

DECEMBER 2021

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

newedinburgh.ca

Should a portion of Stanley Avenue be closed for good?

By Jason Tavoularis

I would like to start by thanking Marc D'Orgeville for serving as chair of the New Edinburgh Community Alliance's (NECA) Traffic and Safety (T&S) committee these past few years, and for encouraging me to step up to replace him. Marc came to my home on Dufferin Road recently to complete the transition. We discussed various T&S matters like Dufferin Road's new speed humps, a project we had worked on together, liaising with City Councillor Rawlson King's office and adjacent residents.

But it was the Stanley Avenue road closure in late October/early November that really animated us. One of the documents Marc transferred to me as the new T&S chair was NECA's 1997 Community Directed Traffic Calming Study report which recommended closing Stanley Avenue to traffic from the New Edinburgh Fieldhouse (203 Stanley Ave.) to the entrance of River Lane on

Dufferin Road. This recommendation never moved forward due to the potential for negative spin-off effects.

The recent temporary closure inadvertently gave us an interesting proof point that seemingly justifies further study towards a Stanley Avenue revamp without through traffic. Marc and I live on opposite ends of the closure that was recommended in the NECA traffic calming report almost 25 years ago. Neither of us witnessed a negative impact from the recent closure. We did observe a more relaxing atmosphere in Stanley Park without cars driving past the playground. Did any other park users perceive this? Surely, there must have been some traffic diverted from Stanley Avenue onto Crichton or MacKay Streets, but did those living on these streets notice?

The path towards permanently changing Stanley Avenue in such a way is a long one that would need

Continued on page 6



On Nov. 27, trees on River Lane were lit up for the Lane Loop Winter Walk. Read more about this event, p.4. *Photo by Justin Swan*

Forced out of 255 MacKay St., NECTAR's 'wild ride' isn't over

By Sean Flynn, NECTAR co-chair

By now, I'm sure most readers have figured out that NECTAR (New Edinburgh Community and Arts Centre) has finally moved out of 255 MacKay St. (also known as New Edinburgh House). It has been a wild ride for an organization that has seen many ups and downs and twists and turns over the last 20 years or so. Launched as the Crichton Cultural Community Centre (called "The 4Cs" so as not to be confused with our friends down the road at the Fieldhouse, the 3Cs: the Crichton Community Council), NECTAR came a long way from being a one-room operation run by a small but passionate group of neighbourhood parents.

In our first act, our small size, independence, entrepreneurial approach, and com-

munity focus enabled us to respond quickly and effectively to ideas and requests from the community and clients. Starting out in a space on the second floor of 200 Crichton St. – the old Crichton Street Public School – we grew into a real hub of activity with arts and community programming. Of course, when the sale of 200 Crichton St. to The School of Dance required a move, the NECTAR board and our friends and partners at the MacKay United Church heroically secured a new home (and name) for the organization at the church's former manse at 255 MacKay St.

In our second act, the NECTAR Centre and its engaged and passionate board, staff, and volunteers developed a reputation for innovation and imagination in programming that attracted a

loyal clientele. We continued to foster strong relationships with local businesses and with other local groups through joint programming and community-building projects such as the Beechwood Fire Fund, Jane's Walk, the Lumière Festival, and countless neighbourhood meetings and celebrations. However, all this was predicated on getting City of Ottawa operational funding to bring us in line with other City community centres, as well as capital funds to complete necessary retrofits. Unfortunately, despite support and advocacy from City Councillors Tobi Nussbaum and Rawlson King, there simply wasn't sufficient funds in the City's operational budget to support us. As such, our operating

Continued on page 7

City's new Official Plan vague on how to make intensification livable

By Marion Siekierski

The United Nations climate change conference, COP26, topped the November news. And while bold political, economic and institutional actions are necessary and have to be driven at the federal and international stage to keep global warming to 1.5°C, a large spectacle of climate change issues plays out in the urban sphere.

Cities are where more than 55 per cent of the world's population lives (in Canada it's 80 per cent). Cities gen-

erate a large proportion of greenhouse gases, with transport and buildings being the biggest contributors. So, cities – how we build them, move around in them, heat and cool them, feed them – will play a big part in whether we will be successful in staying below 1.5°C; and this is why the City of Ottawa's Official Plan (OP) is important.

This new OP replaces one from 2003, itself an amalgamation of multiple "smaller" plans. This new OP will

guide the city's development over the next 25 years. Its central challenge is to manage Ottawa's growth to a projected population of 1.4 million people – requiring almost 200,000 new homes—by 2046 amid a housing and climate crisis.

The OP's answer to this is intensification and rightly so: intensification, rather than urban sprawl, helps limit greenhouse gas emissions from transport and

Continued on page 21



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.

Our next meetings will take place **Tuesday, Dec. 21, 7:30 p.m.** and **Tuesday Jan. 18, 7:30 p.m.** Meetings are held virtually on Zoom. Contact newedinburgh@outlook.com for details.

Your NECA Representatives 2020-2021

Contact anyone below through info@newedinburgh.ca

Ari Abonyi

Sarah Anson-Cartwright

Ted Bennett **Treasurer**

Ray Boomgaardt

Katherine Hall **Friends of the Park**

Karen Squires **Friends of the Park**

Heather Matthews

Samantha McAleese **Secretary**

Gail McEachern **Heritage & Development**

Jason Tavoularis **Traffic & Safety**

Cindy Parkanyi **President, NECA**

Ex officio:

Sylvain Bélanger **President, CCC**

Sean Flynn **NECTAR**

Christina Leadlay *New Edinburgh News*
613-261-0442
newednews@hotmail.com

Learn more at
newedinburgh.ca

Changes on NECA board bring new faces and ideas



Cindy Parkanyi
NECA President

Thank you to all who attended the New Edinburgh Community Alliance's Annual General Meeting on Oct. 27. We are looking forward to advancing our strategic priorities for this year. There are a few changes to the board for 2021-22. New board member **Jason Tavoularis** is taking over as chair of the Traffic and Safety Committee, as **Marc d'Orgeville** has stepped down from the board after devoting several years to improve safety on our neighbourhood streets. **Samantha McAleese**, who never missed a NECA meeting last year despite not being a member of the board, has joined our ranks and has taken on the role of secretary. We also welcome **Karen Squires**, who is rejoining the board after a hiatus of a number of years. Welcome to you all! Unfortunately, we had to say farewell to a few other board members: in addition to Marc, Alison Fabian, who headed up the Communications Committee, has had to step away, as has **Tamara Sorger**, who headed up the Environment and Climate Change Committee. Thank you all for your support and volunteer efforts!

At the AGM, NECA continued its tradition of offering special BRICK awards to property owners who have undertaken renovations or other improvements that honour

the heritage and village-like fabric of the community, as well as to residents who have shown dedication to building and maintaining a sense of community within New Edinburgh.

This year's bricks-and-mortar recipient is **Roya Azarm**, for the thoughtful and sensitive restoration of the 19th-century house at 34 Union St. (see photo, below) The 2021 Community Builder award is presented to **Barbara Benoit** for her long-time and dedicated involvement in countless endeavours that have enhanced the quality of life for the New Edinburgh community (see full article on page 3). Congratulations!

The Dec. 21 NECA Board Meeting will take place at 7:30p.m. on Zoom; however, the agenda will be light to allow for a bit of merriment at the end. All are welcome to attend. Visit newedinburgh.ca/events/ for the link.

Winter walk on the lanes!

If you live on one of the lanes that form the Winter Walk loop (River, Avon, and School Lanes), don't forget to unpack those twinkling lights, and join the fun to make this new initiative a great success. We are really hoping to have a magical and well-lit loop along the lanes that everyone – from New Edinburgh and further afield – can enjoy over the darkest days of winter. For more information, visit bit.ly/winterwalkinfo.

How to stay connected in the Burgh

To receive monthly NECA updates by email, please contact newedinburgh@outlook.com or sign up through the community website: newedinburgh.ca. For up-to-the-minute info on what's happening in the neighbourhood, you can join the Google Group "New Edinburgh Discussions", then simply email to new-ed-talk@googlegroups.com. You can also join the listserv (known informally as the Mom's List, although there are many non-moms on the list), by sending an email request to list master Dave Rostenne: dave@theconsultant.net. You can also follow us on Twitter @NewEdinburgh and Facebook @NewEdinburghNECA.



Photo by Alexander Mackenzie

Roya Azarm (seated) received a BRICK award for her renovation of 34 Union St. Learn more, p.3.



newedinburgh.ca
newednews
NewEdinburghNECA

Barbara Benoit and 34 Union St. receive BRICK awards

By Gail McEachern

Roya Azarm's house at 34 Union Street and former *NEN* editor Barbara Benoit are recipients of the 2021 BRICK Awards, announced at the New Edinburgh Community Alliance's annual general meeting on Oct. 27.

NECA created the BRICK awards in 2009. BRICK stands for "Burgh Renovation, Improvement, and Construction Kudos" awarded in two categories: "Bricks and Mortar" and "Community Builder."

The "Bricks and Mortar" award recognizes the construction of an addition to a building, the restoration of architectural elements on an existing house, or a new infill development which is compatible and sensitive to the surrounding neighbourhood aesthetic. The main criteria for evaluating a project: quality of design; consideration of heritage issues; and the impact on the streetscape and green spaces. The award committee also reviews each project in terms of the City of Ottawa's infill guidelines, the directives laid out in New Edinburgh's Heritage Conservation Plan, and current City Zoning By-laws.

This year's "Bricks and Mortar" award recipient is Roya Azarm, who has spent the past year restoring a two-and-a-half storey front-gabled house at 34 Union St. in New Edinburgh's Historic District. The house was built around 1870 and is the oldest surviving residence on Union Street. It was built in an era when post-and-beam construction using first-growth timber was popular, so most of the interior structure remained intact. However, the exterior had endured considerable damage and changes over the years. Roya's goal was to bring the house back as much as possible to the way it had looked in the mid-19th century. Later add-ons such as the stucco finish and vinyl trim were carefully removed, exposing the original ship-lapped wood siding which was replaced by boards with the same profile. The vinyl trim was replaced with wood, while other historic architectural elements were preserved. This is a thought-

ful and sensitive restoration deserving of recognition.

The BRICK award for "Community Builder" honours an exceptional person who has generously and consistently contributed their time and talents to enriching our community. The 2021 recipient is Barbara Benoit of 123 Noel St., in recognition of her dedicated involvement in countless endeavours which have enhanced the quality of life in New Edinburgh over the years.

Barbara and her family have lived in New Edinburgh since 1984. She began volunteering on the board of the New Edinburgh Day Care Cooperative. The children in the program used the grassy expanse at Rideau Hall as their outdoor playground until they were banned from the property when then-Governor General Jeanne Sauvé closed the grounds to the public for "security reasons." Barbara, along with parents and children, staged a protest outside the gates. Speaking to the media, she criticized the new security measures, which resulted in her losing her day job with the National Capital Commission, the Crown corporation responsible for the official residences.

Barbara's attention turned to potential improvements to long-neglected Stanley Park, using \$150,000 budgeted by the City of Ottawa for this purpose. Not trusting City bureaucrats to make the best decisions, Barbara, as part of the Park Improvement Committee, spent hours accompanied by her dog, walking the park end-to-end, carefully observing what could be done effectively. She then used her creative common sense to make recommendations for the best use of the City's budgeted allocation. Under Barbara's watchful eye, an inexpensive solution to annual flooding was carried out on the soccer field. She supervised the planting of 30 mature trees in the southern end of the park and helped to plant the Monarch Butterfly Field.

Barbara was also involved in the design of the current park Fieldhouse, persuading the City to agree to a brick building with windows



Photo by Barbara Benoit
Former *NEN* editor Barbara Benoit received a BRICK award from NECA on Oct. 27.

— rather than a cement block — and even went to the brick factory to ensure the right colour material was chosen.

The battle over the Vanier Arterial Extension (a proposed elevated six-lane highway crossing through Stanley Park) linking the 417 Queensway to the MacDonald-Cartier Bridge remained a huge threat to the existence of the park in the 1980s, and Barbara, as a member of the new Parks Not Pavement Committee, helped fundraise for the community's legal expertise.

Barbara has also been involved in the amateur theatre troupe New Edinburgh Players, and was editor of the *New Edinburgh News* from 1992–2000.

A resourceful member of the New Edinburgh community, Barbara has been determined, unflappable, and generous with her time and good humour, all the while raising a family and caring over the years for eight cats, five dogs, four horses, and one rabbit. Barbara is a true community builder.

Congratulations to both Barbara and Roya!

Support your local businesses!

Tell them you saw
their ad in the
New Edinburgh News.

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

203 Stanley Ave., Ottawa, ON K1M 1P2

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

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

Publisher: New Edinburgh Community Alliance

Advisory Committee:

Carolyn Brereton

Jane Heintzman

Cindy Parkanyi

Roslyn Butler

Joana Chelo

Gemma Kerr

Dave Rostenne

Managing Editor

Christina Leadlay

78 Wurtemberg

613-261-0442

newednews@hotmail.com

Advertising Manager

Joana Chelo

ads@newedinburgh.ca

Photographer

Alexander McKenzie

613-301-0852

photochefalex@gmail.com

Production Manager

Dave Rostenne

Bookkeeper

Nicholas Galambos

Distribution Manager

Karen Harrison

karen.g.harrison@gmail.com

Proofreaders

Adrienne Blair

Lori Small

Contributors

Books on Beechwood staff

John Dance

Megan Doyle Ray

Sean Flynn

Andrew Fyfe

Andre R. Gagne

Jane Heintzman

Simon Leadlay

Randy Mar

Martha Markowsky

Gail McEachern

Tamara Miller

Gavin Murphy

Keith Newton

Marta M. Reyes

Johanna Rostenne

Janet Ruddock

Iola Price

Marion Siekierski

Justin Swan

Jason Tavoularis

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.

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

The *New Edinburgh News* is also made available online at the New Edinburgh community website:

newedinburgh.ca

Printed by Transcontinental Printing

ISSN 0703-9042

Letter to the Editor

Warm welcome wobble

I enjoy receiving and reading our community paper and learning about all the activities and new ventures occurring in our community. The paper often focuses on the rich history of this community and in particular its relationship with Rideau Hall and the Governor General.

I was surprised to read in your latest edition which extends a “warm welcome to our new neighbours at Rideau Hall” and refers to our new Governor General as “Head of State” (October 2021, p. 36). I believe this is wrong.

Queen Elizabeth is our head of state: she is the Queen of Canada. The Governor General is her appointed representative in Canada.

The intent of the welcome to our new neighbour is great, but we need to be accurate about her position, and not create a misrepresentation as to what her role really is. I think this is particularly important in a community that houses so many foreign diplomats.

Ron Andrews

Springfield Road

Delivery
Now Available

Beep Beep

Muckleston Brockwell

In-store Online
Call 613-745-2244
www.mucklestonandbrockwell.com



Rawlson King

Councillor / Conseiller,
Rideau-Rockcliffe

613-580-2483

613-807-7985

rideaurockcliffeward@ottawa.ca

Lighting up New Edinburgh's lanes for the holidays

By Justin Swan

It's December, and the lights along the Lane Loop Winter Walk route have been a warm addition for transitioning into the holiday season. If you haven't already, add the lanes to your evening walk and don't forget to put up lights and decorations facing the lanes if you haven't already. More people are decorating their homes every day and will continue well into the month, so it's not too late.

Building momentum

Union Street Kitchen Café, Governor's Walk Residence, and the Governor General's office have all voiced their support for the Lane Loop Winter Walk and residents have shared ideas on how to grow this neighbourhood tradition for long-term success. Throughout the fall, new people have joined the effort every week, putting their time and resources into making this happen. This year's iteration of the lane loop lights will be the first and a “base” set of decorations to build upon moving forward.

New Ed Christmas Trees

It appears there will be two showpiece Christmas trees to act as anchors along the lane loop (and possibly more to come). Thanks to Chris Straka, Carmen Bohn, and those who have donated funds and decorations, and



Photo by Justin Swan

Anne Hennessy with one of her hand-crafted ornaments for the Lane Loop Winter Walk.

shared equipment, there will be a large decorated tree at the corner of River Lane and Stanley Avenue. Also, thanks to the residents at Governor's Walk Residence, the giant tree in front of their retirement home will also be decorated (a short detour away from the loop). This tree is huge and sure to be a sight to see!

Suggestions on light products

Some people have been asking what kind of lights to put up. While we appreciate and encourage all lights, C6

bulb sizes are ideal for the lane loop if you are looking to purchase new lights. They are of more appropriate scale for the lanes than the larger bulbs, and are reasonable on energy consumption, particularly if they are LEDs. A timer plug would also be helpful to avoid having to remember to turn them off each night.

Justin Swan and his wife Lindsey MacKinnon have lived on River Lane for six years with their two children. For more information on the Lane Loop Winter Walk, visit bit.ly/winterwalkinfo.



Photo by Justin Swan

River Lane looked magical on Nov. 27, thanks to residents' creativity and hard work.

Generosity in the capital over the holidays



Jim Watson
Mayor of Ottawa

The holiday season is upon us! It's an occasion to reflect on the (challenging) year past, to count our blessings, and find opportunities to help those less fortunate in our community.

This time of year can also be difficult for many – for those living in poverty, in temporary housing and

shelters, or even on our streets, especially since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic last year. Many families are struggling to make ends meet and to put food on the table, particularly during the holidays. In Ottawa alone, more than 40,000 people visit an emergency food bank program every month – and

that number continues to rise.

The 37th annual OC Transpo/Loblaws Christmas Food Drive is the Ottawa Food Bank's largest single-day food drive every year, and it helps thousands of individuals and families ensure they have enough to eat when demand is at its highest.

On Dec. 4, over 600 OC Transpo and City of Ottawa volunteers will collect non-perishable food items and donations for the Ottawa Food Bank at participating grocery stores. I hope it will be one of the most successful and impactful campaigns to date. Every donation – whether big or small—goes a

long way in helping the most vulnerable residents in our community.

I encourage the community to help the many other incredible charities and local small businesses that have given so much back to the community over the years. They support our local fundraisers, they sponsor our youth sports teams, and they employ students and neighbours. This year, I urge you all to consider supporting these local shops, services and restaurants by purchasing items or gift cards for your loved ones. Your help through the holidays will be greatly appreciated and helps these businesses make it through

the winter.

Let's remember that at this time last year, we did not have vaccines in arms, and we had to celebrate the Holidays with loved ones through computer screens, rather than in person. This year, thanks to our strong vaccination progress, I'm proud that we'll be able to enjoy some time together, just like old times. However, we can't forget that COVID-19 is still a threat to our most vulnerable, and we must remain safe. Please enjoy your social interactions responsibly.

I wish you all safe holidays and a Merry Christmas.

New speed humps, EV chargers, and a forthcoming paper on improving Beechwood



Rawlson King
City Councillor, Ward 13

Residents may have noticed many welcome changes and additions in New Edinburgh, such as the addition of speed humps on Dufferin Road, and the installation of electric vehicle charging stations on Crichton Street and Beechwood Avenue.

In late October, construction began on new speed humps on Dufferin Road to slow and manage traffic issues. This is the result of much patient advocacy by community members as traffic calming policies evolved at the City of Ottawa, but my office was finally able to secure the funding and we hope to see permanent, positive change in driver behaviour going forward.

In November, the City of Ottawa began work to install two dual head electric vehicle chargers in Ward 13, with one being installed at 245 Crichton St. and another at 113 Beechwood Ave. Each site is equipped with two Level 2 chargers, which can fully charge an electric vehicle in approximately

eight hours. Users will be charged per-minute rates as with other existing public chargers available in the city. The installation of these two charging stations will help encourage the uptake of electric vehicles in Ottawa by ensuring that the necessary infrastructure is in place. This is part of the City's larger target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 100 per cent by 2050, of which the switch from gas and diesel to electric power is a core component.

Residents may be interested in reading my position paper

on active transportation which details my goal of a continuous, well connected, and safe active transportation network in Rideau-Rockcliffe ward. My paper identifies improved active transportation opportunities which would work to enhance neighbourhood connectivity and mobility for residents of all ages and abilities. The paper is accessible on my website at rideau-rockcliffe.ca/active_transportation. Residents should also expect a position paper in December concerning improving Beechwood Avenue based upon wide consultation.

In City Hall news, the Community and Protective Services Committee approved

the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan in October, which sets out strategies and outcomes to address the root causes of crime, social disorder and ill health and improve the safety and well-being of everyone in Ottawa. As a result of my advocacy efforts, the Community and Safety Well-Being Plan included the adoption of a Municipal Poverty Reduction Strategy and a Food Security Policy at the City of Ottawa. The adoption of these strategies works to achieve outcomes of improved employment opportunities and employment supports, fewer residents living below the low-income cut off, improved school attendance

and academic achievement for youth, and fewer residents relying on food banks. The plan sets out to address six priority areas: simplifying and integrating systems and strategies to address discrimination, marginalization and racism; financial security and poverty reduction; housing; mental well-being; and gender-based violence and violence against women. Residents can read my recently released position paper on poverty reduction at socialaction.ca.

Contact city councillor Rawlson King at 613-580-2483, rideaurockcliffeward@ottawa.ca and at rideau-rockcliffe.ca



Support your local businesses!

Tell them you saw
their ad in the
New Edinburgh News.

