

OCTOBER 2023

NEW EDINBURGH NEWS

newedinburgh.ca



Photo by Karen Squires

Take a stroll, grab a coffee and explore this newly renovated NCC River House location, now open. Check the ottawariverkeeper.ca/river-house/ website for details.

Ottawa Riverkeeper's new location draws new audiences

By Karen Squires

Ottawa Riverkeeper moved into their new location at the National Capital Commission (NCC) River House at 501 Sir George-Étienne Cartier Pkwy, following a major renovation by the NCC, on Mar. 1 and opened their doors to the public on Jul. 25.

CEO Laura Reinsborough reported that “things have been going swimmingly” with so many people now coming to this location to take advantage of the new natural river pool, then wandering into the Learning Lab on the lower level.

Reinsborough highlights the key objectives of Ottawa Riverkeeper, including protecting, promoting, and improving the ecological health of the Ottawa River and its tributaries – the world's largest freshwater ecosystem, including watershed areas. Visitors stopping by for a swim can also drop by the Learning Lab to deepen their knowledge of actions they can take to improve conditions in the river.

Although Ottawa Riverkeeper has existed since 2001, moving into the NCC River House has connected the group even more closely to the river. Imagine being at your desk with that river view: very inspirational! Laura says seeing the river makes a huge difference in connecting team members to their mission, and that the Learning Lab helps to connect the public.

Exciting events for New Edinburgh guests

Reinsborough says one of the chief attractions this past summer was the turtle incubator. Visitors could see baby turtles before they were released at Turtle Island. Ottawa Riverkeeper piloted the program this past summer, which will reopen again in the spring.

Ottawa Riverkeeper also offers onsite workshops, volunteer opportunities, and a beautiful third-floor boardroom space to rent: check out ottawariverkeeper.ca for more information. Proceeds from the boardroom rental goes to the Riverkeeper Charity: a great cause and an inspirational space!

Stay tuned for more updates in upcoming editions on what's happening at Ottawa Riverkeeper as they settle into their new home. NECA and Friends of the Park extend a warm welcome. The New Edinburgh Community Alliance is also exploring opportunities to collaborate with the Ottawa Riverkeeper on events like the spring-time park clean-up and other initiatives. We look forward to working together to keep our rivers and adjacent green spaces clean and safe for residents and all species to enjoy and thrive!

Karen Squires sits on the NECA board, co-chairs Friends of the Park and co-edits the New Edinburgh News.

Chief Pinesi Day: A small step towards truth and reconciliation

By John Leefe

While many Canadians were celebrating Canada's 156th birthday at house parties, New Edinburgh pursued the path of learning and community on Jul. 1 as Stanley Park hosted the second annual Chief Pinesi Day. Organized by the Kichi Sibi Trails group in partnership with the Crichton Community Council and the New Edinburgh Community Alliance, the full-day program was a meaningful opportunity for residents to learn about and celebrate Algonquin Anishinaabe history.

Named in honour of Chief Constant Pinesi, the last

grand chief of the Algonquins to live at his historic hunting grounds near Rideau Falls, the day began with a ceremony around a sacred fire, led by Elder **Doug Comegan** and assisted by **Merv Sarazin**, Councillor with the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation. Local dignitaries, including former Algonquin Chief **Wendy Jocko**, Ottawa-Vanier MP **Mona Fortier**, MPP **Lucille Collard**, and Rockcille-Rideau Councillor **Rawlson King**, delivered addresses focusing on the need for better understanding of Indigenous peoples and for efforts towards reconciliation.

Participants formed a circle next to the Fieldhouse as Elder Comegan explained the meaning of the sacred fire ceremony. He explained how the rising sun is to be honoured, and thanked the Creator for the opportunity of the new day. Participants were invited to reflect on what the rising sun meant for them, as Elder Comegan spoke about four sacred plants: sage, tobacco, cedar, and sweetgrass. With Councillor Sarazin's able assistance, Elder Comegan then attempted to light the fire, but to no avail on the first two or three attempts.

Continued on page 16

At 88 Beechwood, the search for retailers begins

By John Leefe

For those driving along Beechwood and wondering about the status of the Minto II apartment development, the project will be branded as “88 Beechwood.” Construction is progressing and ahead of schedule, according to project manager Kevin Harper, who says that the project was “topped off” in September, about a month ahead of schedule. Harper adds that the tower crane will be removed in November, residential window installation is underway from the ground up, and work on the interior spaces is beginning.

First occupancies are targeted to begin in April or May

2024. The streetscape work along Beechwood Avenue and Barrette Street is also planned for next spring or early summer.

As previously reported, attracting new retail businesses has been of prime importance to many neighbourhood residents. Brentcom Realty has been retained to lease the roughly 6,000 square feet of street-level retail space along Beechwood Avenue. While it's too early to confirm what type of retail will be secured, we surveyed some businesses and residences in the immediate vicinity to get their thoughts about the development and their wish-list for businesses would be best suited

to lease the retail space.

Dale Smith lives just a few doors down the street from 88 Beechwood and writes: “Having seen the retail spaces that are located at the Minto I development, I am not very optimistic about what we will see at Minto II. Regrettably, the rents are so prohibitively expensive that smaller, independent businesses are unable to afford the space. I wish Minto was genuinely committed to helping create diverse, creative retail options that would help Beechwood grow as a walkable, visionary main street”. Regarding her personal wish list for retail possibilities, Smith adds: “it would be

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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, Friends of the Park; 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 7:00 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 October 17, 7:00 p.m.** and **Tuesday November 21, 7:00 p.m.** The next **AGM** is **Wednesday October 25, 7:00 p.m.** Meetings are held in person at the Fieldhouse. Contact newedinburgh@outlook.com for details.

Your NECA Representatives 2022-2023

Contact anyone below through info@newedinburgh.ca

Sarah Anson-Cartwright

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Ted Bennett | Co-Treasurer |
| Ray Boomgaardt | Co-President, NECA |
| Sean Flynn | Co-Treasurer |
| Kostyantyn Frolov | |
| Katherine Hall | Friends of the Park |
| Karen Squires | Friends of the Park |
| Heather Matthews | |
| Gail McEachern | Heritage & Development |
| Sean McNulty | |
| Jason Tavoularis | Traffic & Safety |
| Cindy Parkanyi | Co-President, NECA |

Ex officio:

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Chris Straka | President, CCC |
| Sharon Nyangweso | <i>New Edinburgh News</i> newednews@hotmail.com |

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newedinburgh.ca

NECA board highlights events and upcoming meetings

September was a great month for community events in New Edinburgh. On Saturday, Sep. 9, we enjoyed the New Edinburgh StreetFest, a fundraiser sponsored by IODE Laurentian to raise funds for Ottawa's Inuuqatigliit Centre for Inuit Children, Youth and Families. Our thanks to Janet Uren for her vision and hard work. The following Saturday, Sep. 16, we enjoyed the New Edinburgh Neighbourhood Sale, organized by the Crichton Community Council (CCC) during the day and a community BBQ in celebration of the CCC's 30th year (or 49th depending on how you count).

NECA's Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Oct. 25 at 7 p.m. It will be online, so visit newedinburgh.ca to find the agenda, committee reports (as they become available), and the link to register. Please plan to attend as these events are an opportunity to bring neighbours together and build a stronger, more vibrant community.

On Saturday, Oct. 14, the CCC have arranged a special showing of *Stories Told Are a Culture Shared*, a video documentary from Ottawa StoryTellers of local



Indigenous storytellers discussing the importance of stories in the Indigenous cultures of Turtle Island. The 20-minute documentary, featuring Louise Profit-LeBlanc, will be shown every 30 minutes on the hour and half-hour between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. inside the New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse. And while you are at the Fieldhouse, take a moment to visit the Bloodline – *Miskwi* and *Gathering Phases – Bakaan Asiginan* murals on the side of the New Edinburgh Fieldhouse, now with a three-language panel description.

These colourful ceramic-and-paint murals were created by the Algonquin mother and daughter team of Doreen and Charlotte Stevens. *Miskwi* means “bloodline,” and the mural depicts several Algonquin lineages. *Bakaan Asiginan* signifies the gathering of Indigenous peoples living in harmony with nature through all phases of their lives.

The CCC has a lot more to offer this October and November: visit the calendar of events at newedinburgh.ca to learn more. The Canadian Geographic Society at 50 Sussex Drive (that's in New Edinburgh, don't you agree?) is currently showing the film *Pressure* by James Cameron (the most famous Canadian – not named Ryan – in Hollywood) in the Alex Trebek Theatre. You can book tickets online at rcgs.org.

Lastly, the next regular NECA board meeting will take place on **Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 7 p.m.** and will again be in hybrid format: in person at the Fieldhouse, with the option of joining in remotely. The link is available at newedinburgh.ca/events



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Letter from the Editor(s)

Hello New Edinburgh, it's a pleasure to be your new Managing Editor.



Sharon Nyangweso
Managing Editor

I took a stroll through the online archive of *New Edinburgh News (NEN)* for inspiration and landed on the December 1999 issue. Serendipitously, this is also around the same time I arrived in Canada for the first time as an 8-year-old from Kenya. *NEN*'s December 1999 issue had a lot of gems; the introduction of a new editor (a lovely coincidence), confirmation that the Vanier parkway would not be

extended into the neighbourhood, uproar over possible changes to leash bylaws at Stanley parking (June 2023 edition anyone?), pictures from Crichton Community Council's Halloween Howl (CCC is still at it - see page 18), and Y2K was on everyone's mind. It strikes me that in our little corner of the world, so much has changed and yet so much still remains the same. I'm thrilled to continue the tradition of com-

munity advocacy and celebration.

My name is Sharon Nyangweso, I immigrated to Ottawa first in 1999, and then once again alone in 2010. I run a small but mighty agency called QuakeLab (check us out!), and I have lived in the 'Burgh since 2015 as a proud renter! My hope is to bring my unique perspective to the stewardship of this paper, while also incorporating joy, critical context, advocacy and community into our incredible little paper.

In the last few months, I have learned that *NEN* is made possible by a village, including my incredible co-editor, Karen Squires. We have inherited this pillar of New Edinburgh and we intend to care for it with everything we've got.

Greetings from the Co-editor



Karen Squires
Co-editor

I'm thrilled to be working with Sharon after a year with Christina to "learn the ropes". The *NEN* team brings an incredible amount of talent to produce/distribute this paper five times per year. I'm impressed by what we receive from ongoing contributors such as Jane Heintzman and Randy Mar who ensure that businesses in the 'hood are well-covered. We have another contributor, John Leefe, who has taken on Beechwood Development etc., but that's

just to name a few, as we have many dedicated community members who make this paper engaging - thank you for your content! I have been living in New Edinburgh with my husband Richard Aubry (and our husky Coco) for almost twenty years and we say if we ever leave "the 'hood", it will likely mean leaving Ottawa. Having grown up in Newfoundland, Ottawa has been a part of my life since I was a teenager when I came to do a French Immersion

program, at the University of Ottawa. Something must have felt authentic (for me) as this is my fourth time living/working here and I believe this community offers something truly exceptional. I sit on the NECA board and can't thank enough the NECA board members who continue to provide content on specific areas such as environment and climate change, traffic and calming, community events, heritage and development. Of course, Katherine Hall and I ensure you are up to date on park stewardship, maintenance and safety for all species! That said, I'm looking forward to this next chapter and working closely with Sharon and the *NEN* team on upcoming editions!

Letter to the Editor

We just spent an enjoyable hour catching up via the *New Edinburgh News*. It's truly remarkable that your local, dedicated, volunteer group

can deliver much more entertaining and relevant info than our horribly over-priced and underwhelming national-chain local newspaper.

Incidentally, your latest edition weighed more than theirs. Keep up the good work!!

John Morris
33 Charles Street, Ottawa

Send us your letters: editor@newedinburgh.ca

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newedinburgh.ca

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Canadian Tourist Hub: 24 Sussex and heritage protection

By Ken Grafton

If you aren't convinced that we should keep 24 Sussex purely for its historical value, perhaps the bottom-line argument will make more sense. Let's ignore its significant architectural, cultural, and heritage value, the protection provided by the *Official Residences Act*, and its Federal Heritage Buildings Review Office (FHBRO) "Classified" designation. There is another, very pragmatic, reason to bring in the renovation crew: tourism.

According to an Ottawa Tourism Visitor Economic Impact Study, 11 million overnight and same-day visitors spend \$2.2B each year, and create 43,570 jobs in the city. The total direct economic output is estimated at over \$3B annually. Situated on one of the National Capital's busiest tourist routes at the entrance to scenic Rockcliffe Park, the Official Residence of the Prime Minister of Canada is a major sightseeing attraction, listed as one of eight essential scenic

drives in Ottawa-Gatineau.

Prior to 2015, when newly elected Prime Minister Justin Trudeau elected to live at Rideau Cottage so that the National Capital Commission (NCC) could work on 24 Sussex, Ottawa residents were familiar with traffic jams as gawkers in cars and tour buses slowed to see where the Prime Minister lived, perhaps lucking-in to a chance appearance of the PM arriving, departing, or holding a press-conference from the front entrance.

It was part of the city's lore, like the Reversing Falls or Magnetic Hill in New Brunswick, or that Big Apple on the 401 at Colborne exit #497.

How does built-heritage work as an economic driver? The UNESCO World Heritage Centre provides the definitive assessment regarding the value of protecting heritage: "Cultural and natural heritage is not only an irreplaceable source of identity and inspiration, but also a key driving force for sustain-

able development." Research has shown that heritage status can have a major socioeconomic impact. Beyond the obvious historic, cultural, educational, and architectural value, tourism can generate tangible economic benefits to a community.

Dr. Raymond Rosenfeld of Eastern Michigan University describes heritage tourism as a tool of economic development that "...achieves economic growth through attracting visitors from outside a host community, who are motivated wholly or in part by interest in the historical, artistic, scientific or lifestyle/heritage offerings of a community, region, group or institution."

Global tourists have always been drawn to the magnificent monuments of Egypt, for example, attracting almost 15 million tourists annually and generating \$12.57 billion in 2019 (Central Bank of Egypt). Had Egypt bulldozed the Pyramids of Giza to make way for encroaching residential development in neigh-



Photo by Peter Coffman

View of 24 Sussex, Global Affairs Canada, and the Peace Tower from the Ottawa River.






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bouring Nazlat al Batran, we would not have this North African tourist powerhouse. Egypt may be unusually rich in heritage attractions, however no community with historic buildings can afford to ignore the latent economic potential locked within.

Percy Bysshe Shelley captured the essential value of built-heritage in his 1818

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poem "Ozymandias" (the Greek name for Egyptian pharaoh Ramesses II) with the line, "Look on my Works, ye Mighty, and despair!" Great public buildings make a statement about the people who built and used them.

When visitors to Ottawa make the pilgrimage along busy Sussex Drive to see number 24, they are drawn also to the colourful history associated with the building: lumber baron Joseph Merril Currier in the formative years of Ottawa, Prime Minister Sir John A. MacDonald imbibing there as a guest at parties with the social hierarchy of Canada, royal visits, heads of state, and Aline Chretien raising the alarm against an armed intruder.

At an estimated renovation cost of less than \$1 per person in Canada, 24 Sussex will pay for itself many times over.

Property theft in the 'Burgh

By Eleanor Dunn

Note from the editor: There is a strong correlation between poverty, instability, and crime. This is an important context in assessing increases in crime within a community. In the last three years, Ottawa has had to grapple with a housing crisis, an opioid crisis, growing food insecurity and a widening gap between the wealthiest and poorest Canadians. Despite these factors, Ottawa and Gatineau continue to have some of the lowest crime rates in the whole country. Time and time again, researchers and experts across sectors have proven that the surest way to reduce crime is by reducing poverty and improving neighbourhood living conditions. Increases in crime most adversely affect those already living on the margins of our society, and punitive responses to that crime are also detrimental to these same groups.

The desk weighed 150 pounds. It took two men to move it to the truck. But they weren't moving it to a new home. They were stealing it from the front porch of its new home on The Mews where it was waiting to be moved in.

Police told the desk's owner that this theft in late June was carried out by a well-organized gang. They target a neighbourhood, send in scouts (usually dressed as construction workers), who walk around the neighbourhood, ring doorbells to see who's at home and who is not, and check porches and yards if accessible, noting the locations of stealable items. They take cell phone videos. Then they call their partners in the truck lingering nearby to arrange a pickup, and in the blink of an eye, your piece of furniture, bicycle, or barbecue is gone!

The owners of a MacKay

Street home thought a heavy-duty padlock was all they needed to keep their shed secure. But no.

