

Photo Iain MacDonald



Photo Jane Waterson



Photo Julia Gilbert



JOYEUX CARNAVAL.... Sleigh, snow, sugar: a seasonal good time courtesy of Action Sandy Hill on January 22 at Sandy Hill park. Above left—Cundell's horsedrawn carriage toured young and old around the neighbourhood all afternoon; centre— event organizer Barbara Brockmann (right) met up with her friend Gwen Guth; those with a sweet tooth enjoyed some yummy *tire*. More details inside on page 15.



Photo Bill Blackstone

Bus route problems

Solution or lip-service?

Jan Meldrum

Many Sandy Hill residents who are dependent on the bus to get around have been seriously affected by the September cuts to bus routes 16 and 316. The truncation of the southbound 16 route so that it no longer goes to the General Hospital on Smyth Road caused Sandy Hill and Old Ottawa East residents to have to take three buses instead of one.

The route of the 16 going downtown changed from its former route on Rideau Street to one which crosses the Mackenzie King Bridge. As well, the cancellation of the weekday, once an hour 316 route, which gave access to Rideau Street east of Dalhousie, means that there is no bus access from southern Sandy Hill to such destinations as the Sandy Hill Health Centre, Rideau Library, and grocery stores.

After vociferous complaints from residents, Councillor Mathieu Fleury met with OC Transpo planners to try to work out a way to provide at least minimal service to these two areas. As a result, starting January 9 two routes a day each way on weekdays now provide service to the hospital and to Rideau Street at the Rideau Centre. The 16X goes to Rideau

Street and the 5X travels to the hospital. (See schedules and maps on page 4.)

According to Pat Scrimgeour of OC Transpo, the bus company has not had any more meetings with residents since the one in November (reported in the last issue of IMAGE.) He said that OC Transpo is taking the lead from area Councillors who are aware of local opinion. He has been talking to Councillor Fleury about the possibility of changing the bus times to be more useful for more riders.

Councillor Fleury told IMAGE that there is still an issue with getting residents to services and stores on eastern Rideau Street. He said that he is working with OC Transpo to "get something done." He also noted that there will soon be the added complication of water and sewer pipe construction on Rideau between Dalhousie and Chapel this summer and between Chapel and Wurtembug in 2013.

This writer tried both the 16X and 5X routes midday on a Wednesday in January and found they were little used and that there was confusion about where these X-numbered buses were going. The questions arise whether residents know about the services or whether the runs are just too intermittent to be of use.

People who need to get to Rideau Street

Bus problems — continued on page 4

"Gateway" stadium goes south

University of Ottawa to build playing field on Lees Avenue

Judy Rinfret

The University of Ottawa has announced plans to erect a large outdoor stadium on the east end of the Lees Avenue campus. This location may be the clichéd "win-win" for sports fans, students, and the community. Due to the city's obligations to the soccer community now using the dome at Lansdowne Park, Ottawa and the university are "partners" for this development.

Perhaps because of strong community opposition to a stadium in the so-called Gateway lands (off Mann Ave. between the Sandy Hill Arena and the Nicholas/Lees corridor, possibly involving demolishing the arena), there had been no public discussion of such a facility for nearly three years.

In mid-January, U of O hosted an open house on the Lees campus. Delcan Corp. facilitated the event and illustrated plans for an open-air stadium which will also serve as a domed soccer field in winter

and early spring. The field will take up part of a building and the parking lot just west of the Hurdman pedestrian bridge and immediately south of the Queensway along the Rideau River. Stands to seat about 3500 fans will be built on the river side of the field. There is parking for about 220 vehicles on the west side of the campus.

But what about the promised pedestrian and bike path along the river? The city has a policy of extending this path, on what may be termed the west side of the Rideau River, to match the network on the other side. There are several impediments but, as properties are developed, the river right-of-way is being assumed by the city for this use. Right now that path runs from the former city hall on Green Island to the Chinese Embassy and, further south, continues under the Cummings Bridge (this portion is not yet open to the public) and along the river frontages of more recent developments.

Playing field — continued on page 4



Illustration Delcan

IMAGE

Founded in 1972 under the direction of *Diane Wood*

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IMAGE welcomes articles, letters, photographs, notices and other material of interest to its readers in the Sandy Hill community. Name and telephone number of contributor must be included.

If you'd like to write articles, draw cartoons or other illustrations for stories, or take photographs on assignment, please call and leave your name and number at 613-237-8889. No age restrictions.

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Penny foolish

Ron Hodgson

Isn't it about time we dispensed with the penny? Around our house they've almost become a nuisance turning up in washing machines, hot air vents, down the side of chairs, and of course, stashed in jars. I can't remember the last time I actually bought something for a penny. They're just there to make the HST accurate or to allow retailers to get below a nicely rounded number. (What's wrong with pricing something as \$10 instead of the invariable price of \$9.99?)

All one has to do to realize the worthlessness of a penny is to compare what the "value" used to be compared with today. I found the 1806 English penny pictured here from the reign of George III, in a stone wall behind our house in Yorkshire when I was 4 years old. At the time I must have been pretty excited to find something so old that could buy me a day's supply of gum drops. But what I didn't know was that in 1806 when incidentally, Canada was using English currency, it would have been eight times more valuable in terms of purchasing power and compared to today it would be 337 times more valuable (www.measuringworth.com). Stated in inverse terms, that 1806 penny has depreciated in value by 337% since it was minted. Keeping pennies is not a good investment! Today pennies or cents are worthless.

Not only are they worthless, but they are actually detrimental to our mental health and costly to our economy. Pennies cause people to be mentally lazy. A case in point: no-one wants to calculate the HST on \$9.99 but on 10 bucks, even I can figure out the additional tax of \$1.30.

And the cost to retain the penny? A survey by The Desjardins Group in 2007 found that only 37% of Canadians use them. Despite this, the mint continues to produce about 816 million penny coins every year at a cost of at least \$130



million for production, transportation and storage. On a per capita basis that's about 23 pennies per person at an annual cost of \$3.71. Just handling pennies is costly since it complicates monetary transactions and wastes time at cash registers. As one economist opined, "The purpose of the monetary system is to facilitate exchange, but ... the penny no longer serves that purpose." (Economist Greg Mankiw - 2006)

Our Commonwealth friends in Australia and New Zealand dispensed with the penny several years ago. In New Zealand they were discontinued in 1990 with Australia following in 1991. After demonetization of the penny, prices were generally rounded to the nearest 5¢ although I understand that some larger retail stores lowered their 99¢ prices down to 95¢ in the interest of public relations.

In the USA there have also been bills introduced to eliminate the penny, one in 2002 and another in 2006. Neither of the bills was passed by the US Congress. One suspects that the image of Lincoln on the penny is a difficult cultural obstacle to overcome.

But the writing is on the wall. If a penny is so worthless and they entail such a substantial cost to maintain, then it's time to say "So long!" Let's not be penny foolish on this issue.



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Bus route problems

Continued from page 1

People who need to get to Rideau Street or to the General Hospital by bus should make sure to give their reaction to these services to Councillor Fleury’s office by telephone, 613-580-2482 or email, Mathieu.Fleury@ottawa.ca or even mail: 110 Laurier West, Ottawa K1P 1J1.

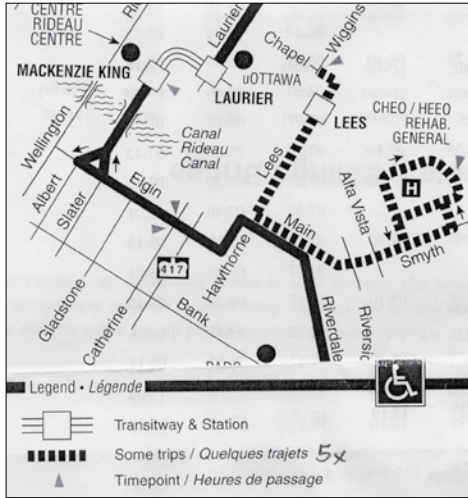
Of course, since it all boils down to money, unless there is more funding for OC Transpo, these routes will only be tinkered with. Whether they can actually provide a solution for riders whose buses were cut remains to be seen.

5X and 16X schedules and route maps

Route 5X
A limited weekday service provides residents in Sandy Hill and Old Ottawa East with a direct connection to the Ottawa Hospital on Smyth Road. Two midday trips operate in both directions, Monday to Friday, from Chapel/Wiggins via Lees, Main and Smyth. Buses operate around the ring road serving the Ottawa Hospital General Campus, CHEO, and the Ottawa Hospital Rehabilitation Centre.

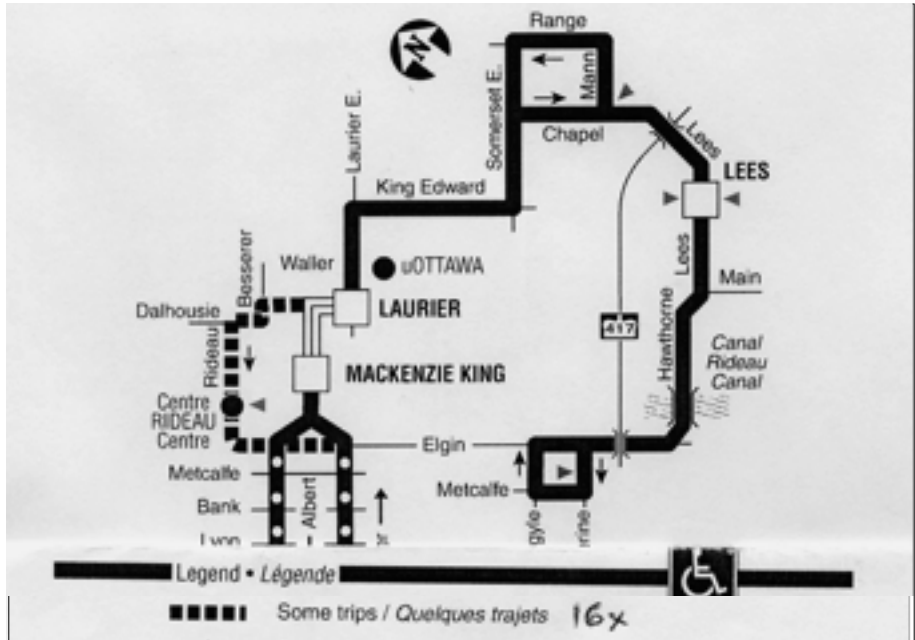
Chapel/Wiggins	Hospital
9:46	10:04
12:11	12:29

Hospital	Chapel/Wiggins
12:30	12:48
13:50	14:08



5X route (shown by the broken line)

Route 16X
A limited service, Monday to Friday, provides a connection to Rideau Street. Two trips will operate in the morning from Lees Station to the Rideau Centre via Waller, Besserer and Dalhousie. In the early afternoon, two trips will operate in the reverse direction from the Rideau Centre via Wellington, Elgin and Mackenzie King Bridge. Buses will be marked “16X Rideau Centre” and “16X Sandy Hill” respectively.