FERN HILL SCHOOL

NURTURING CONFIDENCE - BUILDING A FOUNDATION FOR EXCELLENCE

Preschool * Kindergarten * Elementary Grades

Independent, non-profit, co-ed school
Extended French & Gym programs
Enriched curriculum

Preschool to Grade 8
Call to book a school tour.

613-746-0255
principal@fernhillottawa.com
www.fernhillottawa.com

50 Vaughan Street
Ottawa, ON K1M 1X1

Established in 1981

Potential benefits make closing Stanley Ave. an idea worth revisiting

Continued from page 1

broad support to succeed, including that of residents, our community associations and our councillor – no small feat to achieve. But I think the potential benefits make this worth revisiting. I'm optimistic that this stretch of road in question can be redesigned to keep commuters away from the playground and the dog park without loss of parking or green space. Maybe a proposed plan would include a road segment repurposed as a vibrant gathering spot, like a skatepark or a vegetated area with seating?

I would like to hear your traffic and safety ideas and concerns for New Edinburgh, including this big idea for Stanley Avenue. Did you experience any negative effects from the recent closure on this street? What worries you most about a prolonged closure? How would you like to see a stretch of the road reclaimed? Any parking arrangement ideas for that tricky road bend? Would you



Could this portion of Stanley Avenue between Keefer and Dufferin be repurposed?

Image courtesy Jason Tavoularis

support a temporary closure, perhaps during the summer months, to allow the effects to be evaluated more scientifically?

Please mail me at jason.tavoularis@gmail.com.



DEADLINE for the next edition of the
New Edinburgh News

January 10

newednews@hotmail.com



Wellington West
Retirement Community *by Signature*



All staff and residents are 100% vaccinated!

Happy Holidays

Experience vibrant senior living in a trendy neighbourhood. Luxury style retirement, within walking distance from restaurants, parks, churches, shopping, and much more!

Offering independent, assisted living, trial stay, and respite stay options with state-of-the-art amenities:

- Elegant fine dining
- Exclusive CLUBfit programs
- Heated saltwater pool
- Tranquil beauty salon & spa
- And much more!

WELLINGTON WEST RETIREMENT COMMUNITY
In the heart of Hintonburg next to the Parkdale Market



NOW BOOKING IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL PERSONALIZED TOUR

SUITES STARTING AT \$5,500/MONTH!!
Leasing quickly, call today to reserve your suite!

(613) 716-6885

1166 Wellington Street West, Ottawa
WellingtonWestRetirement.com







NECTAR board hopeful to return stronger after pandemic

Continued from page 1

footprint was no longer sustainable, necessitating a significant reduction in staff and, unfortunately, the sale of 255 MacKay St.

In our third act, a very exhausted yet dedicated board yielded the reins of the organization to the current board to navigate NECTAR towards a new future. Infused with new energy and focus, the board navigated the challenging fiscal environment, along with occupying 255 MacKay St. as renters rather than owners. We launched the ground-breaking No Borders Art Festival (which was newly elected Councillor King's first official event!), partnered with the Indigenous social enterprise Lineage Arts, and developed renewed momentum into the development of Indigenous arts and programming.

If you thought the previous boards at NECTAR had it hard, the current board had a global COVID-19 pandemic to contend with, which basically upended the business model and the momentum we worked so hard to develop. Of course, with ownership changes again at 255 MacKay St. (which resulted in cancellation of the original plans for the building's redevelopment), the board was left with an extremely rapid turnaround time for vacating the premises (which is why there was so much furniture and other items left outside the house for a few



Photo by Sean Flynn

NECTAR held countless cultural events including the 2019 No Borders Festival (above) during its stay at 255 MacKay St.

days this past June). Since EVERYTHING needed to be out of the house, we had upwards of 20 years' worth of stuff to sort out! Luckily, an army of volunteers showed up, as did a lovely hot pink dumpster, that briefly brought a smile to our faces as we were trudging decades old refuse up to said bin.

Going forward, NECTAR and its board are looking at a new platform and model to deliver its programming. Certainly, a space and new home from which we can

launch is another key factor, as we simply haven't been able to secure anything similar to the footprint and flexibility we had at 255 MacKay St. The pandemic has taught us that an organization need

not necessarily be defined by its physical footprint and address (and certainly not be constrained by it either!). We are continuing to look at and invest in the various new avenues that the virtual

world and the internet can do for us to continue to broaden our voice and reach to people and communities that would greatly benefit from our programming but aren't co-located with us in the New Edinburgh community.

As we start to look at the other side of this pandemic (fingers crossed!), the board has renewed hope that the organization can come back stronger and more resolved to serve its very supportive and passionate community. With strong ties to the arts and Indigenous communities, the Board is looking forward to what the next act will bring!

Sean Flynn, co-chair on behalf of the NECTAR Board of Directors: Carmel Whittle (chair), Patsea Griffin (secretary) and Richard Cote (treasurer).

Visit The Burgh Online!

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

newedinburgh.ca



Photo by Sean Flynn

Thanks to various message boards and word of mouth, much of NECTAR's surplus furnishings/books/etc. were re-homed within the community during its rapid moving day this past June.

The SconeWitch on Beechwood has been through Covid like everyone... open, closed, changed hours, and masks!

the SCONE WITCH

We're not quite ready for 'dine-in' yet...but let's get through the holidays with delicious **SCONES!**

available baked or ready-to-bake!

sconewitch.ca
613-741-4141

A glimpse into the work I do for you at Queen's Park



Lucille Collard
MPP Ottawa-Vanier

The end of the year is fast approaching, and I want to take the opportunity to share with you what my daily work looks like defending your interests and representing the Ottawa-Vanier community in the Legislative Assembly.

The work that I do in Toronto at Queen's Park is probably the part of my job that you are the least aware of. I want to take a moment

to explain what I do there and how your concerns and interests help me.

I am committed to being the advocate for the residents of Ottawa-Vanier by defending the issues that concern you, and that you bring to my attention. My interactions with constituents inform my approach to holding the government to account during Question Period. My ultimate

goal, as a member of the opposition, is to verify that the priorities and concerns of the people are understood by the government and to ensure that it is working to respond to these.

Advocating for my riding's point of view and defending its interests also guide how I debate government and opposition bills and how I conduct committee work in revising the bills. Quite often, I write to the Ford government's cabinet ministers to influence their decision-making on issues that particularly affect Ottawa-Vanier, such as affordable housing, care for vulnerable people, support for our small businesses, and our environment, just to name a few.

This is the job I do when I am in Toronto, but when I am in the constituency, I take the opportunity to increase my meetings with stakehold-

ers, elected officials, and residents on the issues that we want to action. These conversations are important, and that's why I'm always happy to hear from you.

My team remains available to help you. Please feel free to call us at 613-744-4484 or email us at lcollard.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org.

La fin d'année approche et je profite de cette étape pour partager avec vous mon travail au quotidien pour défendre vos intérêts et représenter la communauté d'Ottawa-Vanier à l'Assemblée législative.

Cette partie-là de mon travail de députée provinciale est peut-être celle que vous connaissez le moins, car elle se fait à plusieurs centaines de kilomètres de notre quartier, à Toronto.

L'une des tâches importantes dans mon engagement envers les résidents d'Ottawa-Vanier est de défendre les enjeux qui vous concernent et que vous portez à mon attention. C'est en échangeant avec vous que j'entends et détermine l'objet de mes interventions auprès du gouvernement lors des périodes de questions à Queen's Park notamment. Mon objectif ultime, en tant que députée dans l'opposition, est de vérifier que les priorités et les préoccupations de la population

sont comprises par le gouvernement et de m'assurer qu'il est à l'œuvre pour y répondre.

Faire valoir le point de vue de ma circonscription et défendre ses intérêts guide également mes interventions dans les débats sur les projets de loi présentés par le gouvernement ou par l'opposition et lors du travail en comité qui les révisent. Bien souvent d'ailleurs, j'écris aux ministres du Cabinet Ford pour influencer leur prise de décision sur les dossiers qui touchent plus particulièrement Ottawa-Vanier, tels que le logement abordable, les soins aux personnes vulnérables, l'appui à nos petites entreprises et notre environnement pour n'en nommer que quelques-uns.

C'est le travail que j'accomplis lorsque je suis à Toronto, mais lorsque je suis dans la circonscription, j'en profite pour multiplier les rencontres avec des représentants et les résidents sur les questions que nous voulons faire avancer. Ces conversations sont importantes et c'est pourquoi je suis toujours ravie d'avoir de vos nouvelles.

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.

Why Not Book with Us For the Holiday Season?



Il Vagabondo
186 Barrette (Near Beechwood & Marier)

LUNCH Accommodations upon request.

DINNER Tuesday to Saturday, 4:00 pm to closure.

SUN-MON CLOSED (but we'll open for groups of 8 or more)

TAKE-OUTS ALSO AVAILABLE
info/reservations: 613-749-4877

The New Edinburgh News warmly thanks our advertisers, both the faithful and the new, for their continued support of the community and of this newspaper. Your support is essential in helping us share the news of local happenings!

Download the
National Military Cemetery
Planning E-Book and learn the simple
planning process today!

The National Military Cemetery is a national focal point of honour which recognises the men and women of Canada's Armed Forces who have served their country with distinction in war and in peace.



SCAN ME

280 Beechwood, Ottawa - 613-741-9530 - www.beechwoodottawa.ca
Owned by the Beechwood Cemetery Foundation and operated by The Beechwood Cemetery Company



Canadians want their government to do more



Mona Fortier
Ottawa-Vanier MP

Dear friends,

Thank you so much for your continued and renewed trust in the election and in the past few years. It's an honour and a privilege to bring Ottawa-Vanier's concerns and priorities to Parliament and to represent our community every day in government. I'm looking forward to continuing the work we've started in our national capital as we return to the House on Nov. 22 and in the years ahead.

I also want to thank everyone who did their part and got vaccinated in the last few months or weeks, and encourage those who haven't yet to get their two doses. We know that vaccinations are the safest and most effective way of protecting people against COVID-19. As they become a prerequisite for air and train travel, as well as to enter many public settings, it's important that everyone do their part and get vaccinated.

Like many neighbourhoods in Ottawa-Vanier in the past few months, New Edinburgh residents have done their part by getting vaccinated and complying with public health measures. In doing so, Canada is leading the way out of this pandemic through small businesses reopening and community activities coming back from coast to coast. As fall turns colder, we're looking forward to a more normal holiday season from last year – and a safer 2022.

Our government committed at the beginning of the pandemic that we would keep Canadians healthy and safe, and it was in that spirit that we established the Canada Emergency Response Benefit, the Canada Emergency Business Account, and the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy: three key initiatives that have allowed many entrepreneurs in New Edinburgh to preserve their workforces and businesses.

Now that our economy is getting back to pace and the worst of the pandemic is over, our government is refining assistance and subsidy programs to help economic sectors most affected COVID, including hospitality and tourism. With these measures, our government will reduce the cost of pandemic assistance, get Canadians back to work, and protect businesses still affected by the health measures.

In the last few weeks, I've had the chance to speak directly to constituents and citizens of our national capital on the many issues that are facing our country and our city today. From local issues such as public transportation and housing to national reckonings and ambition on reconciliation, climate change, and social justice, we know Canadians want their government to do more.

It's with that same ambition that my colleagues and I will be championing your priorities in government to deliver on these important matters for Canadian families, businesses, and municipalities.

I hope you and your families have a great winter season. My office is available to answer any of your questions at mona.fortier@parl.gc.ca or at 613-998-1860.

Chers amis,

Merci pour votre confiance continue et renouvelée lors des élections et dans les dernières années. C'est un honneur de pouvoir faire part des préoccupations et des priorités d'Ottawa-Vanier tous les jours à la Chambre des Communes et de servir notre communauté au Parlement et au gouvernement. J'ai hâte de continuer le travail que nous avons entamés depuis 2015 notre capitale nationale lors de notre retour à la Chambre le 22 novembre prochain et dans les années à venir.

Je veux aussi prendre cette opportunité pour remercier

tous les citoyens qui ont reçu leurs deux doses du vaccin contre la COVID-19 au cours des derniers mois ou des dernières semaines et encourager ceux qui ne l'ont pas encore fait à se faire vacciner. Nous savons que les vaccins sont le moyen le plus sûr et le plus efficace de protéger les Canadiens contre le virus, et comme ils sont maintenant un prérequis pour les voyages en avion et en train ainsi que pour rentrer dans de nombreux lieux publics, il est important que chacun fasse sa part et se fasse vacciner.

Comme de nombreux quartiers d'Ottawa-Vanier, New Edinburgh a fait sa part dans les derniers mois en se faisant vacciner, en suivant les directives de la santé publique et les mesures sanitaires, et en montrant la voie pour sortir de cette pandémie par la réouverture de petites entreprises et le retour d'activités communautaires. Alors que le temps se refroidit, on espère tous passer une saison des fêtes plus normales que l'année dernière – et de vivre une année 2022 plus sûre.

Notre gouvernement a fait la promesse au début de la COVID que nous garderions les Canadiens en santé et en sécurité, et c'est en lumière de cet engagement que nous avons mis sur pied la Prestation Canadienne d'Urgence, le Compte d'Urgence pour les Entreprises Canadiennes, ainsi que la Subvention d'Urgence du Canada pour le Loyer – trois initiatives clés qui ont permis à plusieurs entreprises de New Edinburgh de préserver leur main d'œuvre et leurs affaires.

Maintenant que notre économie réouvre et que le pire de la pandémie est derrière nous, notre gouvernement va adapter les programmes d'aide et de subvention pour que ceux-ci aident les secteurs les plus affectés par les tendances économiques liées à la COVID, incluant le secteur du tourisme et le secteur hôtelier. Avec ces mesures, notre gouvernement va réduire le coût de l'aide pandémique, ramener les Canadiens au travail, et protéger les entreprises encore touchées par les mesures sanitaires.

Ces derniers mois, j'ai eu l'occasion de parler à plus-

ieurs électeurs et citoyens de notre capitale nationale sur les enjeux auxquels notre pays et notre ville sont confrontés aujourd'hui. Qu'il s'agisse de questions locales comme le transport public et le logement abordable ou de réflexions et d'ambitions nationales sur la réconciliation, le changement climatique et la justice sociale, nous savons que les Canadiens veulent que leur gouvernement en fasse plus.

C'est dans cet élan que mes collègues et moi défendrons vos priorités au sein du gouvernement afin que nous puissions agir sur ces questions importantes pour les familles, les entreprises et les municipalités canadiennes.

Je vous souhaite à vous et vos familles un super automne. Mon bureau est toujours disponible si vous avez des questions et peut être rejoint à mona.fortier@parl.gc.ca ou au 613-998-1860.

PLACE FOR PAWS

Boarding Camp for Dogs and Cats

THE place to stay while your family is away!

Visit the spa-like atmosphere and see for yourself.

Dogs enjoy 6 daily supervised outings in our fenced acre & country trail walks.

Separate sunny CAT condos.

613-446-2280 ANGELA ZORN

Chris Ellis



Public School Trustee
Rideau-Rockcliffe/Alta Vista
Zone 6 Ottawa-Carleton District School Board

613-818-7350 - Chris.Ellis@ocdsb.ca

COMPU-HOME IS STILL OPEN AND AVAILABLE TO HELP YOU.

We have ways to assist you — safely — with computer issues.

Compu-Home is a highly regarded family business located right near you. Service is honest, reliable, affordable and prompt.



HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

- Computer slowdowns
- Problems with Internet connections
- Spam, spyware and security programs
- Setting up and maintaining home and office networks
- Printer problems
- Helping plan, purchase and use new computer equipment
- Transferring and backing up data
- Using new digital cameras
- Coaching

Compu-Home

613-731-5954

info@compu-home.com
Malcolm and John Harding

BURGH BUSINESS BRIEFS

By Christina Leadlay

Coffee showroom opens in old bank

After almost five years sitting vacant, the former Bank of Montreal location at 14 Beechwood Ave. has the lights back on and soon will have the doors open, thanks to the arrival of **Advanced Coffee Solutions**, set to open on Dec. 1.

But rest assured that this is not just another coffee shop!

Advanced Coffee Solutions is a showroom for high-quality coffee equipment, supplying coffee-related products to businesses and directly to consumers, according to managing director **Nikhil Rath**, who founded the company with his wife **Karawan Ahmed**.

"We were naturally attracted to this site, as we are long-time residents of the neighbourhood and we have been operating our business out of the offices upstairs at 6 Beechwood Ave." Nikhil explains in an email to the *New Edinburgh News*.

"[The site] had many challenges, as it had been purpose designed for the bank," he said. "We are very happy to see the space open again."

Advanced Coffee Solutions is a new division of Acacia Tree Farms, a four-year-old business focussed on sourcing the best green coffee beans directly from farmers in Ethiopia's Harar region. Nikhil notes: "the Harar bean



Burgh-raised Nikhil Rath and his wife Karawan Ahmed are excited to open Advanced Coffee Solutions, a showroom for coffee equipment and coffee beans.

Photo by Alexander McKenzie

is one of the storied coffee beans in the world, and, as yet underrepresented in North America," and that he and Karawan looks forward to introducing it to coffee lovers.

Also behind Advanced Coffee Solutions is the Ottawa-based Happy Goat Coffee chain and leading coffee equipment compa-

nies (such as BUNN, Nuvo Simonelli, San Remo and others) to offer "advanced coffee solutions" – products and machines – to both consumers and businesses, explains Nikhil. Until now, Acacia Tree Farms had been importing, roasting and processing the coffee beans for other businesses. But with Advanced Coffee Solutions, they will be offering their products directly to consumers.

In addition to selling coffee equipment (which includes servicing, installation and training), Advanced Coffee Solutions will also sell hot brewed coffee, cold brew nitrogen coffee and fresh roasted whole beans, all on a "pick up and go" basis, Nikhil tells *NEN*. He notes they are developing a smartphone app which will allow clients to track and trace their coffee "all the way back to the farmer who harvested it and to tip your farmer or contribute to a sustainable development goal in the region supporting various projects." Customers will also be able to order and pay through a forthcoming app.

For Nikhil, running a business on Beechwood Avenue is a return home. Born and raised in New Edinburgh, he studied business at Algonquin College. After many years of working and living across the globe (including in California, Dubai, and Malaysia), Nikhil and Karawan returned to Canada to set up a cold-brew coffee facility in Toronto. They later moved to Ottawa to be closer to family.

Advanced Coffee Solutions is located at 14 Beechwood Ave. Contact them at 613-656-7362 or advancedcoffeesolutions.com.

Dhruvees to open Dec. 9

Owner **Donald Wingell** and his team have been working around the clock at 18 Beechwood Ave., preparing to open New Edinburgh's newest restaurant, Dhruvees, located in the former Jasper restaurant site.

Donald confirmed to *New Edinburgh News* in late November that Dhruvees, featuring spice-laden dishes from countries in and around the Indian sub-continent, aims to open around Dec. 9.

NEN got a sneak peek at

the menu, which looks delicious. Indian cuisine staples including samosas, pakoras, biryanis and tandoori items (including seafood) will be available. But the item which will likely make Dhruvees stand out is the Sri Lankan lamprais which are described on the menu as rice, vegetables and protein "placed inside a banana leaf to create a parcel [...] baked in the oven" and served with accompaniments including hard-boiled egg, pickles, and vegetable curry.

Is your mouth watering yet?

NEN looks forward to providing a fuller profile of Dhruvees and its team in our next edition. But with the colder weather settling in this month, it is exciting to have a new restaurant nearby offering spicy dishes to keep hungry Burgh residents warm!

Dhruvees will be open for dine-in, take-out and delivery at 18 Beechwood Ave. Call 613-744 7888 or find them online at dhruvees.com/media. Also follow them on your social media of choice (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and TikTok).

Farewell to Le Suq

After it celebrated one year in business at 141 Beechwood Ave. this past fall, Le Suq has closed its doors. The Levantine food store is still running its Hintonburg location at 1175 Wellington St. W. The last reference to the Beechwood location was on their Facebook page on Sept. 29. Owner **Donald Batal** opened the Beechwood location (where Jacobsons used to be), back on Sept. 1, 2020. In its short life, Le Suq has tried out a couple of locations in Ottawa, including one on Preston Street, also now closed. Here's hoping they have found their forever home in Hintonburg! Donald is also involved in Hushh Burgers, a "ghost kitchen" (delivery only) last seen operating at the former Tim Hortons at 360 St. Patrick St. *NEN* reached out to Donald, but was unable to get a comment about Le Suq's closure. At press time, 141 Beechwood Ave. site is available for rent.

We are open to the public, for contact-free pickup, telephone, online and email orders. We still deliver nearby and ship elsewhere.

A mask is required in our vestibule and in store.

We are open to the public Monday to Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Closed Sundays

BOOKS ON BEECHWOOD

store.booksonbeechwood.ca
613-742-5030
staff@booksonbeechwood.ca

BBB: Local Holiday Guide

Look no further than Beechwood for holiday food bounty

By Jane Heintzman

Of all the months on the calendar, December is the most intensely food-focused of all: households are busily gearing up for family gatherings, parties (COVID-style) and other festivities to celebrate the holiday season. Adding intensity to the focus on food are the myriad cherished traditions which shape our holiday planning.

Food options abound in our neighbourhood: there are eight high-quality food suppliers within the 2.7 km stretch of Beechwood/Hemlock from St. Patrick Street to St. Laurent Boulevard. Their offerings range from cooking and baking essentials to prepared fresh and frozen meals, sweet and savoury baking, and fully-cooked Christmas dinners.

