacher who works diligently to record, photograph, promote and educate people about Macoun Marsh. His expertise and trained eye helped me focus on another perspective on the condition of the area, a perspective which greatly consoled me.

Although the area seemed devastated to the untrained eye, there was in fact life everywhere (other than the lonely ducks). Most species make the best of any situation even in drought conditions. Mike pointed out many birds around us such as Robins, Cedar waxwings, Catbirds, Black-capped Chickadees, Cardinals, Goldfinches and even a female Blackbird feeding a fledgling. Quickly I photographed as many as I could.

Then, as we walked and talked, a groundhog propped his head as if to say: "who goes there"? There were plenty of Dragonflies, Damselflies, Skimmers, Grasshoppers and even a few well hidden Painted Turtles sunning themselves nearby. Wow, at first glance I hadn't seen any of these creatures. Mike surely put a smile back on my face as I realized how nature is so well equipped to cope with drastic changes in climate and survive.

I am very grateful for the privilege of meeting Mr. Leveillé that day, and I thank him for expanding my knowledge on biodiversity. He showed me first hand that even a fragile eco-system like the Macoun Marsh wetland can and does beat the odds against Mother Nature's capricious moods. (See article on biodiversity on page 24 of this edition.)

I returned for a visit on Labour Day after a few rain-falls to observe that the marsh had even less water (only 8 inches). Needless to say, the Black ducks had departed and grass has started to grow on the Marsh floor.

For more information please visit: biodiversitymatters.org/projects_macoun.html or beechwoodcemetery.com/macoun-marsh.html and to view more photos, visit my gallery at: louiseimbeault.webs.com.

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FAREWELL

A farewell party was given by **Bryan and Susan King** for **Josh King, Charlie Woodcock** and **Laura Jarecsni** (Noel St) who all left the neighbourhood in September. Josh has gone to Trent, Laura is at McGill, and Charlie is volunteering in Nicaragua with Youth Challenge International.



Photo: John Jarecsni

Noel Street Farewell Party.

After decades of living in New Edinburgh and contributing to the community by way of the Crichton Community Council, the Stanley Park skating rink, the Boy Scouts of Canada, the infamous Burgh Garage Sale, the Hardys of 369 Mackay Street are moving to Orleans to be closer to their grandchildren. Long time Burghers **Jill and Roger Hardy** will be heading east on October 31 as Jill has found her dream home after "30 years of house hunting."

BABY NEWS

Richard Kennedy and **Jennifer Menzies** (Ivy Crescent) are very proud to announce the birth of their baby girl **Grace Evelyn Kennedy** on August 7 at 10:49 am. She weighed in at 8 pounds/ 9 ounces and measured a full 20 inches! Mom, Dad and baby are healthy and doing well. They thank everyone for all of their support as they begin this new journey!

Congratulations to **Dara Lithwick** and **Marci Surkes**

on the arrival of baby boy, **Jake**. Marci was even able to get her Friends of the Park column in on time for this edition! Kudos!

WELCOME & WELCOME BACK

Juliana, Parissa and **Sanda** have moved from River Lane to Ivy Crescent. Welcome to Ivy!

Rene, Saraswati and **Kiran** moved to Ivy Crescent from Lowertown earlier this spring. They are enjoying the pace of life in the Burgh now that they have finished their renovations. Welcome to New Edinburgh!

Welcome to **Jane Davis** who recently moved into the neighbourhood, and in the true spirit of the Burgh, acquired an enchanting puppy **Barney** to join the fun in the dog park.

After seven years abroad in Brazil and in Trinidad and Tobago, DFAIT employee **Karen McDonald** and her husband **Bruce White** returned to their Crichton St. home on October 2. They look forward to seeing their neighbours and friends again, taking long evening strolls along the river, and restoring their backyard garden to its former loveliness. And despite the rust in their swings, they'll soon be seen trying their hardest on the courts at the Rideau Tennis Club.