16X operates from Lees on the regular 16 route until Laurier Station, then goes to Rideau Street at the Rideau Centre (route shown on the map by a broken line.)
Warning: 16X only goes one way on Rideau Street. For the return trip to Sandy Hill the 16X leaves from the north side of Rideau heading west to Elgin then turns back over the Mackenzie King Bridge.



Lees	Rideau Centre
9:21	9:33
11:42	11:54

Rideau Centre	Mack. King Br.	Lees
11:55	11:59	12:11
14:18	14:22	14:34

Playing field

Continued from page 1

However, established private properties, including the Russian Embassy, force pedestrians and cyclists onto nearby sidewalks and streets. From Strathcona Park the pathway runs along the Rideau all the way to the Lees campus and continues at the transitway to west of the Bank St. bridge. The development of the campus seems to be the opportunity to establish a link along the river where now pedestrians and cyclists use a very exposed roadway adjacent to the Queensway (highway 417).

Delcan’s Serge Ouimet, senior project manager, said during the open house it would not be possible to include the path along the river, given the size of the field and the topography; instead, he said, the university would improve the current path beside the Queensway. However, that path will be needed by the Ministry of Transportation when highway 417 is widened, starting almost as soon as the stadium is completed in mid-August this year.

View from Old Ottawa East

Representatives from Old Ottawa East are especially concerned as this campus is part of the Ottawa East community and the river pathway is included in the Old Ottawa East Community Design Plan. John Dance, President of the Old Ottawa East Community Association, acknowledges the southwest corner of the university’s playing field is a mere seven meters from a steep river bank but he believes the university can find a way to construct a pathway between the retaining wall and the river. Since the open house, Councillor David Chernushenko, on behalf of his Ottawa East community, says he cannot endorse a site plan that does not include the path; that position is supported by Sandy Hill’s Councillor Mathieu Fleury City planner Melanie Knight says discussions are ongoing with the university and “there will be a solution.” At a town-and-gown meeting on January 23, Alastair Mullin, U of O’s director of government relations, said the location of the pathway is an “engineering issue” and the university is “working on it.”

ASH position

Acting president of Action Sandy Hill, Christopher Collmorgen, says “ASH supports Old Ottawa East and I am pleased that the university has listened and will respond.” He is “cautiously optimistic” that a river pathway will be part of the site plan for the new stadium.

U of O’s facilities planner, Silvio Miron, says the new field will be used for many student sports activities, including the men’s and women’s soccer programs, and will be available to the wider community as well. There will be four Gee-Gees football games next season, though the field is not big enough for the Panda game against Carleton which will continue to be held at Lansdowne Park (assuming a football field will be part of the Lansdowne redevelopment).

Some members of ASH are concerned about the general ruckus in our community before and after the big games. Mr. Mullin says most students will take a shuttle bus or use public transit to get to and from the stadium and there will be some campus security for pedestrians.

With the completion of the proposed pedestrian/cycle bridge over the Rideau linking Donald Street and Somerset East, we may ultimately be able to walk, jog, cycle, snowshoe, or ski the entire river pathway network and beyond—from the Ottawa River to Mooney’s Bay and, on this side, from the Russian Embassy to west of the Bank Street bridge.

And best of all we may assume the noise and good times associated with outdoor sports will be cancelled by the roar of traffic on the Queensway. Go Gee-Gees!

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Nominate one of your outstanding student neighbours for an ASH/ U Ottawa award

Marcia George

In September 2011, Action Sandy Hill and the University of Ottawa launched the joint Annual Community Awards Program. The initiative created annual awards for off-campus University of Ottawa student residents to encourage those living in Sandy Hill to be good neighbours. The awards, totalling up to \$1200, aim to recognize University of Ottawa students who have contributed to the community in one of the following three categories:

- Overall best off-campus student property recognizing both tenants and the landlord
- Best kept off-campus student rental property garden maintained by a student tenant
- Community involvement award recognizing a student whose participation in the community has made for a better Sandy Hill

There are many wholehearted examples in Sandy Hill of exceptional student resi-

dents. Some examples of stories that we are hearing include assisting with the outdoor skating rink in Sandy Hill Park, shovelling the snow off a neighbour's walkway during winter months, and volunteering at the Sandy Hill Community Centre for the Hallowe'en Party. Although there has been some tension of late between student residents and other residents in Sandy Hill, at the end of the day many students are our babysitters and our neighbours. It is important to recognize those who are working to make Sandy Hill a better place to live.

A complete list of criteria for each category can be found at www.ash-acsc.ca or by request to Action Sandy Hill. To nominate an individual student or a student rental property, please submit a nomination in writing to Action Sandy Hill by email at info@ash-acsc.ca or by regular mail to 250 Somerset Street East, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 6V6. The deadline for nominations is March 1, 2012. Winners will be announced in April.



Action Sandy Hill and the university are launching an award program that commends students who make an effort to keep the volume down, the yards clean and the parks operating smoothly.




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Sandy Hill Community Health Centre Centre de santé communautaire Côte-de-Sable

We Are Looking for New Board Members!
Nous sommes à la recherche de nouveaux membres pour notre conseil d'administration !

The Centre serves the Sandy Hill and Ottawa East communities and welcomes all people who live or work in our community to become involved as volunteers on our Board of Directors and/or Board Committees. We particularly welcome people with links to the Francophone, multicultural, GLBTQ and senior communities.

Le centre dessert les communautés de la Côte-de-Sable et de l'Ottawa-Est. Nous invitons toutes les personnes qui y vivent ou y travaillent à devenir membres bénévoles de notre conseil d'administration et de nos sous-comités du conseil. Nous cherchons particulièrement des personnes ayant des liens avec les communautés francophones, multiculturelles, GLBTQ et les personnes âgées.

If you:

- ❖ are aware of SHCHC's role in the community and support our Mission,
- ❖ are 18 years of age or older,
- ❖ have awareness of current health and social issues,
- ❖ have links with the community we serve,
- ❖ can commit to monthly meetings, advocacy and networking activities for a two-year term,

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- ❖ êtes au courant des enjeux sociaux et de santé actuels,
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- ❖ pouvez vous engager à assister à des réunions mensuelles, à faire la promotion et la défense des causes du centre et à participer à des activités de réseautage pendant un mandat d'une durée de deux ans,

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You can become a Member of SHCHC by completing and returning the Membership Form below to Sandy Hill Community Health Centre - 221 Nelson St., Ottawa, ON, K1N 1C7. There is no cost to become a Member.

Pour devenir membre du CSCCS il suffit de remplir le formulaire ci-dessous et de le remettre ou de le poster au CSCCS - 221, rue Nelson, Ottawa (On), K1N 1C7. Il n'y a pas de frais à déboursier pour devenir membre.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
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Address/Adresse:
Home or Work
Domicile ou travail

I confirm that I am over 18 years of age and reside or work in the Ottawa area. I support the mission statement, service and management values of the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre.

Signature

Telephone/Téléphone
Home/Domicile :
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J'affirme avoir 18 ans ou plus et être résident ou employé dans la région d'Ottawa. J'appuie l'énoncé de mission et de prestation de services tel que prévu et autorisé par la direction du CSCCS.

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Application approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting of / Demande approuvée par le conseil d'administration à sa réunion du:

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Photo Bill Blackstone

466 Nelson

Application for more units denied

Karen Bays

In the last issue of IMAGE, it was reported that the owners of a duplex dwelling located at 466 Nelson Street had applied to the City's Committee of Adjustment for a minor variance to have the conversion of the dwelling approved for six apartments. This request is beyond what is allowed under the zoning bylaw and what was originally planned when the building permit for only four units was issued.

At the Committee of Adjustment hearing on December 7, 2011, presentations were made by one of the owners of the building, Billy Triantafilos, and his solicitor as well as neighbouring residents and Action Sandy Hill. Concerns were raised about the number and density of the living quarters and the appropriateness of the top of the structure which the owner referred to as a mezzanine and others called a fourth storey. Possible problems with parking and garbage management because of a narrow

driveway to the back of the structure were also noted.

In the end, the Committee of Adjustment denied the application to construct six units noting in its decision that "the variance sought is not minor, is not desirable for the property development or use of the land and does not meet the general intent and purpose of the zoning bylaw." The Committee also pointed out that it was not convinced that issues around parking, garbage, snow removal, and landscaping had been addressed satisfactorily and could impact on neighbouring properties.

As part of the hearing process Action Sandy Hill provided input into this application but also expanded on the greater impact this type of property conversion is having on the community. ASH pointed out that while each individual project of this kind may fall within current regulations and requirements, the collective impact of a number of these conversions is having a negative effect on the community as a whole.

The following is a summary of the submission on December 7, 2011 by Action Sandy Hill to Ottawa's Committee of Adjustment in regard to the application for a minor variance at 466 Nelson Street.

ASH acknowledges that the City of Ottawa is required by the Province of Ontario to intensify. We are not opposed to intensification and indeed Sandy Hill is doing its share. We acknowledge that the building under construction at 466 Nelson Street falls within the height permitted in the zoning for that property and that the required setbacks have been respected. We also acknowledge that the intention of this variance – to allow two more units to be created within the new building envelope – maintains the density planned for four previously-approved units, namely 21 bedrooms. However, despite this, we are seeing more and more examples of developers pushing the limits of zoning in our neighbourhood and this is affecting us all in multiple and negative ways.

Sandy Hill is a tree-filled, character-rich and established urban, near-campus neighbourhood with a high demand for rental properties. But it is also a neighbourhood of single family homes with a village feel. It is important that we strive to maintain a balance between these elements of

our neighbourhood and intensification, and we call upon you to make your deliberations with this in mind.