For 31 years, **Epicuria** has been a go-to gourmet food hub in our community, specializing in prepared take-out foods and catering. Current owner **Tracey Black** still feels the pandemic's impact on her business, but has pulled out all the stops to stock the store with specialties for the holiday season.

Epicuria's December menus feature four tasty choices each week, including traditional favourites such as turkey breast with all the trimmings. The freezers are fully stocked with prepared meals and side dishes, including savoury pies such as tourtière and chicken pot pie—perfect for informal meals. Order online for pick-up or delivery.

Epicuria's pastry chef **Kristie Fellows** has gone all out for the holidays: her tempting creations range from mincemeat tarts to vanilla mocha Bûche de Noël, decorated gingerbread, shortbreads, fruit cake, plum pudding and more. 'Tis the season to savour the bounty!

If a fuss-free Christmas dinner is on your wish-list, Epicuria offers a fulsome feast featuring sage butter-basted turkey breast and leg, artisanal stuffing, cranberry sauce with pan gravy, and seasonal side dishes. But supplies are limited, so advance orders are essential!



Photo by Alexander McKenzie

Andrew Muckleston (left) and Alexander McKenzie are ready for the holiday rush at M&B Butchers.

Orders can be placed online, by phone, or by visiting the store (the online shop will closed from Dec. 19-Jan. 4). Epicuria is located at 357 St. Laurent Blvd. Contact 613-745-7356 or epicuria.ca.

Bread & Roses Bakery's long history dates back to 1988 when it set up shop in the heart of Beechwood Avenue. Current owner **Chris Green** took over in 2008, and made the move to larger premises on St. Laurent Boulevard following the 2011 Beechwood Fire.

Neighbourhood bakeries are traditionally the hub of all things sweet and reminiscent of childhood—never more so than at Christmas. Bread & Roses fills the bill with holiday treats such as yule logs, colourfully decorated cookies, Santa's Whiskers, mincemeat pies, rum balls, and more.

Chris notes many of Bread & Rose's regular menu items are also naturals for holiday gatherings or cozy afternoons by the fire. Choose from yummy tea loaves such as carrot apple and banana, or sinful squares like mocha brownies and Nanaimo bars.

Complementing the sweet offerings are the bakery's specialty breads such as sourdough baguette, beautiful braided challah loaves and focaccia. And for impromptu, easy-prep suppers, try their tasty savoury pies such as tourtières, chicken curry pie

or sweet potato veggie pie.

Chris's simple message for the holidays: "I wish everyone kindness to each other, and health and happiness in the year ahead." Bread & Roses Bakery is at 323 St. Laurent Blvd. Contact 613-745-2087 or breadandrosesbakery.ca.

Having an old-fashioned butcher shop in the heart of Beechwood Village is near the top of the list of what makes this community great. "Just like that, we blink and it's been six amazing years and counting," says Andrew, reflecting on the swift passage of time since **Muckleston and Brockwell** launched at 127 Beechwood Ave.

The store is gearing up for a brisk business in Christmas turkeys in the weeks ahead. Andrew's advice: "Definitely pre-order your turkey if you want one for the holidays; if you can pick it up ahead of the rush, we can vacuum seal it for you. Dec. 23rd is our last pick-up day, and usually the busiest."

If turkey is not on your menu, Muckleston and Brockwell is well stocked with other options, notably fine cuts of beef, poultry (whole chickens and parts), and pork specialties such as double-smoked bacon for holiday breakfasts.

Andrew warns that pre-ordering is no hundred per cent guarantee of success: "We work with small farms, and sometimes things hap-

pen: sizing issues, delays and mix-ups out of our control. But we'd never leave a customer in the lurch," he tells NEN. "We'll go above and beyond to find a suitable replacement item, if not better. That being said, the more notice we have, the more time we have to work out any kinks we encounter!"

Muckleston and Brockwell is extending its hours of operation over the holidays to handle the rush: Dec. 20, 11:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Dec. 21, 11:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Dec. 22, 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.; and Dec. 23, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

However busy it may get, Andrew is characteristically optimistic: "In the end, everyone is fed and happy (and tired!!)." Find Muckleston and Brockwell Butchers at 127 Beechwood Ave. Contact 613-745-2244 or mucklestonandbrockwell.com.

The **Jacobsons** tradition as a hub for local foodies is now at 15 years and counting. Founder **Susan Jacobson's**

daughter **Dominique** now runs the show at 103 Beechwood Ave., maintaining its gourmet traditions—not least, an abundance of specialties for the upcoming holiday season.

Marketing manager **Lauren Watson** is enthusiastic about the specialty Christmas cheeses topping the list of holiday highlights. The combination of pandemic-related supply chain interruptions and the impact of Brexit on the free flow of British cheese, have led to some uncertainties about this year's line-up. But fingers are crossed that the traditional favourite Vacherin Mont d'Or will be available for the holidays, along with popular picks such as Tania, Colston Bassett Stilton, and Brie de Meaux (a must for any cheeseboard, in Lauren's view!).

Sweet lovers will find such goodies as traditional mincemeat pies, Nat's Bakery rum balls, Christmas stollen, and much more. And no season-

Continued on page 12

Managing Fine Ottawa Homes Since 1996!

Call us anytime
to learn more about
problem free leasing.



Posted overseas or across the country?
We can help!

- Advertising • Advice on Rent • Tenant Selection
- Credit Checks • Lease Preparation • Maintenance
- Inspections • Detailed Reporting • Annual Statements
- Emergency Service • NR6 Non-Resident

We'll be with you throughout the process, from
the first day your home is listed, to the day you move back.

NESBITT
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT INC.

O) 613-744-8719
www.nesbittproperty.com

C) 613-277-4485
dave@nesbittproperty.com

BBB: Local Holiday Guide

al feast is complete without chocolates: Jacobsons' selection ranges from Anna Stubbe chocolate bars (a Jacobsons exclusive) to boxed chocolates from Belgium, Italy and the United Kingdom.

For holiday entertaining, the store offers cheese, charcuterie and patisserie platters for local delivery or pick-up. And as always, Jacobsons' freezers are fully stocked with frozen prepared meals and savoury pies from such fine suppliers as the Village Kitchen and Dream Come True Kitchen.

Jacobsons welcomes both online and phone orders, as well as in-person orders when you drop into the store. **Jacobsons** is located at 103

Beechwood Ave. Contact 613-746-6002; jacobsons.ca.

The **Passmore/Phillips** family owns and operates **Nature's Buzz**, Beechwood Village's long-running supplier of all things organic. As per its holiday tradition, the store has stocked up on fresh, organic turkey.

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to radically downsized holiday gatherings, so whole turkeys (which dominate the dinner table and challenge the carver) are no longer in high demand. Instead, Nature's Buzz has ordered boneless, skinless turkey breasts, as well as breasts and legs with skin-on and bone-in, from an organic supplier in Charlevoix, Que. Co-owner/operator **Nancy**

Phillips notes that pre-orders of turkey are not essential, but you're welcome to call the store to place an advance order (no deposit required).

Another holiday highlight at Nature's Buzz is Harmony Organic Eggnog, an incomparably delicious seasonal offering from Harmony Organic Dairy in Kincardine, Ont. (Fun fact: Harmony owners, the Andres family, were the very first organic dairy farmers in Canada). Find Nature's Buzz at 55 Beechwood Ave. Contact 613-842-0280; naturesbuzz.ca.

When COVID restrictions brought an abrupt end to the parties and large gatherings that were the raison d'être of Table 40, **Ross Fraser** and



Photo by Alexander McKenzie

Gourmet food shop Jacobson's is all decorated and ready for December shopping.

his team swiftly pivoted to set up **Fraser Takeaway and Bottle Shop**, an outlet for gourmet take-away meals and accompanying libations.

"Our goal was to provide our guests with the Fraser food they know and love in the comfort of their own homes," explains general manager **Thessaly Lloyd**. The shop operates primarily online, but Thessaly adds, "we also love it when people pop in to browse the wine selection or pick up some frozen goodies!" Opening hours are Thursday through Saturday, 4:15 p.m.–6:15 p.m.

The store currently offers both prepared foods such as lasagna, quiche, moussaka and many soups, as well as weekly meal kits for two and easy-prep dinners which are simple to reheat and serve. The highlight in December is a takeaway Christmas dinner with ample fare for a gathering of four people. (Visit the online shop for orders and details on the weekly menu.) Thessaly's favourite on the holiday menu is Duck Tourtière: "It's a must try! It's loaded with duck, pork, fragrant spices and orange, wrapped in a buttery crust – full of festive flavours!" Find Fraser Takeaway & Bottle Shop at 7 Springfield Rd. Contact 613-749-1444 or frasercafe.ca.

"We're proud of this year's extensive selection of delicious foods for guests and family gatherings over the holidays," **Metro Beechwood** manager **Shawn Steinburg**

tells *NEN*. He takes special pride in Metro's many options for fuss-free entertaining, ranging from ready-made, pre-cut cheese and charcuterie platters, to artisanal pizzas, prepared savoury meals, fresh fruit and veggie platters.

If a roast is on your menu, Metro's meat department has a range of choices from fresh or frozen turkey to high-quality cuts of beef, lamb, pork, ham and chicken. And not to be forgotten is Metro's large and fully-stocked fresh produce department, supplying the greens, root vegetables and fresh fruit to complement your protein of choice.

Thoughts inevitably turn to sweet baked goods in the holiday season. "Our bakery has a vast selection of mouth-watering breads, buns, cookies, croissants and much more, baked right here in the store," Shawn assures, "and don't forget our fresh cakes, pies and all your favourite holiday desserts!"

"From-scratch" cooks can load up in Metro's 11 aisles of grocery items, packed with all the essentials for holiday cooking and baking, along with seasonal "finishing touches" such as cranberry sauce, gravies, stuffing and eggnog.

Shawn's final reminder: "Check out our Metro Entertainment Booklet in store or online, where you can pre-order ready-made platters when entertaining over the holiday season." Metro Beechwood is at 50 Beechwood Ave. Contact 613-744-6676 or metro.ca.

Straightforward · Caring · Dedicated

Janny, Jeff & Shan...

The Power of Three... Working for You!™

proven performance in
New Edinburgh
since 1986



JannyMills · JeffRosebrugh · ShanCappuccino

Sales Representative

Sales Representative

Sales Representative

ROYAL LEPAGE
Performance Realty
Brokerage, Independently Owned and Operated

613.238.2801

jannyjeffandshan.com

BBB: Local Holiday Guide

Seasonal drinks and festive bottles: so close you can taste it

By Randy Mar

Getting into the holiday spirit is thirsty work, but fortunately our main street, Beechwood Avenue, has a variety of options for festive drinks, cocktail mixes, bottle pairings, and non-alcoholic beverages this season.

Here are some highlights for your savouring pleasure or as gifts for others.

In the early stages of the pandemic, brothers **Ross** and **Simon Fraser** of **Fraser Restaurant, Takeaway & Bottle Shop** (7 Springfield Rd.) converted the private dining space previously used for the popular Table 40 venue and opened access to their curated wine collection to complement their burgeoning takeaway and prepared foods offerings.

Today, the bottle shop is a key feature attracting knowledgeable and curious customers alike. As curator, Ross is particularly proud of the rapidly changing cellar of red, white, rosé, and sparkling wines assembled from renowned wine regions around the globe, including Italy, France, South America, United States, and of course, Canada. Many – if not most – are consignment wines not readily available at the LCBO.

Ross highly recommends *Suertes del Marqués 7 Fuentes*, showcasing Tenerife's volcanic soils and altitude, as well as lesser-known grape varieties. It is full-bodied, balanced, and refreshing and is very versatile with meats. It would pair wonderfully with Fraser's traditional meat tourtière.

With the festive season rapidly approaching, the bottle shop has a selection of bubbles such as cava, prosecco, and (naturally) champagne. For non-drinkers, Fraser also features locally crafted City Seltzers. Of note, alcohol purchased at the Fraser must be purchased with food.

Also from Ross, a word of thanks to clients: "After all the transformations Fraser has gone through over the past 20 months, we are incredibly grateful to still be here and able to rebuild. We can't



Photo by Alexander McKenzie
Fraser's Bottle Shop features a curated list of wines from around the world not available at the LCBO.

thank the community enough for their overwhelming support." Fraser Restaurant, Takeaway & Bottle Shop is at 7 Springfield Rd. Contact 613-749-1444 or frasercafe.ca.

Local craft beer lovers may already be looking forward to the upcoming lineup of seasonal beers at **Good Prospects Brewing Company** (411 St Laurent Blvd.)! Open since late February, Good Prospects has weathered a pandemic start-up and is putting the finishing touches on a tasting room in time for the holidays.

"We've been working hard to get our taproom open so we can spend more time getting to know our neighbours who have supported us from day one" said head brewer **Duncan MacKay**. "Who doesn't want to get together with friends and family over a beer?" enthused Duncan with a smile. He has also been busy at the fermenters, readying batches of more winter-oriented ales and lagers such as dunkel (dark German lager) and another saison variety. He is also testing his first batch of sour beer. Find Good Prospects Brewing Co. at 411

St Laurent Blvd. Contact 613-746-7707 or goodprospects.ca.

While local shops offer a wide variety of options, our neighbourhood liquor store, the **Liquor Control Board of Ontario** (LCBO, 10 Beechwood Ave.), has a listing of nearly 1,700 wines, spirits, seltzers, and beers within its 8,100 square-foot street-front location.

The Holiday 2021 edition of the ever-popular LCBO Food & Drink magazine is now available and as its title suggests, features numerous recipes for easy-to-make, low-alcohol pitcher drinks and seasonal nightcaps, along with food pairings. Readers will find an entire section – "Twists: Bottled Up" – devoted to fashioning numerous bottled mock- and cocktails for festive drinks or gifts.

Store manager **Marc Grondin** invites neighbours to stop by to explore the more than 300 holiday gift and festive sampler packs, and special seasonal offers available

at the store or online. Local insiders know about both same-day, in-store and curbside pickup options at the rear of the building. The LCBO is located 10 Beechwood Ave. Contact 613-741-5046 or lcbo.com.

Wondering where to go for no- or low-alcohol drinks, liquid treats, and mixers to add to your home bar or to enjoy while out for a stroll? Look no further than neighbourhood faves **Red Door Provisions** and **Jacobsons Gourmet Concepts**.

Both local purveyors offer a vast selection of seasonal choices. At Red Door, you will find spiced rosemary, egg-nog, and honey thyme lattes; peppermint mocha and holiday blend from Pilot Coffee Roasters (medium roast batch brew); as well as beer and cider from such local and Ontario brewers as Dominion City, Revel, and Bellwoods Brewery. **Jacobsons** offers such speciality beverage items as Ceder's, a non-alcoholic, distilled alternative

gin; Gimber, a non-alcoholic, ginger concentrate with a bite; Silver Swallow luxury kombucha; and Hall's Apple Market cider, a local seasonal favourite.

Red Door Provisions is located at 117 Beechwood Ave. Contact 613-695-6804 or reddoorprovisions.com.

Also available at Jacobsons are a range of mixers, bitters, and cocktail toppers for any pouring occasion. Ottawa's Split Tree Cocktail Co. holiday cranberry ginger cordial, Walter Gregor's hand-crafted, all-natural tonic from Scotland, and Bittermilk's gingerbread old fashioned cocktail mixer, are all perfect for holiday entertaining. Find Jacobsons Gourmet Concepts at 103 Beechwood Avenue. Contact 613-746-6002 or jacobsons.ca)

NEN reminds readers to please enjoy the holiday season safely and responsibly and to arrange alternate means of transportation as required!



WE TEACH STUDENTS HOW TO LEARN

Ottawa's Macdonald-Cartier Academy has been teaching students how to learn since 1990. A private, non-denominational junior high school located in New Edinburgh, the Academy offers an intensive French immersion program combining rigorous and accelerated academics with athletics and experiential learning. If you want your child to be equipped with learning skills and knowledge that will continue serving them in their high school and university years, this is the place for them.

2022-2023 Entrance Testing
Begins in October for the 2022-2023 school year

Apply online or contact the school today
mcacademy.ca or 613-744-8898



MACDONALD-CARTIER ACADEMY

BBB: Local Holiday Guide

Find beautiful, tasty, and fun gifts – within walking distance

By Tamara Miller

If you don't want to worry about shipping delays for holiday gifts this year, consider shopping local to avoid the hassle. Many of our local business in Beechwood Village have curated wonderful holiday offerings for everyone on your list. Here are some gift ideas from local business to get you started.

ORESTA organic skin care is a boutique at 137 Beechwood Ave. specializing in clean beauty and wellness. Their ORESTA Holiday 2021 Gift Guide offers a unique selection of stocking stuffers and thoughtfully curated gift boxes, beautifully wrapped and ready to give, for everyone on your holiday list. The ORESTA team is here to help you find the perfect "I love it! How did you know?" gift. ORESTA's beautiful shop is located at 137 Beechwood. Holiday hours are Tuesday to Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Find them online at oresta.ca.

The **Jacobsons** team at 103 Beechwood Ave. has prepared some truly special gift options from among their favourite seasonal items: from Santa-adorned Italian panettone, limited-edition drinking-chocolate sets, and a

series of exclusive chocolate bars by Anna Stubbe, to sweet treats for your Advent calendar. Bespoke gifts are easy this year: with four sizes of seasonal tote bags to choose from, guests can fill a beautifully designed bag with their favourite items from around the shop. No need for wrapping! For those you want to really spoil, consider giving a subscription to Jacobsons' Cheese of the Month Club, a specialty food gift set, or a gift box filled with fine foods and tied by hand with a bow. Lastly, the team at Jacobsons is always happy to prepare a gift certificate (in-store or online) if you would like to give the gift of choice. Jacobsons is located at 103 Beechwood Ave. and is open seven days a week. You can also find them online at jacobsons.ca.

"What strikes you as beautiful?" That's the motto of **Electric Street Gallery**, a friendly, local neighbourhood art gallery at 299 Crichton St. specializing in uplifting, life-affirming, positive art – all locally made, of course. If you have ever strolled by the large shop windows, you know they often have themed collections, and their theme

for the holidays is "Songs of Celebration." Local artists have contributed fabulous, music-themed works including songbirds, whales (yes, whales sing!), guitars, a trumpet, and a French horn, and more. The gallery carries a wide variety of artistic styles and media, at a range of prices to appeal to a variety of tastes. And if you don't know exactly what the art-lover on your list would like, you can always choose a gift certificate. The Electric Street Gallery is now open for extended hours: Wednesdays and Fridays from noon until 5 p.m., and Thursdays and Saturdays from noon until 7 p.m. The gallery is located at 299 Crichton St. Visit them online at electricstreet.art.

You may know **Red Door Provisions** (177 Beechwood Ave.) as a small, cozy coffee shop, but did you know you could also find the perfect gift for that special someone on your list this holiday season? Their seasonal, handmade, microbatch jams, marmalades, and pickles are always a treat. And this year, besides their food and drink offerings, you can pick up some of their merchandise, from a pink or cream coloured Red Door Provisions Cycling t-shirt, a black cycling hoodie, or a Red Door Provisions cycling water bottle! Red Door is open seven days a week at 117 Beechwood Ave.



Photo by Simon Leadlay

Organic skin care is the specialty at ORESTA boutique.

or online at reddoorprovisions.com

And don't forget about two more locations where you might find that special something! The **Guardian Pharmacy** at 5 Beechwood Ave. (corner of Crichton Street) has a wonderful assortment of items to peruse. There are children's toys and crafting supplies, beautiful jewelry and clothing, housewares, and décor as well as some great stocking

stuffers like candy and skin-care items.

And there's more than just books at **Books on Beechwood** at 35 Beechwood Ave. at MacKay Street! They have something for everyone on your list, including puzzles, children's activity and sticker books, cards, stylish totes, and more. Check out Books on Beechwood's staff book picks on pages 30-31. Visit their online shop at booksonbeechwood.ca.

HOLIDAY MEALS & BAKING | GIFTS | SHOP ONLINE OR IN-STORE



This holiday season, gather with the ones who matter most.
We'll take care of the cooking.

EPICURIA
FOOD SHOP & CATERING

357 ST. LAURENT BLVD.
• 613 745 7356
EPICURIA.CA



The Electric Street Gallery has uplifting artworks and gift cards for sale.

Photo by Simon Leadlay

BBB: Local Holiday Guide

Celebrating the holidays with the return of in-person dining

By Andre R. Gagne

With the holidays just around the corner and some of the pandemic restrictions being removed, especially with regard to gathering limits, there is cause for much comfort and joy. Many are looking forward to having Grandma, a dozen cousins and Uncle Marv over again for turkey and all the trimmings, but those still not ready for crowded homes (or maybe you just don't want to cook) can also rejoice. Some New Edinburgh restaurants have tantalizing festive delights ready to serve and we aren't just talking about milk and cookies.

"We love the holiday season here at **Fraser Restaurant, Takeaway & Bottle Shop**, and that certainly reflects in our festive décor, ambiance, and menu. Every year we set up our little Christmas tree, hang snowflakes, and

play seasonal music," says **Thessaly Lloyd**, general manager at Fraser. "Our menu always features seasonal items, and we have fun getting playful with our cocktails to reflect the holidays." Case in point: in early December, the "Snow Ball" and "Blitzen" cocktails top the drinks menu, while the lunch and dinner food menus feature traditional Christmas ingredients including Brussels sprouts and squash, as well as winter warmers like pot-au-feu (a short-rib stew).