Grace Evelyn Kennedy

DOG NEWS

Condolences to **Joan Mason** and **Tony Roth** on the death of their beloved Great Dane **Prospero**. Prospero was

a well known and regal presence in the dog park, and will be greatly missed by his many friends and acquaintances, both human and canine.

CONGRATULATIONS

It's birthday time in the **Iles** house on Noel. **Madeleine, Charlotte** and **Mike** are all celebrating in September. Happy Birthday all!!

Congratulations to **Larry Delaney** who received the Hank Smith Award of Excellence at the Canadian Country Music Awards (CCMA) 2012 gala. Larry has long been affectionately known as "the voice of country music in Canada", and is the 11 time recipient of the CCMA Person of the Year Award. For over 30 years, Larry published The Country Music News from his home in New Edinburgh until finally deciding to call it quits earlier this year in the wake of a major shift in the industry towards electronic media. Well done Larry: we're happy to see an outstanding record of achievement so splendidly acknowledged!

Friends and family will be helping to celebrate **Sarah Anson-Cartwright's** 50 years on the planet at a "Salon" on Avon Lane sometime in October. Happy Birthday, Sarah!

THANK YOU

The family of the late **Raymond Dubuc** would like to thank their wonderful Vaughan St. neighbours who collected money to plant a tree in Raymond's name. It was much appreciated.

Thanks to **Jaime Opazo** and **Aidan Opazo-Baer** (of Electric Street) for providing a great soccer training camp throughout the summer for budding young players. Tough drills in Stanley Park every Wednesday of the summer!

Young **David Hudson** (and family) of Bertrand St. were victims of the Beechwood Fire. They greatly appreciated the assistance the community provided them during their crisis. David participated in the garage sale Saturday getting rid of many of his outgrown toys and such. In all, he sold over \$200 and he insisted the family donate \$25 back to the community. Who says kindness doesn't pay?

PLAYGROUP

Parent/caregiver and child Cooperative playgroup Mondays and Fridays 9:30-11:30 at Mackay United



Painting by Martha Markowsky

Commissioned by Marla Tonon, this painting was presented to her husband, **André**, back in June of this year. In the painting, you see **André** along with his grandfather, **Arturo**, looking at the restaurant located on Beechwood. Martha will be exhibiting other works at OTTAWA ART EXPO, October 26 - 28 at the St. Elias Centre, off Riverside Drive.

Church Memorial Hall, 39 Dufferin. Ages 0-5 yrs. For more info contact Crichton Cultural Community Centre 613-745-2742.

HALLOWEEN HOWL

Volunteers needed for Halloween Howl at Stanley park Fieldhouse Sunday Oct 28 3-5:30 pm. Come out and help the kids (and Seniors at Governors Walk) have a great time. Email Roxie at roxan-clark@hotmail.com.

CONDOLENCES

Eleanor Galambos passed away peacefully in her 75th year, at Governor's Walk Retirement Residence on Stanley Avenue on November 15, 2011. Eleanor will be missed by her family – her husband, Ted, daughter Jennifer (Robert Feutlinske), her sons Nicholas (Robert Mundie)

and Paul as well as her sister Marion Everett of Montreal. She was a proud grandmother to Tyler and Connor Feutlinske. Many thanks to her friends at Governor's Walk as well as the staff who made her last two and a half years there most enjoyable.

Our deepest sympathies to **Herb Boutilier** (Vaughan) on the death of his daughter, **Carolle Haley**, who passed away unexpectedly on June 12, 2012. Carolle was raised on Vaughan St and was a frequent visitor from her home in Barrie.

New Edinburgh artist **Gordon Harrison** is sad to announce the passing of his mother, **Alison Harrison**, on August 4. Alison was a major influence in Gordon's life and encouraged him to paint from an early age. She will be deeply missed.



Photo: Andrew Hamelin

Team photo for a youth soccer group that local dad, **Jaime Opazo**, ran for New Edinburgh kids over the summer, to fill the gap between spring teams and hockey season,