

October 2020

# NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

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**NEW EDINBURGH COMMUNITY ALLIANCE**

**Annual General Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 28 at 7 pm**  
**To be held virtually.**  
**Visit [newedinburgh.ca](http://newedinburgh.ca) for details.**

All New Edinburgh residents welcome.



## Coming in 2023: Minto Beechwood II

By Jane Heintzman

Plans for Minto's second major development on Beechwood Avenue have advanced significantly since our last report in June.

Broadly speaking, it will be a mixed-use U-shaped building. The side facing Beechwood Avenue will be nine floors tall, while the Barrette side will only be six stories (with a partial seventh floor, not visible from the street). On both the Beechwood and Barrette sides, the floors above the fourth floor will be stepped in, reducing the building's impact from street level.

A rezoning application for the site has been submitted to the City Planning Department, and full project details are now posted on [ottawa.ca/devapps](http://ottawa.ca/devapps) – check File D02-02-20-0066.

Minto Beechwood II (“for

lack of a better name,” quips Minto's **Kevin Harper**) covers a large chunk of property from **78–88 Beechwood Ave.** between Loyer and St. Charles Streets (the stretch bounded by the Quickie mall and the former El Meson heritage house), and extends south through the block to cover **69–93 Barrette St.**

Highlights of the project include:

- approximately 250 residential units ranging from studios to two-bedroom plus den, in all probability rental units as opposed to condos;
- a two-level underground parking garage with 159 vehicle parking spaces and 129 bicycle parking spaces, accessed from Barrette Street;
- a landscaped entry plaza on Beechwood, with seating areas;

**Continued on page 6**



Photo by Alexander McKenzie

NECTAR hosted a series of eight outdoor concerts this summer, featuring a variety of musical styles.

## Music lovers enjoyed Porch Light concerts

By Isobel Bisby

NECTAR was proud to host outdoor concerts in the front garden at 255 MacKay St. this summer.

The garden has proven to be a perfect location for small outdoor events, with enough space to allow social distancing for the audience under and around the maple tree, while the porch makes a perfect stage for musicians.

NECTAR thanks the musicians for their enthusiasm and participation in these benefit concerts, and the volunteers who made it all happen. The generous donations given by the neighbourhood folks who attended are received with gratitude.

The fundraising focus of

the Porch Light series is important to the NECTAR community, as it will help the organization continue to grow, diversify as an arts organization, provide art studios and community space, and ultimately help establish the organization as an arts-focused multicultural and Indigenous arts centre in a permanent location.

This summer has been difficult for everyone. Not being able to go to the movies, attend summer concerts and theatre (either indoors or out), has been more than hard. The idea of small outdoor concerts seemed like one way that NECTAR could offer the community evenings of live musical entertainment in a safe, outdoor setting. So

it began. Usually held on Friday evenings, we counted between 25 to 45 eager concertgoers each night.

Porch Light provided a wonderfully rich variety of local musical talent spanning the eight concerts.

First there was the **Log Jam Café**, the singalong folk coffeehouse, who used the NECTAR Community Room for the past year for their eclectic musical evenings. For the summer, and because of the pandemic, they moved their musical café outside, mixing storytelling with poetry and music to provide lots of old-time fun.

Next came **Lilie Mae** and **Kevin Echer**, a talented duo who write and perform won-

**Continued on page 18**

## Getting COVID tested: The bother of doing the right thing

By Laura Barnett and Marc d'Orgeville

One Friday in early September, before Ottawa's COVID-19 numbers exploded into a second wave, we kept our children home against their will.

They desperately wanted to go to school (our daughter even cried) but, according to the COVID-19 Screening Tool for School from Ottawa Public Health, they should stay home if a household contact has new COVID-19 symptoms and is waiting for a test result.

Both us parents had a light sore throat and had decided to go get tested. While we knew deep down that getting tested was the right thing to do, we instinctively resisted the idea for a while.

First, we needed to cancel

work stuff and a long-awaited care appointment. We also had to organize going to the testing centre and what to do with our children during that

changes already felt like a little hurdle stacked up against getting tested.

Then there was the coming weekend, which would be

*“The decision to get tested was hard because the personal inconveniences of getting testing were so real.”*

time. We could have gone separately to keep the kids away from the (potentially COVID-infested) testing centre. But to avoid the double waiting time, we ended up having one of us wait in line and the other to join just before registration, while the children waited outside the centre (will they be fine on their own? For how long?). Those small organizational

ruined. Being tested because of symptoms meant self-isolating until the result is known, which can take up to five days!

Our kids' Friday evening movie date with friends from our bubble: cancelled. Our son's final return to his much-loved Saturday camp? Postponed. Our outdoor climbing plans for the after-

**Continued on page 4**

## What's the New Edinburgh Community Alliance?

NECA is the umbrella organization for all residents and community organizations in our neighbourhood. Every resident of New Edinburgh is automatically a member of NECA.

Its mandate is to develop and foster a sense of community among the residents; to research, develop positions and make representations to various levels of government on matters affecting the community; and to coordinate activities between organizations.

NECA's committees include Traffic and Safety, Heritage and Development, Beechwood Development, Park Vision and Environment and Climate Change. It also publishes this newspaper.

The NECA board meets nine times a year, normally on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. (no meetings in July, August or December). Its annual general meeting takes place in October.

Meetings are open to all New Edinburgh residents. Anyone wishing to make a presentation to the board should please contact Cindy Parkanyi in advance at [newedinburgh@outlook.com](mailto:newedinburgh@outlook.com).

Our next meetings will take place **Tuesday, Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m.** and **Tuesday Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m.** Meetings are held virtually on Zoom. Contact [newedinburgh@outlook.com](mailto:newedinburgh@outlook.com) for details.

### Your NECA Representatives 2019-2020

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Learn more at  
[www.newedinburgh.ca](http://www.newedinburgh.ca)

## AGM to take place online Oct. 28, 7 p.m.



**Cindy Parkanyi**  
NECA President

As the leaves begin to turn brilliant colours, thoughts turn to another rite of autumn: the New Edinburgh Community Alliance's Annual General Meeting (AGM). This year will be different, as we continue to follow public health guidelines regarding public gatherings. **The AGM will take place on Oct. 28 at 7 p.m. on Zoom.** The link will be sent out in the regular NECA e-newsletter, on the local listservs and will be posted on the community website [newedinburgh.ca](http://newedinburgh.ca).

We are sad to announce the departure of two members of the NECA board – **Roslyn Butler** is moving out of the neighbourhood (but not too far luckily – just over to Lowertown). Roslyn has been a member of the board since 2008 and has been NECA's Secretary for the past 10 years. She received NECA's B.R.I.C.K. award last year in recognition of her dedication to the community these many years. When something needed doing, she is always one of the first to raise her hand to chip it.

The NECA board will also miss the steady hand of **Natasha Cappon**, who is stepping down due to other commitments, but luckily is staying in the community. Natasha joined the board in 2016 and, when the Combined Sewage Storage Tunnel (CSST) project

loomed, worked tirelessly to mitigate its impact on the health, safety and quality of life of New Edinburgh residents.

We thank both Roslyn and Natasha for their support over the years and look forward to seeing you both in local neighbourhood haunts.

With these departures, the NECA board is looking for new members. So, if you've been wanting to get more involved in the community and are willing to lend a hand, please consider joining the NECA board.

### Developments on developments

As you will read elsewhere in this edition, there are quite a number of building developments afoot along Beechwood Avenue.

Thanks to quick actions on the part of the Beechwood Village Alliance (BVA) and Councillor **Rawlson King**, problematic changes to one major proposed project on Beechwood (by Claridge) are now under the spotlight, and residents have had an opportunity to provide their inputs. One of the primary concerns (besides the lack of consultation and transparency) is with respect to the missing active commercial space on the ground floor, which could create yet another "dead zone" along our traditional main street. (See Councillor King's column on page 7 and

## NECA board seeks new members

Are you interested in helping address issues in our great neighbourhood? Then please consider joining the board of the New Edinburgh Community Alliance, which meets every third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

NECA gets involved in a myriad of issues and activities, from inputs to citywide issues (such as zoning changes, official plans and major governance reviews) to more localized issues around the park, heritage, development, traffic, safety and the envi-

ronment, to name a few.

All of these efforts take time and effort. As we all know, "many hands make light work", so the more of us who are willing to participate, the better off we all are.

If you or someone you know wants to help us address issues in our neighbourhood, or has great ideas to improve it, we want you on our board! If you are not quite ready to join the board, you could join one of our committees to get more involved.

If you would like to have a

Gemma Kerr's piece on page 14 for more information.)

Another development we are watching carefully is the proposed Minto Beechwood II project on the south side of Beechwood Avenue. In stark contrast to the manner taken by Claridge, the Minto project appears to be taking a more collaborative approach by consulting with the BVA and other area community groups early in the project's development. We are hopeful that this will result in final plans that reflect the needs of the surrounding community. (See **Jane Heintzman**'s piece on page 1 for more details.)

We would also like to encourage residents to contact us at [newedinburgh@outlook.com](mailto:newedinburgh@outlook.com) if you see signs of new developments anywhere in New Edinburgh, especially if the project causes you any concerns.

### How to stay connected

To receive monthly NECA updates by email, please contact [newedinburgh@outlook.com](mailto:newedinburgh@outlook.com) or sign up through [newedinburgh.ca](http://newedinburgh.ca). For up-to-the-minute updates on what's happening in the neighbourhood, you can join the Google Group "New Edinburgh Discussions", then email to [new-ed-talk@googlegroups.com](mailto:new-ed-talk@googlegroups.com). There is also a listserv, known as the Moms' List, open to everyone. Email subscription request to Dave Rostenne ([dave@theconsultant.net](mailto:dave@theconsultant.net)). Also follow us on Twitter @New\_Edinburgh.

To learn more about NECA's committees and working groups, contact me at [newedinburgh@outlook.com](mailto:newedinburgh@outlook.com). The next NECA board meeting will be Oct. 20 at 7:30 p.m., in virtual format.

better understanding of what's involved before jumping in, please attend the last board meeting before the AGM on Oct. 20 at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom (link will be posted on the [newedinburgh.ca](http://newedinburgh.ca) events calendar).

Nominations are open from now until the evening of the Annual General Meeting on Oct. 28 at 7 p.m. However, we encourage nominations in advance. If you are interested, please contact Cindy Parkanyi at [newedinburgh@outlook.com](mailto:newedinburgh@outlook.com).



# The power of the community paper



**Christina Leadlay**  
Managing Editor

In early September, a long-time Vaughan Street resident passed along to me a stack of archival editions of the *New Edinburgh News*. It was a delight to receive these time capsules from the 1980s. Our logo hasn't changed much since then (same font, just hot pink now instead of black and white). The editions were slimmer then, each an average of 16 pages (we are consistently over 30 now).

Looking through these vintage gems, I was reminded of how much things have changed in New Edinburgh, yet how much remains the same. There were still the letters and stories lamenting the new developments being built, a lot of "Not in My Back Yard" sentiment which still pervades in all neighbourhoods in our city – in this New Edinburgh is not unique.

There are advertisements for many local businesses now long departed, and while the faces of the politicians and children in the park have changed, the overall tone of the *NEN* remains the same from 1980 to 2020.

This is the power of the local community newspaper: to capture the daily events and news that's relevant for a week or two, but is then cast aside as being out-of-date. However, five, 10 or 40 years later, those same newspapers have aged into archival documents of "the way things were."

The sense of community runs strong in the pages of *NEN*, and one key element that makes this community so rich is local business. The ongoing pandemic has been devastating to small, independent retail and restaurants,

and the *NEN* team would like to remind our readers to shop local whenever possible. We are fortunate to live in an



Photo by Christina Leadlay

**Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose: copies of this newspaper from the early 1980s are not really much different from today's editions.**

(almost) 15-minute neighbourhood (learn more about this on page 21), so let's do our best to keep our small shops alive. Their success affects us all.

This is my sixth year as editor of the *New Edinburgh News*, and I really want this paper to reflect the community. While the *NEN* team and the NECA board members remain an important part of informing and recording the current issues facing the neighbourhood (did you know NECA remains one of the few community associations that still publishes a community newspaper?), but I want Burgh residents of all backgrounds, experiences

and ages – both in lived experience but also their time in the neighbourhood – to have a voice in these pages.

Please contact me with your ideas for stories. I would love to see current affairs issues with a local angle. The pandemic brought this into perspective: how a global problem can affect each of us at home. We are a small, volunteer-run community paper, so we don't have a full-time dedicated staff who

can report on these issues. We rely on readers like you to contact us with ideas, input and point-of-view.

*NEN* is also looking for new faces to join our Advisory Board, which meets five times a year ahead of each edition of this newspaper to discuss the content and other publishing-related business. If you are willing to chip in and are active in the New Edinburgh community, please contact me at [newednews@hotmail.com](mailto:newednews@hotmail.com).



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their ad in the  
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## Send us your letters

Letters to the editor must include writer's name, address and contact info. Opinions expressed are the writer's own and not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper. Editor reserves the right to edit for length and content. Send your letters to [newednews@hotmail.com](mailto:newednews@hotmail.com)

## NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

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

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[www.newedinburgh.ca](http://www.newedinburgh.ca)

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# Doing the right thing can be hard. Or not.

Continued from page 1

noon: cancelled. Would the weather, childcare and work availability ever align again this year for another such outdoor climbing date?

Working alone for months from home is not much fun and having to cancel all of our outdoor weekend activities because of a little sore throat felt like a (ridiculous?) nightmare.

It would have been so much easier to downplay that sore throat, to close our eyes and let the kids go to school, continuing on with our lives.

The decision to get tested was hard because the personal inconveniences of getting testing were so real. At no point did we really consider that this sore throat might actually be COVID-19. Even if it was, being in good health and in our 40s, the risk to our own health was very low.

For us, the real big risk was that we might be introducing COVID-19 to our community and to the school. We had been waiting with bated breath for school to restart and were not ready to see it



The COVID testing centre at RCGT Park on Coventry Road.

Photo by Chloe Girvan

close. We do not want to go back to last April's lockdown, and neither do our children.

The decision to get tested should have been obvious, but it was harder to make than we would have liked because the consequences of getting tested were daunting for our personal quality of life...in the short term! As so often is the case, the convenience of our personal preferences can be in direct opposition to the long-term consequences, or to our community. Think climate change. Think traffic safety. Think saving for retirement. Think keeping our schools open in COVID times.

The ground is shifting beneath our feet daily. Please, don't be ridiculous like we were at second guessing yourself.

Follow all Public Health guidelines.

Get tested if you need to.

Marc and Laura live on Crichton Street with their two primary-school-aged children. They are happy to report that their tests came back negative.

## Active Transport Plan needs your input

Take part in the Active Transportation Plan Update consultation to inform the future of walking and cycling in Ottawa. The Active Transportation Plan combines the 2013 Pedestrian and Cycling Plans. This consultation aims to gather resident input on focus areas, missing links, prioritization criteria for candidate projects, and more. The consultation is open until October 31, 2020. Visit the website: [OttawaATPlan.metroquest.ca](http://OttawaATPlan.metroquest.ca).



Have an event coming up?

Send us the details:

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# Opinion

## NCC clearly states ‘right’ multi-use path etiquette

By Joana Chelo

*Editor’s Note: The following is a response to an opinion piece in the September 2020 edition of the Manor Park Chronicle, concerning which side of the multi-use pathway pedestrians should use, which states: “It appears that most pedestrians are not aware that they must walk on their LEFT side of the path so that they can see cyclists coming their way [...] Those who respect that simple common-sense practice are often criticized by ill-informed bikers and other walkers as well who direct them to walk on the right side of the path!”*

After reading “On which side of the cycling paths should I walk” by Monique P. and Gilbert B., I felt I needed to speak up about the contrarian instructions given to pedestrians using multi-use paths or cycling paths, as the authors called them.

The authors’ instructions appear to have roots in road safety regulations and

advice. Ontario’s Highway Traffic Act requires walking on the LEFT side of the road (facing oncoming traffic) in the following situation:

*Where sidewalks are not provided on a highway, a pedestrian walking along the highway shall walk on the left side thereof facing oncoming traffic and, when walking along the roadway, shall walk as close to the left edge thereof as possible.*

(R.S.O. 1990, c. H.8, s. 179 (1).)

The rationale is that pedestrians must be ready to move out of the way because the motor vehicle has right-of-way over a pedestrian walking along a road. Facing oncoming traffic gives the pedestrian full awareness of vehicles so they can yield to the vehicle, if required, by moving further left.

(As an aside, the regulations that require pedestrians to yield to vehicles strikes me as a relic from a bygone era. I wish that the road regulations could be rewritten to priori-



Photo by Christina Leadlay

The National Capital Commission outlines pathway etiquette on signs all over the paths.

tize more vulnerable users, as opposed to the heaviest and fastest users of the road... and thereby end the social license on phrases like “you

are going too slow,” “get out of my way” and “get off the road”.)

Fortunately, on a multi-use pathway, it is pedestri-

ans who have right-of-way over the vehicles: cyclists, in-line skaters and skateboarders. A cyclist encountering a pedestrian is required to yield by waiting until it is safe to pass on the left side of the pedestrian.