In-person dining has resumed at Fraser, with the standard public health rules in play: contact tracing, vaccine passports, and masks required when guests are away from their table, Thessaly notes. The restaurant is hoping their dry-aging program for their steaks, a first for Fraser, is a mouth-watering lure as well as other items served in generous portions.

"Our portions, flavour, and quality are unmatched, and our Christmas Takeaway menu is no exception," beams Thessaly as she recounts the offerings available at Fraser's takeaway business. "It is the perfect option for anyone who is looking for a delicious and carefully prepared meal boasting many seasonal favourites. With detailed reheating instructions included, it is a superb choice for a quick and simple holiday dinner! It has been a tough year, but you've all made it possible for us to continue on, and we are incredibly grateful!" **Fraser Restaurant, Takeaway & Bottle Shop** is at 7 Springfield Rd. Contact 613-749-1444 or frasercafe.ca.

Over at the **Clocktower Brew Pub** at 422 MacKay St., they just couldn't wait! Forget the 12 Days of Christmas, they started decorating in November. This

being the first holiday season in two years, general manager **Manny Garcia** is especially excited to have guests back inside for parties and family gatherings.

"We are gearing up to have a busy, fun Christmas Season. We want to be everyone's Christmas destination where you can meet up with long-time friends or family and have some Christmas cheer," says Manny, adding that his favourite part of the season is seeing everyone either wearing Christmas sweaters or Santa hats, some even exchanging gifts right there in the pub.

A personal tradition is that before closing up early on Christmas Eve, Manny nips over to Mario's Food Centre on McArthur Avenue to purchase some Portuguese treats for their everyday regulars as well as his staff.

This year, there's a new brew on the menu!

"We have a very nice seasonal beer called Billy Goat Brew. It's an Espresso White Stout. We collaborated with local coffee company Happy Goat Coffee."

Clocktower staff are grateful to be continuing their Winter Jacket Program for a third year in which, on a coatrack outside of the pub, jackets for all ages and sexes are left for the less fortunate. They welcome donations.

"As a fixture of New Edinburgh for the past decades we truly feel part of the fabric of this wonderfully unique neighbourhood," says Manny. "We are so fortunate to be able to serve such great guests, many who feel like family. Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy Holidays to everyone." Find the Clocktower Brew Pub at 422 MacKay St. Call 613-742-3169 or clocktower.ca.

DR LUC DUCHARME



& ASSOCIATES



Smile.

**Now open at our new location
at 230 Beechwood Avenue.**

**Thank you to the community
for supporting us for the last
26 years.**

613-749-1785

drlucducharme.com

FRESH

REDISCOVER YOUR HAIR

75 Beechwood | 613.680.6315

MARGOT



Lucille Collard
MPP / Députée Ottawa-Vanier

*Here to help!
Ici pour aider!*

Contact us / Contactez-nous :
237 ch. Montréal Rd. Ottawa, ON K1L 6C7
613-744-4484
Lcollard.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org
Lucillecollard.onmpp.ca



613 741 1774 ~ moodmossflowers.com

186 Beechwood Ave ~ Ottawa, Ontario ~ K1L 1A9



Wishing you all the best in the New Year

ENGEL & VÖLKERS
JANE DAVIS

+1 613-422-8688 · jane.davis@evrealestate.com

A clutter-free, eco-friendly gift guide

By Marion Siekierski

Somewhere along my journey of becoming environmentally woke, I started experiencing some anguish as Halloween decorations were quickly replaced by Christmas clutter. By now, the sight of Xmas stockings fills me with anguish. And there are a few good reasons for that.

As George Monbiot puts it in his article "The Gift of Death" in 2012: "Pathological consumption has become so normalized that we scarcely notice it." Earth Overshoot Day marks the day each year at which humanity has exhausted nature's budget for the year. In 2021, it was July 29. So really, we don't need any more stuff.

As you plan your holiday shopping, consider this: Where do your gifts come from? While that sparkly top might be really cute, it might also be fast fashion, which heavily relies on child labour and contributes more CO₂ to the atmosphere than all international flights and maritime shipping combined, according to the Princeton Student Climate Initiative.

What are the gifts made of and where will they end up? (Yes, I'm looking at you, stocking stuffers!) Think of

renewable resources and high quality that allows for giving forward or recycling rather than landfill.

Here are a few clutter-free and eco-friendly options to consider:

- **a digital subscription:** to an online newspaper or magazine, a hiking app (I enjoy AllTrails), or a sports channel (Fitness Blender and Boho Beautiful are among my favourites);

- **take-out food that does good and saves time:** Gourmet Xpress (gourmet-xpress.com), a not-for-profit catering company owned by the Vanier Community Center, serves up amazing food and trains participants to find jobs and help overcome barriers to employment like age, mental health issues, new-immigrant challenges, etc.;

- **cultural outings:** think family nights at the movies or performances at the National Arts Centre, some of which are even free;

- **a museum membership;**

- **a session with a photographer** (a big hit with my family on many occasions.);

- **a session with a professional organizer** to help conquer clutter;

- **a gift certificate for a beauty treatment** or mas-

sage (there are many options in the neighbourhood);

- **consumables:** specialty soaps, shampoo bars (which also cut down plastic packaging waste from liquid products. Lush and L'Occitane have some nice options)

- **a charitable donation** in your loved one's name. Many options exist for doing good, either abroad (changingthepresent.org and plancanada.ca) or closer to home (canadahelps.org or imakeanonlinedonation.org/hospicecareottawa). Check whether your employer has a Gift Matching Program that can multiply your donation.

If all else fails: **Chocolate**. Did you know that dark chocolate (with uses less milk and therefore produces less methane emissions from dairy) and fair-trade chocolate will not only make your loved ones happy, but also are better for farmers and the environment?

And there is the most precious of all: **the gift of your time**. Which you will hopefully have a little bit more of if you follow these handy holiday hints.

Springfield Road resident Marion Siekierski is a member of NECA's environment committee.



A big thank-you to our distribution team volunteers who deliver this newspaper: Gavan Power, Larry Doshen, Robert Todd, Rod Blaker, Christine Plouffe, Susan Boyd, William Beddoe, Stephen Chappell, Roxan Clark & family, Liba Bender, Julia Chandler & Jim DeFaye, The Mee Family, Carol & Peter Gusen, Andrew & Sarah Fyfe, and students Zoe, Maya, Mathieu, Eva, Jeremy, Sam & Laith.

Mair Oriental Rug Services

ESTABLISHED 1983

Serving the public for over 35 years

- appraisal and evaluation
- expert repair and restoration
- free consultation
- fringing, rug hanging, reweaving, et al.
- proper washing including pick-up and careful re-installation
- repairs completed in original format, using top quality materials

Douglas Mair
75 Jardin Private

(613) 741-7806
mair@orientalrugservices.com



It takes a village to save a garden

By Andrew Fyfe

My family and I live at 41 Alexander St. In front of our house, between the sidewalk and the street curb, there is a narrow verge of soil, grass, and weeds. For the past five years I have planted flowers, tomatoes, and herbs in approximately eight feet of it.

Earlier this summer, I was visited by a City of Ottawa By-law officer who noted that an anonymous complaint had been made about the garden. As a consequence, I would need to remove it by the end of September, or the City would do it at my expense.

The specific by-law my garden ran afoul of was:

Failing to ensure that any tree or plant extending over a highway does not interfere with or endanger anyone using the highway.

I was puzzled at how my daisies and tomatoes could be construed as “extending over a highway,” much less “endangering anyone using” it. As the deadline approached, I resolved to see if my neighbours agreed that this was unreasonable and I

put up a small lectern with a petition sheet in the verge garden. At the same time, I reached out to our City Councillor Rawlson King to see if he could provide me with any assistance.

One hundred and eighty signatures later (!) and with timely intervention and advocacy from Rawlson King, the City revisited this issue and identified a compromise, which in our case was complying with the following guidelines:

- no structures (i.e., petition sign-up platforms);
- no obstruction of sight-lines (this seems to be mostly about height of plants); and
- plants must not overhang curb in such a way as to obstruct the ability to park.

Things I've learned

The city doesn't have a coherent policy regarding boulevard gardens

Councillor King notes that the “root” of the verge garden issue is the absence of a coherent boulevard garden policy. He intends to introduce a motion to have the City address the shortcoming.

Indeed, I was recently contacted by an assistant assembling information on how other jurisdictions have been tackling this issue.

People come from all over Ottawa to visit our gardens

In the petition, people noted that they came from other parts of the city to admire our street plantings! They noted that boulevard gardens are a defining feature which contribute to the beauty and charm of the neighbourhood and make it an attractive place to visit.

There are legitimate concerns with boulevard gardens

Notwithstanding the broad support our petition received, a number of legitimate issues and concerns related to verge gardens emerged. For instance, people with mobility issues can feel uncomfortable around very tall plantings. Also, special care must be taken not to introduce unexpected obstacles, like garden hoses, on the sidewalk.

Gardens grow plants AND relationships!



Photo by Andrew Fyfe

After an anonymous complaint to By-law about the plants (including lilies and rudbeckia, above) he'd sown on the verge of his street, Andrew Fyfe learned a lot about city policy (or lack thereof) on 'boulevard gardens.'

This all started with an anonymous complaint – a circumstance I wouldn't wish on anyone. However, in the end, I have met so many kind and interesting people and been enriched by the experience.

The support New Edinburgh has shown for this little

patch of garden undoubtedly reflects a wider desire to encourage boulevard gardens and the myriad benefits they bring to the community. I hope you will lend your support to Councillor King's efforts to improve City policy in this area.



ELMWOOD
SCHOOL

I
belong
here.

How do I describe the Elmwood experience? In a word: community.

Science enthusiasts, art lovers, athletes, math whizzes, and writers all have a place here.

Each student is encouraged to explore and discover their own passions—and see just how far they can take them.

- Financial aid program
- Transportation available
- Healthy meals prepared onsite
- Before and after care

An independent day school for
girls from Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12.

Visit us to see why you belong here.

Elmwood.ca



For the Birds

By Jane Heintzman

As I write in late November, cold temperatures have finally arrived after an astonishingly mild, summer-like fall. Most of the songbirds that nest in our area through the spring and summer have long since flown south to their wintering habitat in the southern United States, the Gulf of Mexico, and Central and South America. The “season of silence” has begun: the full-throated vocalizing of the summer breeding season has vanished from the landscape, while the local bird population has nose-dived, leaving birders with slim pickings

reported sightings of such species as **white-crowned** and **white-throat sparrows**; **Eastern phoebes**, **Eastern Bluebirds**; **Carolina** and **Winter Wrens**; and **orange-crowned-**, **Blackburnian-**, **Northern parula-** and **Cape May warblers**.

Despite the disappearance of the brilliance and bustle of the summer breeding season, the fall can have a number of advantages for birders: most deciduous trees have lost their leaves, so it's easier to spot birds in the branches. And in the non-breeding season, many spe-



Angry Great Blue Heron.

Photo by Frank Martin



Blackburnian Warbler.

Photo by David Dawson

through the winter months ahead.

But thanks to the unseasonable warmth of early fall, when food supplies remained abundant and before sub-zero temperatures and a hard frost had set in, some late-lingers appear to have remained in the area. As recently as the third week of November, the Ottawa Field Naturalists Club (ofnc.ca/recent-bird-sightings)

cies form large flocks for the winter, taking the guess-work out of identification. Flocks of **American robins**, **dark-eyed juncos**, **European starlings**, **American crows** and **Common ravens** are all in evidence now in our community, some of them right in our backyard on Stanley Avenue!

A large group of **American robins** descended on our mountain ash tree in

November, switching to their winter diet of berries while worms are inaccessible in the frozen ground. **Dark-eyed juncos** opted for remnant seeds and debris in our flower beds, while a thick black blanket of **European starlings** settled noisily on the lawn. No ID issue here!

Also on our radar through the autumn: **House-** and **American goldfinches**, the latter in their drab winter garb; **black-capped chickadees**; **Common ravens**, including three immensely large individuals rooting around in the construction site on the corner of Stanley and Charles Street; **Northern flickers**; **sharp-shinned hawks**; **wild turkeys** (maybe not-so-wild, as they seem to have made a permanent home on MacKinnon Road in Rockcliffe Park!); **downy woodpeckers**; **Blue Jays**; **Northern cardinals** and a **cedar waxwing** group.

On two occasions in late November, I was startled to hear the signature “O Canada” call of the **white-throat sparrow**, though I failed to spot the singer. After initially deciding that I was hallucinating (these little guys normally leave the

region early in the fall), I later found confirmation in the OFNC weekly report that indeed, white-throats had been seen and heard in the area. Here's hoping they survive if they decide to stay for the winter!

Waterfowl and geese remain around in the fall for much longer than most songbirds. The OFNC continues to report numerous species in the region, including **red-breasted-** and **hooded mergansers**; **common** and **Barrow's goldeneye**; **blue-winged teal**; **ruddy ducks**; **red-throated loons**; **Ross's geese** and massive flocks of **snow geese**.

Local wildlife photographer Tony Beck recently captured a scene of aerial chaos as a snow goose flock in Embrun, Ont. was infiltrated by a **Golden eagle**, scattering the terrified geese in a wild scramble for the exit. To date, no such excitement has occurred in our neighbourhood, but I have spotted **Great blue herons** and **double-crested cormorants** out on the Rideau River, and expect to see **hooded mergansers**, which turn up annually in the weeks before freeze-up in December.

Backyard bird feeding in winter

In winter, backyard bird feeding is no longer simply a pleasurable diversion. It becomes a crucial – often life-saving – resource for overwintering birds, who face harsh winter conditions and a scanty food supply. Keeping feeders well stocked is a must: if you succeed in attracting a population of regular avian visitors to your feeders, it's especially important to maintain these supplies without interruption. If you're planning a winter holiday, try finding a friend or neighbour to replenish the feeders while you're away. Even a day without calories when it's -20°C may be life-threatening.

If you're new to bird-feeding, or could use a refresher after the spring/summer hiatus, here's a brief primer on the major seed types:

- **Black-oil sunflower seed:** Known by some as “the hamburger of the bird world,” black-oil sunflower seed is attractive to almost all birds, in part because of its thin, outer shell which is easily cracked by most species. Smaller birds that can't crack the shells will survive by feasting on the remnants left



RBQ 5719-2379-01




A proud family business built on exceptional quality services providing peace of mind, and a beautiful roof!



Call us now to book your FREE ESTIMATE

1-844-999-8648

www.bouletroofing.com

under the feeders. Black-oil seed also has a high fat content (higher than striped sunflower), adding to its value as a winter fuel.

• **Peanuts:** Peanuts are a high-protein, high-energy food, and a magnet for **woodpeckers, jays, black-capped chickadees** and **nuthatches**. Just make sure that they're de-shelled, dry roasted and unsalted. (And if you devise an effective defense against marauding squirrels, please let us know: we'll share it with other readers.)

• **Nyjer/thistle seed:** Nyjer seed is the favourite of most small finches (**American goldfinches, house- and purple finches, pine siskins** and **redpolls**). Long, thin tube feeders with tiny thistle-sized holes are the best dispensers of this seed type, and can be tricky for larger birds and squirrels to invade.

• **Suet:** For winter birds, fat is a high concentration energy source, readily available in commercial suet blocks wherever bird seed is sold. (Raw suet from the meat department in your grocery store is an option, but goes rancid more quickly).

• **"Good" mixed seed:** This is a mixture of sunflower seed, cracked corn, white millet and peanut hearts. But experts caution against "bad" mixed seed, which (while cheaper) may contain filler or



Barred Owl.

Photo by David Dawson

"junk" that most birds won't eat.

• **Safflower seed:** This is a sure-fire attraction for **Northern cardinals**, and can be dispensed in sunflower seed feeders. It's slightly more expensive than sunflower but is much less attractive to squirrels—a major plus!

Winter finch forecast for 2021 – 2022

In response to the availability (or scarcity) of food supplies in their northern Boreal habitat, **winter finches** may "irrupt" in the course of the winter to more southerly destinations. When supplies of spruce cones, birch seed, mountain ash berries or other food sources are scarce, they come south in significant numbers, while bumper crops in the Boreal zone hold them back on home turf.

There are eight winter finch species, many of them familiar visitors to our feeders: **pine grosbeak, purple finch, red crossbill, white-winged crossbill, common redpoll, hoary redpoll, pine siskin** and **evening grosbeak**.

For many years, ornithologist **Ron Pittaway** analyzed the scale and distribution of Boreal seed and cone crops, and on this basis, prepared a forecast of the winter finch species most likely to irrupt into our region. Following Pittaway's retirement, **Tyler Hoar** has recently taken up the mantle, and produce a set

of predictions for this winter. Learn more at finchnetwork.org.

Here's a snapshot of what's on the horizon in the coming months:

• A large-scale irruption is not anticipated, but small numbers of most winter finch species will likely move south and turn up at our feeders;

• Traditional birding hotspots like Algonquin Park, the Laurentians and the Adirondack Mountains should be prime locations for winter finches;

• **Pine grosbeaks** will be scarce in our area, thanks to a bumper crop of mountain ash berries in the north;

• **White-winged crossbills** will be around in significant numbers in winter finch hotspots;

• **Red crossbills** are expected to turn up where there are good Norway spruce forests;

• Through the late summer, **purple finches** have been spotted in "crazy numbers" in Ontario and Quebec, thanks to four major spruce budworm outbreaks in these provinces. Some are expected to remain in our area through the winter.

• The majority of **Common** and **Hoary redpolls** will remain in the north this winter, where spruce-, alder- and birch seed crops are abundant. But some will likely "trickle down" into more southerly areas as the winter progresses, so keep an eye

out at your feeders.

• Plenty of **Pine siskins** are expected to around in south-eastern regions of Canada and the northeastern border states, where there are bumper crops of spruce, hemlock and eastern white cedar.

• **Evening grosbeaks** may take advantage of a belt of food supplies between four major spruce budworm outbreaks in Ontario and Quebec, as they did last winter. While many will remain in the boreal zone, some are expected to move south and turn up in our region. Take note: their strong preference is for black-oil sunflower seeds!

Reports from our readers:

Apart from flooding and wild weather, former Burgh resident **Vicki Metcalfe's** big news from the West Coast was the recent celebration of **All Bufflehead Day** on Oct. 16. On that date (give or take a day or two), bufflehead ducks traditionally arrive for the winter. This is virtually a state occasion in Victoria, B.C. drawing the Lieutenant Governor, the local MP (Elizabeth May), the MLA and two local mayors to preside at the event, held in Shoal Harbour Migratory Bird Sanctuary.

Vicki's other birding highlights: **harlequin ducks, trumpeter swans, masses of yellow- and white-crowned sparrows, a ruby-crowned**

kinglet, Anna's hummingbirds and a cluster of **bush-tits** at her feeders.

Here in New Edinburgh: Activity at **Philip MacAdam's Avian Bistro** (corner of Alexander and Thomas Streets) has significantly ramped up since the arrival of colder nighttime temperatures. **Northern cardinals, black-capped chickadees, house finches, blue jays** and **white-breasted nuthatches** have all been feeding voraciously at the bistro, no doubt occasioning another visit to Ritchie Feed and Seed for supplies.

Mike Leveille reported only modest birding action at the Macoun Marsh in the Beechwood Cemetery, where a short list of **dark-eyed juncos, black-capped chickadees** and **American robins** have been spotted recently. But new bird feeders have just been installed at the Marsh, so with luck the cast of characters will grow through the winter.

Our birding photographer **David Howe** was astonished to spot a **Blackburnian warbler** at the Rockcliffe Airport in late November. "This might well be a record for Ottawa," says David. "Most Blackburnian warblers migrated over a month ago!"

We wish a very happy holiday to all our readers, and health, happiness and good birding in the New Year!



Photo by David Dawson

Great Blue Heron.

On these cold winter nights
we remember what brings us warmth.

all are welcome

Worship Schedule:

Virtual Christmas Pageant: 12/12 at 10:30am

Christmas Eve: 12/24 at 8:00pm

Christmas Day: 12/25 at 10:30am
at the Garry J. Armstrong Home

St. John Lutheran Church 270 Crichton Street

Next year could be another great one – for caterpillars

By Iola Price

Summer 2021 saw an infestation of hungry caterpillars in Ottawa trees. With 2022 looking to be another bountiful year for these insects, communities need to come together again to tackle those darned caterpillars that eat our beloved trees. This December, get scraping those egg masses!

This past summer, New Edinburghers wrapped trees with burlap or duct tape, captured and drowned caterpillars, and removed the pupae of *Lymantria dispar dispar* (commonly known as the gypsy moth) before they hatched into moths that were ready to mate. Traps con-

structed for adult males were also very effective in removing large numbers of them from the breeding population.

Of course, we didn't prevent all matings: from the eggs laid, tiny caterpillars will emerge in April 2022. This time we will be ready, and, in late March or early April we will wrap and monitor our trees and dispose of thousands of caterpillars.

In the meantime, now that the leaves have fallen, late fall and winter are ideal times to search and destroy egg masses. Look for them on tree trunks and limbs (especially the undersides of higher-up limbs) on the ground, or at ground level on trees, house walls, vehicle wheel-

wells, etc. Egg masses can be found anywhere a pupa hatched into a non-flying, fertile female moth, ready to emit her pheromone, attract a mate, and lay 300–700 eggs.

For instructions on securely removing egg masses, visit the Environment page on the Rockcliffe Park Residents Association website (rockcliffepark.ca). It is important to ensure that no eggs escape during the scraping process: they will survive over winter if left on the ground. When scraping those egg masses, it helps to lay down a tarp around the tree to catch every egg that drops.