While the family was off on a July weekend at their cottage, a thief targeted their shed. It took some work to break in, but this thief was determined. It was a treasure trove, but unfortunately, he couldn't carry everything he wanted on his bicycle, so he hid some items in the shrubbery at adjacent homes for later pickup. Meanwhile, he made off with the homeowner's camping equipment immediately.

Somehow during the event, a small fire started in the shed, but was quickly extinguished, and the homeowner was able to retrieve the goods stashed in the neighbour's bushes.

New Edinburgh residents have become accustomed to seeing individuals walking along Crichton or MacKay Streets, surreptitiously trying

door handles of parked cars. And neighbours are talking about thefts, vandalism, fires, car thefts, and break-ins.

So, it's not a surprise to read in the Ottawa Police Services (OPS) annual report for 2022 tabled at City Council in June, that the ward-by-ward crime trends statistics for the city's 23 wards show Rideau-Rockcliffe as fourth-highest on the list. Ottawa Centre is number one, with Ottawa-Vanier running a close second. Rideau-Rockcliffe encompasses New Edinburgh, Manor Park, Lindenlea, Rockcliffe, Carson Grove, and Overbrook.

According to the OPS annual report, Rideau Rockcliffe had 4,909 crimes per 100,000 population in 2022. These numbers reflect reported crimes. Taking the city as a whole there was a 15 per cent increase in reported crimes and a six per cent increase in violent crimes in 2022.

More people in Ottawa overall reported crimes in 2022.

Property-related offenses in the city increased by 26 per cent; there were 13 homicides committed and 107 guns seized in 2022. (Property-related crimes include break-and-enter and car theft.) According to Statistics Canada, which publishes crime statistics based on numbers received from police departments across Canada, car theft is up by 24 per cent nationwide, and shoplifting across Canada has increased by 31 per cent. This increase in shoplifting has resulted in merchants across the country stepping up security measures in their stores. Homeowners are taking precautions by installing CCTV cameras, and the steering wheel "club" is making a comeback.

Currently, OPS is working to develop a crime map which will eventually appear on its

website sometime this fall. This map will pinpoint specific areas in the city where crime is prevalent and indicate the type of crime. Access to this information should help residents determine how to avoid being victimized.

Some Ottawa neighbourhoods have less crime than others. Those farthest from the downtown core – such as Carleton/March, Barrhaven, rural Ottawa South, Orleans and Kanata – have the lowest rates of crime per 100,000 population, according to the Ottawa Police Services report.

Eleanor Dunn is a retired journalist and broadcaster who has been an almost lifelong resident of the 'Burgh. She raised her family on Dufferin Road and now lives with her eldest son on The Mews. She is an active member of MacKay United Church.

Just in time for the holiday season – Classic Community Bazaar!

By Elizabeth Heatherington

Mark your calendars for Church of St Bartholomew's in-person Annual Charity Bazaar Nov. 4 from 1–4 p.m. at 125 MacKay Street. Enjoy a variety of gifts; antiques;

attic treasures; home baking; books; jewellery; Christmas decorations; toys and games; preserves; crafts and knitting; and an outstanding Tea Room! Proceeds from this festive event will go towards supporting the Refugee Programme; the Ministry to the Gary

J. Armstrong Home; Cornerstone Housing for Women; and the work of the church in the wider community.

This is our first in-person bazaar since 2019, and we will continue to be mindful of public health recommendations. We will monitor the number of people inside the hall and ask for your patience if you are required to wait for admittance, should it be necessary.

We invite you all and thank you in advance for bringing your own shopping bags and cash!


The success of our sale depends on your generous donations. Please call Linda Assad-Butcher at lassadbutcher@gmail.com (613-298-9980) or Liz Heatherington at elizmaryh@gmail.com (613-601-8692) for pick-up.

We thank you in advance and look forward to seeing you after all these years!




Photo by Elizabeth Heatherington



(From left) Elizabeth Heatherington Co-convenor with Linda Assad-Butcher and Reverend Catherine Ascah.



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The B.R.I.C.K. Award

By Gail McEachern

The season has arrived to identify deserving recipients for the 2023 B.R.I.C.K. Award. The goal: to highlight a physical project or a special individual that has left a positive mark on the community.

The B.R.I.C.K. Award – “The ‘Burgh, Renovation, Improvement, and Construction Kudos” – was created by The New Edinburgh Community Association (NECA) in 2009. The award recognizes and honours a project on a property in New Edinburgh (within or outside the Heritage Conservation District) involving a new addition to a building, the restoration of significant architectural ele-

ments on an existing house, or a new infill development which was compatible and sensitive to the surrounding neighbourhood aesthetic.

The main criteria for evaluating a project are: the quality of the design; consideration of heritage issues; and the impact on the surrounding streetscape and green spaces. The original focus was on physical “bricks and mortar” accomplishment. However, since the award’s inception, the concept has expanded to include a separate award for a Community Builder: an exceptional person who has generously and consistently contributed their time and talents to enriching the New Edinburgh community.



Photo by Paul McConnell

The 2022 BRICK Awards went to Chip Hamann for this stunning garden creation at Lansdowne Terrace on MacKay Street.

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In 2022, NECA created a new category to recognize the preservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the community’s outside environment. Chip Hamann, a talented gardener, received an award last year for his ongoing dedication in creating the beautiful gardens in front of Lansdowne Terrace on MacKay Street.

It’s time to make your B.R.I.C.K. Award nominations! Please send the name of the person or project you would like to nominate and a brief description, via email to info@newedinburgh.ca and copy editor@newedinburgh.ca.

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Heritage in jeopardy



Heritage and Development Committee - Comité Patrimoine et Développement

By Gail McEachern

In June 2023, the Heritage Planning Staff of the City of Ottawa submitted a report to the city's Built Heritage Committee detailing the adverse impacts of new provincial legislation weakening the *Ontario Heritage Act (OHA)* and diminishing the municipality's ability to implement heritage conservation strategies.

Beginning in late 2019, the provincial government intro-

duced three bills that altered the *OHA* and changed the process for the designation and management of heritage resources in Ontario. The changes implemented through Bills 108, 109 and 23 have resulted in a highly complex heritage planning process that requires the city to adjust its present processes, procedures, and practices to continue undertaking important conservation work – a priority for City Council

through the City's Official Plan.

The most significant change to the *OHA* relates to the City's Register of non-designated listed properties. There are close to 4,600 non-designated properties identified primarily through the City-wide Inventory Project, the largest in Ontario. Bill 23 mandates a statutory timeline for listed properties. If Council does not issue a Notice of Intention to Designate before Dec. 31, 2024, listed properties must be removed from the Register and cannot be re-listed for five years. This will inevitably result in the demolition of several significant properties with cultural heritage value. Because of the restrictive time now being imposed, plus additional legal requirements,

the process of designating has become more challenging and clearly designed to encourage teardowns and rebuilds, which will change the urban landscape with the continued loss of architectural history.

The threat to our built heritage continues with the requirement denying the municipality rights to seek details about development projects' architectural design, scale, materials, and landscape features, through the City's Site Plan Control process. This will eliminate the City's ability to create appropriate streetscapes that support unique neighbour-

hood character. Of particular concern is the potential for Heritage Conservation Districts to lose their ability to protect the attributes which formed the basis for their establishment. The province is considering a process which would permit heritage conservation plans to be amended or repealed. If this occurs, it will constitute a major case of urban vandalism and confirm our collective impotence to protect what we value.

Gail McEachern is the chair of the NECA's Heritage and Development committee.

Traffic and safety – summer update

By Jason Tavoularis

Summer months have sped by, making it hard to recall what has come and gone. In preparing for colder days, I'll be covering recent roadwork in New Edinburgh before highlighting upcoming construction projects. Since the last issue of the *New Edinburgh News*, road resurfacing was completed on Crichton Street from Dufferin Road to Beechwood Avenue and from Charles Street to Keefer Street, and Springfield Road from Beechwood Avenue to Maple Lane.

Disruption to those residential arteries during the construction led to some inconvenient traffic congestion. Thankfully, it was relatively short-lived, quickly forgotten, and now we enjoy smooth rides on the fresh asphalt for (hopefully) years to come. Along with last year's resurfacing of MacKay Street, it's a great time to lace up your inline skates for a glide through the neighbourhood.

The construction on Stanley Avenue between Sussex Drive and Union Street that

began last spring finally appears to be winding down. We can now look forward to upgrades to that stretch of road including: three speed humps 50m apart from one another; widening of the existing sidewalk from 1.5–1.8m; and a sidewalk on the southwest corner of Union Street and Stanley Avenue.

Additional flexible posts were recently installed as traffic calming measures, including on Crichton Street, Springfield Road, and a notable cluster protecting the crosswalk in front of the New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse. I'm sure they have many detractors, but I for one welcome these temporary measures. They're reasonably effective at getting drivers to slow down while accommodating the seasonal removal that winter road maintenance requires. While flex-posts lack aesthetic appeal, something especially important within a Heritage Conservation District like New Edinburgh, their use is justified by the enhanced safety they provide.

Looking ahead to road construction planned for the

remainder of the year based on City of Ottawa web pages, here's what you can expect:

- Sewer rehabilitation on Vaughn Street between Bertrand Street and Ivy Crescent
- Sidewalk renewal on south side of Beechwood Avenue from Vanier Parkway to Joliette Avenue
- Crack sealing on Hemlock Road from 92 metres north of Oakhill Road to St. Laurent Boulevard

Jason Tavoularis is the chair of the New Edinburgh Community Alliance's traffic and safety committee. You can reach him at info@newedinburgh.ca



Rawlson King
Councillor / Conseiller,
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Community events, bylaw changes and boulevard gardening



Rawlson King
City Councillor, Ward 13

It was a great pleasure to participate in this year's edition of the New Edinburgh StreetFest. The festival, held on Saturday, September 9, celebrated our neighbourhood's rich heritage and acted as a charitable fundraiser with proceeds benefiting the Inuuqatigiit Centre for Inuit Children, Youth and Families. The centre serves as a major hub of early years and youth services for Inuit families in Ottawa focused on providing cultural, educational, recreational, and social support services. The former Village of New Edinburgh is estimated to still contain 150 homes dating from the 19th century. Three of these homes were available for open house tours during StreetFest, with interpreters who guided many attendees through their historic interiors. Self-guided tours of the

neighbourhood were also featured, along with a porch concert series with musicians on village verandahs.

The Vanier Business Improvement Area (Vanier BIA) also hosted its annual BeechFest street party on the same day along Beechwood Avenue, which featured food, music, and buskers. I had the pleasure of providing a free corn roast for street party revelers with my fellow elected colleagues, Rideau-Vanier Councillor Stephanie Plante, Ottawa-Vanier MPP Lucille Collard, and Ottawa-Vanier MP Mona Fortier.

Earlier this summer, I was pleased that Council approved by-law changes that allow residents to use municipal rights-of-way for community gardening. The by-law also puts in place a framework that allows for the installation of little libraries.

Previously, residents were not permitted to plant anything in the right-of-way, which is the strip of land that abuts City-owned roadways. The changes allow for gardening in the City right-of-way without the need for a permit.

During the last term of Council, I introduced a motion at Transportation Committee with Councillor Laura Dudas that directed City staff to undertake a comprehensive review to examine the sustainable care of the City's right-of-way. This motion was made at the behest of a number of New Edinburgh residents and ecological advocacy groups. The results of that review were proposed amendments to the 2003 Use and Care of Roads Bylaw by City staff. These amendments were approved by both the Transportation Committee and Council and are designed to provide residents and community associations with the option to undertake "boulevard gardening."

The policy ensures that the City can better support biodiversity and improve the livability of communities, while strengthening environmental policies and objectives. The policy is also designed to ensure that roadways are safe and unencumbered, that City staff and contractors have access to utilities for maintenance and that underground infrastructure is not damaged. At the same time, the amendments provide residents with firm guidelines about what can be built or planted on city rights-of-way. Under the new rules, only soft landscaping is permitted. Currently, City staff are examining a list of invasive species that would be prohibited from being planted in the right-of-way and they are also working with Public Health Ontario to obtain a scientific assessment concerning growing edibles in the right-of-way, such as herbs and vegetables.

This autumn, my office will continue to work with residents, community associations and City staff to identify traffic-calming improvements and all-way stop controls for implementation. As always, please feel free to reach out to my office to provide input at 613-580-2483 or by email at rideaurock-cliffeward@ottawa.ca.

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Ce fut un grand plaisir de participer à l'édition de cette année du Festival de rue de New Edinburgh. Le festival, qui s'est tenu le samedi 9 septembre, a célébré le riche patrimoine de notre quartier et a servi de collecte de fonds au profit du Centre Inuuqatigiit pour les enfants, les jeunes et les familles inuits. Pour ces familles inuites d'Ottawa, le Centre constitue un important carrefour de services pour la jeunesse et la petite enfance en fournissant des services culturels, éducatifs, récréatifs et de soutien social. On estime que l'ancien village de New Edinburgh compte encore 150 maisons datant du 19e siècle. Trois de ces maisons ont fait l'objet de visites libres pendant le festival, avec des interprètes qui ont guidé de nombreux participants dans ces intérieurs historiques. Des visites autoguidées du quartier ont également été organisées, ainsi qu'une série de concerts avec des musiciens installés dans les verandas du village.

La Zone d'amélioration commerciale de Vanier (ZAC de Vanier) a également organisé sa fête de rue annuelle BeechFest le même jour le long de l'avenue Beechwood, avec de la nourriture, de la musique et des amuseurs publics. J'ai eu le plaisir d'offrir une épluchette aux festivaliers avec mes collègues élues, Stéphanie Plante, conseillère de Rideau-Vanier, Lucille Collard, députée à l'Assemblée législative d'Ottawa-Vanier, et Mona Fortier, députée d'Ottawa-Vanier.

Au début de l'été, j'ai eu le plaisir de voir le Conseil municipal approuver des modifications du règlement qui permettent aux résidents d'utiliser les emprises municipales pour faire du jardinage communautaire. Le règlement met également en place un cadre permettant l'installation de petites bibliothèques. Auparavant, les résidents n'étaient pas autorisés à planter quoi que ce soit dans l'emprise, c'est-à-dire la bande de terre qui borde les routes appartenant à la Ville. Ces modifications permettent de jardiner dans l'emprise de la Ville sans avoir besoin d'un permis.

Au cours du dernier mandat du Conseil, j'ai présenté, avec la conseillère Laura Dudas, une motion au Comité des

transports qui demandait au personnel de la Ville d'entreprendre une étude complète pour examiner l'entretien durable des emprises de la Ville. Cette motion a été déposée à la demande d'un certain nombre de résidents de New Edinburgh et de groupes de défense de l'environnement. Les résultats de cet examen ont donné lieu à des propositions de modification du Règlement de 2003 sur l'utilisation et l'entretien des routes par le personnel de la Ville. Ces modifications, approuvées par le Comité des transports et le Conseil municipal, visent à donner aux résidents et aux associations communautaires la possibilité d'entreprendre des travaux de végétalisation des rues.

Cette politique permet à la Ville de mieux soutenir la biodiversité et d'améliorer la qualité de vie des communautés, tout en renforçant les politiques et les objectifs environnementaux. Cette politique vise également à garantir que les routes sont sûres et non encombrées, que le personnel de la Ville et les entrepreneurs ont accès aux services publics pour l'entretien et que les infrastructures souterraines ne sont pas endommagées. Dans le même temps, les modifications fournissent aux résidents des directives fermes sur ce qui peut être construit ou planté sur les emprises de la Ville. Selon les nouvelles règles, seuls les aménagements paysagers végétalisés sont autorisés. Actuellement, le personnel de la Ville examine une liste d'espèces envahissantes qu'il serait interdit de planter dans l'emprise et il travaille également avec Santé publique Ontario pour obtenir une évaluation scientifique concernant la culture de plantes comestibles dans l'emprise, telles que les herbes et les légumes.

Cet automne, mon bureau continuera de travailler avec les résidents, les associations communautaires et le personnel de la Ville afin d'identifier les mesures de modération de la circulation à mettre en place et les panneaux d'arrêt toutes directions à installer. Comme toujours, n'hésitez pas à contacter mon bureau pour me faire part de vos commentaires (rideaurock-cliffeward@ottawa.ca ou 613-580-2483).

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Cutting emissions in your home

By Sarah Anson-Cartwright

While driving through Nova Scotia this summer, I noticed how many homes have heat pumps. I started to get curious and admittedly a bit envious. Why did so many Nova Scotians have heat pumps – the technology to reduce emissions (and energy bills) when heating and cooling homes and buildings?