The National Capital Commission has taken great care to communicate the pathway etiquette on their webpage and on signs all over the paths. They have even created videos to illustrate it: search “NCC “Share the Path”:

On the “LEFT or RIGHT” conundrum, the answer is clear:

*Keep **RIGHT**, and pass left (when it is safe to do so).*

They also add: Share the path. Be considerate. Know the rules. Be responsible.

*Formerly of Crichton Street, Joana Chelo and her family choose cycling as their main form of transportation and are active in the cycling community. Joana also volunteers with this newspaper.*



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# New Minto project to use community ‘wish list’ of desired retail

Continued from page 1

- a private courtyard between the Beechwood and Barrette buildings (the middle of the U);
- a mid-block pedestrian and cycling path running between the building and El Meson) permitting access to Barrette from Beechwood;
- 570 square metres of commercial space at ground level, with four to five units facing Beechwood;
- Barrette Street façade will feature two-storey elements to match the houses across the street;
- red-brick cladding to complement both the heritage building at 94 Beechwood Ave. (former El Meson restaurant, and the new St. Charles Market building to the east).

Minto's proposed Zoning By-law Amendment seeks to have the property rezoned into one consolidated zone (as opposed to its current three), and requests permission to increase the amount of allowable residential use; make adjustments in front, rear, and interior side yard setbacks; and increase the maximum permitted building height from 15 metres to 29.6 metres. The target date for the application to be considered by the City's Planning Committee is **Nov. 26, 2020**. Subject to City approvals by spring 2021, construction could begin by fall 2021, with a target of completion by 2023.

## Community involved in early “visioning”

Since the very early “vision-



Image courtesy Minto

A sketch of Minto's new development at 78-88 Beechwood Ave., called Minto Beechwood II.

ing” stages of the Minto Beechwood II project, Kevin has consulted regularly with a group of representatives from each of the five communities in the Beechwood Village area: Manor Park, Rockcliffe Park, Lindenlea, Vanier and New Edinburgh. This group, which is a reinvention of the Beechwood Village Alliance (BVA) originally launched by **Tobi Nussbaum** following the Beechwood fire of 2011, has offered comment on all major aspects of the project, including scale, design and overall character in relation to the Beechwood sector.

One specific area they have honed in upon is the use of the ground-level commercial and retail units facing Beechwood. Their suggestions have focused on amenities which reflect the interests and lifestyles of local

residents, and which contribute to the broad objective of creating an environmentally sustainable “15-Minute Community,” (See page 21 for details)

The group's “wish list” of desired retail includes:

- A hardware store
- A vegan restaurant
- A specialty grocery store or delicatessen
- A bakery/café
- A combination wine bar/bistro and art gallery
- Relocated Fraser Café (currently at 7 Springfield Rd.)
- Gelato or yogurt specialty shop
- A hybrid gift/housewares shop
- A chocolate maker

The group appears to have had some success, as Kevin promises that Minto is “trying to keep (the units) small,

and will use the BVA's wish list to curate the businesses to fill them.”

The BVA's main objectives in its discussions of Minto Beechwood II have been two-fold:



Image courtesy Minto

Minto Beechwood II will feature a mid-block pathway.

- to avoid the creation of a second “dead zone” in the neighbourhood, along the lines of the first Minto project, which has yet to attract any commercial amenities beyond the Bank of Montreal and a coffee shop, despite its prime location and extensive commercial space. (While the LCBO is slated to launch there in March 2021, the unit is small, and a significant amount of commercial space will remain to be filled); and
- to ensure a close fit between the lifestyles, needs and interests of area residents and the businesses occupying the commercial units in the new development.

The commercial units in Minto Beechwood II will be comparatively small and (it

is hoped) more affordable for the kind of small businesses that might appeal to our community. A cluster of small shops along this stretch of Beechwood Avenue could also help to boost walk-by traffic and support businesses in the broader commercial area.

A public meeting to present the plans for Minto Beechwood II to the community is planned late this fall, but as yet there are no details. For further information, questions or comments, contact City planner **Ann O'Connor**, 613-580-2424 x 12658 or [ann.o'connor@ottawa.ca](mailto:ann.o'connor@ottawa.ca). Notice of the meeting will also be posted on [newedinburgh.ca](http://newedinburgh.ca).

## St. Charles Market update

In other Beechwood development news, **André Cloutier** reports that despite the setbacks and delays resulting from the COVID-19 pandem-

ic, construction work on St. Charles Market (SCM) continues to move ahead, with residential occupancy slated to begin this fall. Only a few units remain unsold, including one of four penthouses with close to 4,000 square feet of living space, and an additional 424 square-foot private terrace with views of Parliament Hill.

With reference to the occupancy of the commercial spaces in SCM, André admits that “COVID-19 has thrown a bit of a wrench into our planning, so some recalibration is required to make sure we get it right. We remain optimistic for the future and keen to create something special for the neighbourhood.”

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# Working with developer on better design for 89-97 Beechwood



**Rawlson King**  
City Councillor, Ward 13

Almost 100 residents have contacted me about the proposed development at 89-97 Beechwood Ave., concerned about proposed removal of commercial space.

Having taken the time to examine resident comments concerning the proposal, I agree with my residents that removal of commercial space on Beechwood Avenue at grade is unacceptable. I concur with the assessment of community organizations that the elimination of street-oriented commercial space contravenes the City's

Urban Design Guidelines for Traditional Mainstreets and ignores the terms of reference for development along Beechwood Avenue as articulated in the Beechwood Community Design Plan.

Given that approvals for Site Plan Control applications are typically issued under delegated authority by City staff and considering community dissatisfaction with the revised application concerning the development, I was willing to withdraw delegated authority in this instance to elevate this file to Planning

Committee to facilitate full-some public consultation.

My discussions with City staff, along with a large amount of correspondence from the community, however, has led the City's Planning Department itself to rescind their delegated authority over the application to send it to the Planning Committee for consideration. Consequently, City staff will hold a public information session for residents in September concerning the revised proposed development.

I believe we cannot aspire to a revitalized Beechwood Avenue if an entire block of our traditional main street loses commercial space. As a result, I will be seeking to reach an agreement beforehand with the developer through a robust conversation. I will be advocating for the three units facing Beechwood Avenue on the ground floor to be removed

from the revised plan, and for them to be replaced with commercial space for rent, which I believe is vital to the animation of the streetscape.

I understand some residents had concerns regarding the additional units in the revised plan, but I must say that I did not find those changes in principle egregious. I would argue that, intensification in this area is appropriate, given the stance I took against the expansion of the urban boundary and considering that Beechwood Avenue is a traditional main street.

## Traffic update

Residents might have noticed the installation of gateway signage on New Edinburgh streets, as part of my ongoing commitment to lower residential speeds throughout the Ward by the end of this term of Council. These signs will harmonize all the speed limits on residential streets to 40km/h, providing consistent

cy for drivers and improved safety for more vulnerable road users. Collector roads, such as Crichton Street and Springfield Road, will remain at the default 50km/h speed limit.

I am also excited about the City's plan to close the pre-existing gap in the Rideau River Eastern Pathway in New Edinburgh with the addition of a new segment of multi-use pathway between the south limit of Stanley Avenue and the north side of the New Edinburgh Park playground. Nearly 70 respondents indicated support for the proposed design in a survey conducted over the summer. The work will be undertaken as part of the Combined Sewage Storage Tunnel project.

Contact City Councillor Rawlson King at 613-580-2483, [rideaurockcliffeward@ottawa.ca](mailto:rideaurockcliffeward@ottawa.ca) or visit [rideau-rockcliffe.ca](http://rideau-rockcliffe.ca).

## Let's find a more compassionate response to homelessness

**By Samantha McAleese**

Like many of you, I spent this summer almost entirely in New Edinburgh. Living through a pandemic is stressful, but I am thankful to have a home in a neighbourhood with plenty of greenspace, bike paths, a river for paddling, and great shops and restaurants.

I mostly enjoyed the increase in neighbourly encounters as more neighbours were out and about, taking breaks from the monotony of working or staying at home. But during a few outings through the 'Burgh, I overheard some conversations that left me disheartened:

"If I want to go camping with my family near the water, I have to apply for a permit."

This was one phrase I heard about people sleeping in tents near the river.

"I've called the police several times," was another.

If you have said or done such things in reaction to encampments or visible homelessness, I am not writing this piece to call you out. Instead, my goal is to call you in – to encourage more compassionate responses to people experiencing homelessness.

So please, keep reading.

Last year, almost 8,000 people stayed at an emergency

shelter in Ottawa – a record high for the city. Family homelessness is also on the rise and expected to escalate due to COVID-related unemployment and housing loss following the end of the eviction moratorium in August. Finally, more than 12,000 families and individuals are registered on Ottawa's subsidized housing list, meaning some could wait 19 years for a safe and affordable home.

In January, city councillors listened to practitioners, researchers, advocates, and people with lived experience of homelessness and declared a housing and homelessness emergency. Unfortunately, this declaration has yet to translate into meaningful action.

Investment in and availability of affordable housing across the city remains deeply insufficient. "Renovictions" and redevelopment of existing rental stock keep too many people out of the market. Short-term rentals and low levels of rental construction do the same.

Long story short: people have nowhere to live.

This is not just an Ottawa problem. Overcrowded shelters and encampments are becoming the norm in cities across Canada.

So, what can we do to help?

The Alliance to End Homelessness Ottawa launched a Housing Blitz with the City of Ottawa, community partners, and volunteers. The goal is to house 100 people by the end of September by matching those in need of housing with vacant units and rental

subsidies. If you are a landlord, if you know a landlord, or if you want to volunteer with this initiative, please visit [ottawahousingblitz.ca](http://ottawahousingblitz.ca) for more information.

Beyond the Housing Blitz, you can join others in advocating for affordable housing and community-based resources. At [endhomelessnessottawa.ca](http://endhomelessnessottawa.ca) you will find an advocacy toolkit to help you and your neighbours write letters to

elected representatives, use social media to amplify specific issues, and inform your own conversations about homelessness.

I also encourage you to familiarize yourself with services that already exist across Ottawa to support people experiencing homelessness.

With a better grasp of the service landscape, we can communicate and collaborate on compassionate and non-punitive solutions to poverty and housing insecurity. Solutions can include not calling the police in response to people sleeping in the park and asking the Ontario government to reverse its decision to spend \$500 million on jails. Communities need that money to break the cycle between homelessness

and incarceration. We need homes, not cages. We need prevention, not punishment.

Kaite Burkholder Harris, Executive Director of the Alliance to End Homelessness Ottawa, reminds us that "housing is a public health issue" and must be "prioritized as a human right." During a time when we are all being told to stay at home, we cannot forget about or dismiss those who do not have that option.

There is so much more that I could share with you, and I hope reading this encourages you to seek out more information and to act on behalf of our neighbours in the park rather than against them.

Samantha McAleese is a researcher, advocate, and member of the Alliance to End Homelessness Ottawa's Research and Evaluation Working Group. She lives in New Edinburgh.

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# BURGH BUSINESS BRIEFS

By Susan Groundwater, Jane Heintzman, David Lawrence and Christina Leadlay



Photo by Alexander McKenzie

Specialty pies are among the offerings at LeSuq, 141 Beechwood Ave.

## Middle Eastern shop opens on Beechwood

Opening a café during a pandemic may seem counterintuitive, but that didn't stop entrepreneur **Donald Batal** from opening **LeSuq Gourmet** on the corner of Beechwood and Acacia Avenues, the former location of Jacobsons.

The new establishment,

which opened Sep. 1, includes a specialty grocery store, sandwich shop, and an art gallery featuring the work of local artists. Outdoor seating allows customers to enjoy hot drinks in Ottawa's brisk autumn weather.

Originally from Lebanon, Donald came to Ottawa in December 2019. He has had

a busy year in spite of the pandemic: in addition to the Beechwood location, he opened LeSuq Grocery & Café downtown (352 Preston St.) and the Noor Food Market in Westboro (332 Richmond Rd).

Donald, who is half-Greek and half-Lebanese, has worked all over the world,



Photo by Alexander McKenzie

Since arriving in Ottawa last December, Donald Batal has been busy opening a handful of shops in this city, including LeSuq.

but decided that North America had the most to offer in the food business. He chose Canada over the United States to do business because of the people.

"They are very calm, polite, and supportive," he said. "And this neighbourhood has some of the nicest people in town."

LeSuq's offerings are a welcome addition to the growing Middle Eastern vibe in this part of neighbourhood, which kicked off with Bibi's Kitchen opening on the corner of Putman & Beechwood Avenue in 2019.

The offerings at LeSuq (which means *market* in Lebanese, pronounced *shouk*) are a little bit of everything, including many items that might be new to Canadians. Besides Arabic coffee and fresh sandwiches, LeSuq offers specialty pies (don't miss its spicy sausage pie), salads, sauces, dried spices, falafel and hummus mixes, desserts, and even baklava made with maple syrup. They also serve ice cream.

"Customers can make their own experiences," said Donald. "It's like a food concerto."

LeSuq is open 8 a.m.–9 p.m. Sundays to Thursdays, and 8 a.m.–10 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Stop by at **141 Beechwood Ave.** for a coffee and unforgettable food experience, or have your food delivered via the DoorDash app. Visit **lesuq.ca**. —DL

## Family dinners to go at Fraser Café

In the course of its long run at 7 Springfield Rd., Fraser Café has become a destination for diners throughout the city, drawn to its fine gourmet cuisine and the convivial buzz of its perennially busy dining room. For many residents of our neighbourhood, the café serves as their go-to "local," a favourite gathering place for all occasions, from a cozy chat with a friend to large family celebrations. All that came to an abrupt halt with the COVID-19 lockdown in mid-March.

During the pandemic, the café was forced to pivot to survive. And pivot it did, moving swiftly to a take-out/home delivery format. The café introduced family-style dinners for two or four people, available every Tuesday, Friday and Sunday evening. Orders are placed online for contactless pick-up or local home delivery: **frasercafe.ca/family-meal-take-away**. The familiar Fraser fare is offered in generous portions, featuring the full gamut of soup, salad, mains, veggies and dessert.

Owner and executive chef **Ross Fraser** is gratified by the enthusiastic response, and plans to keep the family dinner service rolling this fall, even after the restaurant reopens for indoor dining on Sep. 25. He made use of Table 40, the café's large-gathering room, for preparing



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Photo by Alexander McKenzie

**Reflexology therapist Anna Crandlemire has been able to pivot her typically hands-on practice online.**

the take-out meals.

When COVID restrictions were lifted in mid-June to permit open-air patio dining, Fraser Café took over the driveway and parking area next to the restaurant to create a small patio. The City of Ottawa's temporary suspension of outdoor patio fees (recently extended for another six months), gave a boost to patio operations throughout the city, and the Fraser was quick to take full advantage.

Throughout the summer, a "Snacks and Relax" menu was on offer in the late afternoon and early evening. It was a great success in the hot, rain-free early summer, but with the onset of cooler, wetter weather in late August and September, conditions became somewhat less appealing and the patio officially closed in the third week of September.

A sheltered option is now available, however. Ross and his team reopened the restaurant for indoor dining, beginning Sep. 25. At the outset, Ross plans to keep it simple, as both staff and clients adjust to the new COVID-19 safety measures for indoor operations. Dinner service will be offered five nights a week, with doors closed on Tuesday and Wednesday. Ross was still fine-tuning the format when we spoke in September, but his basic plan was to offer a fixed menu with some flexibility for tweaks and special preferences, plus a bar menu.

"We're trying for the same vibe," says Ross, but he

acknowledges that the traditional buzz of close quarters in the restaurant is a non-starter in the COVID era, so a number of tables have been removed to allow for distancing. Staff will be masked, as will all diners, except when seated at their tables consuming their meal. And the now-familiar protocols of hand sanitizing and regular disinfection will be in place to reduce the risks to all concerned. —JH

#### **Gentle treatments in person or online**

If you are looking for an interesting way to release some tension and feel better, consider a visit to **No Kinks Manual Therapy**, located at 35 Beechwood Ave. Since 2017, **Anna Crandlemire**, a Certified Craniosacral Therapist and Registered Canadian Reflexology Therapist, has two alternative therapies on offer to her clients: Craniosacral therapy and Reflexology.

Craniosacral therapy, an offshoot of osteopathy, focuses on the membranes and cerebrospinal fluid that surround and protect the brain and spinal cord. Reflexology refers to applying gentle specific areas of the foot that correspond to specific organs or systems of the body. Each therapy has the goal of opening up the flow of energy throughout the body to promote good health.

According to Anna, both of these approaches are holistic ways of supporting a healthy immune system and coping

with stress and anxiety. "In a nutshell, I'm reducing stress and helping the body reset the balance between its parasympathetic and sympathetic nervous systems, so it can heal," she explains.

A background in science and a keen interest in health led Anna to craniosacral therapy in 2016, and it has been a source of great satisfaction to her ever since. "I love that it's client-directed and non-invasive," she says, noting that these types of therapies are ideal for seniors since they are so gentle.

Although her clients are often referred to her by other health care practitioners, anyone hoping to relieve stress, cope with pain or improve overall health can make an appointment. Some people come for a single session, while others might benefit most from a short series of appointments or even a regular monthly visit.