The Ontario Ministry of Northern Development,



Photo courtesy Iola Price

If you see caterpillar egg masses like these, now is the time to scrape them off.



Sketch by Martha Markowsky.

Years ago, Smiley's Confectionery was a landmark on MacKay at Vaughan Streets.

Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry website has a good summary of the moth's life cycle as well as a scary 2021 map of defoliation especially in our area: search for "*Lymantria dispar dispar*" on ontario.ca. The survey covers only forested land, not city streets. From that map, I predict that 2022 will be a banner year – for the caterpillar. As more information becomes available, I will update the neighbouring communities via our listservs and community newsletters.

I have been asked about the utility of spraying our trees. That, of course, is an option for an individual homeowner with a high-value tree, but looking ahead to 2022, burlap and or taping tree trunks and plucking caterpillars seem to

me to be the way to go. The biological pesticide *Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki* (Btk) kills all caterpillars and must be applied at precisely the correct time and under specific atmospheric conditions so that other species of butterflies and moths are not put at risk. A licensed pest control operator using a boom truck would be needed for the tallest trees.

Remember also that the fine yellow hairs on the egg masses may cause an allergic reaction, so wearing a COVID mask is advised.

Rockcliffe Park resident Iola Price is a retired biologist with an interest in invasive plant removal that has now extended to invasive insect control.

UrbanOttawa.com

Wishing you and yours a happy and healthy year to come. Thank you kindly for all your business and referrals again during 2021. I look forward to working together in the years to come.

Meilleurs vœux de bonheur et de santé à vous et aux vôtres pour l'année prochaine.

Je vous remercie d'avoir fait affaire avec moi et de m'avoir recommandé vos proches au cours de l'année 2021.

J'espère avoir le plaisir de travailler avec vous dans les années à venir.

Natalie's
URBANOTTAWA
the art of urban living

RE/MAX Hallmark Realty Group . Brokerage

613.747.9914

Broker | Courtier **Natalie Belovic**

Community input on secondary plan will be key to climate change mitigation

Continued from page 1

reduces strain on the city's budget by allowing more compact service provision. Intensification is to occur at hubs and along road corridors, such as Beechwood Avenue, which is designated as an "Inner Urban Transect," allowing buildings up to nine storeys. While intensification is featured largely in the Plan, still almost half of the projected growth is to occur through greenfield development without specific provisions for zero-emission building requirements at this point.

Another key approach of the OP is "15-minute" or walkable neighbourhoods, aiming to limit the dependence on personal cars and to make the city "livable." While a good concept, it remains ill-defined and ways for achieving such neighbourhoods are absent from the OP.

According to Bisma Zahid, Ecology Ottawa's climate change campaign organizer: "The question of distribution of intensification, and how best to achieve that while fostering walkability and livability, remains the fieriest challenge facing neighbourhoods, the development industry and the City going forward."

The People's Official Plan (POP), an informal alliance of more than 20 community and civil society organizations and a key counterpart to the City in drafting the OP, finds that there "is a sizeable risk that inside the Greenbelt,

tall towers and road corridors will dominate, and neighbourhoods will lose the trees that make them livable."

In a disappointment to civil society, one of the key environmental demands of requiring a tree canopy cover of 40 per cent per neighbourhood (rather than across the entire city including the Greenbelt), was voted down, as was a commitment to "no net canopy loss." Instead, a 40 per cent tree canopy target at an albeit undefined sub-city level was included.

Another concern is the Building Performance Standards. According to the POP network, "The Ottawa OP mostly fails to achieve traction on the climate agenda for building better. The new High Performance Development Standard looks like it will fall prey to site plan exemptions and we are far from net-zero build requirements on greenfield development."

So, while the OP could have been bolder and still more ambitious, it is done. Not unusual for a broad policy document, the OP at times lacks specifics. And yet, it still is only the beginning: what matters now is the implementation; the challenge is to hold the City accountable to the OP's goals and the Climate Change Masterplan, to follow through with budgetary allocations, in Secondary Plans, and in the design of new developments or modi-

fication of existing ones, and ultimately by making intensification livable.

This is the space where community involvement will matter in realizing those broad ideas in the coming years.

So what does it mean for New Edinburgh? With

cation targets." The challenge here will be to ensure adequate setback to allow enough space for trees to prevent the heat island effect (where areas without tree coverage suffer from increased temperatures). With "very hot" days projected to more than

hood's Secondary Plan, you can still do your bit for climate change mitigation:

- Request a free city street tree to be planted in front of your home along the city right-of-way next spring (ottawa.ca/en/3-1-1);
- Check out the new Better

"The question of distribution of intensification, and how best to achieve that while fostering walkability and livability, remains the fieriest challenge facing neighbourhoods"

— Bisma Zahid, Ecology Ottawa.

the area between Dufferin Road, Sussex Drive and Stanley Avenue designated as a Heritage Conservation District, the pressure for intensification is on the pocket between Beechwood Avenue and Dufferin Road. The double challenge is that new infill in New Edinburgh often replaces smaller single-family dwellings, sealing more surface and often resulting in loss of trees and green space without adequate climate mitigation, whether in the form of zero-emission technology or green roofs (it is up to property owners to install green technology to reduce greenhouse gas emissions).

For Beechwood Avenue, a "minimum density requirement" was dropped from the OP due to public feedback and replaced with "intensifi-

double from the early 2000s to 2030 reaching approximately 25-28 days per year in Ottawa, ensuring adequate tree coverage will be essential for our well-being.

Engagement by our community will be crucial in the formulation of New Edinburgh's Secondary Plan and the comprehensive zoning by-law that will implement the new OP over the coming years and making sure climate change mitigation is given greater urgency.

According to the City, "to meet Council-approved targets to reduce emissions by 43 per cent by 2025 and 68 per cent by 2030, the community (that's you and me) will need to decrease emissions by five to six per cent each year over the next five to 10 years."

So, while we are awaiting a timeline for our neighbour-

Homes Loan Program that helps homeowners pay for home energy improvements: (betterhomesottawa.ca);

- Consult the many YouTube webinars organized by Ottawa based SMARTNetAlliance on environmental topics from heat pumps to electric vehicles; and

• Follow Councillor Rawlson King's initiative on a position paper on Beechwood Avenue, looking into how to re-build this thoroughfare. Find ways to share your view on the future of Beechwood Avenue once the paper is made public.

Springfield Road resident Marion Siekierski is a member of NECA's environment committee. She spent a number of years abroad working on environmental education in schools. Marion is involved in environmental issues at the community and city level.

Shop Online with the Beechwood Market

YEAR ROUND SHOPPING WITH OUR
ONLINE MARKET STORE
PICKUP AND DELIVERY AVAILABLE



Order Now

www.beechwoodmarket.ca

SATURDAY PICKUP LOCATIONS

STANLEY PARK FIELDHOUSE, 203 STANLEY AVE.

HAUS OF PLANTS, 329A ELGIN ST.

CLOUDFOREST CAFE WESTBORO, 339 RICHMOND RD.

ST THOMAS CHURCH, 2345 ALTA VISTA DR

OakWood

Bring your dream home to life.

Voted Ottawa's #1 Home Renovation & Design Company



www.OakWood.ca | 613.236.8001

Marnie Edwards R.M.T.

Registered Massage Therapist

Serving New Edinburgh, Rockcliffe and Manor Park for over 20 years

Back Pain, Sports and Repetitive Strain Injuries, Whiplash
Headaches, Insomnia, Chronic Fatigue, Arthritis, Stroke,
and more...

For an appointment, Call 613-741-3470

10 Braemar St.
Manor Park



**HAPPY FIDO
COMPANY**

Happy Dog ♥ Happy Life

**Pet Dog Training
Behaviour Consultation**

Effective training is a partnership between
you and your dog based on trust, love,
and science. Strengthen your bond
and train force-free!

Group classes
Private training
Puppy socialization
Good manners (obedience)
Reactivity/aggression

Fumie Watanabe, CPDT-KA
Owner-operator & Trainer

happyfidocompany.com
info@happyfidocompany.com



Ayurveda for Vibrant Living

A live, online course to teach you to become
your own best healer using the science of life

Learn the language of your body and explore secrets of self-care
to enhance vitality, radiance, digestion, sleep, mental health,
stress-resilience and to awaken natural intuition.

Our course starts Jan 2022. For more information and to
register, please contact Briya at briyafreeman@gmail.com
or at (819) 598 6380



Beechwood Barbershop

Where quality meets style

Tel: (613) 842-8383
10 beechwood Ave.
ottawa, Ontario
K1L 8B4

beechwood.barber@gmail.com

Join the CCC as a rink volunteer this skating season

By Sylvain Bélanger,
president of the Crichton
Community Council

The Crichton Community Council (CCC) has resumed rentals of the Fieldhouse at 203 Stanley Ave. again after over a year and a half of various limits. We have a regular Saturday rental that started this October and will continue until May 2022 with the Beechwood Market using the Fieldhouse as a pickup location for online orders. They will also be hosting a Christmas Market on Dec. 11, so check out beechwoodmarket.ca for the latest information.

The CCC is preparing for the upcoming skating season on the outdoor rinks at New Edinburgh Park. Although operating the rinks will be easier than the past year, health and safety measures will be in place at the Fieldhouse as in other indoor facilities in Ottawa. We will continue to provide hand sanitizing and implement COVID-19 cleaning requirements as mandated by provincial orders and the city. Our student rink attendants will continue to enforce the rules and we appreciate your cooperation and understanding while they carry out those duties so that we can offer a safe environment to all. Details on ice rink operations will be shared with the community once they are available as the weather gets colder. To help us with all this work, we have hired a

rink coordinator to take care of the rink attendants, hoses and other rink related activities for the year.

Volunteers are always needed to help maintain our two outdoor ice rinks. The time commitment for hosing the rinks is one hour or more per week at 9 p.m. Inexperienced volunteers are paired with seasoned ones, so do not be afraid to try something new!

High-school students can also volunteer to help hose or clean the rinks and we will sign off on your volunteer hours requirement for graduation. Please contact us at CCCRinkManager@gmail.com if you are able to help on an ongoing or onetime basis.

The city has approved a rental plan for the Fieldhouse that complies with the current COVID-19 public health measures and provincial orders. The rental plan will adapt in real time to reflect changes in pandemic measures, so we encourage you to email us at NEFieldHouse@gmail.com for the latest limitations. In general, it can be expected that gatherings will be limited in size, masks must be worn, only those

fully vaccinated can enter the Fieldhouse for an event and that COVID cleaning protocols will be completed by the renter after each visit.

Did you know that with the exception of our seasonal student employees, the CCC is a 100 per cent volunteer-run, non-profit organization? Our volunteers donate their time to the community on top of full-time jobs and caring for their families. They are the unsung heroes of our neighbourhood. Do you know a CCC volunteer? Reach out and thank them – or better yet, join them! Volunteering is a way to get to know your neighbours, be social, and make your community a better place. We are always looking for more volunteers, so let us know if you can help out. Without volunteers, events will not take place.

Contact us at Crichton CommunityCouncil@gmail.com for details. Follow us on social media: Facebook: [@CrichtonCommunityCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/CrichtonCommunityCouncil); Instagram: [@CrichtonCommunityCouncil](https://www.instagram.com/CrichtonCommunityCouncil) and Twitter: [@NEFieldHouse](https://twitter.com/NEFieldHouse). See you in the park!



"French Horn" by Elisabeth Arbuckle
acrylic on canvas ~ 22" x 28"



What strikes you as beautiful?

Discover amazing local artists
at your friendly neighbourhood gallery!
Extraordinary gifts large and small.
Looking is free and fun!

**galerie electric
street gallery**

299 Crichton at Electric Street, New Edinburgh
extended hours through December 19
Wednesday & Friday noon-5pm
Thursday & Saturday noon-7pm

Eleanor Dunn reflects on a career of doing it her way

By Marta M. Reyes

For Eleanor Dunn, being prepared, organized, and getting things done herself has always been the norm since she was a child. That's what she states in her obituary which, not surprisingly, she has already written for whenever it might be needed. But judging by her active lifestyle and self-proclaimed good health, that is still likely a long way away. Nevertheless, she prepared a witty and enlightening obituary dotted with personal anecdotes and details about her rich life and career.

Eleanor is a long-time New Edinburgh resident who lived on Dufferin Road for more than 30 years, and most recently in a house in the Mews Lane where she currently lives. She is also the founder of the *New Edinburgh News*, to which she still contributes. The paper was born from a need to have a means of communication with the residents, as there was no social media, email, or internet in those days. The main issue in the late 1970s was the Vanier Parkway extension, which brought the community together, opposing its construction. Over the years there were other issues, such as increased development on back lots on River and Avon Lanes, townhouse projects on yard of the former Crichton Street Public School, and the historic district designation. All these were flagged in the *New Edinburgh News* for residents' awareness.

As an avid reader, Eleanor decided from a young age to become a journalist, when it was a mostly male-dominated industry in the 1960s – much to her parents' dismay. "They were aghast," she reminisces of her days growing up in Nova Scotia. But she knew even then that to accomplish anything, she had to do all the legwork.

Eleanor was among the first women to join Carleton University's Journalism program. She did a co-op stint at the *Ottawa Citizen*, where she met her husband, who was the night police reporter there. They married when they were both in their early twenties and raised five children.

"I am from a time when we had to fight for a lot of things younger people, particularly women, take for granted now,"

Eleanor says. Like the expectation that a woman would give up her career to raise a family, become a housewife, or at most, work part-time at clerical jobs. None of which Eleanor did. She worked and raised her family, progressed in her career, and was an active member of the neighbourhood – similar to what many women do today, but at a time when that was not the norm.

"People were married a lot younger in my time; and a lot of men didn't want their wives working," Eleanor says her husband was supportive of her career, but the majority of the household work (including looking after their children) fell on her shoulders. Pragmatic as always, she made sure her boys learned to cook and her girls knew how to change tires. "You should always be able to look after yourself – be self-reliant," she explains.

Although professional women today still shoulder most of the housework, Eleanor feels the road to equality is much smoother than in her day. She remembers during her time working in radio, being told that female broadcasters were not popular because men driving home from work didn't want to hear a woman's voice, as it could remind them of their nagging wives at home. "It is still hard, but at least now there are no longer token women in the newsroom like in my day," she says.

Eleanor's career in journalism was fulfilling. She made it to the newsroom of the *Ottawa Citizen* excelling as

a labour reporter, covering nationwide strikes in several industries. She was also a contributor to CBC Radio, and a producer at CJOH-TV and contributor to several programs. She was president of the Ottawa chapter of the Newspaper Guild, and, not surprisingly, the Guild's first women's rights coordinator. She also led a full career in a union in the hospital industry; as director of human resources at the Skyline Hotel; and as vice-president of human resources and public relations at Riverside Hospital, where she also served on the Board of Trustees. Now in her 80s, Eleanor considers herself only "part-retired" and still leads an active lifestyle in her community and church, playing golf, and taking courses in Art History from Carleton University, via Zoom.

Eleanor is often seen at the Stanley Park dog park with her Cairn Terrier Hamish, who will turn 12 in December.

Marta M. Reyes has been living in New Edinburgh for the past 17 years with her two children and a dog. She is a public servant by day and hockey mom most evenings.



Photo by Alexander McKenzie

Journalist Eleanor Dunn and her dog Hamish. Eleanor has lived in New Edinburgh for more than 30 years.

Keep up with
The Burgh
online!



newedinburgh.ca

@newednews

fb.me/

NewEdinburghNECA



BUY
L♥CAL



Tales from the Square: We're a varied, dedicated bunch

By Keith Newton

New Edinburgh Square continues to hum along in the face of pandemic restrictions. There's certainly loads you can do. You can make your own Christmas cards or learn to play the ukulele. Or you could attend a classical music concert or join in a Friday happy-hour singalong. There's everything from euchre to yoga; books, billiards, and bridge; painting, puzzles, and poetry; colouring, crafts, and cribbage; and knit-and-natter and news. In addition, there's a guest speaker series which has included Indigenous Canadian architect Douglas Cardinal, former Lt.-Gen. (Retd) Andrew Leslie, and astronomer Gary Boyle. We also recognize various national days. On United Nations Day, dozens of nations were represented by staff members and residents, some of whom dressed in traditional costume and regaled us with songs from their homelands. We're a very varied bunch here at the Square, with different cultural backgrounds and different mother tongues.

And of course, each has their own story. I'll share with you a couple of tales.

The first is about a guy whom I had met originally when I was leading a couple of activity sessions as a volunteer. When, as a new resident, I stood hesitantly at the entrance to the dining room for my first meal, he spotted me and waved me over to join his table. I soon became good friends with Liam O'Brian and his other table companions. Liam is a prodigious storyteller. He has an admirable long-term memory and has hundreds of stories that go right back to childhood. I emphasise long-term, because I reckon that in 20 months of dining with Liam there must still be a few stories that I have not heard two or three times already. (He'd cheerfully agree – we tease each other all the time.)

Liam is a Torontonion, born and bred. He remembers with great fondness his years at Upper Canada College. One of my favourite tales is of Mr. O'Brian as a senior-form boy having tickets to Massey

Hall's classical music series. To Liam and his pals it was a taste of freedom. Alas, they didn't go to the concerts, but skipped over to enjoy culture of a slightly different kind – at a burlesque show. He also alluded once or twice to pre-dawn raids on the dormitory of the nearby girls' school, but is a bit short on details.

As a Lieutenant in the 48th Highlanders of Canada, Liam saw service in postwar Germany and remembers with pride taking part in the vast parade of Commonwealth troops assembled in London for the coronation of Elizabeth II. Back in Canada, Liam eventually made his way into the financial industry. But the young (ish) man had political aspirations and in 1968 he stood as a Conservative candidate in Waterloo, Ont. The result was neck-and-neck with the Liberal candidate, but meanwhile the sitting member, an NDPer, "snuck up between us and retained his seat." That was the time of Trudeaumania, when the word "charisma" entered the national lexicon. Liam recalls

ruefully that even his mother told him "if you weren't my son I would have voted for that lovely man [Pierre Trudeau]."

One of the best stories concerns an infamous party that took place at a cottage near

languishing a bit, but is recuperating, slowly but surely. It hasn't dampened his cheerful disposition, nor his enthusiasm for a pet project. Each year, in his capacity as president of the NES Residents' Association, Liam urges

"You have to put your heart and soul into your work here." – Lakech, New Edinburgh Square staff.

Kitchener, Ont. It seems that during Liam's days working in finance in Kitchener-Waterloo, an old school chum became his archrival at a competing firm. They were enemies on weekdays but good pals in the evenings and on weekends. So they planned a party. They would rent a roulette wheel, the guests would play and – presto! – the party would pay for itself. (Everybody knows that the house never loses, right?) Well, it did that night. The guests broke the bank and the two financial wizards lost their shirts.

As I write this my friend is

people to give generously to a staff Christmas fund. This is an opportunity to thank all those who have cared for us during the past year. This involves the very complicated business of pro-rating the hours of employees who may work occasional or broken shifts and at odd or intermittent intervals. Despite Liam's discomfort, he is determined to do it again this year. That's dedication for you.

Dedication is a word that also springs easily to mind with respect to Lakech, who has been a server here for eight years. Now you

Continued on page 25



★ ★
★ **FLIP YOUR
HOLIDAY DISH TO
SOMETHING NEW** ★ ★

Scan for recipe or
visit metro.ca/holiday



FLIP TO
**RUM
CAKE**

From Carleen



“ My dearly departed mom would bake this cake every Christmas. As children, my siblings and I looked forward to her baking it because the best part was not only eating it but licking the bowl after mixing! This cake will definitely be on the table of many Jamaican households this upcoming Holiday season and beyond. ”



Continued from page 24

might think a server's job is straightforward, but it isn't. There are more than 80 residents, each with their own idiosyncratic tastes, allergies, religious restrictions, delicate tummies, and lapses of two kinds: memory and politeness. So patience and compassion are important (if unwritten) requirements of the job. Servers have to deal with table-setting (note that tables and chairs have to be sanitized after use between the two sittings for the two main meals: pandemic rules!). Now that restrictions have eased a little, we're back to table linen and condiment shakers (hooray!) But how do they do the complicated folding of the napkins around the cutlery? (There must be an algorithm for that.) And I haven't yet mentioned the actual serving. Three courses at lunch and dinner, with drinks and coffee; two sittings each meal. This is where Lakech gets her exercise; it's about 65 metres from the kitchen to the farthest corner of the dining room. Servers can scamper as much as 4 km per shift. No wonder they return home

exhausted!

All of this Lakech confronts with a sunny disposition, as befits someone who hails from Ethiopia. Born in Addis Ababa, her native language is Amharic, and she was educated in what is now Eritrea. She later settled in Canada and is now practically fluent in English. She used to go back to Addis to visit her mother, but the pandemic put that routine on hold.

Ethiopia is a pretty big country and we tend to think of it as rather barren and desolate. But in fact, it has some beautiful, forested nature reserves and some big lakes, one of which – Lake Tana – is the source of the Blue Nile. Lakech wistfully recalls childhood visits to the lakes. She remembers her delight at watching the hippos lumbering out of the water and rolling on the beach, the crocodiles gliding stealthily, the many species of beautiful birds and the screeching antics of the monkeys. But what made a lasting impression on her visits to the remote villages was the generosity of the people. Some were very poor but would always welcome strangers

into their house for refreshment. Lakech brings some of that culture of humanity, generosity and hospitality to her work at the Square. "You have to put your heart and soul into your work here,"

she says.