ASH is very sympathetic to many of the concerns that no less than seven families who live nearby have expressed: that the building is out of scale with those around it, that the development more than doubles the number of people originally living at that address – from 10 to at least 21 – and that the correct building permit process was not followed.

We wish to echo the concerns of neighbours that the density of the building will likely contribute to an increase in noise, garbage, parking-related issues and other growing negative outcomes that Sandy Hill residents are experiencing living next to rental properties. A check of the City's 311 call records will corroborate this. The owner has stated that he will live at the address to better manage the property but we all know that one day he will leave and the next owner may not choose to be so magnanimous.

We wish to share with you some of our own concerns regarding the building permit process. We understand that the Committee of Adjustment is required to study variance applications on a case-by-case basis but we

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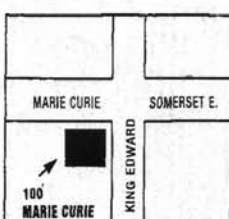
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Why derelict properties don't just go away

Christopher Collmorgen

Call them diamonds in the rough or blights on a block, vacant and derelict buildings in Sandy Hill have recently been the source of much discussion among Action Sandy Hill, Councillor Fleury, City staff and property owners.

A recent article in the *Ottawa Citizen* by David Reevely (Sandy Hill buildings decay amid permit row, January 2, 2012) detailed the decrepit state of the Richcraft properties at the corner of Charlotte and Rideau Streets. Richcraft has apparently been trying to obtain permission since 2009 to tear down the long-vacant and dilapidated buildings but has been unable to do so because of the City's demolition control bylaw.

Good demolition control bylaw makes good sense and protects mature neighbourhoods from unscrupulous developers because it compels developers to rebuild on a site immediately after tearing something down. It was implemented many years ago as a means to prevent speculators from "blockbusting" – purchasing properties and turning the land into vacant lots while they wait for the right moment to develop and/or buy up neighbouring properties when residents tire of living next to a parking lot.

However, the downside of the bylaw is evident. Richcraft cannot tear down its buildings because it cannot build its condos due to insufficient infrastructure along Rideau Street at this time. That Richcraft did not know this prior to evicting the tenants and letting the four buildings fall into disrepair demonstrates a surprising lack of foresight by the developer. And, in the face of this delay, that Richcraft has not implemented a contingency plan to re-occupy or even maintain the buildings, and made no effort beyond the minimum requirements to keep up the vacant premises over the last few years, shows a disregard for the surrounding community in which it wishes to be welcomed.

Unfortunately, Richcraft is not the only developer to be caught in this situation and guilty of this sort of neglect. Two family homes in Sandy Hill at 197 and 201 Wilbrod, owned by GorFay, have sat abandoned in the middle of a residential block for almost a decade. They are frequently spray painted and in a shocking state of decay. Other obvious examples in adjacent neighbourhoods are the two buildings at the corner of Cumberland and Murray Streets that have had fires and been defaced, and the long row of houses along the east side of King Edward Avenue across from the Shepherds of Good Hope.

hope that you consider yourselves guardians of good planning and the overall quality of the communities in which we live. We rely on the City to develop and follow zoning rules and regulations, and bylaws that are put in place to protect our communities from those that would otherwise bulldoze character homes and cut down our trees in the pursuit of profit, hubris or gross incompetence.

We find it very problematic and very troubling that construction of the additional units commenced before the variance had been granted and the new building permit applied for and received. Building permits are fundamental to the proper execution of the city's planning vision and it is distressing to know that the permit process can be ignored without penalty.

This particular project was not well planned by the developer. We regret not having been given the opportunity to provide feedback on its development earlier on in the process, for we certainly would have worked with him and his neighbours to find a more suitable style and approach for his project. As stated earlier, we are not opposed to development or intensification but the process must be respected by all parties. Mr. Triantafilos started out with plans for four units and then partway through – af-



There is apparently little the City can do to compel an owner to maintain vacant buildings and properties — to the sorrow of the Sandy Hill community.

These examples reveal an unintended consequence for neighbours of vacant buildings. As developers and the City continue their protracted discussions about demolition and building permits, neighbours are forced to contend with the garbage and vandalism, the illegal parking and snow dumping, the squatting and drug use, and the ever-present threat of fire by arson. It is concerning that there is apparently little the City can do to compel an owner to maintain vacant buildings and properties to comparable standards it imposes on the owners of occupied buildings and properties (such as Bylaw 2005-207, Property Standards), creating, in effect, a double standard for property ownership. Surely more can be done by both the City and developers to resolve this. Surely the City does not mean to offer residents an either-or situation: either a vacant lot or a derelict building. And surely developers do not wish to be the owners of blights in the community. Can the City not create a higher standard, or at least more robustly enforce the existing standard, for the maintenance of vacant properties? Would it bankrupt developers to be more vigilant and pick up trash and remove graffiti on a regular basis? It is unlikely the vacant properties would look

as they do if the owners were required to place a large sign on the site with their name and contact details.

This is an unfortunate situation for all parties but the situation is not insurmountable if all parties are committed to resolving it. With that in mind, Action Sandy Hill has been working closely with Councillor Fleury on the Richcraft properties to find a mutually acceptable solution to improve the aesthetic value of the corner; such a solution may be forthcoming. And there is also hope that a solution can be found for the GorFay properties on Wilbrod Street, though the complexity of that situation is compounded by the fact the houses have heritage designation. Needless to say, there are negotiations underway but they are complex and will take some time. A follow-up article will be written once more news is available.

The amelioration of vacant and derelict properties is but one of the issues that the Planning and Zoning Committee of Action Sandy Hill is engaged with in order to improve the quality of life in our community. If you are interested in being part of this Committee or being involved in any of the work that ASH does, please contact us at actionsandyhill@gmail.com.

Mr. Collmorgen is Acting President of ASH

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ter he had made his drawings, submitted his plans, received his approvals and largely completed the shell of his structure – he decided he wanted to live there and to create a unit for himself. But in order to maintain the viability of his overly ambitious project he needs to add more units. Hence his application. This has resulted in a building that is a warren of apartments and rooms with a variance application that is devoid of any connection to an overall vision for development of Sandy Hill.

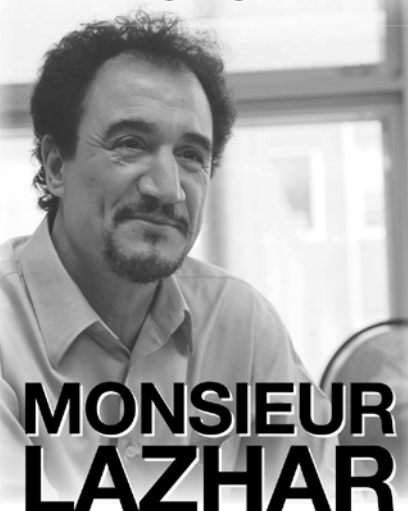
The possibility of a variance rewarding poor planning is very frustrating to those of us who work so hard to ensure that development and intensification in Sandy Hill follow the zoning rules and regulations, and bylaws that have been established by the City, and the current provincial building code set by the province, to protect us from exactly what we are now facing.

As part of the process, the Committee of Adjustment has an important role and responsibility to serve all citizens of Ottawa. As part of the process, variances should only be granted in cases where it makes sense, is well justified and contributes something to the community. Variances should be the exception – not the norm – otherwise the zoning becomes meaningless. If variances are being

granted continuously, then either the current zoning is being disregarded and its underlining policy is not being respected, or the zoning is outdated and should be changed, so that the rules and real limits are clear to all. In any event, we ask that the Committee ensure it applies a critical eye on applications and demands the necessary facts and arguments from developers when studying a variance application. The default position of the Committee should be to deny variances unless they are truly warranted, and only when the benefits to the property and the community outweigh the price of allowing a developer to go outside the zoning requirements.

Regardless of the outcome of this hearing today, the community will have to bear the structure that has been built at 466 Nelson and the more than 20 renters that it will accommodate. However, we are committed to working with Mr. Triantafilos to mitigate the impact of his project on the neighbours and he has agreed to approach us earlier in the process on his next project. In addition, we are continuing our work with the City and our Councillor on improving how development is conducted in Sandy Hill and we hope that we can count on your support as we push for reform to this process.

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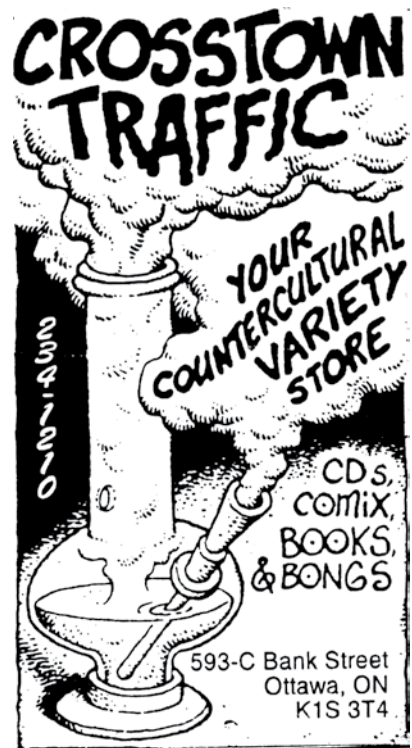


Illustration Dawna Moore

Town & Gown committee to sort out issues near the campus

Christopher Collmorgen

Since our visit to London and the University of Western of Ontario in October, Action Sandy Hill has been working closely with Councillor Fleury to bring Bylaw Services, Ottawa Police Services, the Student Federation of the University of Ottawa (SFUO) and the University of Ottawa administration together to establish the Sandy Hill Town and Gown Committee as a means to address some of the chronic and systemic problems facing our near-campus neighbourhood.

The challenges we face in Sandy Hill are the result of a perfect storm of factors coming together: the addition of 15,000 more students over ten years at the University of Ottawa, a University administration that has been historically indifferent to off-campus affairs, an increased demand for student housing and the responding intensification of existing off-campus rental properties and the loss of family homes to conversion, discouraged or apathetic residents, the inability of Bylaw Services to keep up with the rising demand for service, and policy and communication gaps in City

Hall that have inadvertently contributed to and allowed for some rather unfortunate and unbridled developments. This understanding of the situation means the problems we are facing cannot be placed at the feet of any one group to resolve and are the responsibility of all stakeholders to address.