Remarkably, Anna has learned that she can provide effective craniosacral therapy at a distance. "When I work remotely, it's actually a wonderful partnership with my client," she explains. Although she doesn't get the same input that comes from touching a client, the client will feel her energetic presence as she focuses on them.

"I have found that it also helps the patient to learn to pay attention to their body's cues." Anna sees this as a wonderful discovery for her and she is really looking forward to developing that side of her work. "It has been rewarding to connect with clients around the world (as far away as Jamaica and New Zealand!), including people who were in hospital when visitors were not allowed."

Reflexology still requires in-person treatment, but Anna is quick to describe all the safety measures she has put in place to ensure everyone's well-being. With reflexology, the whole body is stimulated and energy flow is enhanced. As she works on someone's feet, Anna says that she can get clues about other areas that are stressed, such as the lungs or the heart, and she can then give those areas more intention during the treatment.

"It's very subtle work," she notes, "but I just trust what I find, and I follow it."

For more information visit **noinks.ca** or call 613-296-9135. —SG



Photo by Christina Leadlay

#### **So Good Asian Fusion at 15 Springfield Rd.**

#### **A bit of Chinatown near us**

It has been almost one year since **So Good Asian Fusion** welcomed customers at 15 Springfield Rd., taking over the space where Golden Star had served Chinese food for take-out for 50 years. While the *NEN* team has been unsuccessful in getting an interview with the staff at So Good, I felt it would be remiss not to inform our readers about this tasty Chinese restaurant with a loyal following.

The Springfield Road location is the first expansion for the original So Good restau-

rant, which has served delicious Chinese and vegetarian dishes since 1994 when **Peter So** (get it: So Good?!) first opened his doors on Somerset Street in the heart of Ottawa's Chinatown. Peter retired in 2018, selling the restaurant to one of his chefs, according to a story in the *Ottawa Citizen* this past January.

The So Good team renovated the former Golden Star space before moving in, adding seating in its bright, sparsely decorated room for about two dozen

**Continued on page 10**

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**Continued from page 9**

patrons, though its main business appears to be take-out. I heard from other So Good devotees that when news of the restaurant's opening first hit the local listservs earlier this year, the staff were overwhelmed with orders during their first weekend!

My family and I have been fans of the original So Good restaurant since the early 2000s and can attest that the food at the New Edinburgh location is just as good as on Somerset. Among our favourite dishes are pepper-salt tofu, eggplant with black bean sauce, Shanghai noodles and Szechuan crispy beef. So Good is also renowned in this city for its delicious vegetarian food. While the menu at the New Edinburgh location is a curated selection from what *Citizen* food reporter **Peter Hum** calls the original's "staggeringly long and diverse menu," it is not short on quality. And turn-around time from ordering to pick-up is very quick, too.

So Good Asian Fusion Cuisine at 15 Springfield Rd is open for take-out orders Tuesdays to Saturdays from 12-8:30 p.m.; Sundays from

12-9 p.m. and is closed Mondays. Call them at 613-746-4975. —CL

**New look and taste at Jasper**

Burgh-based restaurateur and retailer **André Schad** has been hard at work in recent months, doing his best to adapt his two local eateries **Jasper Restaurant** at 18 Beechwood Ave. and **Tavern on the Falls** at 50 Sussex Dr. to the challenging circumstances created by the pandemic.

When the COVID-19 lockdown was imposed in mid-March, Jasper Restaurant closed its doors and remained shut for the ensuing six months. Unlike others in the restaurant business, owner André chose not to switch to a take-out and delivery format, opting instead to make use of the hiatus to rethink the overall character of the restaurant in anticipation of an eventual reopening. That time has come, and Jasper is now back in operation, open seven days a week: Sundays through Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to midnight; Fridays 10:00 a.m.–1:00 a.m., and Saturdays 10:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.



Photo by Alexander McKenzie

After working this summer at Tavern on the Hill, chef **Geoffrey Ring** (left) is back at Jasper on Beechwood, which owner **André Schad** (right) has reinvented as a sports pub featuring take-out.


Jasper has reopened as a "sports pub" with a strong emphasis on take-out food service, and a relaxed, convivial in-house atmosphere. In keeping with the informal pub atmosphere, André's fanciful collection of antique chandeliers are — alas! — gone.

The Jasper menu features casual pub fare: André promises "lots of fun food" made from scratch, along with an abundance of healthy menu


choices, including veggie and vegan options. With the installation of a shiny new pizza oven, Jasper is offering thin crust personal pizzas — a sure-fire favourite among diners of all ages. Former Jasper Chef **Geoffrey Ring** is back at the helm in the kitchen, having been at the Tavern on the Falls during the summer. And with the return of professional sports, Jasper's four television sets

are sure to be a highlight for game-deprived fans.

COVID precautions are in place to keep staff and diners safe in the indoor setting. These include the now-familiar hygiene protocols of hand-sanitizing and frequent disinfection of dining facilities, along with portable plexiglass dividers to keep tables separated. Staff and diners have to be masked (except for the purposes of eating and




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Photo courtesy of Minto

Minto has prepared the site for the LCBO to start moving in at Minto Beechwood.

drinking), and care is taken to ensure compliance with physical distancing rules.

"It's a struggle," admits André, "we're all nervous." But he remains optimistic that locals who are not in a high-risk category will feel comfortable returning to this welcoming neighbourhood spot for simple food and safe sociability.

And for those unable or unwilling to venture out, a taste of the pub will be available through Jasper's take-out service at **613-747-3456** or [jasperottawa.ca](http://jasperottawa.ca). Visit Jasper on Facebook for the latest menu highlights.

#### Outdoor Tavern still open

When provincial restrictions were lifted in mid-June to permit the resumption of outdoor patio operations, André was straight out of the gate, launching the **Tavern on the Falls** on "liberation Friday" (Jun. 12), with just four days' warning from the province. This was no small accomplishment. Quite apart from the prep required to put together a staff and gear up to provide gourmet hot dogs and drinks, a battery of COVID-related measures had to be introduced to protect staff and patrons.

They removed numerous tables from the patio to allow for proper distancing, and a portion of the seating was moved out to the front of the building: less scenic, but safe! Other measures included plexiglass dividers to shield the kitchen and bar, plant barriers among the tables, hand sanitizing stations, and a thorough disinfection of chairs and tables between sittings.

A security team was also on hand to monitor compli-

ance with distancing rules, and once diners received their food and drink orders, they were required to remain in their seats rather than amble around to chat with friends or take in the view. André admits that the lineups were long from time to time, in part because diners had to provide contact-tracing information before heading to the patio.

One of the main attractions at the Tavern this summer was nightly live music. Musicians performed on the lawn in front of the building, at a safe distance from diners. After months of social isolation, area residents responded with enthusiasm to the Tavern's lively vibe; they flocked to the patio on hot, clear evenings throughout July and early August. Despite the cooler weather, the Tavern was still operating at publication time in late September, and André's plan is to "play it by ear" (and watch the weather) before deciding on a closing date. —JH

#### LCBO coming March 2021

After many months of engagement in the "hesitation waltz," Minto and the Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO) have at last nailed down plans for the store's launch in Minto Beechwood. Minto's **Kevin Harper** reports that his company's portion of the preparatory construction in the unit will wrap up by late November. Thereafter, the LCBO will move in to complete the fit-up.

But, alas, this will not be in time for the holiday season. Several months is apparently required for the work, and LCBO's grand opening

in our neighbourhood is now slated to take place in March 2021 – perhaps in time for St. Patrick's Day?

As previously reported, the size of the facility has been scaled back considerably from the initial plan, so even after the long-awaited arrival of the liquor store, there will remain a sizeable chunk of vacant space on Minto Beechwood's commercial main floor. —JH

#### Get your daily bread delivered

When Burgh resident **Beth MacFarlane** first launched Bread and Roses Bakery on Beechwood Avenue in December 1988, she swiftly discovered that "it was busy, and at one point there was hardware flying out the oven! It was fun!"

In the three decades since then, the local bakery has survived a succession of challenges, ranging from the Beechwood fire of 2011, to a protracted struggle with a landlord, an attempted eviction, and ultimately, a move to its current location at 323 St. Laurent Blvd. The COVID-19 pandemic is just the latest challenge, and current owner **Chris Green** has tackled it head-on to emerge with what he feels is an even stronger operation.

When the lockdown was imposed in mid-March, Chris wasted no time in embracing the "COVID pivot." He switched the bakery to an online order, pick-up and home delivery format, and swiftly put the word out on social media.

The response was immediate: orders came in thick and

Continued on page 12

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**Continued from page 11**

fast. Bread and Roses' new baker has been kept busy supplying such household staples as breads, croissants, rolls and savoury pies, along with a range of popular new products such as pumpernickel and challah breads, cheesecakes, caramel pecan brownies and jam-filled donuts. The bakery got another helpful boost to business during the pandemic through an arrangement to supply donations to the Food Bank under the auspices of the Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre.

Chris admits that "it's been a lot of work. It's like rebuilding your business all over again." But he takes great pride in never having had to close his doors or lay off any staff. He's grateful to the community for their support through the difficult months since March, and for their appreciative response to his efforts to provide "a bit of normality" by continuing to offer the comfort of fresh baking.

The shop has now reopened for in-store purchases (and the ever-popular pastime of bakery counter browsing!), but Chris plans to continue Bread and Roses' online order, take-out and home delivery service.

The home delivery option is available on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays only, and it's probable that a small additional delivery charge will need to be introduced down the road. To order, call 613-745-2087 or visit [breadandrosesbakery.ca](http://breadandrosesbakery.ca).

You can also find the bakery on Facebook. —JH

**Farewell to Second Cup**

Burgh residents were shocked to see a "For Rent" sign on the door of the Second Cup at 1 Springfield Rd. on Sep. 1. The coffeshop franchise had been run for the past five years by **Maya Marouf**, her husband **Mohanned Abuswaireh** and their partner, **Rami Al-Hussieni**, though the café itself had been operating on the corner of Beechwood and Springfield Road for many, many years before their tenure.

*NEN* reached out to the owners for comment, but did not get a response by deadline. Coffee lovers will miss the corner café known for its local art and comfortable atmosphere.

The Second Cup parent company made headlines in December 2019 when it bought Ottawa-based coffee chain Bridgehead for \$9.5 million. So while New Edinburgh may have lost Second Cup, its independently-operated "daughter" Bridgehead is still open for business at 131 Beechwood Ave. Not to mention the wonderful variety of other coffee-shops in our area: Red Door Provisions, The SconeWitch, Ministry of Coffee, Union Street Kitchen Café, Starbucks, and now LeSug (see story on page 8). —CL

**Jill Moll retires from bookshop**

To the delight of booklovers in our community, **Books on Beechwood** has now fully



Photo courtesy Bridget Barber

**The Books on Beechwood team gathered to honour the retiring Jill Moll (front, centre). From left are Hilary Porter, Antoinette Fracassi, Bridget Barber, Stephanie Caldicott and Dave Rostenne.**

reopened for in-store browsing and purchases. Needless to say, pandemic safety precautions are in place at the store, including hand sanitizer at the door (a must for browsers), directional arrows on the floor to regulate traffic, and a mask requirement for staff and customers. Hours have been slightly shortened and are now Mondays through Fridays, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Saturdays 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., and closed on Sundays.

One major change at Books on Beechwood this fall is the retirement of long-time staff member **Jill Moll**. Jill has been a fixture at the store for 15 years, and is well known

in the community as the organizer behind the popular Books on Beechwood Book Club. The club has been suspended since the onset of the pandemic, and with Jill's departure, it's not yet clear when – or if – it will return.

As a prodigious reader herself, Jill has been a helpful source of book recommendations for clients, whose tastes she has come to know over the years.

"It's hard to imagine the fabric of the store without Jill's thread running through it," writes BonB colleague Hilary Porter. "We'll really miss Jill's quick wit, great taste in books, and penchant for staying up-to-date on the

very latest book reviews. We're holding out hope that some time in 2021, we'll all be able to get together to celebrate this wonderful member of our bookstore family who has played such a big part in our lives."

As always, the fall has ushered in an explosion of new publications now available at the store, including nominees for the coveted Scotiabank Giller Prize. Books on Beechwood's September Newsletter offers a preview of some of the highlights of this fall's crop of new releases. You can find their newsletter on their Facebook page. —JH

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# Working together will get us through challenging times



**Mona Fortier**  
Ottawa-Vanier MP

Good beginning of fall, dear residents,

I know these past few months have been very difficult for you and your families, and the COVID-19 pandemic has posed many challenges for each of you. Despite that, I have the firm assurance that everything will be fine if we continue to work together as a community.

The health and safety of Canadians remains our priority, and our government is working diligently to minimize the risks associated with the spread of COVID-19.

Since the beginning of this pandemic, our government has stood firm in its commitment to support Canadians through economic and financial emergency response measures, which help each one of us overcome the crisis of our generation. I invite you to visit [www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/economic-response-plan.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/economic-response-plan.html) for more information on measures to support Canadians and businesses facing challenges as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Though initially necessary to protect the health and safety of Canadians, the closure of schools and other learning institutions at the outset of the pandemic has led to an unprecedented disruption to life for Canadian families. I know that education institutions play an important role in the education of our children. I also know that sending our kids back to school has been a cause of worry for many parents like me, as we wonder about the continued safety of our families. That is why our government has committed up to \$2 billion to support provinces and territories to keep students and staff safe throughout the school year as well as an additional \$112 million in funding for First Nations to support community measures to ensure a safe return to school on reserves.

Our government is also committed to investing up to \$221 million in partnership with Canadian financial institutions for the first-ever Black Community Entrepreneurship Program in Canada, to make access to support and opportunities more equitable as many of them continue to face systemic racism, preventing them from having equitable participation and success in the economy.

I also encourage you to take a minute and download the COVID Alert app to protect yourself and those around you.

I am delighted to see people working together from a distance to keep our social and dynamic community together despite physical distancing.

Rest assured that my constituency office is always there to support you with all aspects of federal services. Give us a call at 613-998-1860 or email us at [mona.fortier@parl.gc.ca](mailto:mona.fortier@parl.gc.ca).

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Bon début d'automne chers résidentes et résidents,

Je sais que ces derniers mois ont été très difficiles pour vous et vos familles et que la pandémie de COVID-19 a posé de nombreux défis à chacun d'entre vous. Malgré cela, j'ai la ferme assurance que tout ira bien si on continue de travailler ensemble en tant que communauté.

La santé et la sécurité des Canadiennes et Canadiens demeurent notre priorité; et notre gouvernement travaille avec diligence, pour faire en sorte de minimiser les risques liés à la propagation de la COVID-19.

Depuis le début de cette pandémie, notre gouvernement a tenu fermement son engagement à soutenir les Canadiens, par le biais de mesures économiques et financières d'urgence, qui aident chacun à surmonter la crise de notre génération. Je vous invite à consulter le site web [www.canada.ca/fr/ministere-finance/plan-intervention-economique.html](http://www.canada.ca/fr/ministere-finance/plan-intervention-economique.html) pour plus de renseignements au sujet des mesures pour appuyer les Canadiens et les entreprises qui sont aux prises avec des difficultés en raison de l'éclosion de la COVID-19.

Bien qu'initialement nécessaire pour protéger la santé et la sécurité de la population canadienne, la fermeture d'écoles et d'autres établissements d'enseignement au début de la pandémie, a entraîné des perturbations sans précédent dans la vie des familles canadiennes. Je sais que les écoles jouent un rôle important dans l'éducation de nos enfants et je sais également que renvoyer les enfants à l'école est une source d'inquiétude pour les parents comme moi. C'est pourquoi notre gouverne-

ment s'est engagé à financer jusqu'à 2 milliards de dollars pour soutenir les provinces et les territoires afin d'assurer la sécurité des élèves et des membres du personnel tout au long de l'année scolaire ainsi qu'un financement supplémentaire de 112 millions de dollars pour les Premières Nations afin d'appuyer les mesures communautaires visant à assurer une rentrée en toute sécurité des enfants dans les réserves.

De plus, notre gouvernement s'engage à investir près de 221 millions de dollars en partenariat avec des institutions financières Canadiennes, dans le tout premier programme pour l'entrepreneuriat des communautés noires du Canada afin que l'accès au soutien et aux opportunités soient plus équitables pour eux; comme

nombre d'entre eux continuent de faire face à du racisme systémique, les empêchant d'avoir une participation équitable et de réussir au sein de l'économie.

Je vous encourage également à prendre une minute et télécharger l'application Alerte COVID pour vous protéger ainsi que ceux qui vous entourent.

Je me réjouis de voir les gens s'entraider à distance pour garder notre communauté dynamique et sociale malgré la distanciation physique.

Soyez assurés que mon bureau de circonscription est toujours là pour vous appuyer avec tous les aspects des services fédéraux. Communiquez avec nous au 613-998-1860 ou envoyez un courriel à [mona.fortier@parl.gc.ca](mailto:mona.fortier@parl.gc.ca)

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# Investing in health and safety in schools will ensure a good recovery



**Lucille Collard**  
MPP Ottawa-Vanier

As a mother, a former school trustee, and your current provincial representative, I am disappointed by the Progressive Conservative plan for reopening schools.