I think she could be speaking for all staff. And we're all the better for it, believe me.

Former Crichton Street resident Keith Newton moved into the New Edinburgh Square

in early March 2020. He is a retired research economist and professor; and an avid creative writer. This is the second in a series on life in a retirement community during the pandemic.



The John G. Diefenbaker building reflected in the Rideau River.

Photo by Gavin Murphy

SEND JOY IN-A-BOX

* Ask us about
corporate orders

Available throughout
December!



JOY-IN-A-BOX \$68

Granola + scones + jam, Fluid solar roasted coffee, single origin tea, infuser and two mugs

SWEET TREATS \$72

Holiday baking, chocolate, Baileys, two mugs and a fleece winter blanket

WINE + CHARCUTERIE \$72

Selection of house smoked + cured meats, cheeses, seasonal pickles, candied nuts, maple board and red white or rose wine

LOOKING TO HOST...

A PRIVATE EVENT FOR CHRISTMAS OR IN THE NEW YEAR?

CONTACT US FOR YOUR BOOKING!



BY: *all saints*

WT ARTISAN KITCHEN + BAKERY

DINE-IN | 8AM - 9PM

WORKINGTITLEOTTAWA.COM

330 LAURIER AVE E | 613.230.3336

Ottawa's community newspapers have emerged healthy and vibrant from COVID

By John Dance

This article originally appeared in the October 2021 edition of *The Mainstreeter*.

Despite the pandemic, climate change, political divisiveness, and social media focused on virtual communities and individuals, local physical communities continue to thrive through their newspapers. *The Mainstreeter* is just one of the non-profits that regularly entertains and enlightens residents.

Over the last two decades, mainstream commercial media have reduced local coverage or simply gone out of business in the face of Google and Facebook gobbling up advertising dollars. While the *Ottawa Citizen*, *Ottawa Sun* and several television and radio stations still have several reporters who focus on local matters, they tend to deal with broad city or regional issues. Meanwhile what happens in, say, Old Ottawa East doesn't get reported on except in *The Mainstreeter*. Readers get to see pictures of their kids' winning hockey teams, something that doesn't happen with the city's daily newspapers.

To get a sense for the state of 10 nearby community papers, *The Mainstreeter* canvassed their editors, seeking infor-

mation on their papers' histories, status, operations, and challenges. What emerged was a picture of vibrant, community-based, and business-supported enterprises produced with the talent and energy of a thousand or more volunteers, and with direction from editors and a few others occasionally rewarded with limited honoraria. What follows is a summary of what their editors shared.

The papers covered by this survey were: *The Glebe Report*; *The Centretown BUZZ*; Alta Vista's *VISTAS*; Old Ottawa South's *The OSCAR*; the *New Edinburgh News (NEN)*; *Lowertown Echo de la Basse-ville*; the *Manor Park Chronicle*; Sandy Hill's *IMAGE*; Overbrook's *ConneXions*; and *The Mainstreeter*. These papers cover the urban core and the next communities beyond.

History

The oldest local community paper is the *Manor Park Chronicle*, now 70 years old. The youngest is *ConneXions*. Most of the others are almost 50 years old, although *The Mainstreeter*, *The Buzz* and the *Lowertown Echo* are younger at 36, 26, and 10, respectively.

The origins of the papers

vary but some are quite distinct. For instance, says editor Christina Leadlay, "The *New Edinburgh News* began in 1976 when the community was fighting the so-called Vanier Extension ... New Edinburgh won this battle, and the extension was never built. Since then, the *NEN* has continued to be the voice of the community." All of the papers have evolved with changing technology and have become longer and more readable – and they tend to have readily accessible electronic versions. The *Echo*, which was the predecessor of *The Mainstreeter*, had just four black and white pages when it hit the streets in 1981, while now *The Mainstreeter* often runs to 44 pages, with the majority of them in colour. Many papers are independent of community associations; however, *The OSCAR*, *The BUZZ* and *NEN* are owned or operated by the related community association. Nevertheless, all papers have fiercely independent editorial policies.

Circulation and financing

The combined circulation of the 10 papers is about 62,000, a sizable number in light of what the *Citizen's* circulation may now be (data are not readily available). In 2015, the *Citizen* had a circulation of about 93,000 but it undoubtedly has declined since then.

Two fundamental differences between the remaining mainstream newspapers and non-profit community papers are: the former charges readers an ever-increasing amount and, generally, publish six times a week, while

the community papers are free of charge and publish between five and 11 times a year. About half of the community papers publish 10 to 11 times per year. The others publish just four to six times.

Both for-profit and non-profit papers depend on paid advertising. The former are also now receiving some support through a new, \$595 million federal program, but community papers have historically received little government support aside from some political advertising.

Content

"News with a local angle," is how *NEN* describes the content in their newspaper. And this is common to all of the community papers. All of them have regular columns from such parties as community associations and activities groups, schools, churches and elected officials.

Community association columns and articles deal with their range of efforts including transportation, development, public safety, environment, trees, heritage, and housing.

All of the community papers have regular reporting or columns on such matters as technology, Indigenous issues, health matters, book and film reviews, food, disability issues, local sports, travel, and, in one case, "decluttering." Arts and community events are also regularly reported. "There is something for everyone," says the *Echo's* editor John Chenier.

One common feature is regular reporting on business, often with profiles of new businesses. *NEN's* "Burgh

Business Briefs" section runs five or six pages every issue. *The OSCAR's* "Business Beat" is a prominent standard feature that reports on new businesses and changes with other businesses.

Some papers have particularly unique features. For instance, the *Glebe Report's* back cover alternates between "a striking photo and a piece of art by a local artist," says editor Liz McKeen. *NEN* has its "Breezy Bits" on the back page with its "little announcements like birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, condolences, welcomes and farewells, and other happy little announcements to share with neighbours." *ConneXions* profiles interesting people through features called "Humans of Overbrook." In *The Mainstreeter*, unusual, diverse and fun activities in and around Old Ottawa East are often featured on its "Eclectic Events" page.

"We try to balance the challenges that our readers must respond to with successes and upbeat stories," notes *BUZZ* editor Alayne McGregor. "It's always an interesting challenge to find enough relevant photos."

All papers welcome letters to the editor and op-eds. Most editors include their own editorial on relevant matters. "[W]e print what comes in (after checking and editing) so it depends on the energy level of community activists and writer," says *IMAGE's* Jane Waterston. "We follow the community association but if there is nothing interesting going on we don't print anything. Anyone who lives or works in the neighbourhood is welcome to submit."

The monthly (or bimonthly) task

The volunteer-based operations gear up for each issue with core teams and the volunteer writers, photographers and artists who produce an avalanche – or trickle – of copy that may or may not meet the deadline. The core team, usually including the editor, copy editors, the advertising manager, and a layout expert, then make order and, occasionally, beauty out of the deluge.

The single largest expense (one that has recently grown

CELEBRATING YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW



Four decades ago, Liz and Joe watched as CHEO's Emergency Department staff diagnosed their infant son with listeria meningitis. It was a terrifying time they never forgot. CHEO helped their child survive, inspiring them to give back. When Liz was faced with terminal cancer in 2019, she and Joe made creating the Waldron Family Endowment Fund a celebration.

This gift, and the one included in their estate, will be a source of support from one generation of parents to the next, and the next, and forever.

A legacy gift to CHEO helps to build a healthy and happy future for our children and youth.


Be part of CHEO's life-saving work today and tomorrow.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT MEGAN DOYLE RAY AT:
mdoyleray@cheofoundation.com or 613 297-2633

Visit cheofoundation.com to learn how you can make a forever difference.



FOREVER
CHEO



MacKay United

Worship, Music,
Conversation and
Community

Sundays at 10:30 am

Online and limited
in-church seating

mackayunited.ca

much faster than the rate of inflation) is the cost of printing the newspaper, including the mounting costs of ink and paper. Once the paper is printed, copies are generally distributed to volunteers who deliver to specific streets or multi-unit buildings. This vital volunteer role makes it possible for the papers to be distributed throughout the communities free of charge. In a few instances, papers contract with Canada Post or others to deliver the copies to large, multi-unit buildings, but this is costly.

To augment distribution, several papers have bought newspaper boxes so that passersby may readily get a paper. Given that their readerships overlap, the *Glebe Report* and *The OSCAR* share boxes. Like those two newspapers, *The Mainstreeter* had its five news boxes painted by local artists who incorporated local landmarks into their designs.

Challenges

Aside from the relentless need to get advertising to keep going, community papers face a raft of issues beyond just the production of each issue.

In terms of news, with their infrequent publication, community newspapers face the challenge of being timely, relevant, and actually “news.” But given that many of their stories aren’t reported elsewhere, they often provide readers with information they haven’t seen elsewhere or, at least, provide a level of local details that wouldn’t otherwise be available.

“Reliance on volunteers has its upside, but means the product is not always at the peak of professionalism,” says McKeen. “Sometimes [it is] hard to find writers to cover stories. [You] need to walk a fine line between saccharine boosterism and hard-hitting gotcha journalism – an exaggeration, but hopefully you get what I mean: community building versus writing hard truths about, for example, neighbourhood conflicts.”

“Tackling issues with journalistic rigour, when the vast amount of our contributions are from volunteers with, quite understandably, no professional writing experience, is also a challenge,” notes Wes Smiderle, *Manor Park Chronicle* editor.

The constant turnover of volunteers is always a challenge, too. Similarly, filling

key positions, especially the editor, advertising, financial, distribution and social media managers, is critical for the operation of the paper.

“We include both hard news and features, and both more detailed-oriented planning stories and profiles of people important to the area,” says McGregor. “We try to balance the challenges that our readers must respond to with successes and upbeat stories.

“There’s no shortage of great stories in our community – they’re out there just waiting to be uncovered” – Lorne Abugov,

Mainstreeter editor

It’s always an interesting challenge to find enough relevant photos.”

For Lorne Abugov, who edits *The Mainstreeter*, “the biggest challenge is to produce a newspaper that all of our readers find engaging, that tries to find the sweet spot or the right mix of news and features. When I took on this role, I worried whether a small community like ours could generate enough interesting stories. I now know there is no shortage of great stories in our community – they’re out there just waiting to be uncovered.”

One pet peeve of volunteers is the difficulty of getting information from the City of Ottawa. While the City provides staff for interviews with mainstream media, often community papers get only limited email responses from the City’s media relations group. “The City, our city, should be less guarded and closed about information,” says Brendan McCoy, *The OSCAR* editor.

All community papers face the challenge of how to distribute the paper to closed apartment and condominium dwellers. And there is the broader and related issue cited by the *Echo*’s John Chenier: “The disintegration of community, started by the dissection of neighbourhoods by major transportation arteries, is now further being exacerbated by more high-rise buildings whose residents are transitory — Lowertown is somewhere where you might live three to five years of your life – and live insulated from the community and their neighbours.”

“Maintaining a healthy advertising base,” is also a key challenge, *NEN*’s

Leadlay notes. This became even more challenging during the pandemic when businesses closed and those that remained open often were stretched in many ways.

The pandemic threw a number of other challenges to community papers. In a few cases, papers were not produced or distributed, particularly to businesses within the various communities that were mostly closed to the

public. In all cases, there were fewer events to cover. On the other hand, the pandemic itself became a dominant story.

“Looking back, it has been a pretty happy era for the paper with people having more time on their hands, so we have a few new writers,” says Waterston. “And we have done some good work.”

The future?

Despite these challenges and given the success of community papers over the last few decades, their future looks secure, at least relative to the commercial print media.

As *VISTAS*’s editor Karen Johns notes: “In *VISTAS*’s four-plus decades, it has made a recognized place in the community. The *VISTAS* board of directors is confident that its newspaper is growing in popularity and readership and believes that the future for it is bright.”

“*The BUZZ* sees community newspapers as increasingly important as the space for news and community concerns in the dailies and on radio and TV continues to shrink,” says McGregor. “More money, more ads, and more volunteers would help keep the paper vital.”

“I see no loss of interest in [community papers] — the readers want them, and they can help local businesses,” comments Waterston. “If it is sustained by a volunteer base, it will continue. The important thing is to encourage good writers and be welcoming to all who show an interest. We are not hampered by bureaucracy, have no assets and nothing to lose. If things go wrong, we will just cease publishing.”

Although all of the community papers operate entirely independently of each other, there may be opportunities for collaboration and sharing of efforts. For instance, a case could be made that greater

government advertising in community papers would be beneficial in many ways. Similarly, a united front to seek greater government responsiveness in dealing with requests for information could be worthwhile. There is a provincial association of community newspapers based in Toronto, however, membership is restricted to for-profit papers, thus excluding most of Ottawa’s community newspapers.

While an organization comprising local non-profit newspapers could be “hugely beneficial” to their operations, according to *The Mainstreeter*’s Abugov, he and other editors readily acknowledge that they are already stretched, so that another effort and more meetings would be a challenge.

American political scientist Robert Putnam has argued that the decline of newspapers contributes to the erosion of “social capital” and of democracy. In Ottawa, at least, the strength of our local non-profit community newspapers may contribute to building social capital and may strengthen local democracy. Perhaps our community papers are really important.

John Dance is a regular contributor to The Mainstreeter.

Beechwood
Auto Service

“Comprehensive car care for peace of mind”

613.749.6773

www.beechwoodcanada.com

Tell your life story through your philanthropy

By Megan Doyle Ray

Philanthropy is a word that gets tossed around a lot these days. The literal translation from the original Greek is: “love of mankind.” The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines it as “an act or gift done or made for humanitarian purposes.”

Historically, this was a pursuit reserved for the wealthy and famous, people like American industrialist Andrew Carnegie, one of the richest men in the world around the turn of the last century, who gave away the bulk of his vast wealth. As part of his philanthropic work and commitment to helping others, he donated an estimated \$350 million – that’s \$4.8 billion in today’s money. Because of Carnegie’s belief in the importance of self-education his philanthropy included generous endowments to universities and the establishment of more than 2,500 free public libraries around the world. The Ottawa Public Library is one of these: it opened in 1906.

In today’s world you don’t

need to be as wealthy as Carnegie to be a philanthropist. Every time you donate, become a monthly donor, or decide to leave a gift in your will to a charitable organization, you are engaging in a philanthropic action. Though Carnegie’s story and the legacy he built are famous, everyone has a story to tell. And when we tell our story to friends, family, and even strangers, we are not only sharing something with the other person, we are also coming to better understand ourselves and uncover meaning in our own lives.

Storytelling is a way to express your values, clarify what is important to you and connect with others. The same can be revealed by the organizations you choose to support through your philanthropic giving.

I have the privilege of working with many CHEO donors and families who are inspired by community, connection and caring. The common roots of their stories include love and a commitment to paying it forward for future generations of children and

families.

People give in different ways depending on where they are in their life. As we get older and pass such milestones as raising children, paying off a mortgage, or retiring from a career path, we may be lucky enough to begin seeing benefits like a well-earned pension and access to financial assets acquired over time. We can find ourselves in a position to help others and make larger charitable gifts than we ever imagined in our younger years. This is when many of us look to alternative ways of giving, such as donating securities like stocks or mutual funds directly to a favourite charity, making a charity the beneficiary of an existing or new life insurance policy, directing RRSPs or RRIFs, or leaving a gift in our will after providing for loved ones. Not only will these types of donations help others, they can also provide significant tax advantages for you as the donor.

Late in his life, Andrew Carnegie was quoted as saying: “I resolved to stop accumulating and begin the

infinitely more serious and difficult task of wise distribution.” So, as you think about what you want your life story to be (which will ultimately be the legacy you leave) remember you don’t have to be Carnegie to make your lasting mark on the community and the causes that mat-

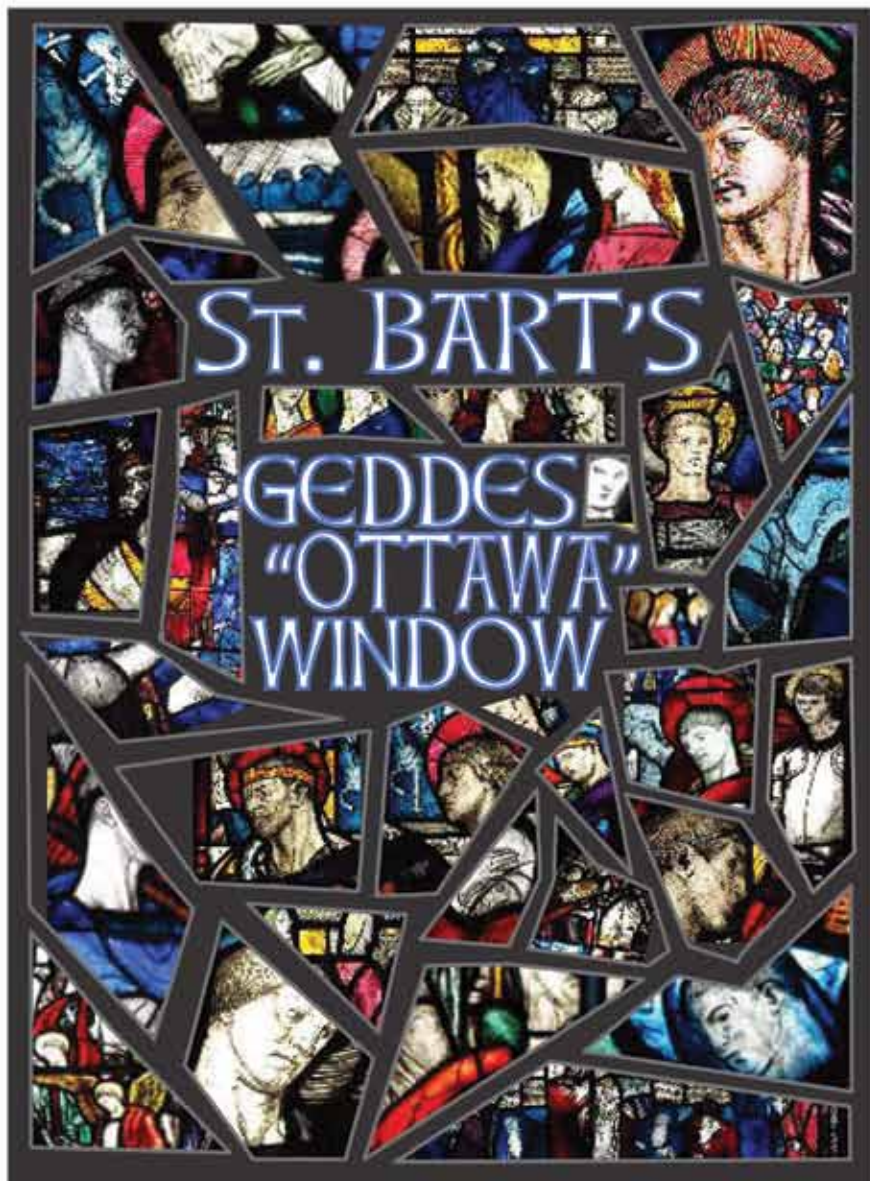
ter most to you.

Megan Doyle Ray is the manager of Legacy and Memorial Giving at the CHEO Foundation. Contact Megan at mdoyleray@cheo-foundation.com or 613-297-2633 to create your CHEO legacy or to share your story.



Photo by Justin Swan

Homes on Avon Lane decorated for the Winter Lane Loop walk, Nov. 27.



The Church of St. Bartholomew Capital Campaign - 2021

St. Bart's is a heritage church in the heritage community of New Edinburgh. Canada's first Governor General, Lord Monck, laid its cornerstone in 1868.

Funds raised will be used to restore the internationally recognized memorial from the Great War, the Geddes "Ottawa" Window and to make our facilities even more inviting for concerts and other community events.

Be part of this fundraising campaign in the community!

All donations great or small gratefully received.
Tax receipts for donations over \$25.

Visit our website at
www.stbartsottawa.ca
for more details or to donate



A voyage of discovery under foot

By Janet Ruddock

I never paid much attention to manhole covers. Frankly, I don't even notice them or anything else going on under my feet. Well, there's those slippery ice patches in winter to watch for, but it's not winter – yet.

All that changed when I started to lose my vision. Throw in pre-existing balance issues and if there is something to trip over, I generally do. Ask my husband. He's my walking buddy. Now he looks down as much as I do to warn me of tripping hazards ahead. "Watch out! There's a manhole!" Well, that was enough to stop me in my tracks. That's when we first noticed the abundance of manhole covers in the neighbourhood. "Danger... Ottawa" the majority warn. Now, I trust the danger is the manholes themselves. As cities go, Ottawa, on the whole, is not that dangerous. Still, it pays to be careful.

Other manhole covers display a fish. No danger here – just fish. On closer inspection, on one walk I notice subtle differences between these fish (fascinating stuff, this). My walking buddy humours me. Our stroll turns into a crawl as I classify fish according to pattern and my husband feigns interest. My initial research, as in one stroll, found three distinct fish designs, but I could be wrong. There might be more. Research cannot be rushed, and my assistant got bored.

One cannot ignore the simple toilet icon on other manhole covers. I'm no expert, but can only assume it's warning about what collects beneath these manholes and where it's heading. No creative license in toilet icon design that I've noticed in my travels. It seems a toilet is pretty much a toilet when it comes to manhole covers.