For Nova Scotia, where half the homes are heated by oil, the shift to heat pumps is an economic as well as a climate-driven imperative.

In Ottawa, if we are going to seriously cut emissions and reach net zero, we must tackle our use of natural gas in heating our homes and buildings.

Natural gas and buildings (including residential and commercial buildings) are the largest source and sector, respectively, for greenhouse gas emissions in Ottawa, according to 2020 data from the City. Buildings are the single largest sector of emissions, at 46 per cent, ahead of transportation at 42 per cent.

Natural gas makes up 38 per cent of our emissions by source – well ahead of the second-largest source: gasoline, at 21 per cent.

Switching from gas-powered furnaces to heat pumps would be an extremely valuable step in reducing our emissions and our energy bills. A heat pump also replaces an air conditioner because it both heats and cools your home.

Yes, a heat pump does require some power – electricity, to be clear – but it is the most efficient form of heating and cooling. It pumps heat from the air or ground into buildings or homes, and pumps hot air out to cool them, as needed.

“The heat pump revolution is here” states *The Guardian*, which reports that in the U.S.,

sales of heat pumps have overtaken gas furnaces this year – and that was before the U.S. government’s incentives kicked in. Incentives do have a part to play, and the website **BetterHomesOttawa.ca** sets out what’s on offer. “Why Everyone’s Talking about Heat Pumps” is a helpful blog from **HydroOttawa.com**. “Heating and Cooling with a Heat Pump” is a more detailed and technical prime for homeowners, available online from **NaturalResources.Canada.ca**.

If your furnace is nearing the end of its life, consider a heat pump. If car-owners have already had the option to switch to a hybrid or electric vehicle, or go car-free, then reducing a home’s emissions may be next on the climate-action list.

But if investments like this aren’t feasible at present, take stock of the small steps. Like reducing energy-use of the major culprits, like clothes dryers (where outdoor or indoor clothes-hanging is an option); lowering the temperature of a hot-water heater; and getting a programmable thermostat (to adjust for day-

time and nighttime differences).

Seeking to lower her carbon footprint, New Edinburgh resident Tamara Sorger had solar panels installed six years ago on her home’s roof. She’s been happy with the amount of power generated, most of which goes back to the main grid.

Sorger says she finds it disappointing that the provincial and federal governments aren’t offering more incentives for the transition to solar. She recently had a heat pump installed and, if she can get through the red tape to obtain the subsidy, she will realize more government support for that smaller renewable’s investment than the bigger one, which was solar panels.

On the upside, Sorger is pleased to know of at least one neighbourhood family inspired by her to install solar panels at their home.

“That’s what it’s all about – moving to net zero,” says Sorger. I couldn’t agree more.

Sarah Anson-Cartwright lives in New Edinburgh and works in public affairs.

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Orange Shirt Day and the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation at Beechwood Cemetery

In honour of Orange Shirt Day and National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, a newly recognized federal holiday, the First Nations Child & Family Caring Society is thrilled to partner with Assembly of Seven Generations (A7G), Beechwood Cemetery and Project of Heart to host an event on September 30. The day will be an opportunity for people of all ages from the Ottawa-Gatineau region to learn about Canada’s history in the spirit of truth and reconciliation, reflect on the legacy of the residential school system and take action.

Join us at the Beechwood National Memorial Center’s Sacred Space for the first ever full public display of 57,000 tiles made by children and youth across Canada to honour the children who attended residential schools as part of the Project of Heart education program.

Find out more or to register, please visit landing.beechwoodottawa.ca/en/nationaldayoftruthandreconciliation

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Owned by the Beechwood Cemetery Foundation and operated by the Beechwood Cemetery Company



Planting native trees and flowers improves biodiversity



Photo by Paul McConnell

Another garden on Crichton Street clearly shows initiative to cross sidewalks, push boundaries and create more green space with beautiful flowers.

By Karen Squires

Following up on multiple articles on gardening in our June edition and a successful spring garden sale, we'd like to share some photos with you that showcase the amazing work of community residents to beautify our streetscapes and improve biodiversity! A big thank you to Paul McConnell for these images, and for the work Paul and Bev do with their own garden, keeping green spaces alive and well along River Lane.

We'd like to thank to everyone in the neighbourhood for planting native trees, bushes, and flowers – especially folks who have limited space to do so. Recently, the B.R.I.C.K. Awards were extended to include the work done by Chip Hamann on the beautiful stretch of gardens in front of the heritage homes along MacKay Street. Clearly residents enjoy the walk along this street!

We've also benefited from City programs to plant trees on private properties. Some of these programs may still be available, so please consider these options, among others, for this fall or next spring. Last year, the Crichton Community Center (CCC)'s spring garden event at the Fieldhouse (led by Alain-Rémi Lajeunesse) had multiple speakers come out from the National Capital Commission to educate and provide guidance to garden-

ers and potential gardeners. Check out the CCC's calendar of events in each edition for ongoing updates.

As summer winds down and fall colours change, think about what you could do next year: create some space; add more trees, bushes, and flowers; or explore with your neighbours how you might collaborate, as we've done in the past with ours. Every effort, big or small, pays off – not just for our own wellbeing but for the wellbeing of all species. After the intense heat, floods, and fires we've seen across our beautiful country this year, any effort to improve biodiversity is time well invested.

Let's hope that as we plant more trees in the park and throughout the neighbourhood, and as Beechwood development continues, both developers and City planners alike will make this green theme a higher priority. We will keep readers posted in future editions as information becomes available from the City, community organizations and developers. Some of the recent development projects incorporated little, if any, greenspace while Beechwood aches for tree canopies and more. Perhaps we can attract more businesses, and more foot traffic, and keep locals shopping in the 'hood with more interactive green spaces as opposed to sterile concrete landscaping!

If you'd like to share and

write more about your gardening best practices, get in touch. Any insights, helpful tips, or new learnings to share might be useful for our readers in the Spring, Summer and Fall editions!

Karen Squires sits on the NECA board, co-chairs Friends of the Park, and co-edits the New Edinburgh News.



Photo by Paul McConnell

An example on Crichton St. of creating more greenery with limited space.



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BURGH BUSINESS BRIEFS

By Jane Heintzman, John Leefe and Randy Mar



Photo by Denis Côté

Store Manager Shawn Steinburg with Vanier resident Denis Côté during the tear down of the Yeatman Mural at Metro.



Photo by Karen Squires

Artist Dominic LaPorte in front of his new contemporary streetscape of Vanier Beechwood. The mural brings a burst of history and color to our neighborhood.

Metro Beechwood Mural, Part Two: It's Here!

Regardless of how rushed you are in your grocery rounds, you can't miss it: there's a whole new look in the parking lot at Metro Beechwood, where a fresh, new mural has transformed the side wall. In the *New Edinburgh News* June 2023 edition, we reported on plans for an imminent changeover on the wall of the store, where the familiar though weathered David Yeatman streetscape of 1950s Eastview/Vanier was to be carefully taken down, and a dazzling new image created in its place.

Gone, but not forgotten

The changeover began early on Thursday morning, Sep. 14, under the watchful eyes

of community resident **Denis Côté** and Metro Manager **Shawn Steinburg**. Both were onsite to ensure the process unfolded with no damage to the original mural, which Metro has agreed will be kept in safe storage as a valued memento of the community's historical and cultural roots in Vanier. Underscoring its importance to the local Francophone community, former City Councillor and Provincial Cabinet Minister **Madeleine Meilleur** was also present for the event.

Denis Côté, who might best be described as the local guardian of the Yeatman mural, is a passionate enthusiast of all aspects of our community, from its abundant assets as a place to live, work, shop, to its extraor-

dinary natural beauty. Denis describes himself as "in love with the neighbourhood," and as an energetic member of the Francophone community, he was captivated by the lively and historically resonant image of 1950s Eastview in the Yeatman mural.

Metro Manager Shawn Steinburg responded with enthusiasm to Denis' proposal that the old mural be stored rather than disposed of at the time of replacement, and discussions have been ongoing to determine an appropriate location for safekeeping. In the longer term, subject to the permission of Metro (which owns the work) and the help of sponsors to cover the costs, Denis hopes the mural can be professionally restored and repainted.

In with the new

Under the gaze of curious shoppers, mural artist **Dominic Laporte** set to work shortly after the removal of the original, working industriously with a combination of latex base paint, acrylic, and spray-paint to produce his new creation – a feat he accomplished within a week. Dominic did, after all, receive the "Fastest Ottawa Artist Award" in a 2017 public art contest!

It's perhaps no accident that Dominic agreed to take on the project at our community's grocery hub. In the 1960s, '70s and '80s, his grandparents, and later his father, operated Laporte Gardens Grocery Store on Montreal Road – not to be confused

with the legendary Laporte Gardens Nursery on Old Montreal Road, owned by his Aunt and Uncle. So it's fitting that Dominic turned his artistic talents to the embellishment of Metro Beechwood.

Dominic describes his new mural as "my take on a contemporary streetscape in Vanier/Beechwood," focusing on recognizable landmarks in the community. Notable among these are a hardware store (of blessed memory!); an imposing streetcar, reminiscent of Beechwood's erstwhile Ottawa Electric Railway line; and impressionistic images of the ornate exterior of the former El Meson (94 Beechwood) and St. Charles Church. Overlaying the streetscape is an imaginative flourish of colourful vegetation, reflecting Dominic's emphasis on the vital links between the human and natural worlds.

The mural is bold and brightly coloured, with highlights of yellow/gold, green, blue, and ochre. Eye-catching colours are a signature of Dominic's mural works throughout the city. "It's hard to get people's attention these days, so I strive to get them to stop, look and think about what they're experiencing. Colour plays a big part in that," says Dominic. While in one sense, his striking work differs markedly from the Yeatman mural in scale, tone, and artistic style, it is remarkably faithful to the overall ambiance of the original, capturing a sense of 1950s era Vanier's historic character

and charm.

"I'm honoured to give back to this community," says Dominic, who has close ties to the Quartier Vanier BIA and to the neighbourhood. As a major player in Ottawa's public art realm, he has worked closely with BIA Executive Director Natalie Carrier and her team, and greatly appreciates the organization's "huge support of my work." Our thanks to Dominic for his fine work in creating the second generation of Beechwood Metro murals!

-- JH

Edinburger Opens on Springfield with an Emphasis on Local

Back-to-school season has brought a new kid on the Beechwood/Springfield restaurant block and it's appropriately named **Edinburger**. Located on the northeast corner (occupying the same space as the former Mr. Luko's gourmet coffee), this casual restaurant quietly opened its doors Sep. 1. Owned by Ottawa-based entrepreneur **Tony Garcia** (who came up with the name and is part owner of the Lebanese restaurant Farouz), Edinburger is managed by Barrhaven native **Matt Wilkshire** with **Amin Kazemi** leading in the kitchen. Both guys have experience in the restaurant business: Matt used to manage Ratatouille Bistro on Dalhousie Street, while Amin previously worked right next door at Fraser Café and also had a food stall at the Beechwood Market called

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Three young connoisseurs enjoying burgers at Edinburger (from left) are Pierson Sirois, Max Sirois and Christopher Leefe.

Photo by John Leefe

Kaz Kitchen. The menu’s creative, locally sourced burger and salad offerings have names that reflect the neighbourhood. There’s the classic, signature smashburger Edinburger; the charbroiled gourmet Beechwood; and the plant-based Springfield, all served with their locally produced hot sauce. And for those wanting a healthier option, there’s the Rawcliffe salad. “The idea was to go back to basics and offer classic burgers in a retro setting,” Matt says, who also emphasizes that they’re really focused on buying locally sourced food. “All of our meat is from Enright Cattle Farm in Tweed, the milk for our milkshakes is from Kawartha dairy in Bobcaygeon and our hot sauce and house mustard is from Ballpark in Prince Edward County,” he points out. Just behind him sits a 1950s-

era jukebox with blinking neon lights that Amin hopes will enhance the retro look and serve as “a nice accent piece.” And with a little tinkering around they might even get the old thing working! “We want it to feel like a neighbourhood space where people can come and hang out. We’ve already had lots of teenagers coming in to check us out...and expect to have some kids come in at lunch break or after school.”

Although the permanent sign won’t be up until late September, they’ve got flashy new menu boards and an HDTV at the end of the bar. And speaking of the bar, when the liquor license arrives, beer and wine will be available – local brews in keeping with the regionally sourced menu items. So far there have been lots of interested residents dropping by to order or just take a look at the new digs. There’s even an online Vanier Facebook group, Matt noted. “The community has been super welcoming...so many people have come in already and said: ‘Thank god you’re not another coffee shop or weed store!’” Given the success of The Works, which also started in New Edinburgh, let’s hope that Edinburger will enjoy just as bright a future. -- JL

Purrdy Paws III Arrives on Beechwood

Paws up from neighbourhood feline and canine friends to greet the arrival of **Purrdy Paws’** newest location on Beechwood Avenue!

With the recent soft-launch of Purrdy Paws in July, plus the existing Chew-That

and Pet Valu locations, the Putman-Beechwood area is emerging as a pet-focused neighbourhood hub!

In a recent interview, operations manager **Morgan Montero** provided highlights of the growth of Purrdy Paws from a single Mercedes Benz Sprinter van converted into an all-season, mobile feline spa in 2013, to the addition of a canine mobile grooming spa in 2014, to opening their first storefront spa in the Glebe in 2016, and then on to a Stittsville spa just as the pandemic hit.

All this happened at a manageable pace. The goal: maintaining the Purrdy Paws level of care established by owner **Jayne Montero**, and developing a diverse, positive, and skilled team to provide the breadth and quality of pet care service their growing client base expects.

“With off-leash parks and pet-friendly services nearby, we’d been keeping an eye out for space along Beechwood over the past three years, so when ground floor space at 121 Beechwood became available, we felt it was a perfect fit and timing,” Morgan

Continued on page 14



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Photo by Randy Mar
Kate Preston gets to know her new client before she prepares for the spa treatment, at Purrdy Paws, now open on Beechwood!



Photo courtesy Amy Kowalik
The Glebe Pilates team are (from left) Janice Touchette, Pamela Forth, Kelly Fletcher, Karen Murtagh, Frankie the dog, Aileen Gangoo-Smithies, and Amy Kowalik.

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said.

Pet owners will see a purpose-built storefront and walk-in facility at Purrdy Paws Beechwood. With separate grooming and wash stations and rooms, each pet – whether a puppy, kitten, or senior; calm and spa experienced, or a little grooming fearful – receives individual attention.

Certified professionals are ready to provide full grooming – that’s a deep cleaning and hydrating bath, blow dry, all-over trim or cut, nail care, and ear cleaning. Or choose from other bath and paw care, coat maintenance, and puppy packages, as well as special-needs grooming in the spa. And remember the mobile feline and canine spa services available!

It’s very much a family affair at Purrdy Paws, with a mother-daughter team Jayme and Morgan overseeing the business and Jayme’s husband, Alberto, operating the mobile canine exclusive spa. An enthusiastic and professional grooming team backs up the Monteros. Groomers’ profiles on purrdypaws.com highlight individual interests, expertise, and credentials, to help clients find a groomer that meets their needs and begin that special relationship.

To ensure smooth operations as they arrived in New Edinburgh, Purrdy Paws Beechwood started with a soft launch just after Canada Day, and their grand opening will be held soon! “We’re so happy to be part of the neighbourhood,” enthuses Jayme. She encourages all pet owners to keep an eye out for the grand opening and drop in with their fur babies to say hello and enjoy some treats!

For more information: 121 Beechwood Avenue; (613) 882-7077; info@purrdypaws.com; purrdypaws.com

-- RM

Update on Pilates on Beechwood

The recently opened **Pilates on Beechwood** at 140 Beechwood Ave. (Glebe Pilates’ sister studio) is expanding into the world of yoga and mat Pilates. After the warmest of welcomes in the Beechwood community, they’ve decided to increase their footprint in the St. Charles development. They are adding to their existing space where they will host yoga, mat Pilates, and weekend workshops. The space will be a vibrant hub for movement, meditation, and playful experimentation. They have also introduced French and bilingual classes. Doors will be open by November with a range of membership options.

For more information: 140 Beechwood Ave.; Instagram: @PilatesOnBeechwood

-- JL

Mexican baked goods and sweet treats – now just around the corner!

Chiqui Bakery owner **Jessica Perez** and her team bring together generational recipes



Photo by Randy Mar

Jessica Perez (right) with her team showcasing delicious dessert options at the new Chiqui Bakery in Vanier.

from the Guadalajara region of Mexico into the heart of Vanier and the Beechwood area.