Ontarians waited and hoped for a safe return to school with a clear plan, developed in consultation with school authorities and health experts. Instead, Doug Ford's government unveiled a back-to-school plan with inconsistencies and insufficient resources.

This shortage of resources leaves school boards with the burden to do their best to implement a plan to ensure

that students can practice social distancing, wash their hands frequently, and learn in a clean environment.

My biggest concern and criticism of the government's plan is the lack of meaningful consultations with school boards, education partners and local medical authorities. Involving those institutions that need to support parents, students and school personnel for a safe return to school is instrumental in finding solutions that take into consideration their knowledge, expertise and capacity.

Investing in the well-being and safety of our students and

school staff is the best way to ensure the successful recovery of a vibrant and inclusive economy. Now, more than ever, we need to speak up and insist that the government take the necessary steps to protect students, education workers and the families they return to at the end of the day.

As always, thank you for doing your part in fighting COVID-19. My team remains available to help. Please feel free to give us a call at 613-744-4484 or send us an email at [lcollard.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:lcollard.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org).

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En tant que mère, ancienne conseillère scolaire et représentante provinciale, je suis déçue par le plan conservateur de réouverture des écoles. Les Ontariennes et Ontariens attendaient et espéraient un retour à l'école en toute sécurité avec un plan clair, développé en consultation avec les autorités scolaires et des experts en santé.

Au lieu de cela, le gouvernement de Doug Ford a dévoilé un plan de retour à l'école avec des écarts et un manque de ressources.

Cette pénurie de ressources laisse aux conseils scolaires le fardeau de faire de leur mieux pour mettre en œuvre un plan permettant aux élèves de pratiquer la distanciation sociale, de se laver les mains fréquemment et d'apprendre dans un environnement bien nettoyé.

Ma plus grande préoccupation et critique à l'encontre du plan du gouvernement est l'absence de réelles consultations avec les conseils scolaires, les partenaires de l'éducation et les autorités médicales locales. La participation des institutions qui doivent soutenir les parents, les élèves et le personnel scolaire pour un retour à l'école en toute sécurité est essentielle pour trouver des solutions qui tiennent compte de leurs connaissances, de leur

expertise et de leurs capacités.

Investir dans le bien-être et la sécurité de nos élèves et du personnel scolaire est le meilleur moyen d'assurer le recouvrement efficace d'une économie dynamique et inclusive. Maintenant, plus que jamais, nous devons prendre la parole et insister pour que le gouvernement prenne les moyens nécessaires afin de protéger les étudiants, les travailleurs de l'éducation et les familles dans lesquelles ils retournent à la fin de la journée.

Comme toujours, merci de faire votre part dans la lutte contre COVID-19. Mon équipe demeure disponible pour vous aider. N'hésitez pas à nous appeler au 613-744-4484 ou à nous envoyer un courriel à [lcollard.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:lcollard.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org).

## Public meeting aired concerns with current 89–97 Beechwood design

By Gemma Kerr

A public meeting took place online on Sep. 17 concerning the site plan for a development at 89–97 Beechwood

Ave. owned by Claridge Homes.

The meeting was moderated by Charmaine Forgie, manager of business support services

from the City of Ottawa. Councillors Rawlson King and Mathieu Fleury, another City representative, and about 55 people participated.

The development at 89–97 Beechwood Ave. was originally approved in 2016, but not acted upon. When it reappeared in 2020, there were significant design changes, including increases in the numbers of residential units (from 67 to 95) and parking spaces (from 66 residential and 11 visitor to 71 residential and nine visitor), and removal of dedicated retail units on the ground floor.

Concern was expressed at the lack of notification regarding the project, but a City representative explained that councillors and community associations are notified about planning applications only, not site plans, and this was a site plan.

No comment was made about the design differences between the two submitted for this property.

The other main community concern was the lack of dedicated retail space. The 12 small stores lost in the 2011 fire farther west along Beechwood have never been fully replaced, and recent and continuing densification on both sides of Beechwood suggest a strong need for new retail if the village main street model is to be retained.

One of the participants noted that the Community Design Plan for Beechwood required

ground floor retail units, but was informed by the City that the zoning had failed to include this requirement, and that ground floor residential units fronting Beechwood are, in fact, allowed.

The 2016 planning application had included six retail units, but the current site plan shows three residential and three "live/work" units facing Beechwood Avenue.

Live/work is a new concept being explored by the City: the intention is that occupants will conduct their business in the part of the unit that faces the street, and live in the part facing away. Someone asked whether it was possible to enforce this, to stop people using the whole space as a residence.

If the unit is leased, enforcement should be possible, but if owned there would be no control. Claridge have not yet decided whether the development will operate as rental or as a condo.

The takeaway from the meeting was that the community needs to keep an eye on both developers and City planners through every inch of the development process.

Gemma Kerr is a past president of the New Edinburgh Community Alliance and volunteers with this newspaper.

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## Improving road safety in Ottawa



**Jim Watson**  
Mayor of Ottawa

Students, parents and educators are all adjusting to the new reality of a very different and challenging school year. I want to acknowledge the tremendous efforts of our teachers, administrators and the entire community, as we work together to ensure the safety of students and staff in schools across the city.

Aside from COVID-19, the number one topic of conversation these days is road safety. We must all be more vigilant when driving in residential neighbourhoods and near schools and parks.

In July, the City launched an Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) pilot project. It consists of four cameras in eight Community Safety Zones, two of which

are stationary and two others that rotate periodically between six key locations in residential neighbourhoods and school zones.

The data collected between July 13–31 revealed that our four cameras led to 10,771 tickets being issued for speeding in school zones. That's more than 2,500 tickets per camera in just over two weeks – and the real concern is the highest speed recorded during this period, with a motorist driving at 89 km/h on Meadowlands Road near St. Gregory Elementary School.

In addition to the ASE pilot project, the City has equipped nearly 60 intersections with red-light cameras to reduce aggressive driving behav-

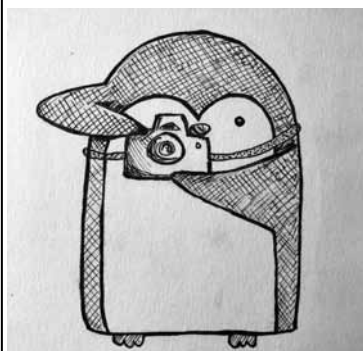
iours, with another 14 cameras being installed by the end of the year. Studies have shown that dangerous red-light running can decrease by as much as 42 per cent within a few months of a camera being installed. I am confident that we will see some further reductions in dangerous driving as we expand these initiatives across Ottawa.

It is important to note that the revenue generated by these road safety initiatives will be re-invested in community safety programs with our partners at Safer Roads Ottawa.

I hope this shines a light on how seriously we have to take road safety across our city, and particularly in school zones – and how essential photo-radar and red-light cameras will be in addressing some of this dangerous behaviour.

Contact Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson by phone at 613-580-2496, by email [jim.watson@ottawa.ca](mailto:jim.watson@ottawa.ca) or visit [JimWatsonOttawa.ca](http://JimWatsonOttawa.ca).

## Bird photographers wanted!



Sketch by Oliver Leadlay

**NEN's For the Birds** column is looking for photographers who enjoy taking high-quality images of birds in our area (and farther afield). Contact [newednews@hotmail.com](mailto:newednews@hotmail.com)

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## Faulkner Real Estate Celebrates 20 Years



By Judy Faulkner,  
Broker or Record / Owner

I can't believe it's been 20 years since I left a national real estate company and made the big leap by launching Faulkner Real Estate. It feels like only yesterday that I was putting up my first "Sold" sign. I'd been working out of the basement of my home at the time, joined by my team.

In starting my own business, I knew that there was room for considerable improvement within the industry and I wanted consumers to experience a fresh approach.

My goal was simple: to create more fairness, honesty and integrity. It meant offering progressive compensation options, and ending the practice of "multiple representation", which occurs when a listing brokerage also represents an interested buyer. This puts both the buyer and seller at a disadvantage because their brokerage has a conflict of interest and can not give advice that favours one client over the other.

Despite our humble beginnings, Faulkner Real Estate immediately took off. Not long after, the Ottawa Chamber of Commerce honoured us with the New Business of the Year Award for our innovative business practices.



Judy Faulkner with her mother and mentor, Sandra Faulkner, and her team, outside her home-based office during the early years of Faulkner Real Estate,

I see my role as more than just selling homes. I'm helping people in transition — from those looking to buy their first home together, to empty-nesters wanting to downsize, to families relocating to the city but not knowing how to find the perfect home and neighbourhood.

We work in a fast-paced environment, one that also requires us to be educators, marketers, negotiators and confidants. Just as we celebrate our clients' successes, so, too, do we give them encouragement and a boost, when needed.

I've long since learned that the lines between my work life and personal life are blurred. I'm like hot water on demand; when I'm needed, I'm there. I love helping and connecting with people. I love the unpredictability of each day.

I'm also proud of the way Faulkner Real Estate has been able to give back to our community over the past 20 years. Among the groups that we've supported is the community meal program run through local churches in response to the COVID-19 crisis.





# For the Birds

By Jane Heintzman

Few of us (if any) have accustomed routines and pleasures unaffected by the ongoing pandemic: travel restrictions, event and performance cancellations, and ongoing constraints on gatherings and social activities, combined to put a damper on the summer holiday season. But for bird lovers, these losses were greatly compensated by the abundance of bird life in our area, beginning in April, and extending through September, when the

of **Common Grackles**, **European Starlings** and **Red-winged Blackbirds**. This feisty combo joined forces to do serious damage to my emerging flower beds, focusing on the fragile new dahlias we were struggling to nurture. In desperation, I acquired a pair of large plastic owls, and placed them at strategic spots in the flower bed. To my amazement, they worked: the blackbird throng thinned out almost immediately, ultimately

contrasting bold, black-and-white striped wings.

These colourful birds will soon leave the region on their migratory journey to wintering grounds in Mexico, the southern United States, the Caribbean or Central and South America. But as I write in late September, more than 20 species are still being reported in our region (ofnc.ca/recent-bird-sightings), so keep an eye out for late departures.

A beautiful, dove-like **Northern flicker** turned up in late summer to forage on the ground, grubbing for ants in our flower beds. In addition to insects, flickers are also fruit eaters, and will avail themselves of backyard feeders. These handsome birds are members of the woodpecker family, and are readily recognizable by their bold black “necklace” and white tail feathers as they take off in flight. By mid-September, they begin to congregate in flocks in preparation for fall migration.

Other notable garden visitors this year included a **gray catbird**, lurking in the protective cedar bush at the back of the garden, and a **Northern mockingbird**.

Perhaps the most interesting birding adventure of my summer was the attempted rescue of an injured **chimney swift**, which I found cowering on our front lawn as I set out to cut the grass on a stifling August morning. The bird appeared to have a badly disfigured wing, and was clearly unable to fly, or even to move.

My neighbour **Sue Abbott** kindly stepped in to help me rescue the swallow-like creature, which we managed (with some difficulty) to transfer to the safety of a small box, away from the perils of the street.

Swifts and hummingbirds both belong to the family of *Apodiformes*, meaning “without feet.” While the swift does have tiny, residual feet, they are too small to enable it to take off from the ground, so our little rescue bird was well and truly stranded when it landed on our front lawn.

Our patient was later delivered to **Safe Wings’** Ottawa coordinator **Anouk Hoedeman** to be assessed and, if need be, taken to the **Wild Bird Care Centre** for treatment and/or surgery. Safe Wings



Great Blue Heron.

Photo by Jennifer Lewington

Ottawa (safewings.ca) is a local organization dedicated to rescuing birds injured in collisions with buildings, or other misadventures. They also collect and document bird casualties resulting from such collisions during periods of migration.

As their name implies, chimney swifts are found in urban areas with large concentrations of chimneys for nesting and roosting. Their numbers have plummeted in recent years due to the dwindling numbers of suitable chimneys, along with the capping and regular cleaning of those which remain. From 1966 to 2015, the chimney swift population in North America declined by a whopping 72 per cent – an added reason why Sue and I are crossing our fingers that our rescue was successful, though as yet we’ve had no confirmation.

Farther afield in our long summer dog-walks, we encountered a rich variety of bird life of all shapes, sounds and sizes. Our summer tally included **red-eyed vireos**, **Eastern phoebes**, **turkey vultures**, **Northern mockingbirds**, **gray catbirds**, **common ravens**, **Great-crested flycatchers**, **cedar waxwings**, **American redstarts** (in especially large numbers), **black-and-white warblers**, **yellow-throated warblers** (known in our house as “The Witchity Bird” because of its incessant call),

a solo **male pine grosbeak**, **Northern shrike**, **merlin**, a pair of **bald eagles** flying over the Ottawa River, and a **sharp-shinned hawk**, flying very low, straight down the middle of Sussex Drive between Rideau Hall and the French Embassy (possibly on a diplomatic mission?).

For a few blissful weeks, we were able to spend time at our cottage on Georgian Bay, south of Parry Sound, Ont. Here, too, bird life was abundant throughout the pandemic summer of 2020 – a stark contrast to 2019, when it was eerily scanty. Of first importance to us each summer is the health of the **osprey** nest opposite our dock. The nest has been active every year since the mid-1960s, until last year when it was inexplicably and unhappily



Photo by Jennifer Lewington

Eastern Phoebe in Sans Souci, Georgian Bay.



American Goldfinch at Macoun Marsh.

Photo by Mike Leveille

launch of the fall migration began to thin the ranks.

In our own garden on Stanley Avenue, such early spring arrivals as **American goldfinches**, **house finches**, **song sparrows**, **white-throat sparrows** and **chipping sparrows** remained through June and most of July, as did our year-round residents in the **Northern cardinal** and **black-capped chickadee** families.

At the beginning of the season, we were also bedeviled by large numbers

disappearing altogether. And my dahlias have flourished!

In recent years, **warblers** have been a relative rarity in our garden, but this summer has been a marked and very welcome exception. Since the beginning of warbler season in late spring, we’ve had visits from **yellow-rumped warblers**, **palm warblers**, **pine warblers**, **American redstarts**, a throng of gorgeous **yellow warblers** and a solo male **blackburnian warbler** with its dazzling orange throat and



empty. But this year, it was flourishing, with two chicks on the nest as opposed to the typical singleton.

The infestation of gypsy moths which bedeviled our oak trees this year had the compensating benefit of attracting large numbers of hungry insectivores to the island, notably **Great-crested flycatchers**, **Eastern phoebe**, **red-eyed vireos** and **worm-eating warblers**. The Eastern phoebe has been an annual presence on the island, nesting very close to our cottage and regaling us daily with its signature *fee-bee* call. This year, the phoebe appeared to “befriend” a resident **red-**

and eagerly anticipates the possible return of the enormous **Golden Eagle** that landed on our island two years ago at Thanksgiving. The monstrous raptor kept us glued to the front window for several hours as it rested from its migratory labours and consumed its hapless prey. Here’s hoping it’s blown off course in our direction once again!

#### The party’s over

By the time this edition is in circulation, the fall migration will be well underway, and once again the bird population in our area will be winnowing. Migrant species will be southbound via the

many parks and conservation areas in such eastern U.S. states as Maine, Maryland, Virginia, Massachusetts, North and South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. Somewhat surprisingly, Central Park in Manhattan is also on the Atlantic Flyway, and has become another major stopover site.

#### Reports from our readers

Victoria, B.C. reporter **Vicki Metcalfe** had a fruitful July outing to nearby Langford and Florence Lakes, where she encountered such highlights as a beautiful **western tanager**, a pair of **red crossbills**, a **spotted sandpiper** and a **Cassin’s vireo** (a “life bird” for Vicki). On a daytrip to Sidney Spit later in the summer, she spotted eight **black-bellied plovers**, numerous **semi-palmated plovers**, and a variety of other shorebirds in migration.

Back in the Burgh, **Philip MacAdam’s** Avian Bistro at Thomas and Alexander Streets was abuzz with summer bird life. Among the regular visitors were **downy- and hairy woodpeckers**, **black-capped chickadees**, **white- and red-breasted nuthatches**, **cow birds**, **blue jays**, **white-throated sparrows**, **white-crowned sparrows** en route to their Arctic breeding grounds, and **Northern cardinals**, including a bald-headed male in full molt. **American robins**, and a chatty collection of **house finches**, **purple finches** and numerous **American goldfinches**. **American redstarts** also turned up to feast on the flies buzzing around the water features in Philip’s garden.



Moulting Northern Cardinal.

Photo by Mike Leveille



Common Loon.

Photo by Jennifer Lewington

**eye vireo**. It often perched in very close proximity to the vireo, and joined forces in a duet, with the vireo’s incessant *here-am-I, where-are-you?* punctuated at intervals by the buzz of the phoebe. A welcome instance of interspecies harmony!

Our Georgian Bay birding encounters also included numerous **song-sparrows**; **common loons**; **double-crested cormorants**, though in smaller numbers than usual; **belted kingfishers**; **spotted sandpipers**; **ruffed grouse**; **downy-, hairy- and pileated woodpeckers**, mining the bark of oaks weakened by gypsy moths; **broad-winged hawks**; **turkey vultures**, including two perched on a rock devouring a carcass (the smell was unspeakable!); **Great blue herons**; **mallards**; **common mergansers**, notably a mother with 20 young in tow; **ring-bill** and **herring gulls**; and a melodious **rose-breasted grosbeak**.