There may well be other manhole cover logos in the immediate vicinity that I've missed. I'm on a real voyage of discovery, here. However, my walking partner has only so much patience. Always so eager to move on. The good news, as tripping hazards go, the manholes I've encountered are generally in fine repair. Maybe I'm just lucky. Yet, danger is far from over. No, indeed. There are plenty



Just one of the variety of manhole covers seen on 'Burgh streets.

Photo by Frank Ruddock

of other sidewalk hazards for me to fall over.

There are not as many holes in our sidewalks as potholes in the roads around here. Same principle goes for repairing them. Leave those sidewalks alone or patch them up. The untended holes just get bigger, thus easier to see and (with luck and advance warning) to avoid. The temporary patches tend to bulge, crack or sink over time, any of which can trip me up. My specific vision impairment means I tend to see the world ahead of me and underfoot as flat. Not that I doubt the calculation of ancient Greek mathematician and astronomer Eratosthenes of the world's roundness. I'm sure it is. My eyes just don't see it that way.

Even perfectly maintained stretches of sidewalk can be off-putting for folks like me. I get the feeling sidewalks in the neighbourhood slant slightly towards the road. Some more than others but, take it from me, they all do. I'm on a perpetual lean. If you remember that slanty floor in the crooked kitchen in the Museum of Science and Technology, you'll know the feeling. Similar to strolling on the promenade deck of a large ship. Nice on a cruise at sea; not so nice while cruising the neighbourhood. Gravel, anyone?

I won't dwell on the abandoned scooters littering up the place. They are, after all, neon green and difficult to miss, even by me. The bright orange ones recently added

to the mix are a nice touch. It seems to me there are fewer

of these nuisances lying around. Is someone actually

collecting them more quickly? Perhaps it is just wishful thinking.

We often veer onto the network of back lanes en route home. As relatively traffic-free pedestrian malls go, New Edinburgh's lanes are a safe bet for vision-challenged walkers like me. I'm free to go solo, energy to spare, weaving at will on the wide expanse in front of me. Beside me, I detect a big sigh of relief and a release from the death grip on my arm. For some reason, my walking buddy is exhausted.

Janet Ruddock and her husband Frank moved to New Edinburgh over a 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.

Caldwell and Associates
wish you all a very

Merry Christmas

And Happy New Year







Brokerage

Dionne Caldwell, Broker of Record
9 Murray Street
Ottawa, ON K1N 9M5
Bus: 613-744-5525
Email: dcaldwell@caldwell-realty.ca

Bookshop staff share their winter reading wish lists

In what is now an annual tradition, the staff at Books on Beechwood offer their recommendations for winter reading.

Bridget recommends:

The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles

Set in the 1950s, this brilliant American odyssey follows 18-year-old Emmett, fresh out of reform school, and his eight-year-old brother as they attempt to drive from Nebraska to San Francisco to find their mother. Their plans are thwarted at every turn by a richly drawn cast of misfits and miscreants but buoyed on by their essential goodness and determination. Towles is a storyteller in the tradition of Mark Twain.

Twelve Caesars by Mary Beard

Classicist and cultural commentator Beard focuses on the modern images of the Roman emperors and explores basic questions of how and why they have been so widely produced. She asks: "What do the faces of long-dead autocrats, many more with a reputation for villainy than for heroism, mean to modern audiences?" She explores the work of artists like Titian, but also generations of silver-smiths, ceramicists, printers, weavers, and cabinetmakers. This is a handsome book from an erudite and engaging writer.

The Unwinding (and Other Dreamings) by Jackie Morris

Sumptuous artist of *Lost Words* and *The Lost Spells*, Morris has created what she describes as "a companion, a talisman to be turned to again and again, and a place of respite from an increasingly frantic and complex world." Dreams and myths thread their way among the dream-like illustrations. A beautiful gem of a book.

A Most Remarkable Creature: the Hidden Life and Epic Journey of the World's Smartest Bird of Prey by Jonathan Meiburg

A blend of science writing, travelogue, and biography, this is a captivating and beautifully written exploration of the caracaras: an oddly crow-like falcon native to the southern regions of South America. The birds are mischievous, curious and wickedly smart with a remarkable



Photo by Johanna Rostenne

(from left) Hilary, Bonnie and Bridget. Barely visible in the chair is Dickon (Bridget's Poodle).

affinity for people. Meiburg follows this curious predator, deftly intertwining natural history and human history.

Aislin's Favourite COVID Cartoons from around the world by Terry Mosher

Montreal Gazette cartoonist Aislin has assembled a timely collection of COVID cartoons from around the world. Dividing his finds into themed chapters such as "Lockdown Blues," "Trump's Pandemic," and "A Weary Winter," Aislin also includes chapters specifically on Canada and Quebec – his home turf.



Jan Brett's The Nutcracker by Jan Brett (Ages 2+)

This beautiful picture book will be a cherished addition to every family's Christmas bookshelf. Children's illustrator Brett sets this classic tale in snowy Russia, creating her own visualization of Tchaikovsky's enchanted music. Even the borders include her signature animals, playing the instruments featured in each of the symphonic movements.

We All Play/kimetawanaw by Julie Flett (Ages 2+)

Simple and charming, this inclusive celebration of play is

a delight. Governor General's Award winning Cree-Metis author and artist Flett depicts animals and children joyfully romping in the natural world. She also includes Cree words and pronunciation aids for the animals shown in the illustrations.

The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family by Ibtihaj Muhammad, with S.K. Ali, art by Hatem Aly (Ages 3+)

Told by Faizah, younger sister of Asiya, this is a celebratory story of the excitement of Asiya's first hijab – the brightest blue – purchased for the first day of school. Despite the prejudices of some, the sisters support each other and gain strength and pride in their family and their culture. Muhammad is the first Muslim American woman in hijab to compete and medal in the Olympic Games.

The Christmas Pig by J.K. Rowling, illustrated by Jim Field (Ages 8–10)

With his beloved stuffed pig DP by his side, Jack has dealt with his parents' divorce, a move to a new town, and his mother's new husband. So when DP is lost, Jack is distraught and goes on a mission to retrieve him from the Land of the Lost with the unloved but resourceful replacement pig: the Christmas Pig. Rowling does not disappoint in her first book for middle readers. She's a yarn spinner with a special sensitivity for the struggling child.

Cathy recommends:

A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles

This is a delightful book that I didn't want to end. Transported to 20th-century Russia, you meet wonderful characters experiencing their own lockdown. Part love story, part thriller, with a dash of parenting, it was a grand adventure.

The Man Who Died Twice by Richard Osman

The same four septuagenarians from *The Thursday Murder Club* take us on a fun and intelligent ride in this quirky new mystery. If you are looking for an enjoyable romp, look no further!

The Madness of Crowds by Louise Penny

Every year, she adds another book to the Inspector Gamache canon, and this year's does not disappoint! Set once again in the town of Three Pines, Gamache must solve a murder stymied by frightening ideologies, infectious delusions, and the madness of crowds.

State of Terror by Louise Penny and Hillary Clinton

This incredible novel (by a somewhat surprising writing duo) kept me on the edge of my seat from beginning to end! The two female protagonists breathe fresh air into the geopolitical thriller genre.

Miss Benson's Beetle by Rachel Joyce

In this new offering from the author of *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*,

two unexpected companions embark on a life-altering adventure to New Caledonia. An affirming, witty journey of surprising depth, that reflects on the nature of friendship.

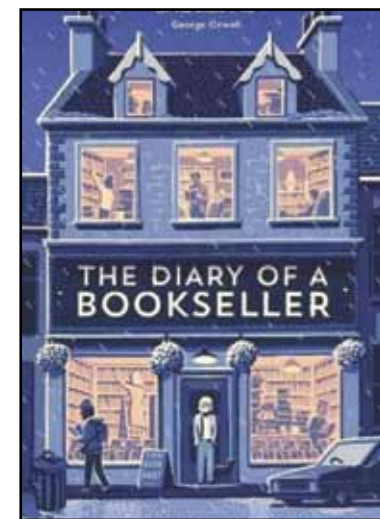
Dave M. recommends:

This is How You Lose the Time War by Amal El-Mohtar and Max Gladstone

Set in a far future, this beautifully written epistolary novella explores the unlikely relationship between two soldiers on opposite sides of a time war.

The City in the Middle of the Night by Charlie Jane Anders

This far-future story, set on the tidally-locked planet of January, follows Sophie, a young student attending university. The worldbuilding in this book is incredible, presenting a human culture in a completely alien setting.



Diary of a Bookseller by Shaun Bythell

A collection of observations and anecdotes about the personnel and patrons of The Bookshop – a used bookstore in the small town of Wigtown, Scotland – by its somewhat curmudgeonly owner Shaun Bythell. A must-read for lovers of bookstores everywhere!

How to Do Nothing: Resisting the Attention Economy by Jenny Odell

Odell is a multidisciplinary artist and writer who provides a thoughtful treatise on being present in our individual environments and aware of the layers of context that surround us.

Alone by Megan Freeman (Reviewed by Jackson, age 11)

Teenaged Maddie hosts a secret sleepover when the town is evacuated and she is left behind. *Alone* is a book written as a poem – it doesn't

rhyme but it looks like a poem. It is a very manageable book. The storyboard for *Alone* can keep you on the edge of your seat for hours on end!

David R. recommends:

***The Vinyl Café Celebrates* by Stuart McLean**

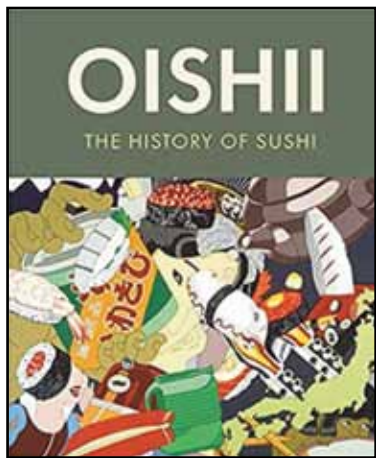
We at the shop are all big fans of McLean and snapped up the latest collection (all previously unreleased stories) the moment it arrived in the store. I'm looking forward to reading it out loud to the family over the holidays.

***The Dawn of Everything: A New History of Everything* by David Graeber and David Wengrow**

Many years ago, I read Desmond Morris' *The Naked Ape* and found it fascinating. *The Dawn of Everything* feels like its successor, up-ending our understanding of the history of humanity as a species.

***Once a Bitcoin Miner: Scandal and Turmoil in the Cryptocurrency Wild West* by Ethan Lou**

Lou reached out to the store looking for a place that could provide 200+ copies for a single customer who had made some coin (pun intended) and wanted to give back to the community. We didn't end up being the ones to sell him copies, but I've heard a lot about Bitcoin and don't really know anything about it. Now it's on my holiday list.



***Oishii: The History of Sushi* by Eric C. Rath**

I love sushi, but know very little of its origins, and this book will probably make me more hungry – I mean, knowledgeable.

***This Place: 150 Years Retold* by Kateri Akiwenzie-Damm, Sonny Assu and Brandon Mitchell**

A graphic novel portraying Indigenous struggles in the last 150 years since Canada's confederation – this being the year we should all learn more

about it.

***Head of the Class* by Paul Hetzler**

Paul is a local author and arborist with a great sense of humor. *Head of the Class* is his latest collection of nature-related short stories.

Hilary recommends:

***Sistersong* by Lucy Holland**

King Cadon can no longer feel the heartbeat of the land – the magic that runs beneath his feet has turned to his children in search of a new vessel. Riva, Keyne, and Sinne are three siblings bound by love and torn apart by secrets and betrayals. Set in ancient Britain, this heart-stopping novel is guaranteed to captivate you!

***Fluffy McWhiskers Cuteness Explosion* by Stephen W. Martin and Dan Tavis (Ages 4-8)**

We've all met them: kittens so cute you just want to explode! Well, Fluffy McWhiskers is one of those. But being that cute can be lonely. Will Fluffy be able to find a friend who doesn't explode at the sight of her? Colourful and hilarious.

***Hardly Haunted* by Jessie Sima (Ages 4-8)**

An adorable picture book about how different houses are suited to different people. Little House is lonely because no one lives in her. Her hinges are squeaky, her floors are creaky, and she's full of dust and cobwebs. Will a family every come along who will feel right at home?

***Aaron Slater, Illustrator* by Andrea Beaty (Ages 5-7)**

The newest book in a beloved series, *Aaron Slater, Illustrator* is wonderful! Aaron loves stories, but finds reading tough – words just look like squiggles on the page. When his class is asked to write a story, Aaron finds a way to spin a tale that's uniquely his.

***Across the Desert* by Dusti Bowling (Ages 8-12)**

Jolene loves watching 12-year-old pilot Addie Earhart's livestreams of her flight across the desert. But when something goes terribly wrong during a broadcast, Jolene is determined to set out in search of her friend. Full of adventure and heart, this newest book by one of our favourite authors is a real gem!

***Take Me With You When You Go* by David Levithan and**

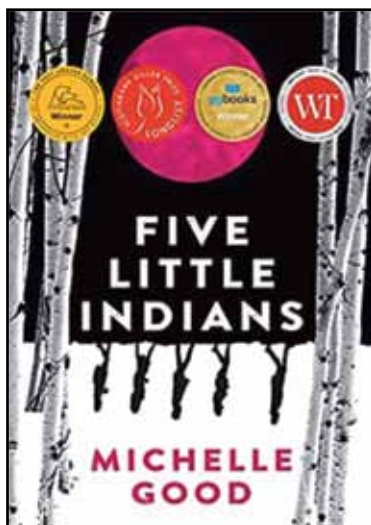
Jennifer Niven (Ages 12+)

Touching, heartbreaking, hopeful, and sweet, this novel about two siblings, their love for each other, and their despair at being apart, will delight Levithan and Niven fans alike. Written in letter form from alternating perspectives.

***Verspertine* by Margaret Rogerson (Ages 14+)**

Rogerson is arguably the new queen of YA fantasy. This book is perfect for fans of Cassandra Clare and Leigh Bardugo. Full of ancient spirits, dark magic, and powerful priestesses!

Michelle recommends:



***Five Little Indians*, by Michelle Good**

Good's debut novel won the 2020 Governor General's Literary Award. It is told from alternating points of view of five former residential school students as they make their way in 1960s Vancouver. The characters are vivid, genuine, funny and heartbreaking. As they confront their pasts and determine their futures, it is their friendship and love that sustains them.

***All's Well*, by Mona Awad**

Awad's new novel is one of the strangest yet most irresistible books I've read in a long time. A high-school theatre director is determined to put on Shakespeare's *All's Well That Ends Well* against the advice of everyone else, who thinks she should stage *Macbeth*. She also suffers from excruciating pain and a dependence on painkillers, yet no one can explain the cause of her illness. One day, the pain is gone – but at what price? This book is strange, somewhat dark, yet funny.

***Fight Night*, by Miriam Toews**

Shortlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, this marvelous story is written from

the perspective of Swiv, a precocious, observant, anxious nine-year old in Toronto. Swiv's observations provide insight into the lives of her pregnant mother and her invincible grandmother: an incredible character and the story's heart. Through Swiv, the reader observes this wonderful, determined, dynamic family across three generations.

***The Book of Hope*, by Jane Goodall**

Goodall includes the human intellect, the resilience of nature, the power of young people, and the indomitable human spirit as reasons for hope. Her remarkable life and career are an inspiration, yet she provides her readers – particularly younger generations – with even more reasons to hope in this wonderful book.

***Braiding Sweetgrass*, by Robin Wall Kimmerer**

Kimmerer is a botanist from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in Oklahoma. She merges these elements of her identity – scientist, naturalist, Indigenous person – to write a celebration of the living world, which is deeply informative, inspiring, generous, and compassionate. I finished this book with a new appreciation for the generosity and abundance of the earth, and a renewed hope about how we might interact with it.

***Shadow and Bone (Book 1 of The Grisha Trilogy)* by Leigh Bardugo (Reviewed by Sofia, age 14)**

This is one of my favourite novels ever. It's filled with mystery, adventure, and once you start reading it you can't put it down. I got very attached to all the characters, and they all have such different personalities! It's the first of three books, and all three of them are amazing. It's a great novel for teens or young adults, and I highly recommend reading it.

***Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Big Shot (Book 16)* by Jeff Kinney (Reviewed by Sam, age 10)**

I think this book is good, because even though it's mostly about sports, it's great whether you like them or not, and is very funny on every page.

***Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling (Reviewed by Emilia, age 7)**

I think this is an excellent

book for 12-year-olds, but kids my age can also read it. It explains a lot of things, even what Tourette syndrome is. It is a precious and inspiring book. It is a book that you will beg for more each night. It helps you learn about friendship, and that friendships are hard sometimes – you may fight, but you can usually figure it out.

Stephanie recommends:

***The Royal Secret* by Andrew Taylor**

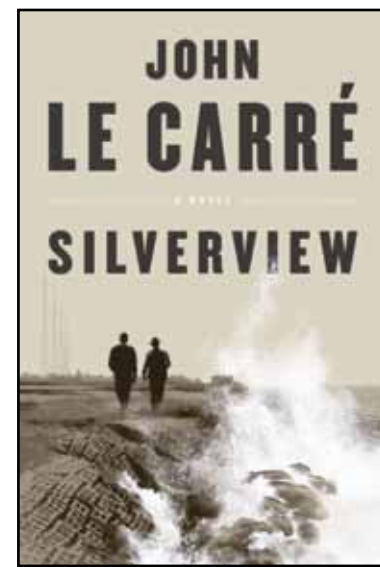
Set in 1670 London, this is a great historical mystery with a very exciting plot and some very well-drawn characters.

***A Town Called Solace* by Mary Lawson**

Liam comes to Solace when he has nowhere else to go and meets eight-year-old Clara, who lives next door and is confused about the disappearance of her sister. At times sad and darkly funny, it shows the compassion, grief, and understanding that can connect us.

***Happy Half-Hours: Selected Writings* by A.A. Milne**

Featuring the best of Milne's short nonfiction, this collection of whimsical essays on lost umbrellas, marriage, golf, and all sorts of life's little difficulties make for the perfect short reads before falling asleep.



***Silverview* by John Le Carré**

Sadly, this is the last book we'll get from the master of the spy novel who died in December 2020. It rested in his desk for several years while he waited for the right time to release it. Within its pages, he questions the motives and consequences of British foreign policy and the abandonment of the ideals that the traditional intelligence officers have dedicated their lives to. We will miss him.

How ‘street dynamics’ are those of society writ small

By Doug Cornish

Who owns, or has the rights to, the neighbourhood street? Most people who have lived on a street for a long time sometimes feel that they are keepers of the gate. It’s probably akin to some countries where people who can trace their ancestry back generations and probably feel that they have more of a claim to the country for some reason: probably because their history is primarily with only one country. I read somewhere that Cleopatra wasn’t Egyptian – she was Greek. Her family had lived in Egypt

for 300 years, so most people think she’s Egyptian. To an Egyptian, though, who can trace ancestral lines back thousands of years, Cleopatra would have been an outsider.

In their book *The Story of Civilization*, Will and Ariel Durant observed that “Civilization is a stream with banks. The stream is sometimes filled with blood from people killing, stealing, shouting, and doing things historians usually record, while on the banks, unnoticed, people build homes, make love, raise children, sing songs, write poetry, and

even whittle statues. The story of civilization is the story of what happened on the banks. Historians are pessimists because they ignore the banks for the river.”

The most interesting neighbour is probably the new neighbour. They can’t participate in “historical neighbourhood conversations,” but still like to eavesdrop so they can learn the “history” of the street or the neighbourhood. They want to be part of the ‘hood. They need to “fit in.” New neighbours are in a fortunate position because they have the best of both worlds and they’re really the present and future of the street (if they remain).

The dynamics of any neighbourhood street that’s existed for a number of years is that the street sometimes divides itself up into an “old neighbour/new neighbour” scenario. New neighbours sometimes get nervous when they’re in a conversation with old neighbours because there are those awkward silent moments when they cannot relate to the story of when so-and-so as a child put a baseball through old man so-and-so’s picture window. Or,

some new neighbours don’t really care, because they’re just thankful to live in a “signature” neighbourhood.

New neighbours do like to put their own particular stamp on the street, though, so they usually go into a renovation mode and start tearing down fences, putting up fences, changing outside lighting, changing doors or windows, or kitchen or bathroom projects. Or – and this can be contentious – someone might purchase a house and then decide to tear it down and put up something else, and not always a structure that fits in architecturally with the neighbourhood.

In many ways, the dynamics of a neighbourhood street reflect society. The new must get along with the old, and vice-versa. The neighbourhood street clearly reflects the generational, multicultural, and socioeconomic daily challenges of society. It’s interesting the way street dynamics come into play when someone wants to shut

another neighbour out of the conversation. But if a street is going to remain a true neighbourhood street where community and communication between neighbours is important, then akin to society, people on the street must get along. For at the end of the day, the neighbourhood street is the place you come home to, and the place you call “home.”

Neighbourhoods have a never-ending story. School children study a nation’s history as only part of their education, but a neighbourhood’s history is also important and can increase personal and societal awareness. How each of us fits into society and the nation at large is a direct (or an indirect) result of our neighbourhood street histories.

Indeed, it does take a neighbourhood, and particularly a neighbourhood street, to raise a child.

Doug Cornish lives a short walk from the Beechwood Cemetery.



Garages on River Lane decorated for the Winter Lane Loop walk, Nov. 27.