“Chiqui’ is an abbreviation of ‘chiquita,’ meaning petite or small, and also a Spanish term of endearment,” explained Jessica. It’s also very apropos in describing the range of her sweets and baked goods! Homemade Latin-American creations such as alfajores (dulce de leche sandwich cookies with coconut); cuernitos (puff pastry filled with Mexican pastry cream); and puerquitos (soft and chewy molasses cookies) are all baked on-site.

Seasonal recipes and special items include popsicles in watermelon, lime, and strawberry flavours, all available with a little spicy sauce to complement the sweetness. Who can resist traditional Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) holiday bread?

Jessica tries to add a Mexican twist to classics, like poppyseed muffins with lime (rather than lemon), and she tries to incorporate as many ingredients typically found in Mexican recipes as supply chains allow. Children are attracted to the tricolour galletas and sprinkle-covered cookies. (Many patrons will appreciate Chiqui being a peanut-free facility, but Jessica mentioned that pecans (a tree nut) are used in some recipes.)

Chiqui has built a loyal weekday following locally, but on weekends, customers come from as far away as Renfrew, Stittsville, and Kanata to stock up for the coming week or for special occasions. Like many with a creative streak, Jessica welcomes orders for custom items for those special occasions.

Jessica started learning basics under her mother’s watchful eye and then supplemented the traditional home-style approach with formal training in Mexico, before immigrating to Ottawa. Like many with an entrepreneurial spirit, she initially started baking for friends and family. She then started supplying local restaurants and as word spread, and with online success, she opened the storefront in March earlier this year!

Businesses and restaurants, like Chilaquiles just around the corner, rely on Chiqui to round out their menus. The addition of two new staff members in mid-September is a testament to the growing popularity of this family-run business.

To learn more, visit or contact: Chiqui Bakery, 29 Marier Avenue, (819) 734-7512 chiquibakery@outlook.com, chiquibakery.com

-- RM

What’s Your Next Best Life?

Pat Laberge asked herself that very question as she faced retirement in 2020 after over 25 years aiding others in the international development field with the Canadian Red Cross.

In answering that question, Pat embarked on an inspiring journey that she continues today – for herself and in support of others as a personal health and fitness coach.

Along the way, Pat completed numerous 10-kilometre runs, duathlons, half- and full marathons, obtained her Fitness and Health diploma and Heart Wise Exercise (HWE) certificate. She continues on her path of self-education in nutritional analysis and injury prevention, and various fitness programs.

In Ottawa or remotely from Arizona, Pat is working with a broad roster of clients in their homes, condo gyms, or outdoors; you may have seen her with clients at the outdoor workout area in Stanley Park using those stations as well as a TRX suspension system. Her philosophy is sustainable change versus boot camp-type bursts. Put another way: strive to be fit and healthy rather than adopting a “no pain, no gain” approach.

Regardless of a client’s age or gender, Pat’s programs focus on flexibility, cardio, and strength, and incorporate



Photo by Randy Mar

Pat Laberge assisting her client to stay healthy and fit in the outdoor park area.

bodyweight and resistance-band training, biking, and Nordic walking into individually focused plans devised to support individual goals and pace. While much of her work with clients is often in person, regular check-ins often take place via video or phone calls.

Pat is most excited when clients find their active self and discover what their bodies and minds can achieve. “It’s never too late to add physical activity into your lifestyle,” Pat says. “For

myself, it took a painful nerve injury at age 55 for me to get going seriously and here I am, nine years later, not only still doing it, but acting as a health and wellness advisor to so many others!”

Pat stresses that her coaching and support promotes a fit and healthy lifestyle, not a high-performance outcome. To learn more, contact Pat at: pat@yournextbestlife.ca, (343) 552-3839, yournextbestlife.ca -- RM

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Chief Pinesi Day: A small step towards truth and reconciliation

Continued from page 1

Calm patience prevailed, and when the cedar and sweet-grass (representing Mother Earth's hair) were finally ignited, Elder Comegan joked that he shouldn't have used "those Dollar Store matches!" Participants cupped the smoke in their hands and bathed themselves with it, to promote positive energy and good thoughts.

Elder Comegan explained that tobacco was the first plant given by the Creator, and that it is used for prayers, requests, and thanksgiving. When seeking advice from an elder, people hold a bunch of tobacco in their left hand, because this hand is closest to the heart. He added that sage can also be used to purify the body, and that cedar's sweet smell that can purify the body from disease.

Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation former chief, Chief Wendy Jocko (Cloud Woman From the Eagle Clan) delivered the keynote address standing before the Veterans Eagle Staff. After acknowl-

edging that the Algonquin Anishnaabe people are "one heart and one soul who have lived for thousands and thousands of years on the Unsundered Territory," Chief Jocko also recognized the residential school children who never made it home, for all that they endured.

Chief Jocko explained the symbolism and elements of the Eagle Staff: the feathers that make up the flag portion of the staff represent an eagle's wing that "protects all veterans represented by the eagle feathers." The staff represents memories of all veterans here and gone" [signifying] the spirit and pride of the people ... which serves to remind us of the heroism, courage, and sacrifice of those who lost their lives and will never be forgotten." Veteran honour guards **John Jewitt** (Nipissing FN), **Bob Crane** (Blackfoot Confederacy), and **Chris Young** (Whitefish River FN) were acknowledged and played traditional drums.

Chief Wendy Jocko also spoke of the military contri-



Photo by John Leefe

Elder Comegan prepares for the sacred fire ceremony while sharing knowledge of the four sacred plants at the Chief Pinesi event.

butions of Grand Chief Pierre Louis Constant Pinesi during the war of 1812. Born in 1768, Pinesi was the son of Chief Wambolak, and rose to prominence as Grand Chief of the Algonquin Nation before his death in 1834. "He applied continued pressure on the British colonial government to recognize that the Algonquin Nation owned the land encompassed by all the rivers that flow into the Ottawa River ... at the same

time as settlers and loggers were cutting the trees and building farms, roads, towns, and canals," Jocko said. Pinesi's efforts at securing compensation were unsuccessful, despite his significant military service at several crucial battles.

Chief Pinesi was "almost certainly" awarded King George III Peace Medal for his actions, but his post-war legacy was not a positive one, Jocko noted, adding there was "an increasing British forgetfulness of the Indigenous contribution ... and no recognition of Algonquin ownership of their ancestral lands ... in contrast to British soldiers for whom land grants were made available."

She recognized that Algonquins fought as soldiers of Canada in both world wars and in Korea, starkly emphasizing that "only Warriors know, unlike those of us who have never faced combat, the terrible cost of war, the most destructive and pitiless of all human activities."

Councillor Rawlson King also made a short address that highlighted Indigenous peoples' contributions in many areas, notably environmental stewardship, ecology, medi-

cine, governance, crafts, oral traditions, music, literature, and languages.

"The wisdom embedded within Indigenous practices of land stewardship and sustainability can guide us in addressing the pressing environmental challenges we face today," King said.

Councillor King also acknowledged the role Indigenous leaders have had in advancing human rights, social justice, and recognition of Indigenous rights. "Through their advocacy, they have elevated important issues such as the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls crisis, equitable access to education and healthcare, and the need for meaningful consultation and consent in matters affecting Indigenous lands and resources," King pointed out. "Reconciliation is not a one-time event but a continuous journey that requires commitment and respect from all Canadians ... so we can create a society that truly reflects the diversity and shared history of our great nation," King concluded.

Participants were invited to accompany Algonquin guide **Derek Cushing** for a land tour from the New Edinburgh Fieldhouse to Rideau Falls. The walk identified historical trailheads on the Ottawa and Rideau Rivers, which looked much different in Chief Pinesi's day.

Those attending the day's events would certainly have left with a deeper understanding of Chief Pinesi's legacy and the significant military and cultural contributions Algonquins have made, despite the injustice they have faced, and continued to face from Canadian society.

(Note: Dr. **Pierre Desrosiers** of the Canadian Museum of History and **Jim Stone**, a retired foreign service officer, also spoke about their research on "Geography and Indigenous Archeology of the Ottawa Valley." A second article will appear in the next edition on their presentations and describing their ongoing research in more detail).

Recently retired public servant **John Leefe** lives in **Lindenlea**.



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At 88 Beechwood, the search for retailers begins

Continued from page 1

wonderful to see retail spaces; a hardware store, a bakery, a clothing store, a home decor shop, or a health-food store perhaps similar to Herb and Spice on Bank Street. Such retail would mean that local residents would not need to leave our neighbourhood to shop. It would bring neighbours together. It would be good for the environment. It would engender pride in our own community.”

Martin Jones lives in Lindenlea and, while sipping coffee at Bridgehead on a hot late-August day, echoes Smith’s desire to see a hardware store in the ‘hood, harkening back to the days when there was a Home Hardware where the Minto I development now stands. Jones says: “when I want a can of paint, it would be nice to quickly go buy it rather than drive out to Canadian Tire on Coventry.”

Sam Dafoe lives just behind Minto II and has watched the project go up over the past few months. He has concerns about the lack of affordable housing on the street, noting that the development replaced six affordable duplexes “but everyone was renovicted at the height of COVID mak-



Photo by John Leefe

The Minto II apartment complex will be topped off in the fall and first occupancy is meant to begin in the spring of 2024!

ing the housing crisis even worse.” (For those unfamiliar, “renoviction” is a term for the practice of evicting current tenants in order to make major renovations to, or even demolish and rebuild, a property, which is subsequently rented at a higher rate.) As for retail prospects, Dafoe would like to see a kitchen store like Kitchen Works or “anything

that can save people from a trip to Walmart and divert people away from big-box stores.”

Time will tell whether any of these wish-list items become a reality for a street in need of more innovative and useful retail options.

Recently retired public servant, John Leefe, lives in Lindenlea.

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CCC President's report

By Chris Straka, CCC President

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Crichton Community Council (CCC) was held Jun. 12 at 7 p.m. in the New Edinburgh Park Field House at 203 Stanley Avenue. Members of the CCC's Board of Directors now include: President – **Chris Straka**; Chairperson – **Dave Pyman**; Treasurer – **Christian Hansson**; Director, Field House – **Adam Clarke**; Director, Park – **Alain-Rémi Lajeunesse**; and, Director, Promotion – **Loïc Berthou**.

The CCC thanks **Michelle McEvoy** for her service as Secretary during the past 16 months. We appreciate her leadership during the board's review of our 30–50-year history and confirmation of the community building mission we continue to pursue.

The CCC would welcome an expression of interest in the role of Secretary.

During the past 12 months, the CCC delivered more than 24 community events, thanks to the leadership of its board members. Emerging from the pandemic with new energy, the CCC's working board members have given thousands of hours of volunteer service to our community. We continue to seek board members and inspired event leaders

Regular meetings of the CCC are held on the second Monday of each month, at 7:30 p.m., in the Fieldhouse.

Neighbourhood Sale & BBQ

The morning of **Sep. 16** started early for many New Edinburghers. The streets began to bustle around 7 a.m. as vendors displayed their wares. Bargain hunters were trolling for trea-



Photo by Carmen Bohn

(From left) Maeven Straka, Chris Straka, Councillor Rawlson King, Alain-Rémi Lajeunesse.

asures by 8 a.m. By 9 a.m. the **Neighbourhood Sale** was on. With 40 vendors on the east lawn of the Fieldhouse in addition to the group of 20 Beechwood Market vendors, New Edinburgh Park was a busy focal point until the mid-afternoon.

Hundreds of people gathered in the park around the Fieldhouse to enjoy burgers and beer while being entertained with live music by **Peter Rutherford**. A long line of children waited to have their faces painted by the always popular **Denise Wellington**. The endurance of **Mischa Terzyk**, **Omid**, **Nick Charland** and **Jonathan Blais** kept a game of soccer going throughout the event, using new nets purchased by the CCC. Special mention to **Dawn Straka** for her onsite coordination to vendors, followed by hours serving food in the kitchen with **Ewa Pyman**.

The CCC gratefully accepts donations to support neighbourhood events and equipment purchases. The suggested donation is 10 per cent of sale profits earned by neighbourhood vendors, who can deposit a cheque in the mailbox near the front door of the Fieldhouse, or remit online at: tinyurl.com/nedonate

Stories Told Are a Culture Shared

Join **Ottawa Story Tellers** – ottawastorytellers.ca – as they present *Stories Told Are a Culture Shared* at the Fieldhouse, on Oct. 14 from 9 a.m.–1 p.m. In this video documentary, local Indigenous storytellers discuss the importance of stories in the Indigenous cultures of Turtle Island. The 20-min-

ute documentary, featuring **Louise Profit-LeBlanc**, will be shown every 30 minutes on the hour and half-hour inside the New Edinburgh Park Field House.

If you are interested in the stories behind the mosaic and mural on the west wall of the Fieldhouse, produced by artists **Doreen Stevens** and **Charlotte Aki Stevens**, please read the interpretive panel posted next to the artworks this past summer.

Comedy at the Fieldhouse

Live standup comedy is coming to New Edinburgh on Saturday, Oct. 21 at 8 p.m.! The Fieldhouse bar will open at 7:30 p.m. Join us for a night of gut-busting entertainment featuring some of Ottawa's best professional and up-and-coming comics. Headliner **Ben Walker** (CBC, SiriusXM), will be joined by host **Hart Shouldice** (Yuk Yuk's, Absolute Comedy), **Jennifer Brigden**, **Emmett Morrison**, **Dawn Xanklin**, and **Wardie Leppan**. Their performances are for all ages. This event will sell out: purchase your tickets in advance from: fieldhouse-comedy.eventbrite.ca

Films at the Fieldhouse

Lovers of the silver screen will continue to relish the regular offering of curated film classics at the Fieldhouse this fall. The series runs through Halloween weekend

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Photo by Loïc Berthou

Denise Wellington face painting at the neighbourhood sale.

with a 7:30 p.m. showing on Saturday, **Oct. 28** of the original *Frankenstein* paired with its sequel, *Bride of Frankenstein*.

Be certain to add a stop at the Fieldhouse to your route on Halloween night. Whether you're drawn by your fond memories of the classic Halloween TV specials that used to air before streaming, or by your tired feet from the circuit of the neighbourhood with your little people, or simply by bad weather, the Fieldhouse will be open. We'll be showing cartoons, movie trailers, videos and spook-tacular commercials during the **Scare-A-Thon** on **Oct. 31**. Of course, we'll be giving out some tasty treats too!

All shows are free. Our film aficionado **Andre Gagne** introduces each film by providing facts and context to help you enjoy your viewing.

Halloween Howl

Roxie Clark is bringing back the **Halloween Howl** on **Oct. 28th** from 2–4 p.m. at the Fieldhouse. This tradition is an opportunity for our littlest neighbours to dress up and participate in Halloween themed activities, crafts, and games inside on a Saturday afternoon.

Holiday Lights Gathering

Warm up for the holiday season at the Fieldhouse. Holiday lights. Festive music. Snacks to sweeten the palate. Drinks to warm the soul. Outdoor fire. Ornament making. Wagon rides to view the Lane lights. A white bearded man in a red suit, ready to hear gift requests, will arrive by horse-drawn wagon at 5 p.m. A picture-taking elf with a

tripod for your camera will be on hand. The Crichton Community Council looks forward to wishing you a happy start to the holiday season on Saturday, **Nov. 25!**

Keymasters

Users of New Edinburgh Park will continue to enjoy access to the public washrooms and water fountain in the Fieldhouse until the end of October, thanks to the dedication of the Keymasters. These volunteers open and close the building daily. They also monitor the condition of the Fieldhouse and surrounding park and report any service needs. If you see a need for service in the Fieldhouse or at the park, please call 311 to report it. This relief and refreshment for thousands is provided thanks to the efforts of: **André Deslaurier, Aubrey Charette, Bryan Vaughan, Dave Millard, Jason Tavoularis, Katie Hermon, Lucas Lawson, Luke Nixon-Janssen, Martin Hicks, Nick Charland, Rachel Aslan, Sean McNulty, and Yuji Satoh.**

Pick-Up Soccer (and other sports)

The New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse is surrounded by excellent sports fields and courts. These play spaces are used by individuals (at their leisure) and by organized leagues (who reserve the spaces through the City of Ottawa's Centralized Allocations group).

If you like to play with others, but don't want the commitment of playing in a league, consider starting or joining a regular pick-up game at New Edinburgh

Park. There are sports enthusiasts in the neighbourhood who love your game.