Our family will head back to the Georgian Bay for Thanksgiving weekend,

Atlantic Flyway, one of North America’s four major “bird highways.” The other three – the Mississippi Flyway, the Central Flyway and the Pacific Flyway – will also be humming with southbound avian traffic. Here’s hoping the majority of these intrepid travelers survive the perils of the hurricane season and other hazards en route.

The Atlantic Flyway starts from as far north as Greenland, following the Atlantic coast of Canada and eastern seaboard of the U.S., to wintering grounds in Central and South America and the Caribbean. The route has the topographical advantage of relatively few mountains to block the birds’ path, and encompasses a variety of ecosystems, with dependable food and water sources at stopover sites along its length.

The prime stopover sites along the route, where flocks of birds gather to rest and refuel, (and where some actually overwinter), include

Across the Ottawa River at Lac Leamy, Philip spotted several pairs of nesting **Baltimore orioles**.

Over at the Macoun Marsh off St. Laurent Boulevard, St. Laurent Academy Science teacher **Mike Leveille** and his students report an abundance of **mallards**, **Eastern phoebes**, **American goldfinches**, **Gray catbirds**, and **wild turkeys**.

#### There’s a long winter ahead

Since the start of the pandemic, community birdwatching has done much to boost the spirits and relieve the tedium of relative isolation. Coming as it did at the start of the lockdown, the spring migration was especially fortuitous, bringing flocks of colourful songbirds to cheer us as we

grappled with the challenges of our greatly altered circumstances.

But now, as we head into a long winter of severe weather and ongoing constraints on our ability to gather, travel or pursue many accustomed pastimes, the birds are leaving us in droves.

All is not lost, however: many year-round species such as **Northern cardinals**, **black-capped chickadees**, **woodpeckers**, **white-breasted nuthatches**, and assorted **winter finches** will still be with us to liven up the winter landscape. And a sure-fire way to have them in close proximity is to keep your backyard bird feeders filled in the months ahead. It’s a small price to pay for colour and companionship to brighten winter days.

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# CCC wants your ideas (and help) for celebrating in the new normal

## Ice skating could be one of the few events to go ahead in pandemic



### By Sylvain Bélanger, CCC president

As you are all aware, the novel coronavirus pandemic has had a huge effect on our lives. Since our skating season ended in March, all Crichton Community Council (CCC) activities at the Fieldhouse have been cancelled. This meant the loss of many annual traditions this summer like the Bike Rodeo, plant sale, Ottawa marathon cheering station and New Edinburgh community garage sale. This has affected the CCC's revenue generation, so we will be dipping into our reserves this year.

After a six-month closure,

the CCC is working with the City to reopen the Fieldhouse for rentals. That is not an easy task as it involves conforming to myriad provincial and municipal requirements. Physical-distancing requirements have drastically reduced the indoor capacity due to provincial regulations. The City is also downloading responsibility for additional cleaning protocols to our organization. We will keep the community updated through the Crichton Community Council Facebook page about rental availability and restrictions.

Reopening the Fieldhouse, like every other activity and event organized by the CCC,

depends on volunteers – of which we are in short supply. As with any volunteer group, renewing the volunteer base is an ongoing challenge. It has become ever more important as we have long-time volunteers (some of a decade or more) who are moving on to other stages in life or moving out of our neighbourhood. We wish them all well and thank them for their help and support over the years. I would particularly like to thank **Matt DeWolfe**, who has held many roles within the CCC, including as president in 2018. Matt and his family are leaving the neighbourhood and we appreciate the time they spent volunteering!

Volunteering is a way to get to know your neighbours, be social, and make your community a better place. Ask not what your community can do for you, but what you can do for your community!

We are looking for folks who can volunteer for a couple of hours at a time, or long-term volunteers, either to help with events or to run the organization. We appreciate

any time you can give us!

Does your household include a grade 9-12 student that needs to fulfill their community volunteer hours requirement? Let us know, as any time spent volunteering for us counts towards that requirement. Contact us at **CrichtonCommunityCouncil@gmail.com** if you'd like to help out.

Our annual Halloween Howl event cannot occur in its usual form. We shall miss the games, costume parade, and trick-or-treating at Governor's Walk Retirement Residence on Stanley Avenue! We are currently researching what is possible under the current pandemic restrictions. We will keep you posted on our social media accounts.

Winter is just around the corner, and planning is already underway for our ice rinks. The City has just confirmed our intention to participate this season and will provide us with the new guidelines for the pandemic later this year.

We are looking for volunteers for the following tasks: building the base ice; ongoing

ing or occasional hosing of the ice; and extra help with snow clearing after a storm. Weather permitting, our season begins in mid-December and ends at the beginning of March. Don't be afraid to try something new if you are inexperienced: we can pair you with an experienced partner.

It is doubtful our New Year's Day brunch event can be held during the pandemic in its usual form. Do you have any ideas for an alternate way to celebrate during these times? Let us know! The City will be opening its Civic Events Funding grant soon and we may be able to incorporate your ideas. We are also exploring such events as a virtual challenge and modified version of outdoor curling. What else would you like to do?

To volunteer with the CCC, contact us at **crichtoncommunitycouncil@gmail.com** or through our social media: Facebook: @CrichtonCommunityCouncil Instagram: @CrichtonCommunityCouncil Twitter: @NEFieldhouse

## An evening of live music under a maple tree: what could be better?

### Continued from page 1

derfully personal songs in French, English and Persian. It was especially enjoyable to be introduced to their exotic Persian music drawn from a world so far away.

Then award-winning singer-songwriter **Lynne Hanson** gave a solo performance with many songs from her personal repertoire. Lynne is always a delight to hear! Because her tour of Germany was cancelled due to the pandemic, she live-streamed her music to Europe using the NECTAR community room that same weekend.

Next, we welcomed the musically talented **Moore family** and their friends for two concerts. First came **Mary Moore**. Mary has led the NECTAR Ukulele Jam for the past year, which has been popular with neighbourhood ukulele enthusiasts. She performed with New Edinburgh mandolin-playing resident **Barry Cooper**, entertaining



MacKay United Church's Rev. Peter Woods (left) and his jazz trio took part in NECTAR's Porch Light concert series, as did classical violinists Leah Roseman and Mark Friedman (right).



Photos by Alexander McKenzie

us with a mixture of old-time favourites and fine new songs.

On another evening her sister **Pat Moore** and fellow singer and instrumentalist **Roland Doucet**, sang jazz, blues, swing, and rock. It was a great trip down memory lane. At the end of the evening, Pat sang one of her own brilliant compositions, which

was inspiring.

National Arts Centre violinists **Leah Roseman** and her husband **Mark Friedman** provided beautiful classical music by Georg Philipp Telemann (Gulliver Suite), Bedřich Smetana and Aleksey Igudesman on violin. With humour and enthusiasm, they added a couple of Mark's jazz arrangements

to lighten the mood at the end of their performance. Delightful!

As we moved into cool September, we were treated to musicians **Peter Woods**, **Tim Jackson** and **Jacob Clarke**. Anyone who attends musical events at MacKay United Church or jazz evenings at The Royal Oak will know Pete as a saxophone

player extraordinaire! The trio work wonderfully well together: Tim singing many of his old and new favourites, accompanied by Pete on sax and Jacob on double bass.

Our most recent concert featured **Christine Graves** at the end of September. These Porch Light concerts have been so well received that NECTAR may continue into the fall, depending on the weather. Most probably we will move to afternoon performances as the nights draw in.

As we move into the future, maybe these small outdoor musical concerts can become annual summer events in New Edinburgh. We have so much local musical talent ready to strut their stuff.

If you would like to receive notification of any upcoming concerts, please contact **necartcentregm@gmail.com**.

*Isobel Bisby is a NECTAR volunteer and past board member.*



# Flawed process weakens Built Heritage Sub-committee's mandate



Heritage and Development Committee - Comité Patrimoine et Développement

## By Gail McEachern, H&D Committee

For individual homeowners seeking to make changes in a Heritage Conservation District, the review process to obtain approval may seem onerous. However, it is necessary and important if the heritage values and special features unique to each district are to be honoured and preserved.

Whether a proposal involves an alteration to a building, or demolition followed by new construction, the following steps must be taken:

- 1) The proponent initiates an exploratory meeting with a member of the heritage planning staff to discuss the principal elements of the proposed project;
- 2) The New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA)'s Heritage and Development Committee is alerted that a project proposal is forthcoming;
- 3) The proponent submits a detailed description of the project accompanied by

architectural renderings and an application for a Heritage Permit;

- 4) The plans are reviewed by the City's heritage staff

*"Members of the Planning Committee have not shown themselves to be particularly concerned with heritage advocacy."*

and NECA's Heritage & Development Committee. Both analyze the proposal from the perspective of its appropriateness for New Edinburgh's historic district and the extent to which it adheres to the directives and guidelines spelled out in New Edinburgh's Heritage Conservation Plan;

- 5) If approved, the proposal is presented to the city's Built Heritage Sub-Committee (BHSC), made up of five Members of Council and four citizen members with expertise in heritage issues. Its mandate is: "To advise and assist City Council in matters relating to Parts IV and V of the Ontario Heritage Act, and such other heritage matters

as Council may specify by By-law or as specified in the City's Official Plan." More simply put: to conserve and promote heritage in Ottawa.

It is at this point in the review process that decisions related to heritage protection can get derailed.

The fundamental problem is that Built Heritage is a sub-committee of the city's Planning Committee. The way the review process is structured, if a proponent

submits an application for a heritage permit and it is supported by the BHSC, it goes directly to City Council for final approval. But if the BHSC rejects the application, it is then forwarded to the Planning Committee. This flawed mechanism gives the Planning Committee an opportunity to reverse the recommendations of the BHSC, essentially rendering the sub-committee impotent in terms of its potential role as a protector of heritage resources.

Members of the Planning Committee have not shown themselves to be particularly concerned with heritage advocacy. Moreover, an investiga-

tive study published in May by Horizon Ottawa (a municipal-focused grassroots organization) reveals that during the 2018 municipal election campaign, six members of the Planning Committee received financial support from individuals or companies associated with the development industry, ranging from 65-99 per cent of the total funds they received.

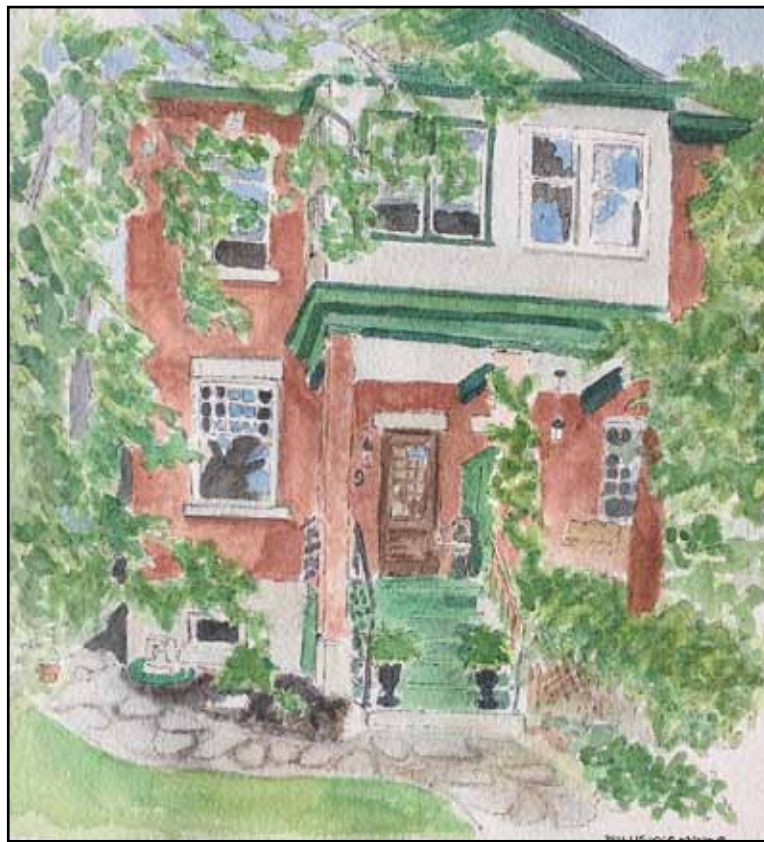
Removing the BHSC from under the umbrella of the Planning Committee would increase the BHSC's ability to consistently honour its mandate. We are now halfway through the 2018-2022 term of City Council when a review of governance is carried out by city staff. This review is to address any problems that may have arisen during the first half of the four-year

term. It supposedly provides an opportunity to "tweak" governance mandates and operational structures to improve efficiencies.

NECA has joined with representatives of 14 other Heritage Conservation Districts in recommending that the City make an adjustment to the operational mandate of the BHSC, whereby in future, all applications considered by the BHSC which deal exclusively with matters governed by the Ontario Heritage Act go directly to City Council whether or not the BHSC supports or rejects them.

This would constitute a significant change which would enable the BHSC to do its job without the fear that its decisions will be undermined by the Planning Committee. A letter outlining this request was sent to Mayor Jim Watson on Sept. 8, 2020.

Now we can only wait and hope.



Sketch by Catherine Willis-O'Connor

Local artist Catherine Willis-O'Connor likes to paint pictures of the neighbourhood, including people's houses, like this one on Putman Avenue. See her work at [cwillisoconnorfolkart.weebly.com](http://cwillisoconnorfolkart.weebly.com).

## 'God Pod': an answer to pandemic prayers

CTV News reported in early September of a new, pandemic-friendly way one New Edinburgh church is staying connected to its flock. Near the sanctuary inside St. John Lutheran Church on Crichton Street there is a transparent, four- by six-foot enclosed compartment called the "God Pod," where parishioners can safely sit, mask-free, less than two metres from Rev. Joel Crouse. A glass partition and air filtration system prevents the spread of COVID-19 and other viruses. "I think the church has a responsibility to be responsible and pivot in a way that is safe. This is a safe pivot," Rev. Joel told CTV, noting the strict cleaning protocol in place approved by Ottawa Public Health. "I had no idea how much I missed seeing [Rev. Joel] and getting so much off my chest," parishioner Isabelle Geraets-



Image captured from CTV News video.

St. John Lutheran has a hygienic way for parishioners to meet with their pastor.

Rose told CTV. "The fact there was no mask and the glass was there; you really felt like you were free and safe." CTV reported that a company in Kingston, Ont. donated the pod to the church. Rev. Joel

noted the potential use for the pod beyond the church, saying it is great for hearing impaired people who need to read lips in a face-to-face setting. -C. Leadlay



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# Scientist-turned-seamstress aims to make 1,000 face masks

By Ian Parker

Shannon Shamsuzzoha is a busy New Edinburgh parent. She has a five-year-old daughter, a new puppy and is running her own business, Persona Masks Canada, out of her house on MacKay Street.

In early September, Shannon had just finished making 25 masks for staff at Rockcliffe Park Public School.

She started Persona by donating masks, but moved to selling them to offset the costs of materials. But for every mask you order, one goes to a charity.

"I have donated masks to individuals in exchange for donations to Partage Vanier and the Parkdale Food Centre," Shannon tells the *New Edinburgh News*, noting some charities she has donated masks to directly include The Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO), Helping With Furniture and The Ottawa Mission.

So far, she has donated 278 masks.

Shannon started making masks for donation in March

and then for sale in June of this year after her original supplies were used up. She reinvests her profits from selling masks into new materials for making masks. It makes her feel empowered, she says, and helps someone feel better.

Her slogan is: "The better they fit, the better they work. The better they look, the more you'll wear one."

"I honestly believe that if it looks nice you will want to wear it," she explains.

The word persona is Latin for "mask," so you can take on a different persona depending on what mask you are wearing. Shannon's catalogue of fabrics offers a wide range of prints and colours for every personality or event.

"I try to make them as comfortable as possible. I stand behind my work and I am pretty proud of it," she says. Her goal is to make 1,000 masks.

One of the skills Shannon brings to her mask-making is her medical background. She graduated from medical school on the Caribbean island of Saba and then did a

year of residency in Ohio. She has not finished her residency, and is not yet licensed to practice medicine in Canada.

"I did try to get a residency spot in Canada but, unfortunately, I am in a highly competitive pool. So that didn't work out for me," Shannon says.

Shannon was born in Pointe Claire, Que. to Indo-Canadian parents. In the summer of 2016, she moved to New Edinburgh, the neighbourhood where her husband grew up.

To order a face mask to protect others, you can reach Shannon by email: [personamaskscanada@gmail.com](mailto:personamaskscanada@gmail.com). She will make one for you for \$20. Special party masks cost \$35.

Check out her designs at [facebook.com/personamaskscanada](https://facebook.com/personamaskscanada), follow her on Instagram @personamaskscanada and on Twitter @personamaskscanada.