It is important to note that the strength of this Committee is that all stakeholders at the table will get something out of it. Ottawa Police Services has always been very supportive of a new approach to deal with the high volume of nuisance calls it must attend in Sandy Hill, particularly after hours when 311 is no longer responding. To see how another near-campus neighbourhood had reduced its nuisance calls was one of the principle reasons they initiated the trip to London last fall. Councillor Fleury, recently elected and intent on demonstrating his strength as a good listener and adept facilitator, has been extraordinarily receptive to the quantity and quality of requests for assistance from Action Sandy Hill and has been instrumental in arranging audiences with the relevant City officials. As a result, Bylaw and Protective Services, Building Permits, and the Planning Department have had the opportunity to hear our concerns and have committed to working with us to make changes that hopefully will see a reduction in 311 calls. The SFUO stands to see an improvement in the quality of housing stock for its constituents and improved relations with non-student residents. And perhaps the biggest gain was the commitment made last November when Alan Rock, the President of the University of Ottawa, met with ASH representatives and committed to seek funding for the creation of a "community relations" position and to join us at the Town and Gown Committee. The willingness of the University administration to engage with the community on these levels is unprecedented and was highly welcomed by all other stakeholders and may very well be the start of a new chapter in "town" and "gown" relations in Sandy Hill.

The six core Committee members met in mid-December to discuss and review the missions and mandates of similar committees in cities such as London, Windsor and Waterloo. We began the process of drafting the mandate for our own Town and Gown Committee, one that will see the development and enhancement of relationships and communication among the University of Ottawa, the City of Ottawa, protective services and local residents. Furthermore, we see the Committee serving as a forum for the exchange of information on issues and initiatives involving the University, the City and the



Photo Bill Blackstone

Town-Gown (taûn-gaûn) n. 1. the relationship between the city ("town") and the university ("gown")

community of Sandy Hill, and developing and implementing appropriate and coordinated responses. Ultimately, it is envisioned that Sandy Hill will remain a community in which citizens take pride in their neighbourhood, enjoy and contribute toward a high quality of living and learning, and are aware of and respect the rights and responsibilities of living together in a vibrant and dynamic near-campus urban neighbourhood.

Although it may take some time for the Committee to find its feet and for stakeholders to see results, the implications of establishing this Committee cannot be overstated. Never before have key stakeholders come together in this manner to identify and resolve issues that affect the quality of life of all that live and work in Sandy Hill. This is a right step in the right direction.

It is hoped that the Sandy Hill Town and Gown Committee will be officially launched in May of this year, at which time short-, medium- and long-term objectives will be set and working groups established. Contact details for those interested in becoming involved with the Committee will be available shortly. In the meantime, please send any questions to actionsandhill@gmail.com.

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Le français correct ✓✓✓

par Denyse Mulvihill

Améliorer son français, c'est la responsabilité de chacun. Attention de ne pas confondre le sens français avec le sens anglais de certains mots.

On doit dire :

> **Accueillir quelqu'un**, qui signifie « recevoir quelqu'un chez soi avec respect, lui donner l'hospitalité, le mettre à l'aise dans son milieu » – non pas – accommoder quelqu'un, ce qui est un anglicisme.

Ex. – *L'étudiant que les voisins avaient décidé d'accueillir pour la session scolaire d'automne a dû être mis à la porte au bout d'un mois, à cause de sa malhonnêteté et de son manque de savoir-vivre.*

> **Obtenir un poste**, qui signifie « réussir à avoir un emploi, un travail, une situation » – non pas – obtenir une position, ce qui est un anglicisme, sauf dans le sens d'une place dans l'espace ou dans un groupe.

Ex. – *Malgré les contraintes budgétaires préconisées à l'heure actuelle dans presque tous les ministères gouvernementaux, ce jeune diplômé en Agronomie a réussi à obtenir un poste avantageux dans le domaine scientifique qui l'intéresse particulièrement.*

> **Offrir des avantages sociaux**, qui signifie « procurer des conditions, des droits, des attributs intéressants, des garanties de sécurité » – non pas – des bénéfices marginaux, ce qui est un anglicisme.

Ex. – *Toute entreprise qui se respecte et qui veut progresser et aller de l'avant devrait se faire un devoir d'offrir des avantages sociaux à tous ses employés, afin de se doter d'un personnel compétent et laborieux.*

> **Participer à un régime de retraite**, qui signifie « contribuer comme employé, de concert avec son employeur, à un capital accumulé par versements mensuels, de part et d'autre en vue de s'assurer d'une retraite convenable » – non pas – participer à un plan de pension, ce qui est un anglicisme.


Ex. – *Qu'ils le veuillent ou non, tous les employés fédéraux doivent participer au régime de retraite établi et géré selon leur rémunération, ce qui pourra leur procurer un revenu adéquat à la fin de leur carrière.*

> **Contribuer à une caisse de retraite personnelle**, qui signifie « verser une somme d'argent déterminée à intervalle régulier dans une institution bancaire ou auprès d'un courtier financier fiable » – non pas – contribuer à un fonds de pension, ce qui est un anglicisme.

Ex. – *Beaucoup d'employés d'institutions privées ou publiques décident, après mûres réflexions, de contribuer à une caisse de retraite personnelle en prévision de leur propre retraite et des obligations qui pourraient surgir quand ils auront atteint un âge mémorable.*

> **Se prévaloir du régime de la sécurité de la vieillesse**, qui signifie « profiter d'un système qui procure une certaine somme d'argent mensuellement à tous les citoyens d'un âge avancé, qui résident au Canada » – non pas – se prévaloir de la pension des vieux, ce qui est un anglicisme.

Ex. – *Beaucoup de Canadiens ayant choisi de vivre et de travailler à l'étranger, où ils y ont parfois fait fortune, s'empressent de rentrer au Canada dès qu'ils ont atteint l'âge de la retraite afin de se prévaloir du régime de sécurité de la vieillesse instauré dans notre pays.*




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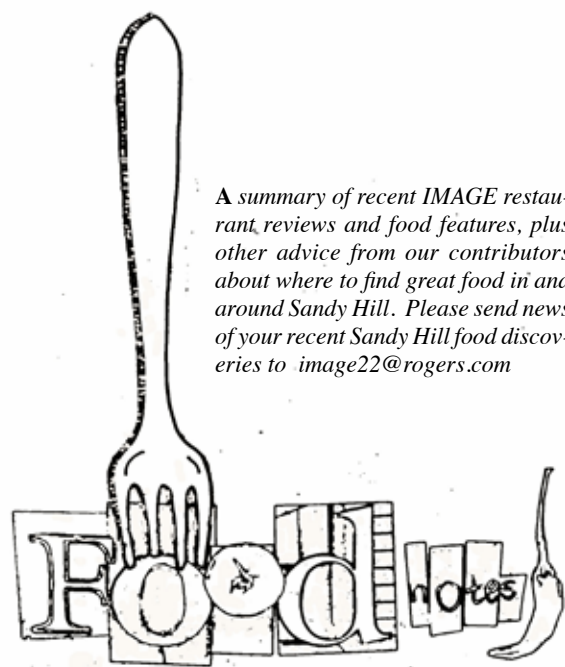


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A summary of recent IMAGE restaurant reviews and food features, plus other advice from our contributors about where to find great food in and around Sandy Hill. Please send news of your recent Sandy Hill food discoveries to image22@rogers.com

just-eat.ca Want a meal delivered to your door, but not sure which restaurants in your neighbourhood have delivery service? Check out the offerings under your postal code at this website. Many of the listed restaurants are pizza places that you would have expected to deliver anyway, but for Sandy Hill residents there are also local restaurants like Mukut and Bento Sushi, as well as some in other Ottawa neighbourhoods. You can check menus, see customer ratings, order and pay online, and the food will be delivered for a fee ranging from free to \$10.00

Nini's Panini Bar, 307 Rideau Street, located inside the Union Smoke Shop (and a couple of doors away from the ByTowne Cinema) offers a wide variety of tasty panini, wraps and sandwiches that will please vegetarian and carnivore alike. On a recent visit the Mediterranean grilled veggie and nutty chicken brie panini were exceptionally delicious. The friendly proprietor has obviously set out to please eaters of all stripes and even offers gluten-free options. There is no eating area, so service is take-away. Open until 6:00 from Monday to Saturday and closed on Sunday.

People Food Co-op, 317 Wilbrod St. Hurrying to a meeting recently and needing to bring along a snack to share, I ducked into the People Food Co-op and was delighted to discover an assortment of spreads from Arnprior's Bread Lady. I have enjoyed these before at local farmers' markets; the Organic Thai Tofu & Peanut Butter Spread is a particular favourite at our house, and the Bombay Hummus is a tasty twist on an old friend. With pita bread or some whole-grain crackers, these spreads make a nourishing treat; so much better than a bag of cookies!

Pho OU, 233 Laurier Ave. East In the long-time home of Johnny Pizza a new kind of fast food is on offer: the Vietnamese noodle soup called pho. Soup is available in 3 sizes; the small bowl at 5.99 is big enough for a filling lunch. The menu offers a choice of beef or chicken broth, with a variety of meats or shrimp. To the steaming bowl of noodles, broth and topping, add a squirt of lime juice, a little Thai basil and a generous pile of bean sprouts; then season to taste with hot sauce. The vegetarian spring rolls make a tasty accompaniment.

Stone Soup, Marie Curie at Jean-Jacques Lusier The bright green truck with the menu full of local ingredients is gearing up for Winterlude once again. Look for Stone Soup on Pig Island on the Rideau Canal (just east of the Bank St. bridge) from Friday afternoon through Sunday evening for each of the first three weekends in February. In between, you'll find them back in their usual spot on the U of Ottawa campus, serving soup, chili and tacos Tuesday-Thursday from 11:00-2:30.

Photo Bill Blackstone



This house at 25 Stewart Street was built by Oscar Petigorsky in the early 1900s. He was owner of Petigorsky Ltd. Leather and Shoe Findings in the ByWard Market. The story goes that the Star of David set in wood in the gable would alert Jews arriving at the nearby Ottawa Central Railway Station that they would find a welcome here.