Photo by Loïc Berthou

The field below the Fieldhouse can be used by individuals (at their leisure) or can be booked by organized leagues with the City.

"The beautiful game" is played on **Sunday afternoons** at the New Edinburgh field by a group of friendly footballers (led by **Joost Schalken**) who welcome players of all ages and skill levels. If you like to play soccer, come from **4–6 p.m.** with a willingness to run and have fun. Nets, pinnies, cones, and a ball are all provided.

If you would like to announce a pick-up game at New Edinburgh Park (or a group run, or a mass ride, or a hike) please email CrichtonCommunityCouncil@gmail.com

Event Leaders

An important part of the

CCC's raison d'être is to build community by creating opportunities for neighbours to gather in and around the New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse. By providing indoor facilities and stewardship of surrounding public spaces, the CCC helps individuals create the kind of community they want to live in.

If you have an event idea that excites you enough to contribute your time, please email us. The CCC is proud to support Event Leaders committed to creating inclusive opportunities.

The CCC is currently seeking additional event leaders to join others already committed to supporting the following events: Outdoor Curling Bonspiel (February); Bike Day (April); and, Plant Day & Sale (May). Please email

anniversaries, memorials, and other celebrations. For more information visit newedinburgh.ca/ccc/fieldhouse and to check availability or make a reservation, go to nefieldhouseccc.skedda.com/booking.

CCC Communications

Information about CCC initiatives and events is communicated through a variety of methods:

Event information is posted on the New Edinburgh neighbourhood website at newedinburgh.ca/events, on Facebook at facebook.com/NEfieldhouse and on Twitter at twitter.com/nefieldhouse.

The CCC communicates with neighbours using two open email lists – you can subscribe using the following links: perambulatorposse.ca/mailman/listinfo/newed_per-

the CCC if you are ready to get involved.

New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse Rentals

Proceeds from Fieldhouse rentals and donations to the CCC contribute directly to events and facility improvements. With these funds the CCC recently purchased an 85" television screen and rolling stand. Please let the CCC Director, Fieldhouse know if you would like to use this amenity at your next event.

The New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse is available to rent throughout the year. It is an excellent venue for birthday parties, weddings,

ambulatorposse.ca and reach out to the list at newed@perambulatorposse.ca; and, groups.google.com/group/new-ed-talk and the list is at new-ed-talk@googlegroups.com.

The CCC also contacts neighbours directly using a closed email distribution list used exclusively by neighbourhood associations. To have your contact information added to the CCC's email distribution list, please send a message to: CrichtonCommunityCouncil@gmail.com

See you in the Park!

Park update: floodplain restoration, memorial pollinator meadow and better signage

By Karen Squires and Katherine Hall

During the month of June, Friends of the Park liaised with multiple stakeholders including the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, who outlined issues and possible solutions bringing landowner managers together to review in more detail. The spring site inspection included key representation from the National Capital Commission (NCC), the City of Ottawa, the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA), Crichton Community Council (CCC), New Edinburgh Community Alliance's (NECA's) Friends of the Park and Ecology Ottawa was kept in the loop, pertaining to Monarch Meadow and a new pollinator garden. This meeting brought about a second site inspection which included two new leads from RVCA and Ecology Ottawa. The goal was to review areas and develop plans for landowners' consideration on two specific projects: at the Flood Plain and Monarch Meadow.

The Flood Plain

Detailed plans were developed for the two projects above, led by RVCA and Ecology Ottawa to ensure the landowners had all information to provide the required permits and/or liaise with other government departments. The first project on the flood plain (the low-lying area adjacent to the beach in Stanley Park at the edge of the river) includes removing a small patch of invasive herbaceous vegetation and planting native woody vegetation – both requiring the expertise and support of the RVCA team, led by Brandon Holden with some assistance from community volunteers. The invasive species will be removed manually, and the planting activity will follow,



Photo by Karen Squires

RVCA's Brandon Holden will work with volunteers on October 11th on the flood plain (pictured above) restoration. Please participate if interested! Read article for more details on location.

consisting of live staking (of willows and dogwoods) this fall in the area adjacent to the beach along the Rideau River in Stanley Park. Folks interested in volunteering for this project on October 11th between 9 a.m to noon., please contact katherine@manaiakoru.com or Brandon Holden, RVCA at brandon.holden@rvca.ca ASAP for more information.

Monarch Meadow

The second project is to redesign and revitalize the old Monarch Meadow (between the tennis courts and the beach area) by planting a new pollinator garden. The plans are now underway led by William van Geest, Ecology Ottawa and supported by New Edinburgh resident Lyle Young, who tragically lost his wife Elisabeth Salm in 2018. Ms. Salm was passionate about environmental causes and a beloved member of the New Edinburgh and broader Ottawa community. She advocated to the City of Ottawa for the rehabilitation of Monarch Meadow. The funding for the preparation

bench and some interpretative elements, opening to a wider area for all to view while strolling. Ecology Ottawa is taking the lead on this project, although consultation with NECA, CCC, and RVCA to ensure maintenance and some assistance from the community may be required, as well as liaison with Indigenous nations to advance Truth and Reconciliation. Folks interested in volunteering this October, please contact William van Geest at William.vangeest@ecologyottawa.ca for more information ASAP.

NECA would like to thank Brandon Holden, RVCA and William van Geest, Ecology Ottawa and the Salm and Young families for supporting these important initiatives. As well, Ian Gabrina from the NCC offered to take the lead in securing land permits for these projects. Thanks also to Mary Ellen Wood and her team from the City of Ottawa. There have been many other people involved in these activities – too many to mention but we are pleased to get both these initiatives moving

for more education to ensure everyone's safety. Things took another turn after the paper was printed when residents saw private vehicles driving into the park during the latter part of June, and parking near the tennis court. NECA's Friends of the Park reached out to the City, who contacted groups renting the soccer field to ensure they understood rules and regulations. New signage installed around the Fieldhouse area informs visitors to the park about where dogs are permitted to walk off-leash, on-leash, and where they are prohibited from walking. In concert with by-law officers now monitoring City parks, we urge everyone to spread the word on rules for dog owners. The goal is to better educate everyone about the rules as visitor volumes increase. By-law officers are in the parks this year to monitor many types of safety issues, with increased park usage and larger groups, as noted above. We learned that, sadly, some bicycle routing signs were torn down; unfortunate, as there have been



Photo by Karen Squires

Ecology Ottawa (represented by William van Geest) will work with volunteers and community support this fall and spring 2024 to create a new memorial pollinator garden for all to enjoy

and planting of the pollinator patch, as well as the memorial plaque, will come from the **Elisabeth C. Salm Memorial Fund**. Other funding may be sourced through organizations, such as the City of Ottawa. The vision of the pollinator meadow is to offer a peaceful, enclosed area for reflection, with a

forward and hope to continue working with all stakeholders on these and other initiatives in the park as time, people power, and funding sources permit.

The June edition of *NEN* included coverage on more visitors to the park, more dogs, more cyclists, and more incidents, suggesting a need

incidents in the park involving speedy cyclists using pedestrian walkways.

Stay tuned for updates on these and other park-related initiatives in upcoming editions!

Karen Squires and Katherine Hall sit on the NECA board and co-chair Friends of the Park.

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!

Fall into programming at Rockcliffe Park Library

By Martha Hodgson

While summer is soon to be a distant memory, staff at the Rockcliffe Park library branch are looking back fondly on a very successful Summer Reading Club! The theme at the branch was Breakfast on Pluto. Kids were each given their own space passport, taking them through the solar system from the Sun all the way to Pluto. They tossed asteroids (bean bags) into wormholes (cornholes) and received a colouring page to display on our Space Wall. Readers worked as a team to progress through space: the more Space Art on the wall, the closer to Pluto Rockcliffe Park readers got!

Through a partnership with the Rockcliffe Park summer camps, the library also had special guests visiting daily from the campers and their counselors. Campers got library cards, learned how to search the OPL catalogue, and participated in some of our branch programming.

All our summer programs (Games Week, Science Meets Art, Space Workshop, Making Stars with Tie-Dye



Courtesy Martha Hodgson

Rockcliffe Park Library offers many options for both children and adult programs this fall.

and many more) were well attended, especially our end of summer party – Breakfast on Pluto! – where we had a balloon twister and a green-screen for kids to have their pictures taken with a space background of their choosing.

While it's always sad to see summer end, Rockcliffe Park Library has plenty to keep the community busy this fall. Both the adult and kids' book clubs have returned, one Tuesday a month. Weekly pop-up kids challenges that started in the summer continue through the fall, with word games, puzzles, science experiments, and maybe even an oceans club in partnership with Ocean Wise. For adults we will have music in the

stacks again, as well as interesting speakers to keep us engaged and informed.

Upcoming Children's Programs

Family Storytime

Mondays at 9:30am (except Oct. 9): Drop-in

Rebel Readers Book Club

Oct. 24; Nov. 28: Registration required

Weekly Pop-up Activities

Every Thursday 3:30–4:30 p.m.: Drop-in

PD Day program (English)

Program to be announced soon! Check the OPL website for updates.

Oct 6: Registration required

PD Day Program

(bilingual)

Workshop – The Sock Project

Nov. 24: Registration required

Upcoming Adult Programs

Rockcliffe Park Book Club

First Tuesday of every month, 1:30–2:30 p.m.: Drop-in

Oct 3: *The Storyteller* by Jodi Picoult

Nov. 7: *Jennie's Boy: A Newfoundland Childhood* by Wayne Johnston

Dec. 5: *Women Talking* by Miriam Toews

Stargazing & Telescopes presentation

With Dave Chisholm – President of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, Ottawa Centre

Oct. 3, 6:30–7:30 p.m.: Drop-in

Stargazing in the Park – Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

With telescopes and local astronomers – in the dog park near Hillsdale

Oct. 16, 8–9 p.m. (Rain date: Oct. 18): Drop-in

Music in the Stacks

Barry Cooper, mandolin player

Oct. 12, 6:30–7:30 p.m.: Drop-in

Keep an eye on the OPL website for upcoming programming!

Much of our programming is made possible by proceeds from the annual Rockcliffe Park Spring Book Sale, which is on hiatus but still raising funds through periodic book drives.

Come in and visit us any time or join us for any of our programs. Please note that any registrations can be done in person, by phone, or online at bibliooottawalibrary.ca

Martha Hodgson is a librarian at the Rockcliffe Park Branch of the Ottawa Public Library.

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For the Birds

By Jane Heintzman

Fall is a bittersweet season for birders: on the one hand, the abundant bird population of spring and summer is rapidly depleting as migrating species head down the Atlantic Flyway to their southern wintering grounds in Central and South America, the Caribbean, and the southern United States. On the other, it's a great time to spot and identify those species that are still around. Not only is the tree canopy thinning out as leaves fall, but many species are forming large flocks in preparation for their journey: **American robins, least flycatchers, common loons** and many **warbler species** are cases in point on my list of recent sightings.

Offsetting those advantages, however, is the fact that most species change colour as they molt before migration, shedding their bright breeding plumage in favour of duller, more muted tones. It's always a wistful moment when dazzling yellow **American goldfinches** turn out the lights to don the dull, olive-greenish plumage of winter. Still more challenging to identify are

the many young, immature birds on the scene at this time of year.

A second downside of the fall season is the virtual disappearance of the glorious soundtrack of birdsong that surrounds us in spring. In my case, birdsong is the single most important clue to the identification of the species I encounter, and I lament its disappearance once the breeding and nesting season is over.

But one of the pleasures of autumn is the chance to take stock of the myriad birding experiences we've been lucky enough to enjoy through the spring and summer. This year, the month of July – much of which we spent in the Parry Sound area of Georgian Bay – was a birding paradise. Our small island was teeming with a broad range of species, feasting on the abundant insect life and regaling us with calls and songs from dawn (**red-eyed vireo**) to dusk (**whippoorwill**).

Our avian guest list included **red-eyed vireos**, a **warbling vireo**, **Eastern phoe-**



Osprey.

Photo by Frank Martin

be, worm-eating warblers, black and white warblers, yellow-rumped warblers, bay-breasted warblers, a prairie warbler, cedar waxwings, a great crested flycatcher, white-throat sparrows, song sparrows, black-capped chickadees, pileated woodpeckers, common grackles, sonorous common ravens, and European starlings. And each evening, exactly at dusk, a **whippoorwill** would launch into its repeated serenade right outside our bedroom window.

A first for us this year: an encounter with a **ruffed grouse** on the island. Though we failed to find its nest, our grandson discovered a large and perfect grouse egg, snatching it just in time from the jaws of one of our dogs. Happily, the **osprey** nest across from our dock was inhabited again, so the hungry, supper-hour chorus was a regular feature of summer afternoons. Based on our observations this year, the local osprey population appears to be thriving.

As always, **ring-billed gulls, herring gulls, common terns, common mergansers, black ducks, common loons, double-crested cormorants, and great blue herons** were a presence on the water. A group of **common loons** has adopted our island in the past two years, cruising in

the waters off our dock and regaling us with their signature calls.

The sheltered bay at the front of the island has always been a magnet for solitary **great blue herons**, often posing for us as they stand motionless, preparing to lunge for small fish or frogs. Large **common merganser** families, piloted by protective mothers, are also frequent visitors to the front bay. It's a delight to watch as the ducklings splash and play in the water, but when Mama senses danger, their response is instant, and they evacuate at lightning speed.

This summer, we embarked on a road trip through Quebec and New Brunswick, heading for Brackley Beach on the Northern shore of P.E.I.

Birding highlights of our trip east included a beautiful hermit thrush on the mountain road in Saint-Pacôme, QC, a large **bald eagle** flying low over the Saint John River in Fredericton, and a range of regulars in P.E.I., notably a **bald eagle nest**, several **osprey nests, great blue herons, song sparrows, white-throat sparrows, common ravens, blue jays, and red-eyed vireos.**

In our rambles along the beach, we were surrounded by a group of enchanting **semipalmated plovers**, skittering in and out of the water, undaunted by our presence. In their midst was one tiny, solitary **pipit plover** which companionably followed us up the shoreline. It was encouraging to see that at



Northern Flicker molting feathers.

Photo by David Howe



Warbling Vireo.

Photo by David Howe



Photo by David Howe



Photo by David Howe

Great-crested Flycatcher.

least one sprightly member of that endangered species alive and well, and reports suggest that the preservation efforts of recent years have begun to pay off.

By late August, when we returned to Georgian Bay for a final summer visit, the bird population had thinned out significantly. But there were still many highlights among those that lingered, notably: **common merganser** flocks in which the ducklings of July had become large adolescents, barely distinguishable from their mothers; **house wrens**; **Eastern phoebe** (active but silent); **common ravens**; **black-capped chickadee flocks**; **pileated woodpeckers**; noisy **blue jays** in abundance; **common loons**, still vocalizing energetically in our bay, and soon to be congregating (or “rafting”) in preparation for migration; a very large and

statuesque **great blue heron** fishing at the front of the island; and a pair of **ruffed grouse** waddling contentedly along a forest path close to our island. A large group of migrating **least flycatchers** also touched down briefly for an insect meal en route to their southern wintering grounds in Mexico and Central America.

By coincidence, our first birding encounter after returning to Ottawa in early September was the appearance of several **least flycatchers** right outside our kitchen window – following us home? Large flocks of **American robins** were also ubiquitous in the neighbourhood, though almost unrecognizable in some cases because of their muted plumage and skittish behaviour – so unlike the bright, plump, contented worm-eaters of spring! **American goldfinches** and **gray catbirds** visited our

Northern Cardinal on bad hair day.

garden in early September, along with the largest **common raven** I have ever seen. This massive bird was almost the size of a small dog. When it awkwardly attempted to perch on a bough of our apple tree, the limb collapsed under its weight, dumping the raven unceremoniously to the ground.

Reports from our contributors and readers:

Birder and photographer **David Howe** has had a memorable birding summer and an eventful early fall, as migrating flocks of **warblers** and other song birds pass through the community. David’s regular birding route in our neighbourhood (what he refers to as “Stanley Park” in his birding journal) has been a goldmine of different species, with an amazing 83 species logged in August and September, including a one-

day record high of 51 species in late August. As David once replied in response to my amazement at his prodigious local bird list, “It helps if you look.” Indeed, it does!

Among the myriad species on David’s summer list were **yellow-rumped warblers**, **Wilson’s warblers**, **Northern parula warblers**, **Chestnut-sided warblers**, **Cape May warblers**, **Canada warblers**, **Black and white warblers**, **Bay-breasted warblers**, **American redstarts**, **Red-eyed vireos**, **warbling vireos**, **Gray catbirds**, **Northern flickers**, **Swainson’s thrush**, **Eastern phoebe** and a molting **Northern cardinal** in the throes of a “very bad hair day.”