*Ian Parker is a retired CBC journalist. He has lived in New Edinburgh for 30 years where he and his wife are active volunteers.*



Photo by Alexander McKenzie

Shannon Shamsuzzoha started making face masks out of her house on MacKay Street in March. For every mask ordered, she donates one to charity.





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# Why Ottawa should embrace 15-minute neighbourhoods

By Raewyn Khosla and Henry Scott, NECA Environment Committee

If you ask any resident of New Edinburgh what they love about living here, you will hear how highly they value the walkability of the neighbourhood. Within a few blocks, we can buy groceries, visit a bookshop, go to the post office and choose from a rich variety of cafés and restaurants. We have a choice of green spaces and bike paths, all within a short distance. It's healthy, convenient, and sociable, as we often run into familiar faces while walking or doing errands. It's a great place to live!

When all of the amenities we use regularly are within a 15-minute walk or bike ride, and there is high-quality transit available, that is called a "15-minute neighbourhood." Not only do these types of neighbourhoods allow a healthy and enjoyable lifestyle for individuals and families, but also this model of living can help us meet our targets to stop the heating of the planet.

Ecology Ottawa, a prominent local environmental advocacy group, has recently launched a campaign that seeks to raise the profile of 15-minute neighbourhoods, and to make the case to City Council that this mode of development is a smart way to reduce emissions and create a more livable city. Their vision for Ottawa's urban area is to "build bustling, walkable and bikeable neighbourhoods connected by world-class public transportation."

How much difference can a city make?

We tend to think of the



Photo by Justin Swan

Having a variety of shops and cafes within walking distance makes neighbourhoods like ours healthy and sustainable.

federal and provincial governments as holding the most power when it comes to policies which combat climate change (think carbon pricing). But with 80 per cent of Canadians living in cities and towns, the municipal governments have an equal – if not more vital – role to play. More than half of Canada's total emissions come from cities, and therefore are under the influence of municipal governments.

In Ontario, urban sprawl is the big climate change issue. According to former Ontario Commissioner of the Environment Dr. Dianne Saxe, urban sprawl and the resulting increase of emissions are "Ontario's oil sands." She says: "urban sprawl is the major driver of Ontario's climate pollution."

Sprawling development cannot support great public transit, and the result is typi-

cally a costly, low-quality transit service. A private car becomes a necessity, so vehicle emissions go up. Sprawl creates longer, more congested commutes to workplaces and basic amenities, but because of sprawl, commuters do not have good transit or other transportation options.

Much of our greenhouse gas

(GHG) emissions come from transportation (44 per cent) and buildings (45 per cent). The North American-style large, single-family suburban residence is very inefficient to heat and has a large carbon footprint. Denser, energy-efficient urban housing could mitigate the problem, but it will take a long time to retrofit or renew and gradually

reduce emissions of existing housing stock. That means in order to meet the targets set, major transportation-related emission reductions will be required in the near-term.

One strategy for reducing GHGs is to electrify transportation. But that solution alone is not equitable, and it fails the many, many people who do not drive. The 15-minute neighbourhood solves the crux of the transportation problem in an equitable way, and has an assortment of co-benefits – the ones that we already enjoy in New Edinburgh.

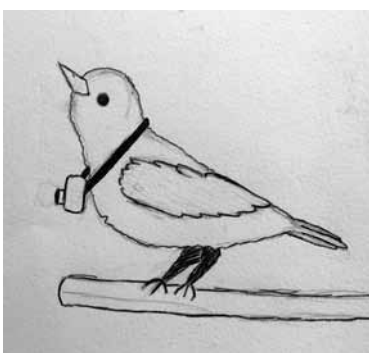
Ecology Ottawa sees 15-minute neighbourhoods as "sprawl's mirror opposite," and wants the City of Ottawa to make them a top priority in the new Official Plan. To learn more or to support the campaign, visit [ecologyottawa.ca](http://ecologyottawa.ca).

Let's support them in creating a healthier, more sustainable and livable city.

Raewyn Khosla and Henry Scott are members of the New Edinburgh Committee on the Environment. For information or to join the committee, contact Tamara Sorger at [tamarasorger@yahoo.com](mailto:tamarasorger@yahoo.com).

## Calling all bird photographers!

Whether you are an avian who can wing it with a camera, or a human who enjoys taking high-quality photos of birds in our area, *NEN* is looking for your help with visuals in our For The Birds column. Contact [newednews@hotmail.com](mailto:newednews@hotmail.com).



Sketch by Rachel Leadlay

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## 'Just get the shot!' Pharmacists get ready for flu season amid pandemic

By David Lawrence and Jane Heintzman

As we head into winter in the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, public health authorities are unanimous in their insistence that ALL Canadians, regardless of age or health condition, should receive the annual flu vaccine as early as possible. The primary object is to avert the risk of a "double whammy" influenza plus COVID outbreak, which could overwhelm the capacity of our medical system.

**New Edinburgh Pharmacy's** lead pharmacist **Jason MacEwen** anticipates that the flu vaccine will be available to local pharmacies by late October. As of mid-September, he had not yet received word from Ottawa Public Health on the guidelines for administering the vaccine in the COVID context, but he assumes that special distancing and hygiene protocols will be part of the picture.

Jason and his colleagues are still working on plans for administering the shot, a process which is complicated by a variety of factors, such as limited space for physical distancing of long line-ups, as well as competing demands on the pharmacists who will give the injections.

For details on the vaccination start date at the New Edinburgh Pharmacy, and on the system in place to receive the shot, call **613-749-4444**.

Jason is somewhat encouraged by the experience of Australia, which is currently in the midst of influenza season. To date, the incidence of flu in that country has been relatively low, a fact which many have attributed to the hygiene and distancing protocols in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19, along with the restrictions applying to large gatherings.

Jason also feels that since the onset of the pandemic, there has been a gradual change of the "tough it out" culture of earlier years, when a majority of people opted to return to work, attend a meeting or a social gathering, and generally "carry on" even when ill. With luck, this increased prudence about spreading disease could have



Whole Health Pharmacy owner Peter Barreiro will have flu shots available, and also expects to offer COVID-19 testing in the near future.  
Photo by Alexander McKenzie

a mitigating effect when flu season sets in.

**Peter Barreiro**, owner and operator of the **Whole Health Pharmacy** at 222 Beechwood Ave., also anticipates that the flu vaccine will be available in late October or early November, and has a simple message for area residents: "Just get the shot!"

He points out that even if the specific flu strains selected for this year's vaccine are not wholly effective when the disease gets rolling, they are virtually certain to be better than nothing, and to offer some level of protection. With regard to the Australian experience, it's Peter's view that the jury is out on this question, largely because there are too many variables in play to justify a firm prediction on whether Canada will fare as well.

Peter is not yet certain what the vaccine system will be at the Whole Health Pharmacy, but his aim is to make it as convenient as possible for those with busy schedules. An appointment system is unlikely, but Peter may introduce "Flu Days" at the Beechwood Medical Centre when a medical team will be on hand to give the shots.

For details on the start date and the protocol, call **613-842-7455**, or visit the Beechwood Whole Health Pharmacy on Facebook.

### Local COVID-19 testing

Area residents have new options for COVID-19 testing. Thirteen pharmacies in Ottawa, including **Shoppers**

**Drug Mart** at 541 Montreal Rd., now offer the test to non-symptomatic patients.

The **Whole Health Pharmacy** at 222 Beechwood Ave. expects to offer COVID-19 testing in the near future.

Adult patients with symptoms can be tested at a drive-through test centre in the parking lot of **RCGT Park** at 300 Coventry Rd. It is available to patients 14 and older, by appointment only. For more information or to book online, visit ottawapublichealth.ca. —DL

### Medical centre closes

The medical centre located in The Kavanaugh condo building closed its doors on Aug. 20, leaving the space temporarily vacant.

Peter Barreiro, the head tenant of the space on 222 Beechwood Ave., said that the Whole Health Pharmacy and the physiotherapy centre will continue to operate at the same location. Barreiro plans to lease the space to another practice within the next few months. During the transition, he suggests patients access virtual healthcare through cover.health.

**Dr. Alykhan Abdulla**, who managed Beechwood Medical Centre, said that patients can be supported virtually or in person at the Kingsway Health Centre at 5542 Ann St. in Manotick. Appointments can be booked by phone at 613-692-5433 or by email at kingsway@doctor.com. Alternatively, patients can transfer their records to a new doctor.



# Up on the Roof

By Janet Ruddock

"Up on the roof there arose such a clatter." The clatter in question happens on the third-storey deck above my bedroom ceiling around six o'clock in the morning. The running, jumping and thuds wake me up.

Now firstly, it's not Christmas Eve. It's July. Secondly, I don't spring from my bed to see "what was the matter." I'm not an early riser.

On the fourth morning, I ask my husband Frank if he hears it, knowing full well he doesn't. He's generally up at 5:30 a.m. working, deep in thought in the third-floor office at the front of the house – nowhere near the bedroom on the second floor at the back. I ask him if he's doing early-morning calisthenics on the roof deck to impress the neighbours.

In any case, Frank has problems of his own with interlopers on deck. One night he's heading down the rear fire escape from the roof deck to the second-floor deck when what should appear but a menacing masked marauder. Not a stylish COVID-19 mask, either. This large racoon is the real thing and he's owning that black mask.

Frank slips into my bedroom via the sliding door to outstare the racoon from behind the glass. The racoon gets bored and wanders off into the night. Apparently, it's not Frank's first encounter with this fellow. How does he know it's the same racoon? There must be dozens out there. Oh, it's the same one.

Apparently, Frank just knows.

Later that night, Frank heads back upstairs. There, staring him down through the glass door on the third story deck is the racoon. Frank says this racoon frequently likes to curl up and snooze on the narrow causeway linking the roof to the house. The racoon is becoming overly familiar with our house. Next, he'll be coming in the screen door that doesn't close properly. Be honest. Everyone I know has a screen door that doesn't close properly.

August dawns with enough clatter overhead to wake the dead. This time I do spring out of bed. Rain pelts through the screen door. Wind has sent ajar the protective cover on the wicker deck chair. It's stuck on something. Frank's in the kitchen with his 5:30 a.m. coffee, so I call for help. Frank dashes out into the rain and tugs at the cover.

"I cannot believe this!" he extolls.

I lean out as one racoon slinks from under the cover onto the fire escape to watch the action. Frank's racoon, however, stays put. Why leave? It's still raining. Frank yanks off the cover and steps well back. He's now soaked. So is the racoon. It struts its stuff onto the deck, stops and defiantly stares back at us.

Let's face it. No one enjoys three straight days and nights of rain. I can't say I blame Frank's friend for wanting to stay dry or wanting a buddy to keep him company.

Frank strongly objects. "Off the deck, you two," he orders.



Cartoon by Roslyn Butler

The smaller racoon leaves. The other fellow saunters off with a look: "Don't think I won't be back."

And he's back alright. Garbage morning dawns on Avon Lane. Frank heads to the wooden trash box. Large as life atop the lid sits the racoon in revenge mode, deftly working the latch, his bandit buddy as lookout.

Frank raises enough ruckus to startle the marauders, but not quite enough to wake the neighbours. The simple latch is nearly open. Any racoon worth its salt could do it. That afternoon, Frank installs an overkill locking-bolt affair.

Rather extreme, I think. Wisely, I say nothing.

The antics of Frank and racoon, entertaining and all, don't help me with the continuing 6 a.m. hullaba-

loo above my ceiling. One morning, at a reasonable hour, Frank greets me with fresh coffee and, "I watched a bunch of squirrels racing around on the roof earlier. Some were jumping in from treetops. Landed with terrific thuds. You must have heard them."

Ah, so those were the thuds.

Trust squirrels to use our roof deck for early morning workouts. A privileged lot from the Rideau Hall grounds across the street. Probably the same bunch I caught nibbling buds from the petunias on the second-floor deck and, earlier, tulip buds from the front garden. No doubt they have a juicer squirreled away for smoothies after their workouts.

Squirrels.

At 6 a.m. I'm generally

imagining something more exciting like "a miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer." Better still, a moose mistaking our enormous roof deck for a swimming pool as moose in Ottawa are wont to do. The fact the roof is three storeys from the ground doesn't strike me as odd at early hours in my unsettled "for a long winter's nap" brain.

Anyway, moose hang around the suburbs in the south end, not New Edinburgh. And it's not Christmas.

Janet Ruddock and her husband Frank moved to New Edinburgh one year ago after 10 years in Washington and Boston with Foreign Affairs Canada. Janet is a writer, traveler, lover of the arts and advocate for those living with chronic pain.

## UrbanOttawa.com



**76 Tabor- Quartier Vanier \$569,000** – Fabulous home on lovely cul de sac in Urban Ottawa's Quartier Vanier. Quick walk to Beechwood and its great services, this well renovated and updated home will tick off your boxes! Extra spacious main floor living space with gorgeous Maple kitchen & a swing room as either third bdrm or home office! Full bath on main floor. 2 bedrooms on the second floor, a cool little study nook and a full bath. Really nicely finished lower level with large windows and a separate entrance and another full bath perfect to conduct a home based business or to rent out as a mortgage helper. Great backyard with western exposure. Lots of greenery! Convenient carport adjacent to side door. Bright and cheerful.



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## Leave your leaves this fall

By Julie LaPalme

It's that time of year, when we say hello to the beautiful array of colours that our deciduous trees have on display, to pluck the last of the tomatoes, and watch once-green plants turn yellow and brown.

Soon that beautiful display of red maple leaves will be carpeting the ground. The neighbours will be out raking leaves into brown compost bags and landscaping crews will be out in full force with leaf blowers, turning a quiet, sunny, crisp afternoon into an ear-splitting cloud of dust and leaves.

While neighbours are making their yards as clean as their kitchen floors, you can do an internet search for "What happens if I leave my leaves on the ground in the fall?" You will really like the results of your search because not only do they appeal to your lazy bones, but they also appeal to your environmental sensibilities.

Most people think that the "rip it up" and "rake it all" gardening clean-up approach is good gardening. But the best way to prepare your garden for winter is quite the opposite. Our yards can play an important role in supporting wildlife and what we do every autumn can either harbour insects, birds, amphibians, or they can be lifeless, desolate green carpets of perfection.

In its just-released Living Planet report, the World Wildlife Fund revealed that there has been an average drop of 68 per cent in species since the 1970s. This is the wholesale destruction of

our planet in one generation. WWF's UK chief executive Tanya Steele said: "We are wrecking our planet and with it putting our own health and the health of the environment at risk."

You can help reverse this trend by providing leaves and dead branches for critters to overwinter in. Bees like to hunker down under tree bark, hollow stems of plants and ornamental grass. Some spend the winter as an egg or larvae in a burrow in the ground. The same goes for

ing shears and a rake or leaf blower this fall, wait until next April. You might also want to reconsider that leaf blower. They blow chemicals, fungi, spores, animal fecal matter, moulds, diesel soot, allergens and other toxic substances into the air and into our lungs at more than 300 km/hour. They also strip off topsoil, desiccate roots, and kill vital soil-dwelling organisms, bees, butterflies, insects, and their eggs.

Do keep in mind, though,

*"Not cleaning up the garden means there will be more protein-rich insects available to birds during the coldest part of the year."*

ladybugs: not the introduced Asian ladybugs that come into our homes for the winter, but the native ladybug species that stay outside and go into hibernation when the temperatures drop. They spend the winter months tucked under leaves, nestled at the base of a plant, or hidden under rocks. Ladybugs are excellent pest-eaters, each one consuming dozens of soft-bodied pest insects and insect eggs every day.


Insect-eating birds (like chickadees, for example) consume thousands of caterpillars and other pest insects as they raise their young. Not cleaning up the garden means there will be more protein-rich insects available to them during the coldest part of the year. The more insect-nurturing habitat you have, the greater the bird population will be.

Instead of heading out to the garden with a pair of prun-

ing shears and a rake or leaf blower this fall, wait until next April. You might also want to reconsider that leaf blower. They blow chemicals, fungi, spores, animal fecal matter, moulds, diesel soot, allergens and other toxic substances into the air and into our lungs at more than 300 km/hour. They also strip off topsoil, desiccate roots, and kill vital soil-dwelling organisms, bees, butterflies, insects, and their eggs.

When we remove every last overwintering site by cutting everything down and completely cleaning up the garden, we're destroying much-needed winter habitat for pollinators and pest eaters. Do Mother Nature a big favour and save your garden clean up until the spring.

Julie LaPalme is a lover of nature, a gardener, and a founding member of Healthy Neighbourhoods Ottawa, a group advocating for healthier gardening practices with a focus on reducing leaf blower use. Find the group on Facebook: facebook.com/HealthyNeighbourhoodsOttawa.




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for details.



# In Memoriam: Michael Valiquette (1942 – 2020)

By Martha Markowski

It is with immense sadness that his family announces the passing of Michael Valiquette on Aug. 26. After a few months of chronic illness, he died peacefully at home, with his family and close friends by his side.

Born in a district known by many names (Janeville, Eastview, and eventually Vanier), Michael, a great storyteller, loved to recount tales of the history of this area. He loved the people of the neighbourhood and was a generous and kind individual.