Photo Bill Blackstone

Jewish life in Sandy Hill ... a story of waxing and waning

Betsy Mann

"When I was growing up on Goulburn Avenue in Sandy Hill in the '50s and '60s," Ian Sadinsky remembers, "there were several Jewish families on every block. We boys would ride our bikes around the neighbourhood, skate on the rinks in the park at Nelson and Somerset in the winter and go swimming in the Rideau River at Brantwood Beach with the Jewish day camp in the summer." Times have changed since then. Children still skate on the rink in the same park, but now they're also enrolled in organized activities in the adjoining community centre. No one swims in the Rideau anymore, children don't roam the neighbourhood freely, and Jewish families live all over the city.

Jewish settlement in Ottawa began in the late 1800s with immigrants from Eastern Europe and Czarist Russia. Since many found employment in the ByWard Market, they tended to live nearby in Lowertown. The centre of Jewish community

life is always the synagogue; Ottawa's first one, Adath Jeshurun, started in 1892 and moved into a building on Murray Street in 1895. The congregation finally built its own home on King Edward, just north of Rideau in 1904. Its onion-shaped domes recall the style of Eastern European synagogues. Another synagogue, the Agudath Achim congregation, started in 1902 in a converted house at the corner of Rideau near Friel.

As Jewish families prospered in their new country, they wanted to move to better housing. Under Jewish law, riding in a wagon or car is considered work and thus not allowed on the Sabbath. Sandy Hill was an obvious choice for upwardly mobile immigrants since it was still within walking distance of the synagogues. Former Sandy Hill resident, Joseph Lieff, Q.C. related his memory of this migration south of Rideau to the authors of *A Common Thread: A History of the Jews of Ottawa*, published in 2009 by the Ottawa Jewish Historical Society.

Below — Barney Weiss, a Sandy Hill resident, was owner of a delicatessen at the corner of Cumberland and Rideau and sponsor of the 1942 champions of the Jewish Boys' Softball League. His club won in a best-three-out-of-five final series played at the York Street school grounds against the Handy Smoke Shop team. According to the newspaper report, "Hundreds of fans lined the grounds, the league being one of the most popular in Ottawa this season."



Left to right, front row: Playing Coach Mike Baker, Captain Milton Koffman. Second row: Barney Lesh, Club President Barney Weiss holding the Club Mascot Jess Zelikovitz, Abe Steinberg. Top row: Sam Hanser, Wally Kronick, Lou Hyman, Sam Betcherman, Norman Segalowitz, Syd Greenwald, Sam Lampert. Team members Percy Addleman, Dave Rabin, Jack Cooper and Joe Koffman were absent for the photo.

Photo Bill Blackstone



This building at 375 Rideau housed the Adath Jeshurun Orthodox Jewish congregation from 1904 till 1957. Its onion-shaped domes recall the style of synagogues in Eastern Europe, where many Jewish immigrants to Ottawa had their roots. After 1957, it became a community memorial chapel for Jewish funerals until 1999 when it was sold to its present occupants, the Ottawa Francophone Seventh Day Adventist Church.

He described his family's move in 1923 from Lowertown to Daly Avenue where they lived in "...a much more comfortable house for the family of eight people. It had three storeys and rooms they rented to renters and boarders. There was a garden with chickens and geese in the backyard raised as a business to sell for Passover."

Many businesses in Sandy Hill and on Rideau Street had Jewish owners, including Freiman's, Larocque's and Caplan's department stores (Freiman's is now the Bay, the other two have disappeared). There was the IGA Foodliner (now the Metro supermarket), the Rideau Bowling Alley at Nelson, and assorted clothing shops, smoke shops and delicatessens. There were also professionals with offices or pharmacies on Rideau and homes in Sandy Hill. Ian Sadinsky recalls Dr. Rubin's dental office at Friel and Rideau, Dr. Schechter's medical practice at Friel and Laurier, and Mr. Molot's pharmacy

at Rideau and Augusta. He also refers to three convenience stores within a few blocks of each other on Somerset East, all owned by Jewish families. He points out, however, that not all Jewish families in Sandy Hill were wealthy like the Loeb family that owned the IGA and lived on Wilbrod, or the Caplans who owned a department store and had a house on Friel. "There were rich and poor," he says, "like in every other group in society. Some were owners of big houses, and some were tenants."

Just like modern-day immigrants to Canada, the Jews who had established themselves in Ottawa offered a helping hand to extended family, friends and newcomers from their native countries. These co-religionists naturally also wanted to settle where they were close to the synagogue and had easy access to kosher foods. For example, *A Common Thread* mentions that Barney Weiss, who had come from Romania and owned a delicatessen in the Capitol Hotel at Cumberland and Rideau, was known to dispense advice and assistance to newcomers along with his smoked meat sandwiches. Ian Sadinsky also mentions the Petigorsky family, who set a wooden Star of David into the stucco gable of their house at 25 Stewart Street. "The house was near the central railway station at the time," Mr. Sadinsky says. "The story is that Jews arriving by train would see the Star of David and know that here was a place they could ask directions, maybe get a meal and some help finding a job."

Even though there were many Jewish families living in Sandy Hill, it was far from a Jewish neighbourhood. Jews mixed with a largely English-speaking Protestant population at Viscount Alexander, Osgoode Street and York Street public primary schools. There were also many French-Canadian Catholics who attended their own schools in the neighbourhood. Asked how the different ethnic groups got along, Ian Sadinsky recounts a memory of being chased down

Goulburn by hockey-stick-wielding boys from the École St-Pie-X on Mann. Readers of Brian Doyle's novel *Angel Square* will recognize the picture. Mr. Sadinsky confirms that the inter-group rivalries described by Doyle as typical in Lowertown spread south into Sandy Hill too. Adults also suffered prejudice. Excluded from membership in the Rideau Tennis Club, just across the river from Strathcona Park, Jewish families started the Tel Aviv Tennis Club nearby. It existed for about 20 to 30 years.

In 1956, Adath Jeshurun and Agudath Achim congregations amalgamated to form Beth Shalom and the next year moved into a new building they built next to the Jewish Community Centre on Chapel at Rideau. However, by the late 1960s Jewish families were starting to join the general move to the suburbs, preferring Alta Vista and the west end to life in the city core. New synagogues opened close to these other neighbourhoods, until finally in 1998 the Jewish Community Centre was relocated to the Jewish Community Campus, situated near Carling and Broadview.

There are still Jewish families living in Sandy Hill, but it is no longer the community that Ian Sadinsky recalls growing up in. "Most of the Jewish families knew each other," he says, "either through the synagogue or through business." Now there are no more delis on Rideau, and the last downtown synagogue will be closing. As reported in the most recent issue of IMAGE, the Beth Shalom congregation has sold its building to developers because its numbers have shrunk to a level where it cannot carry its expenses.

The Rideau Bakery, at the same address since 1930, is all that remains of the many institutions and businesses that were signs of a vibrant Jewish community. Every year when the owners close the bakery for the Jewish High Holidays, they remind us of a time when Jewish families and businesses were a dynamic and visible part of life in Sandy Hill, back in the day.

Photo Bill Blackstone



Dworkin Furs is closing its doors after over 110 years in the same house on Rideau just west of King Edward, crowded out by condo developments and high-rise towers. Abraham Dworkin started business as a tailor in the basement here in 1901 before becoming a furrier; the business remained family run until 1969. Both tailoring and the fur business employed many Jewish immigrants in the 1900s. Jewish family names have all but disappeared where once there were many on store fronts all along Rideau.



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Growth: dangerous, unnecessary and destined to end

Jon Legg

Most people vaguely assume that growth, and economic growth in particular, is a good thing. However, more are questioning this view, and I urge you to join this positive trend, reinforced by the resources mentioned below.

First let's agree on what we mean by growth: any activity which results in an increase in physical demands on our Earth. The increase in demands is a combination of the increasing consumption of the human species, the increasing number of people themselves, and the pollution (including greenhouse gases) that we all emit and expect our Earth to absorb.

The title of this article summarizes the main message of each of the three books discussed below: *The Limits to Growth* (dangerous), *Managing without Growth* (unnecessary), and *The End of Growth* (destined to end).

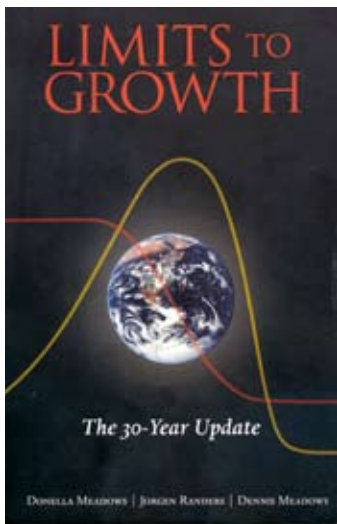
The 1972 book *The Limits to Growth* concludes that "If the present growth trends in world population, industrialization, pollution, food production and resource depletion continue unchanged, the limits to growth on this planet will be reached sometime within the next one hundred years. The most probable results will be a rather sudden and uncontrollable decline in both population and industrial capacity."

This book provoked much discussion, and vested interests criticized it strongly. Ugo Bardi's *Cassandra's Curse; how Limits to Growth was Demonized* gives an account of the hatchet job that was done on the book. Fortunately, Dennis Meadows and his co-authors produced two other "limits" books, *Beyond the Limits* (1992), and *Limits to Growth: the 30-Year Update* (2004). These books confirm the trends foreseen in 1972 and stress that an encounter with the limits will cause much human suffering.

The second book, *Managing without Growth: Slower by Design, not by Disaster* (2011), by a Canadian ecological economist, Peter Victor, argues clearly and persuasively that the world's rich countries do not need economic growth. He says, however, that the rich countries should encourage the poor countries to grow economically so that their populations can live further from the poverty that is now their lot.

The most at odds with prevailing views is the third book, *The End of Growth: Adapting to Our New Economic Reality* (2011) by Richard Heinberg. Heinberg's book makes a fairly good case that global economic growth will be supplanted by economic contraction as natural resources become scarce. Peak oil and the worldwide economic crisis play a large role in his analysis. Heinberg addresses the book's subtitle, *Adapting to Our New Economic Reality*, by suggesting ways to live sustainably over the long term.

How can we respond to the messages of these three books? The longer we persist with the out-dated policy of economic growth, the more damage we will cause to our lands, our seas and our atmosphere. The doctrine of economic growth is coming up against the reality of a finite planet. This suggests that we should start now to reduce our demands on the Earth and to live within what the planet can provide sustainably over the long-term.