Interested readers should take note of David’s birding route, which extends from the St. Patrick Street bridge, along the shoreline of the Rideau River, up through New Edinburgh

Park into Stanley Park, across the Minto Bridges to Maple Island and Green Island, up to Sussex Drive, and then doubles back along the eastern pathway along Stanley Avenue. How lucky we are to have such a diversity of natural habitats for different avian (and other) species right here in our neighbourhood.

The Avian Bistro at Alexander and Thomas Streets has been humming through the summer with a regular cast of diners: **American goldfinches**, **purple finches**, **house finches**, **white-breasted nuthatches**, **black-capped chickadees**, **Northern cardinals**, and **downy woodpeckers**. Bistro proprietor **Philip MacAdam** has also spotted **Northern flickers** and **Northern mockingbirds** in our environs, recalling his encounter with a **scarlet tanager** as his birding highlight of the summer.

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StreetFest 2023 brings smiles to New Edinburgh

By Janet Uren

Another successful StreetFest has come and gone, and we at Laurentian (the women’s service group responsible for organizing StreetFest) are busy packing up materials, writing thank you letters, and preparing to make a generous donation to the Inuuqatigiit Centre for Inuit Children, Youth and Families. Some 250 people bought tickets, and almost as many chose to enjoy the outdoor program, and to show their appreciation at the donation jar.

The event was anchored on the north end by canopies in the NCC Park at Sussex Drive, where festivities began in the morning with scones and coffee provided by The Scone Witch. This is an enterprise fittingly conceived and created by a fourth-generation New Edinburgh resident, Heather Matthews. The weather gods smiled on the festival and provided bright sunshine and 25-degree weather right from the start.

Before the fire of 1907, Sussex Drive was lined with



Photo by Gina Watson

StreetFest entertainment provided in front of Governors Walk Retirement Residence on Stanley Avenue for attendees to enjoy.

grey stone shops, offices, and housing, all built in the Scottish style by village founder, Thomas McKay, in the first decade of settlement. New Edinburgh has had a layered history that over time transformed the land along Sussex from dense forest, through settlement and development, all the way to the early 1960s, when the



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Photo by Gina Watson

Musicians perform at StreetFest location near Sussex Drive to the delight of many attendees and volunteers as the festival winds down.

old heart of the village was cleared in the name of “urban renewal.” These physical changes happened side by side with, and were made possible by, the extraordinary people who have lived in or passed through New Edinburgh. This rich history is what inspired StreetFest.

And then there was music. Thanks to the energy and connections of this year’s convenor, Skye MacDiarmid, Crichton and Stanley Avenue came alive with a series of porch concerts throughout the day. Singers or musicians occupied 12 porches at various times during the day, and Skye herself sang twice from the verandah of 62 Crichton, interpreting songs from the Second World War as well as classical jazz favourites. Close by there was a Doorstep

Guide telling the story of young Robert McGregor, who built the house in 1872 as an act of love for his aging parents, who had faced a life of hard labour and economic woe.

There were five Doorstep Guides telling stories of the village during the day, and their tales were complemented this year by three Open Houses. We were fortunate to be able to open up some historic houses, all built in the 1860s and lovingly restored: The Bell House (one-time house of the vil-

lage doctor); the Avery House (once belonging to the village carpenter who helped turn Rideau Hall from a modest family home into a little palace); and Gail MacEachern’s house (which started as a stable, became a butcher shop, a candy shop, and is now a tiny, bijoux residence). Two of the owners were on hand to talk to the steady stream of people who turned up on their doorsteps and to share the adventure of restoration.

Governors Walk – a cornerstone institution in our community, StreetFest spon-

sor and programming partner – offered a barbecue and a truly delightful afternoon of jazz with the Grey Jazz Big Band, appropriately made up of retirement-age musicians. The organizers at Governors Walk have expressed interest in continuing this delightful partnership into the future.

Our programming partner St. Bartholomew’s was the

site of a series of wonderful concerts, all very well attended, during the day. The fare ranged from folk music of the British Isles and the work of Celtic singer-songwriters all the way to the lovely harp and guitar of Acacia Lyra.

The day ended with a magical couple of hours of Celtic music back in the park. It was a gorgeous moment, with the sun still warm on our backs and 12 musicians gathered in a circle, making joyful music. The Beer and Wine team did great business as the musicians played, and people – including many of our volunteers – sat reveling in the bubbles that rose in their glasses, in the light that bathed the park, and the music sweeping through the neighbourhood. It was a delightful conclusion to a wonderful day.

John Cundell, who brought his horses and wagon over from Lowertown to offer rides throughout the day, put it best: “It was good to see us bringing smiles to people’s faces.”

Janet Uren is a professional writer, currently working with Martha Edmond on a history of New Edinburgh. She is currently vice-president of Laurentian, a women’s service group that has produced StreetFest in the past two years.

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Built Heritage as a starting point for stories

By Ray Boomgaardt

Musings from New Edinburgh Community Association (NECA) Co-President.

On the occasion of StreetFest, I reflected a bit on the significance of built heritage.

Back in 1973, as I was preparing to be posted to Bangladesh, I met (fell in love with, and eventually married) Mary Ellen Greene. Mary Ellen had a passion for antique furniture and old houses. On summer weekends, she ran an antique shop which she owned. She would buy the furniture she was selling from “pickers” – the general term for people who would buy at auction or directly from owners, and then sell it at wholesale prices to merchants like Mary Ellen, who would then retail the furniture to the public. Since Mary Ellen had done this for several years, she had learned a lot about Ontario antique furniture, from books, and talking to pickers, and from other dealers.

I had always loved studying history and through her I learned to see history in a totally new way.

In antiques, an important general rule is, “the older the better.” Older items are scarcer, both because the population was smaller, and because they were more likely to have been made by hand in small workshops, rather than in factories. Since the Ottawa area’s earliest settlers arrived in the early 1800s, furniture from the 1830s and 1840s – called the Regency period, for the time when regents ruled in the UK in the name of Victoria before she was old enough to assume the throne – became Mary Ellen’s preferred style, and thus mine as well!

Wait, you say. Why are you beginning a discussion of heritage houses with a story about antiques?

I learned that one way to think about antiques (and heritage homes) is to learn about fashion trends in the past. Fashions in furniture and housing tend to shift over time, and every decade or so a new fashion is in vogue.

It is also notable that fashions in housing and furniture take time to spread. So it is not unusual to find that a style that was popular in the



Photo by Gina Watson

Author’s home on Crichton St.

United Kingdom or United States in one decade didn’t become popular in Ontario until a decade later. Also, for every era there may also be differing fashions for the wealthy and for the middle class. Most of the antiques and heritage homes in the Ottawa area would have been made for the middle class. Sometimes there are “country” versions of luxury items. So heritage buildings and antiques can be the basis for stories that discuss the spread of fashion, and how fashions can be affected by social differences. In the case of New Edinburgh, most homes were built in the 1860s and ‘70s, so the original housing stock is generally from the same era. However, there are some exceptions – I know of at least one log house – and some houses are actually quite grand. It’s fun to walk around and see the distinctive houses built in subsequent decades.

In the 1990s, Howard Pain, who had made a career in finance in Toronto, published *The Heritage of Upper Canadian Furniture* in which he explored another way to look at Ontario antiques; to look at the traditions which influenced the furniture: British, French, American, Irish, Polish, and German. For each ethnic tradition he showed examples in their country of origin, and how

it formed the basis for the furniture found in Ontario. To this day, his brilliant book is the definitive study of Ontario antiques. As our society becomes increasingly diverse, it is worth noting that we have long been enriched by contributions from differing traditions.

Antique furniture and heritage homes can also prompt us to reflect on changes in technology. For example, dark paints were not available in the first half of the 19th century: the pigments they used were invented in the late 1860s, so houses before that date were painted in pastels, and 19th century houses after that date often gloried in the use of dark colours.

The heritage stories of 62 Crichton Street

When I chatted with Janet Uren about her study of heritage houses in New Edinburgh, she talked about the struggles that some of these early homeowners faced. For example, Robert McGregor, who was responsible for the construction of 62 Crichton St. (where I live) had gone to work in the U.S. for a year or two, along with his twin brother. The two of them had done this to pay off a debt their father had incurred. So, for Janet, 62 Crichton triggered a story about perseverance, hard work, and love of fam-

ily. It’s a great story.

I have a related, but different, story to tell. At a New Edinburgh garage sale some 20 years ago, a woman from Philadelphia came up to Mary Ellen and me and told us that her grandfather (yes, Robert McGregor) had built our house. What intrigued us was how many parallels there were between the McGregors and ourselves. McGregor had grown up in Metcalfe, south of Ottawa. I had grown up in Manotick (slightly west of Metcalfe) and Navan (slightly east of Metcalfe). McGregor and his wife had met at the Baptist Church at Elgin and Laurier and moved into the house shortly after they married. Mary Ellen and I had met only a few blocks from the Baptist Church (my brother had been baptized there), and Mary Ellen and I moved into 62 Crichton shortly after we were married. McGregor’s twin brother attended McMaster University. I also attended McMaster University. McGregor started a business from the house, and his wife helped him out with bookkeeping. Mary Ellen ran Greentree, a home-based business, and I assisted her with legal advice and some help with accounting. McGregor’s daughter had worked at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C.; so had I.

So our built heritage offers

the beginning for so many stories about history, and the connections we have with each other.

Earlier I talked about how houses and antiques differ from decade to decade. The house at 62 Crichton St, originally board and batten construction painted a dark colour (creating the Gothic appearance favoured in the 1870s), was extensively modified in the 1920s. The owners at the time were named Sherwood, and Mrs. Sherwood contracted tuberculosis. At the time, the only known remedy was fresh air and sunshine, so the Sherwoods built a sunroom at the front of the house. At the time, the Spanish hacienda style was popular, so the addition, and indeed the whole house, was done in stucco and featured round-headed windows. The interior was also modified in keeping with this style. When we bought the house 50 years after Mrs. Sherwood’s bout with TB, we learned that Mrs. Sherwood was still alive, so the treatment worked!

When we redid the house in the 1980s, we removed the front sunroom and the exterior siding; installed a weatherproof membrane and six inches of insulation in the exterior walls of the entire house; reinstated a fancy front door and verandah; and redid the interior. (We did retain some of the details the Sherwoods had added). Instead of returning completely to an 1870s style, we used stylistic elements from the Regency period, consistent with our antique collection, and our preferred style. For the exterior colour we used a soft green exterior stain, consistent with the paint colour technology of the Regency period. A Dutch ethnic touch was provided by a gift of decorative Makkum tiles from my Aunt Kunni. We used them in the kitchen as part of our tile backsplash. So we end up with a house which looks like a heritage house, although not accurate to a specific period, which reflects our tastes, and uses modern insulation, windows and heating and cooling technology to make it more comfortable.

That’s just one of my stories about built heritage. I’ll see you in the neighbourhood!



Lucille Collard
MPP Ottawa-Vanier

Dear residents,

The summer season came to an end all too swiftly, marked by meaningful in-person encounters, constructive discussions about our community's challenges and aspirations, and successful partnerships with various local organizations. These moments have been a source of inspiration and motivation for me, reinforcing my dedication to our wonderful region.

Bill 41: A Crucial step towards protecting human trafficking survivors

Last week, Bill 41, aimed at safeguarding survivors of human trafficking from debts incurred in their name by their traffickers, reached a significant milestone. The Standing Committee on Justice Policy completed its review of the bill and sent it back to the House for final debate. It required persistent and extensive effort to garner support from all parties at Queen's Park for this bill, which could provide tangible assistance to human trafficking survivors. I am also involved in this work at an international level through the Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie. Clearly, continued measures are needed to combat this global scourge.

Preserving our environment and its resources is a priority

The reports from the Auditor General and the Commissioner of Integrity have shed light on significant issues related to the government's decision to remove land from the Greenbelt. These problems, including mismanagement, ethical lapses, and unregistered lobbying, underscore the importance of ensuring that government actions are carried out with integrity and with the well-being of all citizens as a priority.

In the community

As my drive to engage more with the community continues through events, I am excited to meet constituents to give us opportunities to connect and hear your con-

cerns. Our inaugural Corn Roast, which took place on Saturday, August 19th, was a resounding success. It was a joyous occasion that saw families and friends coming together to savor local vendor offerings, engage in children's face painting sessions, participate in yoga sessions, and be enchanted by an outstanding musical performance.

Furthermore, our coffee discussions continue to occur regularly, and I strongly encourage your active participation. Many more exciting events are in the pipeline, and I extend an invitation for you to subscribe to our newsletter to stay abreast of upcoming activities.

I am genuinely excited to return to Queen's Park and continue advocating for the needs of our constituency. My unwavering commitment persists in championing improved access to housing for all, fostering constructive collaboration across party lines, addressing the pressing issues of mental health and substance abuse crises, and providing enhanced support for our senior citizens.

Chères résidentes et résidents,

L'été a filé à toute vitesse, mais il a été marqué par de précieuses rencontres en personne, des échanges constructifs sur les défis et les espoirs de notre communauté, ainsi que par une collaboration fructueuse avec diverses organisations locales. Ces moments ont été une source d'inspiration et de motivation pour moi, renforçant mon engagement envers notre belle région.

Le Projet de Loi 41 : Un pas crucial vers la protection des survivantes de la traite des personnes

La semaine dernière le projet de loi 41, visant à protéger les survivantes de la traite des personnes contre les dettes contractées en leur nom par leur trafiquant, a franchi une étape importante. Le Comité permanent de la justice a complété la révision du projet de loi et l'a renvoyé à la

Chambre pour le débat final. Un travail ardu et de longue haleine a été nécessaire pour amener tous les partis à Queen's Park à appuyer ce projet de loi qui pourrait apporter une aide concrète aux survivantes de la traite des personnes. D'autres mesures sont évidemment requises pour enrayer ce fléau mondial et je fais également du travail à ce niveau avec l'Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie avec une perspective internationale.

Préserver notre environnement et ses ressources est une priorité

Les rapports de la vérificatrice générale et du commissaire à l'intégrité ont mis en lumière des problèmes majeurs liés à la décision du gouvernement de retirer des terres de la Ceinture de verdure. Ces problèmes, incluant une mauvaise gestion, des manquements éthiques, et du lobbying non enregistré, soulignent l'importance de veiller à ce que les actions gouvernementales soient accomplies avec intégrité et avec le bien-être de tous les citoyens comme priorité.

Dans la communauté

Pour nos activités communautaires, je coordonne plusieurs événements qui me permettent de vous rencontrer et de discuter de vos préoccupations. Notre première Épluchette de blé d'Inde, qui s'est tenue le samedi 19 août, a été un succès remarquable. Nous avons été ravis de voir des familles et des amis profiter des produits des vendeurs locaux, participer à des séances de maquillage pour enfants, pratiquer le yoga, et assister à une exceptionnelle performance musicale.

Par ailleurs, je tiens à vous informer que nos cafés-discussions se poursuivent régulièrement. Je vous encourage vivement à y participer. De nombreux autres événements passionnants sont également prévus. Je vous invite donc à vous abonner à notre info-lettre pour rester informé(e) des prochaines activités.

Je suis impatiente de retourner à Queen's Park pour continuer à représenter les besoins de notre circonscription. Mon engagement persiste en faveur d'un meilleur accès au logement pour tous, d'une collaboration constructive entre les partis, d'une attention accrue aux crises de santé mentale et de dépendance aux drogues, et d'un soutien renforcé aux personnes âgées.

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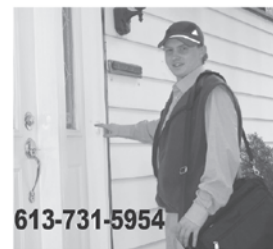
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Malcolm and John Harding

The wonderful world of bats in Stanley Park

By Jean-Pierre Bacle

Bats are by far the most fascinating night creature, especially during this season when we're about to celebrate Halloween. Yet we know so little about this nocturnal animal. Historically, bats have been vilified and regarded as pests, and evil night creatures bringing bad luck and disease. The negative myths about bats are perpetuated through movies, media, literature, and culture. Few of us are aware that these flying creatures feed on an array of insects and, if left alone, cause no harm to humans.