Michael was a successful and established, award-winning designer and renovation consultant, taking on the challenges of designing, building and renovating homes in New Edinburgh and the Ottawa area. Subsequently, he merged his design skills with his real estate talents, becoming a renowned real estate agent. He remained licensed for more than 30 years. Until recently, Michael operated Victoria Island Real Estate at 119 Beechwood Ave.

His love for art led him



Photo courtesy Martha Markowsky

Until recently, Michael Valiquette operated Victoria Island Real Estate at 119 Beechwood Ave., which featured a small gallery space.

to establish The Artists' Workshop, a dedicated space occupying the front of his Beechwood Avenue office. He invited local artists to exhibit and sell their artworks, in addition to holding painting workshops and group shows.

Michael took up watercolour painting and would at times display his paintings in the gallery, as well as at the yearly craft shows at La Renaissance condo building, and at Petit Bill's Bistro in Westboro.

Michael's love for Newfoundland and his house in Grand Banks, where he would spend his summer vacations, gave him the opportunity to sketch and paint local scenes. It was a pleasure to join Michael in Grand Banks, where we discovered places to create beautiful landscape paintings. He will be deeply missed by his longtime friends in Newfoundland.

Michael dedicated many hours to advocating for and supporting the Sister Eleanor Fund. He also contributed to and supported La Renaissance's numerous social events and was involved with many other non-profit organizations. Once the COVID-19 ban on gatherings is lifted, La Renaissance will dedicate a plaque to Michael, renaming the lounge as "Salon Valiquette" in recognition of his renovations of and contributions to the condo building.

Michael will be sadly missed by his wife **JoAnn** (Capbert); son **Michael Jr.** and Michael Jr.'s wife Alexandra; son **Benjamin** and Benjamin's wife **Katherine**; cherished grandchildren **Nora, Rohan, Leah, William** and **Amelia**, as well as many caring and supportive lifelong friends. Due to current public health restrictions the family held a private service.



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Photo by Christina Leadlay

Victoria Island advertisement from *New Edinburgh News*, February 1983.

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# St. Bart's bazaar pivots online with 50 'vignettes' for sale

By Liz Heatherington

In 1878, Lady Dufferin (wife of Lord Dufferin, Canada's Governor General from 1872–1878) held a four-day bazaar to pay off the construction debt at St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church.

Since then, the church's bazaar has been an almost-yearly event, with the exception of the war years: 1914–

1918 and 1940–45.

This year, due to COVID-19, large gatherings inside buildings are out of the question. Early this summer, the bazaar organizers knew it would be impossible to hold our fundraiser in the traditional way, but we were anxious to keep it going, as our community outreach charities and refugee support depends

on these funds.

Beginning in April, the church decided to produce online Sunday services. They have been very well received and can be seen by people across the country and around the world! So, with the help of talented parishioners who are at ease with technology, the bazaar team decided to ask for their help and with



Photo courtesy Liz Heatherington

The annual fundraising bazaar at St. Bartholomew's church (pictured in 2015) will be held virtually for 2020.

their agreement, we launched our plan!

The event is an online, fixed-price sale, rather than a silent auction.

This new bazaar will have items grouped by category – such as “The Gentleman's Study,” featuring a fine chair, period engravings, history books, a wine-tasting kit, a sherry decanter with glasses and a butler's table; or “The Silk Road,” which includes silk scarves, bags, wraps, hats and other silk items.

In all, there will be at least 50 “vignettes” to choose from, each with a description and photographs.

The online sale will take place Nov. 12–14. We encourage you to visit [stbartsottawa.ca](http://stbartsottawa.ca), and watch for the bazaar sale link, which will be live at the end of October.

Would you like to help with the bazaar? We are asking for quality donations that would photograph well, along with any information you might have about the object.

Of course, it would be wonderful if you and your friends would join us online Nov. 12–14 for the opportunity to purchase the one-of-a-kind items on offer. Each “vignette” could include something for you and that special gift for someone else. Your purchases support St Bart's outreach in the community.

To donate, please contact the co-conveners: Linda Assad-Butcher (613-748-6060; [lassadbutcher@gmail.com](mailto:lassadbutcher@gmail.com)) or Liz Heatherington (613-745-4677; [elizmaryh@gmail.com](mailto:elizmaryh@gmail.com)).

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BY: *all saints*

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**Rotating Seasonal Soup** 11  
with savoury scone

**Roasted Autumn Squash Salad** 18  
with with baby kale, goat cheese, pecan,  
pickled cranberries, bulgar,  
pomegranate molasses vinaigrette  
[vegetarian, gluten free]

**Avocado Toast** 15  
with smoked salmon, cherry tomatoes,  
feta, mint, jalapenos and greens

**Rotating Sandwich** 15  
served with kettle chips or salad

**Classic Burger** 18  
with house-made bun, 7 oz beef,  
cheddar, bib lettuce, tomato, pickles,  
sauce and choice of kettle chips or salad

**Soba Noodle with Pork Belly** 17  
served with kimchi, eggplant  
and pickled carrots  
[vegan option with smoked tofu]

Ask about our children's menu options

### DINNER

**Mackerel** 26  
with sweet corn, potato salad,  
seasonal vegetable, dashi broth  
[gluten free]

**Scallops** 29  
with miso apple celeriac puree,  
bok choy, pickled shimeji, salty pork  
[vegan option with tofu + jackfruit, gluten free]

**Button Short Ribs** 24  
with rice, kimchi, bok choy,  
sweet corn, egg  
[vegan option smoked tofu, gluten free]

**Blue Cheese Burger** 22  
with house-made bun, 7 oz beef,  
blue cheese, bacon, caramelized onion,  
arugula, balsamic mayo

**Lemon Grass Chicken Curry** 22  
with daikon slaw, rice, yuzu chili paste  
[vegan option with eggplant, gluten free]

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## The magic of kindness

By Menna Glyn Andrews

The isolation from grandchildren has been difficult for everyone – especially for us grandparents. We have all longed for those afternoons when we can be together again. For the last couple of weeks our family has expanded into one bubble, and with this has come the contact – at a distance – with grandchildren.

It took a few outings for the three-year-old boys (cousins) to once again learn how to play with each other and be with their Naini (Welsh for Grandma).

One of the firsts was to conclude a scootering adventure at the newly reopened Union Street Kitchen Café. Both boys loved the destination. Children enjoy routine and when we took another scooter trail a few days later, both Emrys and Morgan suggested that we revisit the Union Street Kitchen Café.

The two arrived at the café with enthusiasm and glee only to discover that it was closed – only open Wednesday to Sunday! Needless to say, they were disappointed.

What transpired was a re-think attempt by Naini: why don't we go and make some treats at my place, see if we have popsicles in the freezer?

As I wondered whether this would end up in a cry, at that very instant, who should come around the corner but Christine Garand, the café's owner!

The boys recognized her; their eyes full of questions as to why the café wasn't open. Little did we know that Christine had been listening to our conversation from her apartment upstairs. She asked Emrys and Morgan if they would wait as she went into her kitchen to look for a treat for them.

They sat quietly, wondering if this was really happening. I talked to them about kindness and the special feeling that gets into our hearts when we experience the act. I could see the little wheels in motion. "When you can, will you be kind to someone?" I asked. Two little heads bobbed up and down in unison.

Christine came with a plate of goodies and the two thanked her without a prompt, their eyes as big as saucers as they asked if they could have water, too!

As we walked back to Springfield Road, a good 1.2 km away, we discussed making a card for Christine. And how being grateful makes giving just as special as receiving.

The card-making took all



Photo by Menna Andrews

During the pandemic, three-year-old cousins Emrys and Morgan learned about kindness thanks to the generosity of a local café owner.

of about five minutes and they enthusiastically said that they wanted to be the mail carriers for the delivery. I did not anticipate that they would want to walk back another 1.2 kms, but they did! One got to carry the envelope, and the other got to push it under the door.

Christine, you made magic happen for these two little guys. You planted seeds of generosity and kindness. I happen to think that they will remember and pay it forward in due course.

As we shed our COVID-19 isolation cocoons, let us all become bold butterflies for

kindness, compassion, gratitude and more. No matter our circumstances, our race, our age or anything else, let us create a new pandemic of kindness and compassion. We can all do something.

Our gratitude to Christine at Union Street Café for her magical act of kindness.

## Local artisan craft fair goes online

By Jenny Nelson

We are sad to announce that Something New Edinburgh is cancelled this year.

While the show is on hold,

we're still working behind the scenes to bring together community, artists, and one-of-a-kind craftsmanship.

Although unable to do so in person, we still want to connect artisans with the residents of New Edinburgh. To that end, we have reached out to our network of local artists and crafters, asking them to consider an exclusive offer to our online community.

The response has been overwhelmingly positive, as our artists are excited to reconnect with our visitors and are willing to do so in creative ways.

Thanks to the creativity and generosity of our artisans, Something New Edinburgh will feature special promotions during November on our social media platforms, exclusively for our online community. Participating businesses include Briggs

Trees, Seedling Yarn, UWF Textiles, Canoes and Creativity, Jennifer Kelley Pottery, and Manly-Man Designs.

Be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram (@somethingnewedinburgh) to take advantage of these exclusive promotions and to

support your local makers.

Jenny Nelson is one of the co-founders of Something New Edinburgh.



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# From the *NEN* Archives, February 1983

## Twilight Zoning

by Luigi Visentin

As the pressure of fill-in and renovation bear down on New Edinburgh residents, mumblings about regulating taste and preservation of heritage percolate from the shire. Finally, as last straws break and the successful developers reap their bad-taste windfalls, shire-folk begin to think of greener grasses in the "Glebe," "Blackburn Hatchery" and beyond. Now those are strange shores for Burghers and foreigners alike.

What type of people live there?

What are their real estate moral? Do they condone black doors and townhouses? As everyone knows it's very difficult to judge an area of slick brochures or obsequious platitudes of "Ralph-the-Revolting-Realtor." So where does one turn? Of course, one turns to the N.E.N. and their consumer guide of Ottawa Zoning. We tell you not only about

the character of the area but about the prevailing character of its residents. This gives you the opportunity to "judge the book by its pages" so to speak. In addition, our zoning descriptions are current, that is in "mellow-tongue" adjectives of this straight, one company town. No technical language to mix you up either, like at city hall, where they bandy R-4, HR-1 jargon around. In fact our guide renames Ottawa so it makes sense today. Like where are the sandy hills in Sandy Hill?, and what the blazes is a Glebe?? Sit back, relax, and feast your eyes. We give you what you always wanted...a succinct guide to the areas of Ottawa and what to expect when you move out of the Burgh. Remember our motto when perusing this article "Veritas te faciet rubor" or the grass is always greener if you use the right fertilizer.

**GLEBE**  
Mellow Name  
Granola Heights  
Zoning Designation  
Cute

### Flora and Fauna

Filled with the overtly affluent; old families of a certain age; and "Loom people." Women of the type tend to flowing locks and granny glasses. Den mothers and den fathers abound as do living room socialists. In general the male of the species is intense, heavy into health food, causes, and cute renovations. The average mental age of the species is 46.8.

**CENTRE TOWN**  
(Preston and Somerset W.)  
Mellow Name  
"Chitaly"  
Zoning Designation  
Pungent

### Flora and Fauna

Called "Chitaly" because of the mix of Chinese and Italians. If you don't like the smell of pasta, olive oil, or egg rolls...stay out! This is one of the few areas of Ottawa with soul, although a new "soulless" Lebreton Flats encroaches on the north. Spruce street says it all.

**CENTRE TOWN**  
(Cartier Square and Elgin area)  
Mellow Name  
Velvet town  
Zoning Designation  
Sweet

### Flora and Fauna

Just so stylish and leathery that it makes you pucker. There is such an abundance of purple and swishing even Oscar Wilde would have been at home here. It is a singular, singles area, with all the attendant style, and that striving for relevance, meaning and fulfillment. At 9:00 a.m. you are awakened by the roar of 5,000 blow-driers.

**MANOR PARK**  
Mellow Name  
Whiteville  
Zoning Designation  
Apple Pie

### Flora and Fauna

The area is filled with "straight-arrows" who mow their lawns and tend their fences, and property values. This is an area where Lois Lane and Clark Kent would be found if this was America. Laughing and joy are a serious matter here and not to be indulged in casually.

**NEW EDINBURGH**  
Mellow Name  
The Shire  
Zoning Designation  
Funky

### Flora and Fauna

Many "shire" type near-Englishmen or aspiring Englishmen live here. Generally cantankerous and polyglot in their tastes, the residents rightly think they've got the best...and flaunt it. The area lacks gates to keep out dogs, realtors, short politicians, and women hockey players from Verdun.

**ALTA VISTA**  
Mellow Name  
Mellowfellowmeadows  
Zoning Designation  
Mellow

### Flora and Fauna

Lots of professionals with busy schedules and big houses. Tends towards pretentiousness and pomposity for no apparent reason. Many M.D.s and the sort who can be seen regularly at the Ottawa Little Theatre or the N.A.C. giving long, standing-ovations to trained dog acts or three day movies about Napoleon. Most of the residents loved the dialogue in Shogun even though they don't understand Japanese. People retire from life to this area and spend their time exercising at Billings Bridge Shopping Centre.

**COUNTRY PLACE - ARLINGTON WOODS**  
KANATA, BARRHAVEN, AND BRIDLEWOOD  
QUALICUM  
Mellow Name  
The Stables  
Zoning Description  
Farrrr!!!

### Flora and Fauna

Beyond the fringe and actually part of Alberta. People here are drivers. They have glazed looks and spend a lot of time talking about Canadian Tire stores. Many men and women have "steering-wheel hands" like dogs begging for bones for constant commuting. They spent their weekends driving their children; eating at drive-ins; shopping for car accessories, or washing their cars. People here would be horsey if they could escape their three car garages. In Qualicum the cars are bigger.

**SANDY HILL**  
Mellow Name  
The City  
Zoning Designation  
Slick

### Flora and Fauna

Varied and packed with real people and students (that is a plus). Incursions by health food nuts and "Macraméans" threatens to change the landscape. Several embassies attract dissidents and kooks which provides the area with local color. Close to Harvey's, Pestalozzi College, Beer stores, and Rideau Bakery. Lots of boarding house types who wear black sneakers, white socks, and cook in their rooms. The menu is better than market restaurants.

### VANIER

While technically not part of Canada, it has soul and is close enough to Ottawa to be considered as a possible habitat.

**Mellow Name**  
No-Zone-Land  
Zoning Description  
Potpourri

### Flora and Fauna

Denizens of this area speak neither French or English but a form of Franglais that is akin to mumbling in your beer. Vanier residents regularly emigrate to Niagara Falls to lower the standards of bad taste in that unfair city. This is an area of shrines, hospitals, pizza joints, gas stations, multi-family bungalows, and high taxes. If you like wrought-iron, angel stone and the color chartreuse then you will like Vanier.

**ROCKCLIFFE**  
Mellow Name  
The Village  
Zoning Designation  
Grand

### Flora and Fauna

Populated by 600 of "them," mostly the best and brightest second stringers from 1st, 2nd and 3rd world countries, including our own. A staid, leafy repose, run for and by these residents in a style like Kenya before the Mau Mau. Lots of loose dogs and private guards.



### Editor's note

If you are upset because we didn't include your area, we'll try to take care of this another time. If anyone feels insulted, (by being included or excluded), just remember the words of the

sage Luigi, "When in the dark and distant future the earth and the Universe dissipate in the terminal stages of total entropy and heat death, no-one will give a damn whether you lived in the Burgh, the Glebe or Calcutta. Dust is dust"

**LOWER TOWN**  
Mellow Name  
Lustville  
Zoning Description  
Earthy

### Flora and Fauna

A glitzy mix of flower stalls, butchers, malls, rotten slums, boutiques, renovated rotten slums, and poor restaurants with gloomy fronts. All this patrolled by aggressive "women of the night." You can get meat in all it's forms at the market, some of it still warm and moving. The area is leavened with muggers, winos, dopers, cabbies and cruising cops. Even walking here at night thrills people from Kanata.

**OVERBROOK**  
Mellow Name  
The Downs  
Zoning Description  
Grungie

### Flora and Fauna

Like Vanier except that they speak the other official foreign language. Bikers paradise and somewhat lower-brow than Sudbury. This is a tricky area and you can drive right into Cyrville if you're not careful. MacArthur Lanes is the cultural centre.

**LINDENLEA**  
Mellow Name  
Blandoland  
Zoning Designation  
Quiet

### Flora and Fauna

Mostly clerk types who deserve sand kicked at them. They have some tall buildings housing old judges, single M.P.s., and servile savants. A sleepy section of the old, the lonely and the forgotten...and the forgettable.

**BEACON HILL, BLACKBURN HATCHERY AND ORLEANS**  
Mellow Name  
Jammed  
Zoning Description  
The Warren

### Flora and Fauna

Average mental age is 52.567 years. They usually have 2.1416 children and 2.432 cars. More children per square foot than Limbo. To live here you must have a gas barbecue in your garage, cheap bermuda shorts, hair curlers, and a job that pays \$38,345.27. You and your wife should be fat or going to fat. Bathrooms are all the same style as are bedrooms, and brains.

## Leo La Vecchia Tailor

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# Linden House Theatre takes a year off

By Janet Uren

In case you haven't heard the news: the world (and the Linden House Theatre Company) is suffering through a pandemic.