Photo by Justin Swan

ROYAL LEPAGE
 The Real Estate Experts

25 YEARS

OF FOCUSED EXCELLENCE IN REAL ESTATE

TOP 1% FOR ROYAL LEPAGE IN CANADA*

*Based on closed and collected earnings

BROKER OF RECORD/SALES REPRESENTATIVES

Rob Marland | Jane Forsyth
Myha Ewart | Karen Gibson | Haidyn Picco

MARLAND TEAM
ROB MARLAND - BROKER OF RECORD

613.238.2801 | robmarland.com

165 Pretoria Ave. Ottawa, ON K1S 1X1



Photo by Alexander McKenzie

The doors of St. Bartholomew’s church, trimmed for Christmas.

Advent services for all moods at MacKay United

By Eleanor Dunn

Elvis Presley sang about it. Lost love and sad remembrance fill the lyrics of his "Blue Christmas" with its closing line: "You'll be doing all right with your Christmas of white, but I'll have a blue, blue Christmas."

Not everyone is consumed with joy and merriment during the Christmas season.

MacKay United Church is again presenting "The Bittersweet of Christmas" — an intimate service on Dec. 14 at 7 p.m. While this service is geared towards those who, for many reasons, feel blue as the holidays approach, anyone interested may attend either in person or virtually.

"Music and Meditation" is back, and so is Rev. Peter

Woods who is interrupting his sabbatical to lead MacKay's Advent programs. December 21 is a special, Christmas-themed evening of music, the spoken word and quiet contemplation starting at 7 p.m.

The traditional Christmas Eve Family Service is usually standing-room only, but this year, in accordance with public health protocols, there will be some limitations due to physical distancing requirements. It will be an evening of carols, candlelight, and readings, all in celebration of the Christ child's birth.

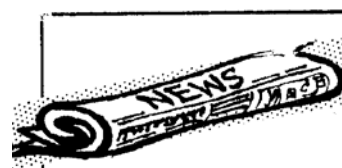
The church will be closed on Dec. 26.

Advent represents a return to some semblance of normalcy at MacKay. It provides an opportunity for congregants to return to the sanctuary if they haven't already done so since the church reopened its doors on Aug. 29. It also provides an opportunity for newcomers to the area to check out MacKay's offerings — especially during the holiday season.



An inviting place to sit on River Lane, Nov. 27.

Photo by Justin Swan



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.

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.

SNOWBIRDS!!! Do you need a HOUSE SITTER this season? Someone to immaculately care for your home while evading the cold weather here in Canada? I am a young lady with recent experience house sitting in the Glebe with excellent references. I love to care for animals, especially puppies. Sarah: 613-263-0590.

Ladies size 6 fully reversible sheepskin coat. Perfect, as-new condition. Dark brown, full length. Very warm, suits Canadian winter! Valued at \$3,000. Asking \$1,800. aunj01@gmail.com.

We are moving & wish to transfer our townhouse lease to a new tenant. We have 18 months remaining at 175 Crichton St. New Edinburgh. Feb. 1, 2022 to July 31, 2023. 2 BR/3 BA (den could be 3rd BR), modern kitchen, attached garage, in-unit laundry. \$2850/mo + utilities. Contact Laura at 613-203-0838, to book a viewing. Application + Credit check required. Non-smoking. Small dogs under 30 lbs ok.

For more information about these events, and the COVID protocols which change almost weekly, check out MacKay United's web page at mackayunited.ca or phone the church office at 613-749-8727.

Take a winter break!

Relax and enjoy the winter months in a comfortable suite in a vibrant community. While everyone on your block is out shoveling, shopping, and shivering, you'll be warm inside enjoying fun and entertainment.

- Offering a full continuum of care: Independent Living, Assisted Living, and Memory Care, with access to 24-hour professional nursing care
- A variety of daily activities and group outings to keep our residents safe, happy and connected

Reserve your Winter Stay by contacting Sabine at 613-327-9655

Winter Stays at
RIVERSTONE
RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES



Put away the shovel and enjoy everything Retirement Living has to offer on a Winter Stay.



Located in your neighbourhood at 80 Landry Street in Beechwood.
Just steps from the cafés and shops of Beechwood Avenue.

RiverpathRetirement.ca

RIVERPATH
RETIREMENT COMMUNITY
COMMUNAUTÉ DE RETRAITE

EVENTS CALENDAR

Send event listing details to newednews@hotmail.com Visit newedinburgh.ca/events for the most up-to-date listings.

December

Workshops at Ply Studio at 205 C Dufferin Rd. plystudio613.com. Burgh artist Carmen Bohn offers creative workshops (both in-person and online) to inspire, connect and make you happy! Workshops for this month include Hand-Crocheted Poufs (Dec. 4), Pom Bomb Christmas Ornaments (Dec. 5), Chunky Knit Cows (Dec. 11), and Felted Ornaments (Dec. 14). Register online.

Dec. 4 – Pints in the Park at 100 Thornwood Rd. 3-6 p.m. manorpark.ca. Manor Park Community Council hosts “Pints in the Park” Winter Social, a licensed outdoor family events featuring beer, fire, food and music. All welcome. Free to attend.

Dec. 4 – Bach Cantatas By Candlelight at St. Joseph’s Church, 174 Wilbrod St. 7:30 p.m. cantatasingersottawa.ca. Tickets \$10-50. The Cantata Singers of Ottawa returns with an in-person performance featuring cantatas welcoming the Messiah at Christmas time, including “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring.” Accompanied by

the Studio de musique ancienne de Montréal. Masks and proof of vaccination required.

Until Dec. 10 – Homes for the Holidays happening virtually. hospicecareottawa.ca. Hospice Care Ottawa hosts a virtual edition of its annual “Homes for the Holidays” fundraising event. With a donation of your choosing, receive a link to view six exquisite homes via video and 3D tour, beautifully decorated for the season by local florists. An in-person Holiday Pop-Up Shop will take place at the Hellenic Event Centre. Online tours available from Nov. 18–Dec. 10.

Dec. 11 – Beechwood Market: Holiday Edition at the New Edinburgh Fieldhouse, 203 Stanley Ave. 3–7 p.m. beechwoodmarket.ca. The Beechwood Market brings back its Holiday Market, featuring 25 vendors selling gifts, baking, jewelry, and more. Street food available to eat onsite. Indoor-outdoor event, rain or shine. Online market available year-round.

Dec. 11 – Noël Royal Christmas concert at St. Joseph’s Church, 174

Wilbrod St. Tickets on eventbrite.ca. \$15–\$25. 8 p.m. The University of Ottawa Choir presents “Noël à Versailles – Christmas at Windsor Castle” featuring Christmas music from the Sun King’s court in Versailles as well as Queen Victoria’s court at Windsor Castle. Musical director: Robert Filion.

Dec. 12 – Christmas Candlelight Service at Beechwood Cemetery, 280 Beechwood Ave. 6:30 p.m. The Beechwood Foundation hosts a Christmas Candlelight Service, a special way to remember loved ones, featuring a candlelight memorial with carol singing and a tree lighting ceremony. We appreciate donations of non-perishable food item for the Food Bank. Dress warmly for this outdoor event. Masks required for singing.

Dec. 15 – CCC board meeting happening online. CrichtonCommunityCouncil@gmail.com. 7:30 p.m. Join the Crichton Community Council (CCC) for its monthly board meeting. We are looking for volunteers to run family and community events in our neighbourhood. Email

for meeting link and details.

Dec. 15 – Jazz Nite: The Holiday Edition at Bar Robo, 170 Queen St. Free admission. MacKay United’s own Rev. Pete Woods will warm your toes and heart with his special blend of jazz and soul. Admission is always free, and the cocktails will be flowing.

Dec. 16 – OrKidstra holiday celebration happening virtually. orkidstra.ca. Free. 5:30 p.m. OrKidstra hosts its annual holiday celebration concert featuring recordings of live performances, stories from OrKidstra students, virtual musical projects, and very special guests.

Dec. 21 – NECA board meeting happening online. newedinburgh@outlook.com. 7:30 p.m. All New Edinburgh residents are welcome to attend the board meeting of the New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA). Email for meeting link and details.


January

Workshops at Ply Studio at 205 C Dufferin Rd. plystudio613.com. Burgh artist Carmen Bohn offers


creative workshops (both in-person and online) to inspire, connect and make you happy! Workshops for this month include Cord & Yarn Baskets (Jan. 5), Macrame Plant Hangers (Jan. 8), Coiled Textile Baskets (Jan. 20), and Beginner Weaving (Jan. 23).

Jan. 17 – Ayurveda for Vibrant Living A live, 10-week online course that teaches you to become your own best healer using the science of Ayurveda. Known as the “sister science” of yoga, Ayurveda combines self-care, lifestyle practices, natural nutrition, breathwork and meditation to help the body-mind heal and restore balance. Contact Briyafreeman@gmail.com for details and registration.

Jan. 18 – NECA board meeting happening online. newedinburgh@outlook.com. 7:30 p.m. All New Edinburgh residents are welcome to attend the board meeting of the New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA). Email for meeting link and details.



Rhodes Barker
LUXURY REAL ESTATE



Top Team in Canada
for Coldwell Banker
1-3 Persons

Christopher Barker
BROKER
613-612-9555
cb@RhodesBarker.com

Tony Rhodes
SALES REPRESENTATIVE
613-276-6061
Tony@RhodesBarker.com


COLDWELL BANKER
RHODES & COMPANY,
BROKERAGE
613-236-9551

www.RhodesBarker.com


Happy Holidays & Best wishes for 2022!!

From the Rhodes Barker Team


The Rhodes Barker Team has a tradition of trust.
We offer to our clients real value in a changing market with full service agency.
Contact us for a free home valuation.
No Cost – Market Analysis – Confidentiality – No Obligation




For Sale • Rockcliffe Park
\$2,500,000




For Sale • Riverside South
\$799,900




For Sale • McKellar Park
\$2,465,000



For Sale • New Edinburgh
\$1,250,000



For Sale • Rockcliffe Park
\$3,300,000



For Sale • Lindenlea
\$1,699,000

Follow us on Instagram at: [RhodesBarker_realestate](https://www.instagram.com/RhodesBarker_realestate). Connect with Chris Barker on LinkedIn.
Like us on Facebook at: [Rhodesbarkerluxuryrealestate](https://www.facebook.com/Rhodesbarkerluxuryrealestate).

Recipe for a classic winter stew

By Alexander McKenzie

Ingredients

4 lbs beef chuck (Boneless blade, boneless short rib or any other long-cooking cut from your local butcher), cubed (your local butcher would be happy to do this for you)
All-purpose flour (just enough to cover the cubed beef in a light dusting)
2 tbsp cooking oil (like canola)
3 onions, diced
2 celery stalks, diced
2 carrots, peeled and diced
1 rutabaga or 5 small turnips, peeled and diced
3-4 yellow-fleshed potatoes (keep skin on for a more rustic look), diced
1 bunch of fresh thyme (remove leaves from stem)
5 cloves garlic, minced
1 heaping tbsp of tomato paste
2 bay leaves
2 litres beef stock (can be found at your local butcher shop)
1 bottle (minus one glass) red wine (Make sure to fol-

low the rule: If you can't drink it, don't cook with it.)
Salt and pepper, to taste

Instructions

Dust the cubed beef with flour and season with salt and pepper.
In a Dutch oven (or any heavy bottom pot), heat oil over medium-high heat, add beef when oil is hot, and cook until all sides of the beef are brown.

Remove beef from pan and set aside.

Add onions, celery, carrots, rutabaga (or turnip), and potatoes to the pan and season with salt and pepper.

Cook vegetables over medium-high heat for 5-7 minutes then add the fresh thyme leaves, garlic, and tomato paste. Once vegetables are softened, add the browned beef back to the pan.

Deglaze the pan with the red wine and keep it at medium-high heat (uncovered) until the liquid reduces by half (about 7-9 minutes).

Add the beef stock (enough to just barely cover the meat and vegetables) and bay leaves to the pot. (Having a little bit of left-over stock will come in handy if the stew becomes too thick at the end.) Bring the liquid to a boil and

then reduce to low-medium heat and cover with a lid. Let stew cook for 2-3 hours.

After 2-3 hours, check the consistency of the stew. If the stew is too thick, you can add some more stock or water to get to your desired consistency. Taste the stew at this point and season as desired.

When ready, serve with fresh bread and butter (and that left-over glass of wine).



Want to rent the Fieldhouse?

Contact

NEfieldhouse@gmail.com



union street
kitchen café

42 crichton street
at union street
onunionstreet.ca













contactless
take-out

mon 8 - 1
tue to fri 8 - 3
sat + sun 9 - 3


Sezlik.com

OTTAWA LUXURY PROPERTIES


#1 in Ottawa*

 <div>ROTHWELL HEIGHTS - \$3,790,000</div>	 <div>RIDEAU GARDENS - \$2,690,000</div>	 <div>ROCKCLIFFE PARK - \$2,499,000</div>
 <div>BYWARD MARKET - \$1,980,000</div>	 <div>LINDENLEA - \$1,750,000</div>	 <div>CENTRETOWN - \$1,450,000</div>
 <div>NEW EDINBURGH/LINDENLEA - \$1,399,000</div>	 <div>BYWARD MARKET - \$1,195,000</div>	 <div>GRENFELL GLEN - \$999,000</div>
 <div>LOWER TOWN - \$729,000</div>	 <div>NEW EDINBURGH - \$719,000</div>	 <div>LINDENLEA - \$629,000</div>

Discover what working with Ottawa's best can do for you!



613.744.6697



Charles Sezlik, Dominique Laframboise, Sara Adam Sales Reps. and Trystan Andrews, Broker.



Photo courtesy Nathalie Carrier

Mayor **Jim Watson** (centre) joined Quartier Vanier BIA chair **Nathalie Carrier** (left) and Jacobsons manager **Dominique Jacobson** (right) on Nov. 23 to celebrate the installation of 18 illuminated snowflakes (below) on the telegraph poles along Beechwood Avenue and McArthur Avenue, made possible by a Winter Cities grant from the City of Ottawa. Nathalie Carrier said the snowflakes were plugged in Nov. 20 and will remain lit up until the end of January 2022.

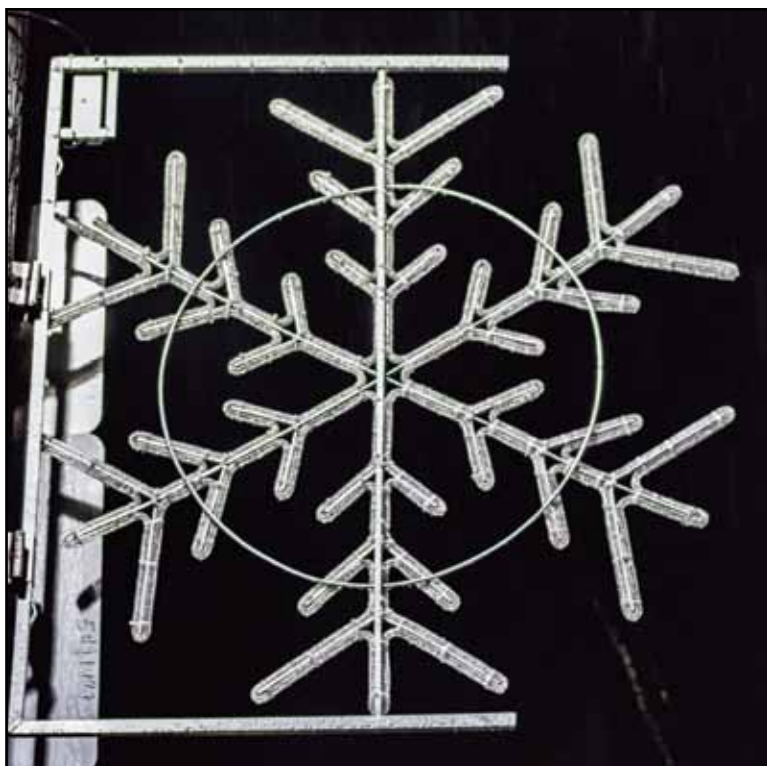


Photo by Alexander McKenzie

Burgh Breezy Bits

DEADLINE: JAN 10
newednews@hotmail.com

Welcome



Newton moved into New Edinburgh on Oct. 20. Born Aug. 31, he is definitely a real sunshine, brightening everybody's lives including all people passing by. He is more than ready to meet all his New Ed friends (other than **Rozee**, **Tommy** and **Echo**). In his free time, Newton enjoys physics like his dad and running like his mom. He adores people, dogs and cats.

Congratulations

Rockcliffe Park Spring Book Sale volunteers would like to thank everyone who participated in their contact-less book drive outside the library on Nov. 13. It was an outstanding success despite

the miserable weather; hats off to the individuals who stood in the rain directing traffic and to the movers who got soaking wet unloading the seemingly endless stream of boxes from donors' vehicles. We are enormously grateful to everyone who contributed. Thanks to the generosity of our donors and the tireless efforts of our dedicated volunteers we can continue to support the Library.



Congratulations to **SushiMe** owner **Sue Jung** (pictured in *NEN* in February 2012) and her hardworking team as they celebrate 10 years at 8 Beechwood Ave. having officially opened its doors on Dec. 2, 2011. In 2013, Sue received the QVBIA's Talk of the Town Award for Business Discovery of the year. The restaurant expanded its original footprint in April 2014. As big changes keep coming to our main street, we are glad to have a familiar spot like SushiMe (still open for take-out only). Best wishes for future success!

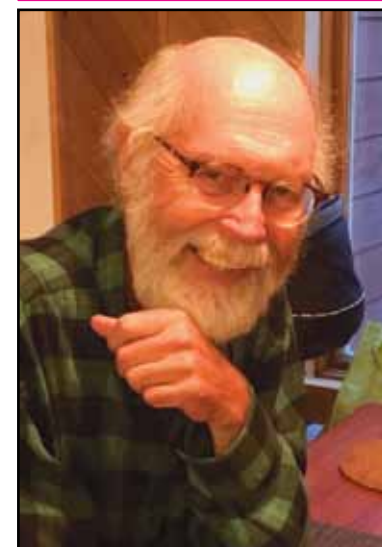
Very best wishes to **Michael Edwards** on his milestone

80th birthday, Dec. 17. Michael is a longstanding and much-loved resident of Stanley Avenue, and over the years has been a strong supporter of our community. The *NEN* is especially grateful for his many years as a loyal advertiser. Happy birthday, Michael!

Miscellaneous

The **New Edinburgh Community Choir** plans to resume practicing on Jan. 10, 2022 in the Memorial Hall at MacKay United Church at 7:30 p.m. Come and have fun singing with us every week! We welcome anyone and everyone. All Ottawa Public Health Protocols will be enforced. If interested, please contact Isobel Bisby at 613-304-7919 or ibisby@gmail.com by Dec. 20.

Condolences



Born in 1950, **John Russell Read** passed away on Oct. 13. Though in his later years, John's home was in Skyridge, Que., he was part of the New Edinburgh community for more than 40 years. He is sadly missed by his partner of many years, **Vicki Henry** (Stanley Avenue), her family, John's family and so many others who loved his generosity and love of adventure.

Condolences to the **Parkanyi family** of Avon Lane on the passing of "Grandma" **Magda** on Nov. 12. After a dramatic and daring escape from Hungary in 1956, she and her husband **Bela** (deceased) started new lives, first in Australia and then Canada. Magda was most recently a very active resident of The Edinburgh Retirement Home. She will be missed by family and friends in Canada and in Hungary. *Nyugodjon békében.*

Advent and Christmas Services

MacKay United Church 39 Dufferin Rd. mackayunitedchurch.com. 613-749-8727. admin@mackayunitedchurch.com; facebook.com/mackay.united. MacKay United presents the Bittersweet of Christmas service (Dec. 14 at 7 p.m.); Music and Meditation Christmas service (Dec 21 at 7 p.m.) and Christmas Eve livestream service (Dec. 24 at 4:30 p.m.).

St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church 125 MacKay St. stbartsottawa.ca. Register judyatstbarts@gmail.com. 613-745-7834. Proof of vaccination required for all in-church services. Spa for the Soul led by Canon Laurette (Dec. 8 from 2-4 p.m.); Third Sunday of Advent (Dec. 12 at 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.); Fourth Sunday of Advent (Dec. 19 at 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.); Christmas Eve (Dec. 24, 4 p.m. family service and 7:30 p.m. evening service) and Christmas Day (Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m.). First Sunday after Christmas (video only, no in-person. Dec. 26 at 10:30 a.m.); Second Sunday after Christmas (video only, no in-person. Dec. 26 at 10:30 a.m.).

St. Luke's Lutheran Church 326 MacKay St. stlukeottawa.org; stlukeottawa@gmail.com. Rev. Bryan King will hold services on Christmas Eve (Dec. 24 at 7:30 p.m.), Christmas Day (Dec. 25 at 10 a.m.) and Dec. 29 at 10 a.m. All services will be in person (with all proper procedures in place) and also broadcast live over YouTube and on Facebook.

St. John Lutheran Church 270 Crichton St. stjohnlutheran.ca. Call 613-749-6953 for the Zoom link. Everyone welcome. Advent 2 worship (Dec. 5 at 9 a.m.); Advent 3 worship (Dec. 12 at 9 a.m.) Children's Christmas Pageant (Dec. 12 at 10:30 a.m. on Zoom); Advent 4 worship (Dec. 19 at 9 a.m.); Christmas Eve candlelight service (Dec. 24 at 8 p.m.) and Christmas Day worship (Dec. 25 at 10:30 a.m. at Gary J Armstrong Long Term Care Home, 200 Island Lodge Rd.). Proof of vaccination required.