Bats have the distinction of being the only flying mammal: flying squirrels, and some species of lemurs, etc., are gliders incapable of true flight. There are more than 1,400 bat species worldwide, representing a quarter of all mammal species. Canada has about 18 species, the United States 45, and Mexico 140. Bat diversity increases towards the tropics. Bats are classified under the order of Chiroptera, a Greek term that means "hand-wing." Indeed, their wings appear as an oversized hand with a short forearm and even shorter upper arm.

For the last few years, bats have been monitored in the Stanley Park area using a bat detector. This handheld device (see photo) can pick up the vocalizations of bats, allowing humans to identify species based on their specific ultrasonic frequencies or unique echolocation signature.

To date, a total of six species have been recorded in Stanley Park. Ontario is known to have a total of eight species, of which four are federally endangered. All bats found in

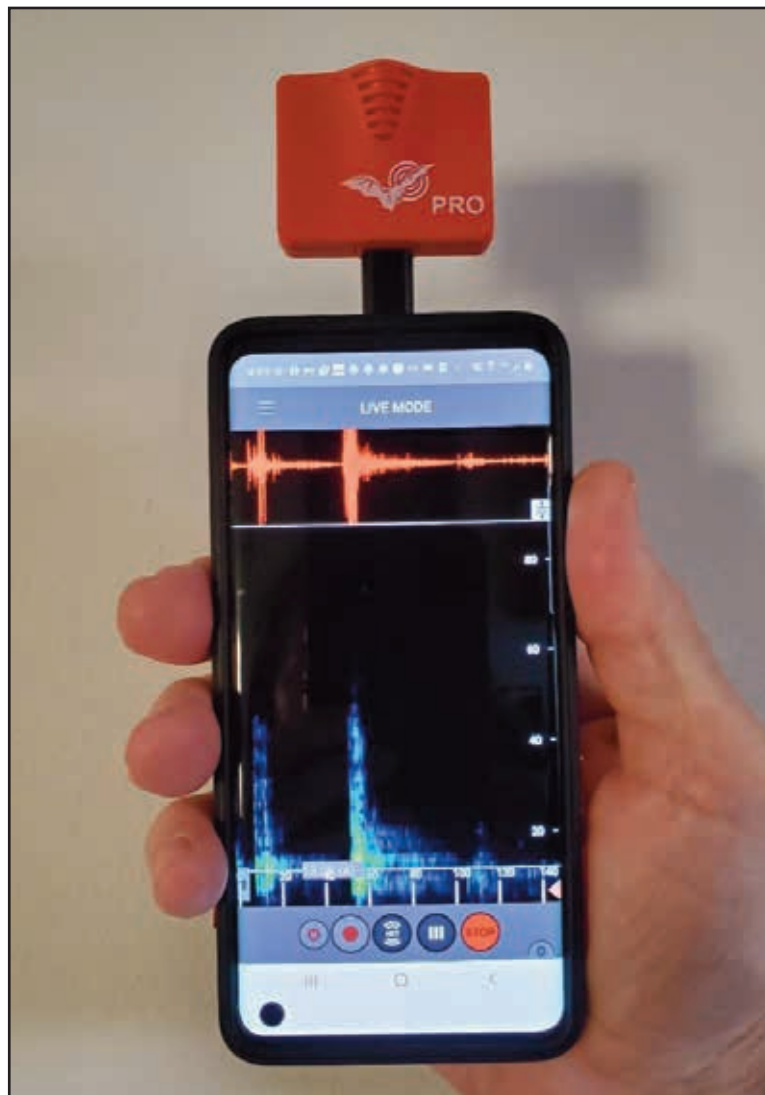


Photo by Michele Lemay

Hand held bat detector can pick up vocalization of bats to identify species.

Canada belong to one family, the *Vespertilionidae*, which is the largest family of bats in the world. In Ontario, most are characterized as small with their weight ranging from five to 35 grams. All are insectivores, meaning that the dominant part of their diet is insects. Below is a summary of the six species recorded in Stanley Park:



Photo by Stephen Buckingham (inaturalist.ca)

Big Brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*)

This is the most common in the area and the second larg-

est with its weight ranging from 10–21g and having a wingspan of 32–35cm. Its diet consists of a wide variety of insects, with a preference for such hard-bodied insects as beetles. They prefer to roost in tree cavities and manmade structures. This species hibernates in caves, abandoned mines, or old buildings.



Photo by Jason Headley (inaturalist.ca)

Silver-haired bat (*Lasionycteris noctivagans*)

This species is considered medium size with a weight of 9–13g and wingspan of

27–37cm. It is named for its dark, silver-tipped hair. It prefers to roost individually in trees. This species, compared to others, is a slower flier and likes to forage on a variety of insects, particularly over water. When winter approaches, the silver-haired bat migrates south.



Photo by Jose G. Martinez-Fonseca (inaturalist.ca)

Hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*)

Also quite common in Stanley Park, this species is the largest in Ontario and one of the largest in North America. Its average weight is 20–35g with a wingspan of 34–41cm. It prefers moths for its diet but will occasionally eat grass, small snakes, and even smaller bats. It is known to roost solitary within foliage. This migratory species prefers wintering in the southern US, Mexico, and Central America.



Photo: kristofz (inaturalist.ca)

Eastern Red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*)

Considered one of North America's most beautiful bats, the fur of this species ranges from bright orange to yellow-brown. This medi-

um size bat weighs between 9–15g with a wingspan of 28–33cm. Its diet consists of a variety of insects, but it prefers moths. Occasionally the red bat is seen foraging around streetlamps in Stanley Park. Like its close relative the Hoary bat, this species roosts solitary in tree foliage. It is also a migratory species.



Photo by rkluzco (inaturalist.ca)

Little Brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*)

This species – on the Canadian endangered species list – looks like a smaller version of the big brown bat but is a different genus. Its weight ranges from 5–14g and it has a wingspan of 22–26cm. Like the other species, it feeds on a variety of insects. The little brown bat hibernates mainly in caves or abandoned mines, but occasionally in structures: barns, attics, and garages.



Photo by sfrosch (inaturalist.ca)

Tricoloured bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*)

This species is also on the Canadian endangered species list and is the smallest bat in Stanley Park. It was recorded only a couple of times and is considered uncommon

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to rare. The species weighs 5–7g and has a wingspan of 21–26cm. The species roosts in small groups in very confined spaces or under foliage. It hibernates in caves or abandoned mines. Its name is attributed to its unique, tricoloured fur: dark gray at the base, lighter yellowish brown in the middle, and dark brown at the tip.

The benefit of bats

All bats in Canada, as well as most in North America, are insectivorous. During the evening they typically consume half their body weight in insects. Their diet includes mosquitoes, moths, beetles, flies, leafhoppers, and other arthropods. Besides reducing the urban insect plight, bats also play a significant

role in the control of agricultural pests, making the animals some of farmer's best friends. For example, the big brown bat favors cucumber beetles: a major scourge on corn crops.

The vulnerability of bats

Many factors contribute to bat endangerment. Suitable roosting habitat is a factor that comes to mind as humans continue to encroach on their habitat. When this happens, people tend to destroy the roosts due to fear and misperceptions. Many bat species rely on caves and abandoned mines as hibernation sites. Unfortunately, human interference in and around these sites has pressured bats to leave as they are very sensitive to such disturbances as

cave intrusion and noise during hibernation. Since bats consume great quantities of insects, insecticide use in a variety of spaces, particularly backyards, contributes to their population decline.

The takeaway

Bats are part of our urban environment. If you take an early evening stroll in Stanley Park, keep an eye out for them. Their flight pattern differs from birds in that they fly in zigzag patterns to pursue and capture insects. Bats usually come out 15 minutes before sunset, especially in cloudy conditions, and are most active within an hour after sunset: they're starving for insects, since they haven't had a meal for the last 24 hours.

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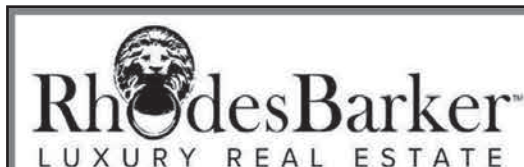


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Italian American Reconciliation opens at The Linden House

By Janet Uren

Linden House Theatre has featured a whole range of wonderful playwrights in the past 17 years – George Bernard Shaw, Noël Coward, Somerset Maugham, among others. Returning for the second year in a row, I am indulging in the wonderful language, intelligence, hallmark humour and whimsy of Irish-American playwright John Patrick Shanley's work.

This "folktale" combines a trademark Shanley mashup of real-life people and themes with a bit of fantasy. In this case, the playwright is charting the course of two young men in New York City as they uncertainly navigate the world of women, with wise old Aunt May providing guidance. To justify the title of folktale, Shanley throws in one of our old favourites: a princess-like woman locked away in a figurative tower awaiting rescue – only this princess is a force to be reckoned with. She doesn't want to be rescued, and she is armed with a zip gun (a hand-made gun). But is she really a princess or rather an emasculating Delilah? Or both? The hero is a young man who seeks, Samson-like, to reunite with his former wife and thus recover the masculine confidence he lost in divorce. Meanwhile, his best friend strives to overcome his own terror of women and, as proxy for his wounded friend, to brave the violent princess on his behalf.

Italian American Reconciliation is as funny as it is interesting. Clearly, Janice – the figurative princess – is an angry woman. The turning point of the story, however – the point where she turns from rage to something quite different – is when she hears a harsh truth spoken aloud, and she literally puts



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down her gun. "I like the truth," she says.

The four young people in this story are all seeking

love, and Aunt May provides a roadmap for the bewildered travellers. "Marriage is trouble," she explains: "...

but trouble ain't the worst thing.... For the best in this life, you've gotta pay Big Dollars.... Anybody you real-

ly want...is gonna be expensive in some way. There ain't no bargains in people. You get what you pay for and the currency is Trouble. You ain't no bargain. Any woman ends up with you's gotta a man who's gonna compare her to his mother. And that's always a bitch."

With the exception of the performer playing Aunt May, all the actors in this production – Stavros Sakiadis, Josh Sparks, Linda Webster and Sarah McKay – are new to Linden House, but they are well known members of the community theatre world in Ottawa. They brim with talent and the ability to bring this charming story to life.

The title of the play sets the scene – in an Italian community in New York – but the real message is contained in the word "Reconciliation." Reconciliation is the act of coming together in shared understanding, and renewed friendship. The word comes from the Latin for "bringing together again, regaining, winning over." This is a funny play, an endearing play, and most of all a play full of hope and optimism for all of us, struggling as we are through the minefield of human relationships.

Italian American Reconciliation plays at Elmwood School (261 Buena Vista) Nov. 3, 4, 10 and 11 at 7:30 p.m and Nov. 5 and 12 at 2 p.m. Tickets (\$30) are available starting Oct. 1 (note the Early Bird rate of \$25 available until Oct. 10) online at lindenhousetheatre.ca or at Books on Beechwood. Information: 613-842-4913.

Janet Uren is a professional writer, currently working with Martha Edmond on a history of New Edinburgh. She is active in the community theatre world in Ottawa and founded Linden House in 2007.



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The silent thief: my journey with glaucoma

By Janet Ruddock

In September 2018, I was waiting in my usual spot in the treatment chair at the ophthalmologist's office. Every four months, every appointment very much the same. What was taking the fellow so long?

Finally, in he came. "You have an appointment with the eye surgeon next week," he announced, handing me a few papers.

Eye surgeon? I was here for my regular glaucoma check-up. I never missed an appointment. I religiously used the countless prescribed eye drops twice every day. I knew the eye disease had gradually progressed – I had lost some vision – but where did this come from?

Rather taken aback, I asked, "Why do I suddenly need an eye surgeon?"

"You are going blind. You do know that," he said. "I'm sure the surgeon will explain everything. Sorry, pressed for time today. Just show yourself out." And that was that. Another doctor with a terrific bedside manner.

In 1997, glaucoma entered my life. During an annual eye checkup, high pressure inside both eyes was detected. I had no pain, no problems seeing, no symptoms whatsoever. Glaucoma sneaks up on you. It may chip away eyesight before you realize you even have the disease. Only the specialized equipment used by eye doctors can detect glaucoma.

Over the next 20 years, three times a year, monitored by eye specialists and pressure-reducing eye drops, the disease's progression slowed. Pressure from fluid buildup within the eye gradually damaged the optic nerve. Despite the best possible treatment, inevitably, I lost vision.

The next step was surgery to create permanent channels

in each eye to allow fluid to drain. The goal, again, is to slow the progression of the disease. Surgery will not restore vision already lost. There is no cure for glaucoma.

My first two major surgeries were in 2019. Four less invasive procedures followed. Throw in two cataract surgeries in 2022, because why not? Last week was another surgery in my left eye. Similar surgery in the right eye may follow. The glaucoma clinic is my second home.

So, what exactly can I see nowadays with my approximately 40 per cent vision loss in each eye? Imagine always looking through a dark tunnel. What's straight ahead is visible to me, and that is all I see. Surrounding that is darkness.

Thus, I can't see the ground or my feet without looking down. Holes, cracks, uneven pavement, slants, curbs, that spilled milkshake, they're all hazards. Because I'm looking down, I bump into things. On either side, I miss that bicyclist, car, you, or anything else that approaches until it's right there beside me. Startling? You bet.

In addition, my depth perception is minimal at best. The world looks flat. How high is that curb or that step? How steep is that ramp? I will fall down a step I don't see coming. I don't do well on a flight of stairs that are all one colour. The steps blend one into the other. It would suit me fine if every stair was edged in neon paint or fluorescent tape that glows in the dark. If you are in a hurry behind me, please be patient.

I gave up solo walks and shopping expeditions long ago. Motorists and pedestrians alike will be relieved to know that I voluntarily gave up driving a decade ago. I value your life and mine.

If daytime activities are difficult, nighttime activities are worse. Glaucoma brings increased sensitivity to light. The glare from streetlamps, headlights, and illuminated buildings intensifies. Rainbow-coloured halos form around lights in a dizzying miasma. I am stopped in my tracks while my eyes adjust between dark and light conditions. Restaurants with poorly lit entrances are a nightmare. An evening at a movie theatre with me is an adventure. Ask my husband.

The decreased visual input affects my balance. Stand on one foot with your eyes closed and try for yourself. I fall frequently and have a history of broken or dislocated bones to show for it. Ask me to walk in a straight line and I fail miserably.

If I see so poorly, why not get stronger glasses? Reasonable question. Presently, I don't wear glasses at all. What's in front of me, I see perfectly. So far, glaucoma does not affect my central vision. I can read, type, watch television, and do most daily tasks with few problems. My vision from both sides, top and bottom, is what's disappearing. Glasses will not help me see what, to me, is no longer there.

Technically, as the ophthalmologist in 2018 so delicately pointed out, I am going blind. Totally blind? I trust not. But, even with continued treatment and further surgery, I will eventually lose more vision. A silent thief, glaucoma insidiously steals a patient's eyesight. Along with that, as I know so well, glaucoma takes cherished independence.

Have you booked your annual eye exam?

Janet Ruddock and her husband Frank have settled in New Edinburgh after a nomadic life with Global Affairs Canada.



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Elmwood's evidence-based approach to reading intervention

By Erica Eades, Teresa Marquis, and Katie Fraser

At Elmwood School, we are passionate about developing strong readers. That is why, in the fall of 2019, we launched a new early intervention program in the Junior School. This initiative aims to identify reading issues early so that struggling students can begin receiving support at the first sign of difficulty.

Our approach

Elmwood's 1:1 intervention program is rooted in the practice of Structured Literacy, a term coined by the International Dyslexia Association to refer to the many evidence-based instruction methods that align with the science of reading. These approaches all share a common belief that literacy instruction should be both systematic and explicit. It should also address the key foundational elements that make up a skilled reader, including phonological awareness; word recognition; fluency; vocabulary; reading comprehension; and written expression.

In our intervention program, we employ a Structured Literacy approach known as Orton-Gillingham, which helps struggling readers by explicitly teaching the connections between letters and sounds. One of the challenges of the English language is that while it contains just 26 letters, these letters combine to create roughly 44 speech sounds — and there are more than 250 ways to spell those sounds! The Orton-Gillingham method simpli-

fies this process by teaching students to apply rules and generalizations. This helps show that English is actually a fairly standardized language (even though it doesn't always seem that way).

The science of reading

A Structured Literacy approach benefits all students, but it is essential for those with reading difficulties. This was recently confirmed by the groundbreaking Right to Read Inquiry Report. Released by the Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC) in February 2022, the report highlighted issues affecting students with reading disabilities in Ontario's public education system. It found that most schools were failing these students by using outdated instruction methods that were not backed by the science of reading. In response to these findings, the OHRC compiled a list of recommendations for Ontario public schools. One of the key takeaways was that students should be receiving "explicit, systematic and direct instruction in foundational reading skills." In other words: structured literacy.