So far, we in Canada are doing a pretty good job of facing down the disease and adjusting, finding new ways to socialize safely, to shop and to keep each other disease-free.

In theatre, however, we have been hard hit. There is just no safe way to bring together our audience in any kind of significant numbers to enjoy the wonder of live performance. That's the hard truth.

The irony is that we have never been so ready to go here at Linden House. In early winter 2020, we had already chosen a play: *Outside Mullingar*, by John Patrick Shanley. It's a delightful love story, full of the wit, the poetry and larger than life characters of the Irish countryside.

The play will be directed by Lindsay Laviolette, who has acted with the company in *Enchanted April* (Lady



Janet Uren, seen here in a hot-air balloon during the 2018 production of *For the Pleasure of Seeing Her Again*, looks forward to bringing more "uplifting" drama to the stage in November 2021.

Photo by Maria Vartanova

Caroline) and *The Savannah Sipping Society* (Jinx) and is now ready to flex her directorial muscles. We also have a wonderful cast already committed to the show, bringing

back to Linden House:

- **Venetia Lawless** (Lottie in *Enchanted April* and Marlafaye in *The Savannah Sipping Society*)
- **David Holton** (Charles

Condomine in *Blithe Spirit* and the Narrator in *For the Pleasure of Seeing Her Again*)

- **Geoff Gruson** (Sir Michael Thurston in *Imaginary Lines*

and Mellersh in *Enchanted April*)

• **Janet Uren** (founder of the company, she crops up in every show, rather like a weed)

The bad news? We are taking the year off.

Now for the good news!

With only a year or so to go, we are really ahead of ourselves with a good play in hand, a director, actors and a production team that has already sketched out designs for the set and costumes.

We are, in a word, championing at the bit.

So take a deep breath, everybody. Calendars for 2021 will be on sale in bookstores in just a few months. Be prepared to buy one and write down in large letters for the first two weeks in November: "Outside Mullingar – Linden House Theatre."

We will miss you this fall and look forward to meeting again with even more "Theatre for the Joy of It" in autumn 2021.

Janet Uren, the founder of the Linden House Theatre Company, lives in New Edinburgh.



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# EVENTS CALENDAR

Send event listing details to [newednews@hotmail.com](mailto:newednews@hotmail.com) Visit our website at [newedinburgh.ca/events](http://newedinburgh.ca/events) for the most up-to-date listings.

## OCTOBER

**Oct. 13 – CCC meeting** at 7:30–9 p.m. The Crichton Community Council holds its monthly board meeting. Please contact CrichtonCommunityCouncil@gmail.com for an online meeting link.

**Oct. 20 – NECA Board Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. The

New Edinburgh Community Alliance will hold its monthly board meeting virtually on the Zoom teleconferencing platform. All New Edinburgh residents are welcome to attend. Contact President Cindy Parkanyi for details: [newedinburgh@outlook.com](mailto:newedinburgh@outlook.com)

**Oct. 21 – Ottawa Book Awards** at 6 p.m. Taking place online. New Edinburgh's

Charlotte Gray is among the 15 local authors nominated for the 2020 Ottawa Book Awards, hosted by the Ottawa Public Library and the City of Ottawa. Visit [ottawa.ca](http://ottawa.ca) to see the full list of nominees.

**Oct. 25 – Walking Tour of Lowertown East** starting at De La Salle high school, 501 Old St. Patrick St. at 2 p.m. \$5 members; \$10 non-members. Register: [heritageottawa.org](http://heritageottawa.org). Heritage Ottawa hosts a walking tour of Lowertown East, bounded by Rideau Street, King Edward Avenue, and the Rideau River. Nancy

## 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 Christina Leadlay, 613-261-0442 or email [newednews@hotmail.com](mailto:newednews@hotmail.com).

**Dog/Cat Walking And Sitting** Your house plants are also safe with me! Emergency and regular daily walking. Puppy Experience. References. Liba Bender: 613-746-4884.

Miller Chenier will guide the tour, focussing on the area's built heritage and its three key parks: Anglesea Square, Macdonald Gardens and Bordeleau Park.

**Oct. 28 – NECA Annual General Meeting** will take place virtually at 7 p.m. All New Edinburgh residents are welcome to NECA's Annual General Meeting and to join the board! Contact: [newedinburgh@outlook.com](mailto:newedinburgh@outlook.com).

First come, first served.

**Nov. 17 – NECA Board Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. The New Edinburgh Community Alliance will hold its monthly board meeting virtually on the Zoom teleconferencing platform. All New Edinburgh residents are welcome to attend. Contact President Cindy Parkanyi for details: [newedinburgh@outlook.com](mailto:newedinburgh@outlook.com)

## DECEMBER

**Dec. 8 – CCC meeting** at 7:30–9 p.m. The Crichton Community Council holds its monthly board meeting. Please contact CrichtonCommunityCouncil@gmail.com for an online meeting link.

**Dec. 15 – NECA Board Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. The New Edinburgh Community Alliance will hold its monthly board meeting virtually on the Zoom teleconferencing platform. All New Edinburgh residents are welcome to attend. Contact President Cindy Parkanyi for details: [newedinburgh@outlook.com](mailto:newedinburgh@outlook.com)

## NOVEMBER

**Nov. 10 – CCC meeting** at 7:30–9 p.m. The Crichton Community Council holds its monthly board meeting. Please contact CrichtonCommunityCouncil@gmail.com for an online meeting link.

**Nov. 12–14 – St. Bart's Virtual Bazaar** at [stbartsottawa.ca](http://stbartsottawa.ca). 613-745-4677. St. Bartholomew Church's annual bazaar is going virtual for 2020. Items will be on sale online during October and November in advance of the three-day sale.

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# book fair

at rockcliffe park public school

## No RPPS Book Fair 2020

As a result of direction from the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board to limit special events taking place in schools this fall, Rockcliffe Park School Council and the Book Fair committee are sad to announce the cancellation of the RPPS Book Fair for November 2020.

Book donation bins will remain **CLOSED** until further notice. Please do not

leave any book donations by the bins: all such items will be thrown in the garbage.

The absence of the Book Fair will leave a big hole in our school year, but it will return in the future!

Get the latest Book Fair news by following us on Facebook: [@rockcliffeparkbookfair](https://www.facebook.com/rockcliffeparkbookfair), Twitter: [@RPPSBookfair](https://twitter.com/RPPSBookfair) and at our website: [rockcliffeparkbookfair.com](http://rockcliffeparkbookfair.com).



## Library continues virtual programming this fall

**By Marta Hodgson, Ottawa Public Library**

Fall has arrived in our city, and if you are ready to spend some cozy time inside with a book, magazine or a DVD, the Ottawa Public Library has many branches open for you to browse or pick-up a pre-ordered hold including the Vanier and St. Laurent branches. Sadly, the Rockcliffe Park Branch of the Ottawa Public Library remains closed to visitors.

Please check the library

website to find the most convenient open branch: [bibliooottawalibrary.ca/en/blogs/updates-opl-services](http://bibliooottawalibrary.ca/en/blogs/updates-opl-services)

The library also has an exciting season of virtual programming on offer:

We are again partnering with the Ottawa PC Users Group and BYMUG (the Bytown Mac Users Group) to provide our **Tech Café**, featuring presentations on a wide variety of topics like improving your Windows performance, creating blogs, buying digital

cameras, securing your home network and passwords, and using your Apple devices. Check the website for a full listing of tech programs.

The library has invited **local chefs** to highlight inexpensive, healthy and delicious meals that will bring you comfort and joy this fall. Please check the website for the complete list of cooking programs and join us to cook some sourdough bread and squash laksa!

The Ottawa Public Library is proud to partner with

the **Ottawa International Writer's Festival** to offer weekly opportunities to hear writers talk about their work. Please join in to hear Jesse Thistle and David A. Robertson in conversation with Shelagh Rogers, and many others.

Please check the library's website for upcoming online story time programs for children, as well as virtual Dungeons and Dragons, and yoga for teens.

We are looking forward to an engaging bilingual speakers'

series with Canadian Olympians **Waneek Horn-Miller** on Oct. 6 and **Bruny Surin** on Oct. 20 focused on the topic of resilience. All available online through the library's website: [bibliooottawalibrary.ca](http://bibliooottawalibrary.ca).

Wishing you a happy, healthy fall.

*Martha Hodgson is the Public Service Supervisor at the Rockcliffe Park Branch of the Ottawa Public Library.*

## Spring book sale mulls a September 2021 return

**By Carolyn Brereton**

When the 2020 Rockcliffe Park Library Spring Book Sale was cancelled, sale managers were left wondering how to deal with the hundreds of boxes that had already been sorted and priced: keep them for next year (which would entail extra expense for additional storage) or try to find a buyer?

We are happy to report that a mutually satisfactory deal was reached with the owners of Black Squirrel Books. Black Squirrel has been a valuable collaborator with the sale for many years. Not only do the owners line up on opening day to purchase several boxes of books for

their used bookstore on Bank Street, but they also help us by removing a significant portion of leftover stock at the end of the sale.

We are also grateful to the City of Ottawa for letting us store many of our sorted and priced books in their Vanier Depot. Management and staff have been most accommodating. This assistance has been invaluable to us.

We are still hoping that our 2021 Spring Book Sale will be a go – just substitute September for Spring. So please keep those donations for us, if you can. Sadly, we are unable to accept books and AV material while the Rockcliffe Park Branch

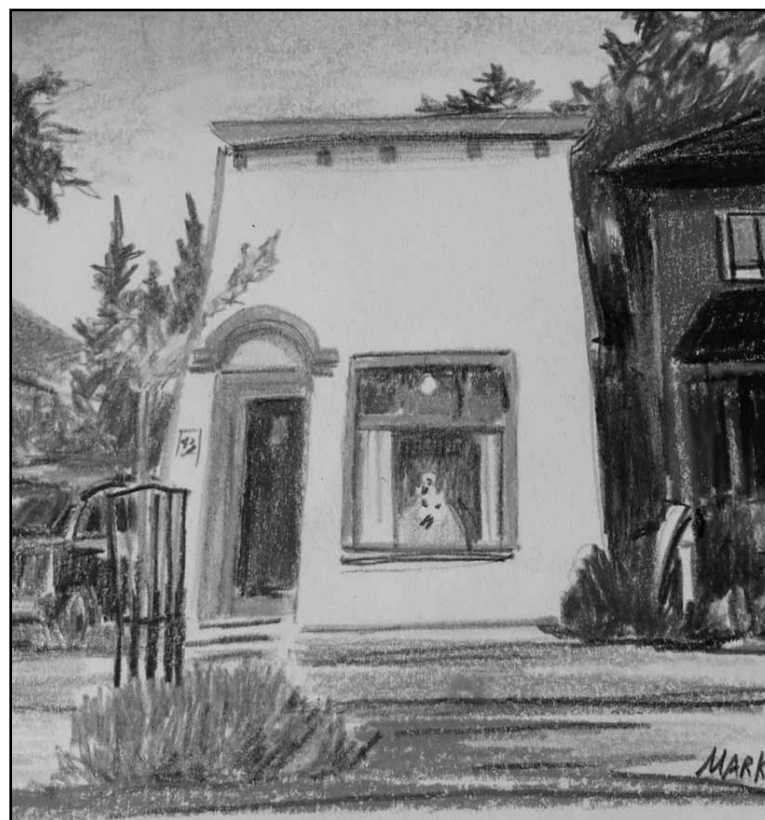
library remains closed, but rest assured, you'll be hearing from us as soon as we're back in business!

As ever, we are most grateful for all the support we receive from our community, our volunteers, our donors, our sponsors and our patrons.



**Deadline**  
for the next issue of the  
*New Edinburgh News*

**NOV 10**  
[newednews@hotmail.com](mailto:newednews@hotmail.com)



*Sketch by Martha Markowsky*

A little house on Crichton Street.



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# Burgh Breezy Bits

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## Welcome

A warm New Edinburgh welcome to **Dorothy and Saman**, who have moved into **Noor and Pauline's** former house on Crichton Street!

## Condolences

NEN was saddened to hear of the recent death of **Karim**

**Gwaduri**, a former advertiser in this newspaper. Karim was a financial advisor at Edward Jones, located at Rockcliffe Crossing. He passed away unexpectedly on Jun. 25, at age 44. Karim was active in the Ismaili Muslim Community and helped sponsor events in nearby Manor Park. Our thoughts go out to his fiancée **Shemin Fakirani**, his family and friends. On Jun. 27, **Gord Hilchie**,

just a few weeks shy of his 90th birthday, passed away at the Perley Rideau Veterans' Health Centre with his wife **Alice** at his side. Gord, Alice and their son **Keith** lived on Vaughan Street for many years. Neighbours will miss Gord, as he always had time to chat and have a laugh with everyone. Left to celebrate him are Alice, daughters **Pam (Michael Pearson)**, **Jan (Paul Charlton)**, sons **Keith** and **Michael (Toby Rosenbloom)** and grandsons **Declan** and **Aidan Charlton**.



Photo by Joyce Dubuc

Vaughan Street was stricken by the news that neighbour **Herbie Boutilier** passed away suddenly at his home at 91 Vaughan St. on Jul. 6, aged 89. Herb moved to the street in the 1960s with his wife **Teresa** and daughter **Carolle**. Although a long time New Edinburgh resident, Herb was always a small-town Cape Bretoner at heart. One of the friendliest people you could meet, Herb was always ready with a story, a hearty laugh, and maybe a popsicle or a bowl of ice cream for the neighbour kids. Herb was always loved.



Photo montage by Louise Imbeault

Long time Beechwood entre-

preneur **Richard Primeau** passed away in mid-September after moving to Montreal to be closer to his family during a debilitating illness. Several decades ago, Richard operated a newspaper and magazine store on Beechwood. More recently, he has been in the restaurant business, and was proprietor of **Arturo's** in two locations on Beechwood. We extend our sincere condolences to his family, and to his long-standing business partner and close friend **Laura Dunn**.



Photo courtesy Rob Butler

On Oct. 21, Avon Lane will say goodbye to long-time residents **Roslyn and Don Butler**, who are moving across the Rideau River to Lowertown. Roslyn has been NECA's diligent secretary for many years, but stepped down at its September meeting. Roslyn and Don send the following farewell:

*We would like to say goodbye to our much-loved neighbourhood of New Edinburgh. For 21 years we have been very happy in our funky 120-year-old house that pretended to have landed from California (cedar siding and all) and nestled in the middle of the Burgh on Avon Lane. But the time has come to downsize a little and make things simpler for ourselves by moving to a condo.*

*After searching for two years, we finally found a suitable place just on the other side of the Minto Bridges, so we can still be near everything we like so much about the Burgh. It was a privilege to serve on the NECA board.*

*My husband is finding it a wrench to leave, but I hope we will still use all the familiar shops and walks around the park. Maybe he will learn to fondly enjoy the old streets of the Market and Lowertown as well. We can still walk to our church, St. Bart's.*

## Miscellaneous

Ecology Ottawa and the Sierra Club have launched a crowd-sourced air quality monitoring tool. Search for Breathe Easy on [ecologyottawa.ca](http://ecologyottawa.ca)

## Farewell



Photo by Louise Imbeault

NEN says thank you and farewell to **David Horley** who has stepped down from the NEN Advisory Board, having moved out of the neighbourhood after many years on Stanley Avenue.



Neighbours bid farewell to the **DeWolfe** Family of Ivy Crescent who are moving to Sandy Hill. The Crichton Community Council would like to thank **Norah, Abby, Nathanael and Matt** for all their years of volunteering in our community. Fair winds and following seas!



## Mickey says Farewell By Isobel Bisby

It's okay.  
No need to be sad.

It was time,  
for me to move on to my  
next adventure.

For sure I'll miss our daily  
walks in the park,  
loping from tree to tree,  
sniffing all the wonderful  
smells that brought pleasure  
to my day.

Remember when I would  
sneak down to the river for  
a quick dip,  
and how cross you were!  
Yelling "Mickey, Mickey  
come here!"  
And I always took my time  
like any self-respecting  
Golden!

Chasing sticks and the occa-  
sional lazy squirrel,  
though easily distracted if I  
saw a human friend.  
Much more interesting than  
dogs I always think!

**Mickey** was the much-  
loved golden retriever who  
lived at the Union Street  
Kitchen Café. We were  
among the many neighbours  
who helped care for Mickey  
so that Christine could get on  
with her work as café owner  
and yoga teacher extraor-  
dinaire. Mickey died in the  
spring and we all miss him  
very, very much.

And in winter rolling in the  
snow in the back garden.  
Ecstatic,  
wiggling my body in the  
new fallen whiteness,  
fluffy tail and four feet spi-  
ralling in delight.

I so loved my café life.  
Greeting everyone at the  
door  
all my special human friends.  
Occasional treats dropped to  
the floor for my consump-  
tion.  
Best not tell Christine...

Lazy days.  
Lying on a yoga mat among  
friends,  
head on paws in mindful  
contemplation.

I am content to have known  
you all  
constant friends and com-  
panions.

It's okay.  
No need to be sad.

It was time,  
For me to move on to my  
next adventure.