Fish filet with fennel and tomatoes

Dodi Newman



Photo Bill Blackstone

This time of year, it is difficult to find a variety of green vegetables that have fresh flavour, good texture and don't come from half a world away. As winter goes on and on, I get bored with spinach, Swiss chard, and the cabbage family, nice as they all are. Then I discovered fennel bulbs with their warm, summery flavour and great texture. Fennel is wonderful raw in salads or cooked au gratin: baked in the oven with an equal amount of carrots, sprinkled with a bit of tarragon, lemon juice, and topped with grated aged Gruyère.

Here it is used in a quick and delicious main course, high in nutrition and low in calories. About the tomatoes: unless really ripe ones are available, use canned tomatoes—they have more flavour. Serve this dish over rice or with French bread to soak up the wonderful broth and accompany it with a green leafy salad with a lemon and herb dressing. (4 servings)

- 1 pound fish filet (tilapia, orange roughy, or codfish)
- 1/2 lemon, the juice
- 1 large yellow onion, peeled and cut into 1/2-by-1-inch chunks
- 2 tablespoons virgin olive oil
- 8 medium, ripe tomatoes, cored, peeled and cut in chunks OR
- 1 28-ounce can whole, unseasoned tomatoes
- 1 fennel bulb
- 1 small bay leaf
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- pinch of freshly ground pepper
- 1 1/2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh dill OR 1 1/2 teaspoons dried
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh parsley

Coat the fish filet with the lemon juice, cut it into 2-inch slices and reserve. Wash the fennel, remove the outer layer if it is wilted, cut off any bruised spots. Cut the fennel in half lengthwise, then slice each half crosswise in 1/2" thick slices.

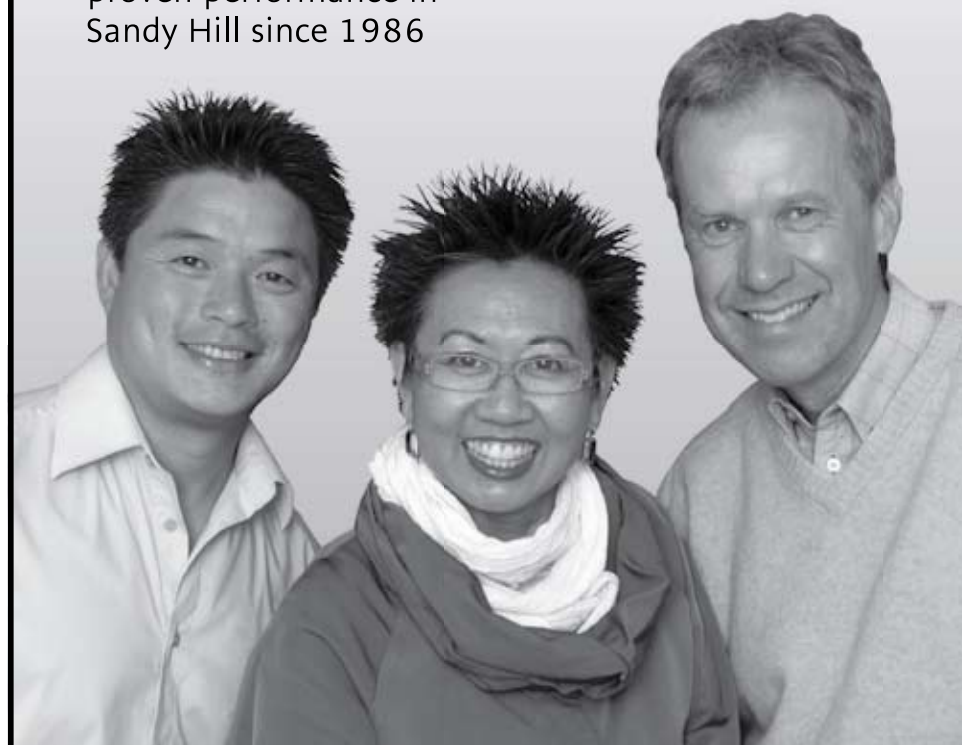
Sauté the onion in the oil until the pieces are slightly wilted. Add the tomatoes, the fennel and the bay leaf, stir well. (If you use canned tomatoes, cut them into 3 or four pieces first.) Simmer, covered, until almost done—5 to 10 minutes. Bring the vegetables to a brisk boil, add the fish, salt and pepper, stir gently, turn the heat to low. Simmer, covered, until the fish is done, between 5 and 10 minutes, depending on the thickness of the filet. Do not overcook; the fish should separate easily but not fall apart. Just before serving, very gently stir in the dill and parsley.

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Nérée St-Amand has planted a different sort of gift shop

Yvonne van Alphen

“Some people think we are an electricity place,” Nérée-St-Amand jokes. “I suppose we are, but in a more spiritual way.”

Nérée was brought to Sandy Hill in 1990 when he accepted the task of establishing the School of Social Work at the University of Ottawa. A little later, at the time when Nérée was part of a meditation group and had been thinking about spirituality, mediation, angels, and items that would respond to people's aspirations, he turned a dilapidated second-hand book store into what is called The Garden of Light. “I had been looking for a couple of years to establish a different sort of gift shop,” Nérée says. With the encouragement of Prapti Jensen, owner of his favourite vegetarian restaurant, Perfection-Satisfaction-Promise, and approximately 25 other volunteers, the doors opened.

Nérée has a son in Aylmer and a daughter in Quebec. Both children admire what their father is doing and his energy. It is little wonder that his spiritual name, Ut-sahi, given to him by his spiritual master, Sri Chinmoy, means enthusiasm. I asked Nérée how he can juggle his academic work which requires him to travel a lot, with the demands of his business, and his spiritual life. He told me, “It is not the amount of work that is the problem, it is the worries. When I think about it, I wonder how it can be done, but when I don't think and simply do it, everything gets done in a harmonious way.” He also uses meditation: “It invites us to live and appreciate the present moment.” As well, he says, he enjoys good health and can always count on his employees.

When you take a good look at the shelves of The Garden of Light, you see the results of Nérée's numerous shopping sprees. One example is the many shapes and sizes of Tibetan bowls. Nérée was first introduced to the singing bowls in the 1980s. “I was blown away by the richness of their sound.” And now he goes every year to Nepal to hand-pick bowls for his shop. But, some, he jokes, never make it to the shelves. In fact, at home he has 20 different singing bowls. One, he says, is large enough to sit upside down on his head. “The harmony of the sound, and then the silence, provide an incredible start to the day.”

Nérée gets a lot of joy from making people happy. In Kathmandu, for example, a couple with two handicapped children always greet him with tears in their eyes. This woman fabricates small bags which are later sold as gift bags. The sale means they have two months of income and they can send their kids to school. For Sandy Hillers, it provides an unforgettable gift. “I love to do this,” Nérée exclaims. “Our customers are aware of our philosophy and the people over there can make a half-decent living. It truly is a win-win situation.”

The Garden of Light might not be an electricity store but it certainly has touched the lives of others and will continue to be a shining light in our local community.

Interested in hearing a combination of singing bowls, bells and gongs, with other instruments like the flute? Check out the Heaven and Earth CD, recorded inside the Rideau Chapel at the National Gallery of Canada, available at the Garden of Light at 163 Laurier East.

Tangling with Conrad Black

Sandy Hill David meets US-based Goliath

Last year Sandy Hill political scientist and author, David Dymont, met his giant over a book review. Mr. Dymont's book, *Doing the Continental*, was reviewed, not altogether favourably, by Conrad Black, in the *Literary Review of Canada*. Mr. Dymont was given a chance to reply to his *Lordship* in the next issue of the magazine. Here is David Dymont's telling of the story. —Ed.

David Dymont

Tangling with Lord Black feels like part of a larger process. Meeting with a big publisher, having them lose interest. Scrambling to find an agent, another big publisher bites, doesn't swallow. A significant, yet smaller publisher is found - *Doing the Continental: A New Canadian-American Relationship* will be published! Editing is a delight, 10 days of living your work with someone else. I'm asked to be a celebrity author at the Toronto Library Foundation's Book Lover's Ball at the Royal York with the likes of Jane Urquhart and Margaret Atwood. A message from Dundurn, the publisher: Conrad Black will review *Continental* in the *Literary Review of Canada*. Five months of anticipation. The review is featured, in May 2011 on the cover with commissioned art.

Now to digest the review, it goes on and on, mostly a vehicle for Black's thoughts independent of *Continental*.

A message from Bronwyn Drainie, the LRC's editor, do I want to reply in the next issue? Boy do I ever. A weekend weighing every word. There's enough in Black's review that's positive, for me in my opening lines to write “I'm most gratified he sees fit to describe *Continental* as ‘useful,’ ‘a good addition to the discussion,’ and ‘a good book,’ and to effuse upon what

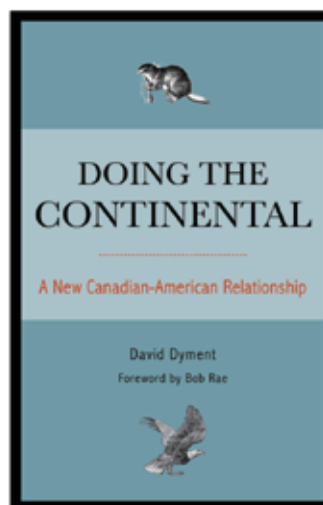
he sees as ‘excellent,’ ‘good,’ and ‘important points.’”

Yet Black's review feels like an evisceration. I respond to his use of the butcher's knife with a stiletto buried deep in my reply (libel chill?), writing gently that “Black's problem with *Continental* is with its tone, [and] disjuncture in appreciation for Mr. Black generally concerns tone. He has perhaps a challenge in the interpretation, and in the projection of tone.”

Being in the cross-hairs of the Lord of Crossharbour has been part of the highs and lows, independent of each other and simultaneously, of being an author.

On the home front at the dinner table, our 10 year old daughter upon hearing of the upcoming review quickly, definitively pronounced, “It's not a good idea to be involved with criminals.” Though maybe she's right, I wouldn't have missed it for the world.

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— Bob Rae, from his foreword to *Doing the Continental*

“*Doing the Continental* is a must read for those interested in Canadian-American relations.”