We believe the educational

experience of all our students should be grounded in research. Therefore, in addition to using evidence-based techniques during intervention, we have also provided Junior School staff with training in structured literacy. This has enriched our language program by ensuring all student learning is rooted in science.

For struggling readers, it is important to begin intervention at a young age. While many schools rely on a "wait to fail" approach, in which students only receive 1:1 support after years of struggle, we opt to intervene promptly. Studies have shown that when children at risk for reading difficulty receive early intervention; they typically go on to read at grade-level or above. Without intervention, many of these children will continue to struggle throughout their lives.

Recognizing that all students continue to need explicit instruction in reading, we are working towards a scope and sequence for teaching reading skills in middle- and senior school as well. This scope and sequence will be in tune with the science of reading, and teachers from

all curriculum areas will be aware of what to emphasize and when.

Using evidence-based approaches, our goal is to be strategic in having students practice good reading strategies and understand why they are effective. We have been collecting data in the middle school that will help us develop interventions and give us a sense of what support is needed at each grade level.

Our immediate goal is to have students know when and how to apply the strategies we teach independently. Ultimately, our goal is to ensure students feel confident in their ability to read, so that they will see reading as a key mode of learning. The more one reads, the better one reads, and the better one reads, the more one will want to read.

The importance of learning to read cannot be understated, as it lays the foundation upon which all future learning is built. Reading ability is also one of the strongest indicators of future academic and professional success. At Elmwood, we believe all students should be given the tools they need to succeed in life. Through our early intervention program, we ensure that no one gets left behind.



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MacKay United Church Women are looking for new faces!



Photo by Karen Squires

MacKay United Church offers many programs and events year round – stay tuned for ongoing updates thanks to Eleanor Dunn!

By Eleanor Dunn

MacKay United Church Women (UCW) are back with a fall program designed to attract new members to the group with a strong lineup of speakers and activities.

The UCW has reclaimed the Ladies' Parlour adjacent to the kitchen in the Memorial Hall, and after a hiatus, have returned to holding its monthly meetings in person rather than via Zoom – although Zoom was extremely useful in keeping the 20-member group together during the two-plus years of pandemic restrictions.

The first meeting of the fall season was held Sep. 13, with Jenn Bell, Director of Camp Kalalla in the speaker's chair. Camp Kalalla is a summer camp for girls aged 7 to 16

years, established in 1949 when the Ottawa branch of the Canadian Girls in Training (CGIT) purchased 100 acres on Long Lake in Quebec. Camp Kalalla was designed to provide camping experience in the Christian religion but would be non-denominational. For readers who might not be familiar with CGIT, it offered programs similar to those offered by Girl Guides. Various Ottawa churches, including MacKay United, assisted in Camp Kalalla's upkeep by providing work parties to maintain the property. The camp is also used for retreats.

October and beyond

The regular UCW meeting in October will be held in the Ladies' Parlour at the church on Wednesday, Oct. 11 at 1

p.m. In addition, in keeping with its social justice activities – such as last spring's evening presentation, open to

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the community, on intimate partner violence – MacKay's UCW have arranged to have Peter Tilley, Director of The Mission, present to the congregation on Sunday, Oct. 13 during the service. The group feels that his message deserves a wider audience than only UCW meeting attendees. The Mission provides shelter and meals to Ottawa's marginalized. Concerned that pandemic lockdowns were having an adverse effect on service users who would otherwise get a meal in The Mission's dining room, the organization chose to pivot. The Mission's Food Truck, at 13 rotating locations, provided 7,000 meals per week to vulnerable communities during the pandemic.


At the Nov. 8 UCW meeting at 1p.m. in the Ladies' Parlour in the Memorial Hall, the guest speaker will be Marlene Shepherd, President of Shepherd's Fashions. She also chose to pivot rather than see her successful business disappear due to pandemic lockdowns. The savvy entrepreneur decided to use the internet as a merchandising tool and now has a worldwide

customer base and audience for her weekly Wardrobe Wednesday, Fashion Friday, and Styling Saturday programs on YouTube. Shepherd is also a community activist, working on behalf of the Youville Centre and as a founder of Women for Mental Health at the Royal Ottawa Hospital.

Last, but not least, MacKay's UCW will be holding another bake sale following the Christmas at MacKay concert in December: date to be announced. There will be marmalade!

All are welcome at MacKay UCW events. For more information, contact the church office by phone at 613-749-8727, or by email to admin@mackayunitedchurch.com – or check out MacKay United's Facebook page – @mackay.united – or their website: mackayunited.ca

Eleanor Dunn is a retired journalist and broadcaster who has been an almost lifelong resident of the 'Burgh. She raised her family on Dufferin Rd. and now lives with her oldest son on the Mews. She is an active member of MacKay United Church.




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EVENTS CALENDAR

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

OCTOBER

Mondays – Pints and Pawns (Chess Game) weekly at 8 p.m., at the Clocktower Pub on MacKay. Normally the event attracts approximately 20 people which is one of the many highlights – meeting new people, enjoying pub food and beverages, and meeting new folks who come out to enjoy fun and learning over the chess board!

Mondays – The New Edinburgh Community Choir started up again, meeting 7:30–9:00 p.m. in the Memorial Hall at Mackay United Church. Our choir is for everyone: no auditions required. The repertoire is diverse and includes popular, folk, classical, and religious music. You can sign up for 10 sessions at \$150 – the fee will be prorated for latecomers. Or try us out at a one-time \$20 drop-in rate. Once registered, participants will receive a list of our upcoming songs and recent mask policy. For more information, call Isobel Bisby at 613-304-7919 or email neuechoir@gmail.com.

October 5 – Come enjoy an outdoor celebration at the Elmwood School campus to

commemorate the opening of the new Early Years playground. We invite community members to try out the new play structure with their kids. The event is free and open to parents with children ages 2–5. For more information: call 613-749-6761 ext. 239 or visit elmwood.ca

October 14 – Ottawa StoryTellers presents “Stories Told Are a Culture Shared,” at New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse (203 Stanley Avenue). In this video documentary, local Indigenous storytellers discuss the importance of stories for Indigenous peoples of Turtle Island. See Crichton Community Council (CCC) on pages 18 and 19 for more details.

October 14 – Who can help me with this old house? (A workshop with Heritage Ottawa) from 9:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. This is an introductory workshop designed for owners and prospective owners of older homes. Participants enjoy access to professional experts who will share their knowledge, whether the house is Victorian, Arts & Crafts or Mid-Century Modern. This day-long workshop includes six sessions, covering a range of topics on conservation of older homes, including how to research its history; where to find restoration grants; and how best to approach maintenance and repair. Space is limited. Join the event at the Bayview Yards Innovation Centre, 7 Bayview Station Rd, or on Zoom. Fee: In-person: \$150 per person (includes morning coffee/tea with baked goods, and lunch during the break). Via Zoom: \$125 per person. All participants will receive a Resource Package. Contact Heritage Ottawa at info@heritageottawa.org or call 613-230-8841. Heritage Ottawa reserves the right to cancel workshops, in which case they will fully refund fees.

October 17 – New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA) Board Meeting happening in person at 7 p.m. at the Fieldhouse, 203 Stanley Ave. Visit newedinburgh.ca for a meeting link if you are unable to attend in person. All New Edinburgh residents are welcome to attend the NECA board meeting.

October 21 – Comedy at the Fieldhouse New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse 203 Stanley Avenue from 7:30–10 p.m. The CCC is proud to present a night of stand-up comedy in the heart of New Edinburgh. See CCC events on pages 18 and 19 for more details.

October 25 – NECA Annual General Meeting, at the New Edinburgh Fieldhouse, 203 Stanley Ave in a hybrid format at 7 p.m. All residents are welcome to the NECA AGM and to join the board. Contact newedinburgh@outlook.com should you have questions in advance.



Photo courtesy Andrew Ager

October 27, 28 – The Mummy will premiere at the spooky neo-gothic setting of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Kent St. The Gothic Trilogy is a set of operas based on Gothic horror themes. The first two operas, *Frankenstein* and *Dracula* premiered in 2019 and 2022 to sold-out audiences. Based on the traditional tale of timeless love and timeless revenge, *The Mummy* is a gripping, hour-long opera about hubris, revenge, honour, and love across the ages. With full staging, costumes, and chamber orchestra, it will be a perfect way to spend part of Halloween weekend. Tickets are available through Eventbrite.ca. Composer Andrew Ager and his wife have lived in New Edinburgh for eight years.

October 28 – Halloween Howl New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse 203 Stanley Avenue. Join the CCC's annual Halloween party at the New Edinburgh Park Field House! See CCC events on pages 18 and 19 for more details.

October 31 Films at the

Fieldhouse: Halloween Night Scare-A-Thon! (CCC) 7:30–11:30 p.m., New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse 203 Stanley Avenue. See CCC events on pages 18 and 19 for more details.

NOVEMBER

November 1 – Book Launch: Eleanor's Moon Local author Maggie Knaus has published her first children's book, *Eleanor's Moon*, which she both wrote and illustrated. She will be having a book launch at Books on Beechwood on Wednesday, Nov. 1 from 5–7pm. See Breezy Bits on page 36 for more details on the book.

November 4 – Something New Edinburgh Memorial Hall at MacKay United Church (39 Dufferin Rd) from 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Launched as a local event where community, artists and one-of-a-kind craftsmanship meet at a bustling space full of makers, art, crafts, and community. On pause since 2020, and back for one final show. Organizers and artists have been working hard to ensure this year's show is a success. More than 30 local artisans have been invited to participate. Angry Dragonz will be back to feed the crowd and visitors will have the chance to win a gift basket. Admission is free. Follow “SomethingNewedinburgh” on FB and Instagram for more details.



Photo courtesy Elizabeth Heatherington

November 4 – Church of St Bartholomew's Annual Charity Bazaar, 125 MacKay Street 1–4 p.m. Enjoy a variety of tables: gifts, antiques, attic treasures, home baking, books, jewelry, Christmas decorations, toys, games, preserves, crafts and knitting, and an outstanding Tea Room! Enjoy this happy event and feel good knowing that you're supporting the Refugee Programme,

the Ministry to the Gary J. Armstrong Home, Cornerstone Women's Shelter and the work of the Church in the wider community.

November 9–12 – Encounter with Nature Exhibition: Ikebana The art of Japanese floral design Canadian Museum of Nature, 240 McLeod St., Ottawa, Entry to the exhibition is included in regular Museum admission. Visit nature.ca to learn more.

November 18 – Night Market in Memorial Hall at MacKay United Church 5–9 p.m. The first of these popular events was held in 2019. After a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, the second market took place in 2022. Some 18 different vendors have been lined up for the event offering prepared food, gifts, baking, fresh bread, honey, and crafts. There will be a bar featuring craft beer from the Clocktower Pub and wine from a regional winery. There will also be a food truck onsite. Entertainment provided by Peter Woods and the Kindness of Jazz.

November 21 – NECA Meeting Happening online at 7 p.m. at the Fieldhouse, 203 Stanley Ave. Visit newedinburgh.ca for the meeting link if you are unable to attend in person. All New Edinburgh residents are welcome to attend the NECA board meeting.

November 25 – Holiday Lights Gathering New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse 203 Stanley Avenue Warm up for the holiday season at the Fieldhouse! Holiday lights. Festive music. Snacks to sweeten the palate. Drinks to warm the soul. Outdoor fire. Ornament making. Wagon rides to view the Lane lights – see CCC events on pages 18 and 19 for more details.

Photographers Wanted

Do you have an eye for telling stories with your camera? Can you capture a moment with one snap? The *New Edinburgh News* is looking for a photographer to help fill our pages with show stopping photos of the 'Burgh and pictures that enrich the paper's contents! Whether you're an amateur photographer armed with a smartphone, or a seasoned artist - we welcome all expressions of interest!

Contact the editors at newednews@hotmail.com



Have an event coming up?

Send us the details:
newednews@hotmail.com



Photo by Samantha McAleese
New Edinburgh holiday lights gathering in 2022.



Photo by Karen Squires
Beechwood Festival continues to draw more talent, more people and more vendors each year!



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Burgh Breezy Bits

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Photo by Joyce Dubuc

Congratulations to **Harmony Dubuc** (center, dressed as Akari, Pokemon) from 93 Vaughan St, for winning Ottawa ComiCon's rubber chicken award for cutest use of a ninja prop! Harmony and her siblings, **Maya Dubuc** (left, dressed as Dipper, Gravity Falls) and **Grace Dubuc** (right dressed as Quackity, Minecraft) dressed up for a day at ComiCon this year, and for a second year in a row, Harmony constructed her costume from scratch!

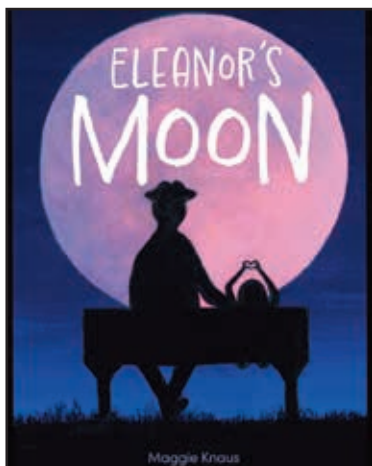
Congratulations



Photo by Karen Squires

On October 21, **Sarah Jane Archer** turns 70 years young! Time flies when you're having fun and clearly Sarah (and her husband **John**) have been doing just that through many events, connections, and walks here in New Edinburgh with family and friends, for over six years now. Sarah also volunteers for the Stephen Lewis Foundation and loves to explore many new destinations, especially during the

winter months. Glad you've landed in the neighbourhood, Sarah, and look forward to celebrating many more birthdays in the coming years. Very best wishes from your many new and old friends nearby!



Maggie Knaus just published her first children's book, *Eleanor's Moon*, which she both wrote and illustrated. She will be having a book launch at Books on Beechwood on Wednesday, Nov. 1 from 5-7p.m. Published by Owlkids, *Eleanor's Moon* tells the story

of Eleanor, born during a brilliant harvest moon. Moments after her birth, while she lies safely in her grandfather's arms, he tells her: "No matter where we are, we will always share the moon." And they do. As Eleanor grows, her grandpa teaches her to love the moon. Together they observe it in all its permutations as it waxes and wanes. Soon, Eleanor sees the moon in everything, and when she and her parents move away, these moon sightings give her comfort and make her feel like her grandfather is close by. *Eleanor's Moon* is a charming and cozy story that assures children that a loved one can always be connected to them, even when they're apart.



Congratulations to former New Edinburgh resident **Rebecca Sacks**, whose second novel, *The Lover*, was recently released by HarperCollins. Proud parents **Joan** and **David Sacks** celebrated with Rebecca at a book launch event at Perfect Books on Sep. 13.

Miscellaneous

Thank you to New Edinburgh residents for helping children in Nicaragua stay in school!

Every year **Joyce Dubuc** returns to **Nicaragua** when school starts to supply every student at three rural schools with enough school supplies to keep them in school for another year. Joyce buys all the supplies in Granada, Nicaragua, and with the help of volunteers, makes up bags with supplies for each student. There are no admin costs, all money raised goes directly to buying school supplies. For more information, visit the Facebook page: Si quieres, Pueden Reir (If You want, They Can Laugh). Donations can be sent to: MacKay



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. Email your ad as well as e-transfer to **Nicholas our bookkeeper@newedinburgh.ca**.

Dog/Cat Walking And Sitting Your house plants are also safe with me! Regular and emergency daily walking too. References. Liba Bender: 613-746-4884.



Photo by Karen Squires

A fond farewell to **Samantha McAleesea** who sat on the board for the New Edinburgh Community Alliance and supported the board in her role as Secretary and **Alexander McKenzie** (photographer for *New Edinburgh News*). We thank you both for all the time and effort you put into making this community a better place. While we are very sorry to see you both leave our amazing neighbourhood, we know you have exciting career opportunities ahead in your new home in St. Catharines, ON. Your friends here in the 'hood wish you the very best in your new endeavours: very exciting times ahead for you both, no doubt. Please keep in touch and very best wishes from your friends and colleagues here in Ottawa!

United Church, 39 Dufferin Rd, Ottawa K1M2H3.

Please indicate that your donation is for Nicaragua. Income tax receipts are mailed out in the new year, so please include your snail mail address. Please note that there is no religious aspect of this project for the children. They are only aware the donors are from Canada. Donations are desperately needed and gratefully received. Thank you for your support!



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