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— Lawrence Martin, columnist and former Washington bureau chief with the *Globe and Mail*

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Govinda's Vegetarian Buffet on Somerset East

A Sandy Hill institution for 30 years

Paula Kelsall

I've always been a little shy about Govinda's, the vegetarian buffet restaurant at 212 Somerset East. I understood the premises were shared with a Hare Krishna temple and I wondered if there would be proselytizing. I heard I'd have to take my shoes off. People kept telling me the food was great, but it wasn't until recently that I got around to checking it out.

Stepping into Govinda's is a bit like finding yourself in a 1970's rec room, or the dining hall of a small and pleasant summer camp. There are assorted faux-stained glass ceiling lamps, wood paneling painted a fresh, clean white, and rows of unadorned tables with sturdy wooden chairs. The room is dominated by a cheerful painting of Hindu deities enjoying a feast and, on a stand at the back, there's a selection of reading material about Krishna consciousness, vegetarian cooking, yoga and other practices to improve your spiritual and physical health. People do indeed take off their boots, which are lined up on a carpet near the door.

The buffet selection is modest but varied enough to be interesting, and you'll have no trouble trying everything if you're so inclined. We began with a dhal soup, well flavoured with ginger and coriander, that left us with a bit of a glow. There were two salads; a typical chef's mix of lettuce with cucumber and tomato that was fresh, crisp, and accompanied by a bowl of lemony dressing, and a bowl of pasta shells that were strangely plain-looking yet quite spicy. They must have been bathed in pepper as well as oil.

For the main course there was perfectly cooked basmati rice and two curries; a yellow one with potatoes, green beans and cabbage, and a red-sauced stew of chick peas, cauliflower and carrots. Neither was particularly spicy but both were good. The vegetables were still firm, with lots of flavour and well seasoned sauces. Water was the only beverage on offer, but there was dessert; a very dense cake that tasted of honey and ginger and that sent us out into the night with a pleasant memory on our palates.



Photo Bill Blackstone

Govinda's claims to have been the first vegetarian restaurant in Ottawa. In fact it is not just vegetarian but vegan, serving no eggs or dairy products. This is good, nourishing food at an unbeatable price; \$5.00 for students and \$7.00 for the rest of us. And there's no proselytizing! We found our host friendly but unobtrusive, obviously enjoying the company of some regular guests and letting the newcomers

Govinda's host and head chef Shankar Das with U of O students Stephanie Sherren and Sarah Achtereekte

make themselves at home after exchanging a few friendly words about the weather. The restaurant is open Monday-Friday from 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., and it seems to be a good idea to go early if you want to be sure of enjoying green salad and dessert.

Ottawa Carleton District School Board Trustee Report
Update on accommodations at Viscount Alexander School and the OCDSB budget

Viscount Accommodations

Recently a school accommodations review in the Old Ottawa East and Elgin Street area concluded, but without really addressing for the long haul, where Lees Avenue students should go. This area has historically sent English program students to Viscount and Early French Immersion (EFI) students to Elgin Street Public School. This pattern is to be maintained despite the fact that Viscount has recently acquired an EFI program. It is up in the air right now what sort of school expansion or not will be done to Elgin Street School as its foundation is failing, though addressing it is a short-listed board capital priority. Another accommodation review process will need to be done in order to decide what to do here, though likely not for two to three years yet.



Rob Campbell, Trustee
Ottawa-Carleton District School Board

Not that Viscount could accept a whole lot more students right now, as it is getting close to maximum capacity. The number of students in both the English program and the new EFI program is growing. Getting an addition put on to Viscount to allow it to grow also is a short-listed OCDSB capital priority.

However, all semblance of a funding formula for any of our capital needs has gone right out the window in recent years and capital spending for significant renovations or additions is now negotiated on a case-by-case basis with the Province. With the Province now under financial constraint, it is anyone's guess when and for what capital dollars actually will flow. And, given the Drummond report and other delays, we may not know even for some months yet definitively what the Province is willing to fund for even next year.

The Board does have maybe \$10 million or perhaps somewhat less now in its own unrestricted capital reserves, from previous school sales. However, this is not a renewing fund and has already been spoken for many times over. It has been dipped into recently in order to complement Ministry funding when it comes and is not practically sufficient for a given project but is not in itself enough to fund anything serious. A new high school can easily cost \$60 million, a new elementary school \$12 million, significant additions \$5 to 10 million, and significant renos \$2 to 5 million. With a \$300 million capital maintenance backlog and a dozen or more major agreed capital priorities, it is unfortunately not realistic to look to the Board to fund Viscount's, or Elgin's capital priority needs by itself.

So, we wait, and hope.

Board Budget

Our annual budget cycle (operating budget) is starting up and I'd be interested in any ideas community members have on what we need more of and what we could do with less of and, indeed, what is just right and not to be played with. We are sitting on some modest reserves at the moment, more by accident than design, but we are projecting a stand pat or maybe shrinking budget year nevertheless over all.

The Province has indicated that it wishes to hold education sector costs to 1% for next school year though its actual grants package information will not be released to Boards until maybe April. This is going to be less than inflation and may be the lay of the land for more than one year as the Province tightens its belt. So any scraps of reserves lying about will disappear and budgets also may need to shrink. Depending on what happens, we need to be able to react by cutting more or cutting less. Our staff have, over the past few months, been going through their departmental budgets cost centre by cost centre and challenging all spending.

Our budget process is a little strange as we must make a decision to spend about 80% of our budget by the start of March, before we know the grants due to legacy collective agreement provisions binding us to staffing notices by then. The non-staffing component is usually decided on by June.

Add to this a lack of clarity around provincial funding of salaries going forward and this could become very complicated. All teacher groups, and indeed most other employee groups, have their multi-year collective agreements expire at once this coming August. While local Boards hold the pen in the end regarding details of staffing, hiring, benefits, responsibilities, work conditions, and salary, the basic salary question is entirely dependent of course on what the Province will fund and there will be some central negotiation at Queen's Park this way.

We recently approved a consultation plan to involve the public, with web comments, school council consultation, letters to stakeholders, etc. In the months ahead, if you have views on our budget then please let me know.

If you have a suggestion or a concern, or would like to be added to my e-newsletter list, then please contact me via rob@ocdsbzone9.ca or at 323-7803. Meeting and document info available at www.ocdsb.ca
rob@ocdsbzone9.ca 613 323-7803



Starr Gymnastics was a big hit in January.

News from Viscount Alexander Public School

Michael Barnes

Kindergarten registration at Viscount
Viscount Alexander is a community school where each student can get to know every other student and teacher and vice versa. It is just the right size to learn, have friends and start on the journey of education. Students take part in many special activities right in their community. If your child will be age four or five by December 31, 2012, she or he may register for junior or senior kindergarten starting September 2012.

Registration is ongoing so if you haven't already registered please call the school office at 613-239-2213 to learn more and arrange to visit Viscount Alexander to see all it has to offer your child.

To register you will require your child's birth certificate or proof of age, immunization record, and health card. A parent information night for both the Junior and Senior Kindergarten programs, Regular and Early French Immersion at Viscount will be held in May.

Walk to School Monday, February 13
Viscount, with its fully operational Walking School Bus, the first in the city, is a leader in the project but we continue to encourage our children and families to walk to school. To promote walking for health and environmental benefits, we encourage all Viscount students to walk to school on Monday, February 13th. A number of visitors will attend the event, perhaps even Mayor Jim Watson, as they

show their support for our steadfast winter walkers.

All walkers are invited into the gym for hot chocolate and muffins. To make walking even more fun wear a funky hat to attract attention to the importance of walking. The "Golden Snow Boot" will be awarded to the class with the most walkers.

Students practice generosity
Throughout the month of December the school's character theme was generosity. The grade 5 & 6 class took on a Food Drive for the Shepherds of Good Hope. It was a huge success with boxes overflowing with donations!

Starr Gymnastics was a big hit
On January 13, Starr Gymnastics held a workshop in the gymnasium at Viscount. The ever-popular instructor "Bubbles" returned to host this event giving our students a fantastic gymnastic experience. It was a huge hit with everyone reaching for the stars!

Reading comes alive
We really thank our community volunteer, Richard Kelly, as he continues to donate his time to read to our students over the lunch hour. Richard is a retired actor, which makes him uniquely able to bring the characters alive. This month he is reading: *The City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau to junior students and *Ramona the Pest* by Beverly Cleary to the primary students.

Upcoming Events

Free. All are welcome.
No strings attached.

Feb. 18	Boy & Girl Pioneers (ages 5-13); 1-3 p.m.
Feb. 22	Ash Wednesday worship @ 7 p.m.
Feb. 29, Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28	Midweek Lent worship @ 2 & 7 p.m.
Mar. 17	Boy & Girl Pioneers (ages 5-13); 1-3 p.m.
Mar. 31	Easter for Kids. 8:30-Noon.*
Apr. 5	Maundy Thursday worship @ 7 p.m.
Apr. 6	Good Friday worship @ 2 & 7 p.m.
Apr. 8	Easter worship @ 7:30 & 10:15 a.m.
Apr. 21	Boy & Girl Pioneers (ages 5-13); 1-3 p.m.
May 19	Boy & Girl Pioneers (ages 5-13); 1-3 p.m.
June 2,3	Ottawa Doors Open

* Call (613) 234-0321 for info or to register.

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Bible study: 9 a.m.
Sun. School: 9 a.m.

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Health assessment project

Viscount Alexander has agreed to participate with the School of Nursing from the University of Ottawa in a health assessment and teaching project. The nursing students will benefit in that they have an opportunity to learn and practice the techniques of physical and health assessments.

The roaring game returns!

The Ottawa Valley Curling Club Association is sponsoring a learn-how-to-curl clinic including on ice experience at the Ottawa Curling Club for our grade 5/6 class. This event is greatly appreciated and we thank the team of volunteers for providing this experience. The Ottawa Valley Curling Club rocks!

Scrabble Club

Scrabble Club is starting soon! Participants in our Scrabble Club will have fun learning about words and their derivations as well as important rules, tips and guidelines for spelling words successfully in English.

Junior boys Borden Ball tournament

Heidi Listar, our Grade One and Two EFI teacher writes, "On January 18th, the junior boys took part in their first Borden Ball tournament. They played against some pretty tough teams from Centennial and Manor Park. Their game against R.E. Wilson was really exciting as the teams traded goals back and forth ending in a close score of six to five for R.E. Wilson. It could have been anyone's win and the boys played really well. We were lucky to have many gifted keepers who were nearly standing on their heads while making saves. Though we had some disappointing losses, the Viscount boys showed excellent sportsmanship and represented us well. Now that we know more about Borden Ball, I'm sure we're looking forward to a re-match next year!"

We send a huge thank you to Mrs. McKinley, Mrs. Beck and Mrs. Duckworth who drove us there and back. Special thanks to Mr. Smith who drove and also provided the boys with snacks and Gatorade. We greatly appreciate your time and your support!"

Carnival in Sandy Hill

Julia Gilbert

Sandy Hill held its annual winter carnival on January 22 at the Sandy Hill Community Centre. The event offered locals a variety of activities and treats to enjoy such as skating, horse-drawn carriage rides, hot chocolate, and handmade maple taffy.

"The ice is really the big event," organizer Barbara Brockmann said while taking a break from the cold, inside the community centre. "On the ice we have the skating, we have shoot-to-win. There's also a shinny hockey game going on."

Diane Beckett and François Bregha ran the maple taffy stand where kids

and adults of all ages lined up to see how snow can turn syrup into candy. Ms. Brockmann estimated about a hundred people came out to have some fun at the carnival. "We've got regular volunteers, but every year we see new families and new students come out that are part of it as well," Ms. Brockmann said.

Among the volunteers were the All Saints' Church youth group members, who ran the hot chocolate stand. The City of Ottawa provided free access to the main halls, large kitchen and conference room. Community group Action Sandy Hill provided the funding for the carnival/ The group's president Christopher Collmorgen said, "We all tend to work together on this. We need the community to come in and volunteer and they need us to support them financially in some

aspects, as well, so that's what we're doing here."

The funds provided by Action Sandy Hill helped the carnival add magicians to its list of entertainment. After a long day in the chilly winter weather, the kids came inside to watch local high school students Owen Kewell and Gabe Roberge perform magic tricks. Kewell and Roberge weren't the only Sandy Hill high school students to entertain. The teenage band Fools Play also put on a show.

Barbara Brockmann said that what makes the winter carnival so special is how it gives kids the chance to grow into it. "When the event first started I think my daughter was just a baby. Rosy cheeks sitting on the horse and carriage. Now she's twelve years old and she's helping me to organize it. So it's really neat for the kids at different stages to be participants and then grow into it."

The evening concluded with a pot-luck dinner and after everything was cleaned up, everyone had a chance to be together as neighbours. "I really enjoy living here and I like to think that our winter fair is one more thing that makes us come together," said Ms. Brockmann.



ASH Acting President Christopher Collmorgen was extremely popular with neighbourhood youth.



Planning Childcare for Sept. 2012?



We will be offering an extended morning program for Children ages 2 to 3½ years old, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Children may attend from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. or extend their day up to 6 hours.

Bus pick up from Rockcliffe School at 11:30 a.m. Bus pick up for all extended day programs at 2:30 p.m. including Viscount Alexander School, Lady Evelyn & St. Brigid's.

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Kathy Knowles to speak at Ottawa Public Library

Deborah Cowley

Kathy Knowles, founder and director of the Osu Children's Library Fund (OCLF), will be speaking in Ottawa on Monday February 13, 2012. In her illustrated lecture, she will give an up-to-date report on her ever-expanding project to bring books and reading to a whole generation of African children.

Since its creation in 1991, the OCLF has built, furnished and stocked with books

seven large community libraries in Ghana's capital, Accra, and has helped launch and support 200 smaller ones located throughout Ghana and in other African countries. The largest library, designed by Ghanaian-Canadian architect, Roger Amenyo, was opened in November 2011 and serves a vast impoverished area on the northern edge of Accra. Salaries of all the Accra-based staff members are paid for by the local authorities.

Several of the libraries have developed outreach programs that add an extra dimension to their day-to-day activities. Some provide hot lunches for the poorest children while others offer after-school book clubs and writing programs. One library has spawned a successful theatre project, called the Kathy Knowles Theatre Company, which has recently received a grant to tour its plays around the country.

Notable too is the Fund's thriving publishing program. Recognizing the dearth of culturally relevant books for African youngsters, Kathy used her stellar photographic skills to develop 30 photo-illustrated books for early readers. They have proven to be very popular among children, both in Canada and in Ghana, and have even found their way to several other African countries. Copies will be for sale at the Ottawa event.

Kathy will speak on **Monday, February 13 at the Main Branch of the Ottawa Public Library, Laurier and Metcalfe Streets at 7.00 p.m. Admission is free and all are welcome.**

Photo Bill Blackstone



Grafton T. Reid, right, serves popcorn to William at the food service area in Centre 454 named after former Sandy Hill resident (now deceased) Harvey Pearce, who volunteered at Centre 454 for many years.

Roger's community includes Centre 454

Larry Newman

Roger Louttit, a Cree and originally from Attawapiskat, was introduced in the December IMAGE. He is homeless, living at the Shepherds of Good Hope and on the street. He and his brother, Peter, panhandle on Rideau Street. I saw Roger recently and asked how Peter was and he said, "He had a seizure and he's in the hospital." I asked how it happened and Roger said, "Alcohol poisoning." Peter is younger than Roger, only 23, but he shows signs of wear already. This isn't his first seizure. Peter was out on the street a few days later, laughing about it. "It only happens when I'm hung over."

It's painful to watch these two misuse their bodies and their minds, and our conversations are too fleeting to allow me to answer the big "WHY?" question. I suspect that there are people who have a good idea, though, and Centre 454 is one place to find them. Centre 454 is a drop-in centre, currently located on Murray Street, opposite "The Sheps," (as Shepherds of Good Hope is known by some). It is sponsored by the Anglican Church and its director is Mary-Martha Hale.

Ms. Hale describes Centre 454 simply as a way to provide community to people in need. The centre is church sponsored, so there are chapel services provided, but there is no requirement to observe Anglican practices. Births and marriages are commemorated and there is an annual memorial service for people who have died. Some leave and come back to celebrate Christmas. There is quite a variety of people who use these services: young people who have left home abruptly—perhaps they have been in foster care; there are people with learning disabilities, addictions, people who just can't seem to get it together for multiple reasons. Twenty-five percent of the participants are women, about 20% are Aboriginal. There are a small number of children, who come with their parents.

The day I visited Centre 454, Andrew Cheam, the on-site manager, gave me the "nickel tour." There were about 40 to 50 people in the main room with tables and chairs. A volunteer was serving coffee from the kitchen and three staff members were sitting at tables, interacting with the participants. Andrew prefers this term to "clients" and he prefers "community for the poor" rather than using the conventional term, drop-in centre. I see Andrew as a downtown missionary.

There are other rooms at the centre: a medical examining room, barely large enough for one nurse and one patient, an interview room, a small room with a table and chairs for activities, and there is the piano room with its upright piano and some tables and chairs for study.

February - March 2012

IMAGE

février - mars 2012

Photo Larry Newman



Roger Louttit, Rideau St.

Life is organized at the centre. There is a schedule posted on the wall with activities listed on specific days and at fixed times. The most popular is karaoke. "It's most unexpected," Andrew said. "People who are not very communicative will get up and sing, some very well." There is talent at the Centre.

Also posted on the wall at the Centre is an extensive telephone list of agencies and organizations whose job it is to help the poor; the most impressive is the list of 19 health centres and clinics. Aside from the list of activities that will happen every week, there is a weekly calendar of services and activities, such as public health nurse on Wednesday a.m., arts and crafts, chapel, writers group, panhandlers group, etc. It reminds me of summer camp.

Andrew introduced me to Roger Babin, a participant at the centre and a sculptor, who talked about himself and the Centre. Roger is afflicted with diabetes which has affected his eyes so that he can hardly see to read and can't sculpt. He collects disability (ODSP) which he estimates provides about half of a poverty level income. He is a member of the Panhandlers Union and is active in a volunteer effort to provide art material for street people. Roger enjoys the centre and clearly wants to contribute to the "community of the poor."

It is clear that people like Roger B. and Peter and Roger L. can benefit greatly from the services of the Centre. Andrew feels that a large part of his job is to help people by facilitating, not doing things for people. This concept of helping by teaching or connecting is carried through by other agencies, also. The Shepherds of Good Hope, another organisation serving the poor by providing shelter for homeless people, espouses the same view. More on this agency in another issue.



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Photo Farris-Manning Photography

The Capital Chamber Choir has presented concerts in Sandy Hill since 2009, many featuring Canadian compositions. Director Sara Brooks, seated left, also directs the music program at the Unitarian Church in Westboro.

Sandy Hill's Capital Chamber Choir hosts a fundraiser "with a twist"

Cait Hurcomb

The Capital Chamber Choir is thrilled to be putting the "fun" back in "fundraiser" with their upcoming soirée, "Capital Chamber Choir: On the Rocks With a Twist!" This event, to be held on **Friday, February 17** at The Empire Grill's Manhattan Room (**47 Clarence St.**), is an opportunity to support a unique local choir while enjoying an evening of cocktails, canapés and Canadian choral music.

The Capital Chamber Choir was founded by Sara Brooks in January 2009, with only 16 voices. The choir was formed to support young Canadian artists, to take advantage of the incredible array of Canadian music available, and to provide a new outlet in the National Capital Region for local and Canadian choral music.

Since its inaugural year, this Sandy Hill-based ensemble, which now includes 23 dedicated musicians of varying ages

and professions, has become well-known for its versatility and high-quality performances. Theirs is a refreshing and energetic voice on the Ottawa music scene, with a decidedly Canadian focus.

The choir plans to bring this energy to its upcoming fundraiser. "This is a very exciting event for our choir," says Ms. Brooks. "It will give us a chance to meet and get to know our audience and to raise funds to support our continued growth over the upcoming seasons." All funds raised will go toward financing the choir, particularly rehearsal space rental and score purchases.

The evening gets underway at 7:30 p.m. and will include performances by the ensemble, appetizers, a silent auction, as well as a cash bar. Tickets are \$40 and can be purchased at The Leading Note (Elgin St.) or online www.capitalchamberchoir.ca.

So, if you're looking to become a patron of the arts and enjoy a fantastic night out, get your tickets today!



These children at York Street School received violins at the end of 2011 donated by supporters of OrKidstra. Music students from University of Ottawa, Ottawa Youth Orchestra and local high schools volunteer as mentors.

R.J. Harlick invites you to the launch of her newest **Meg Harris** mystery.



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History of an Urban Forest

Larry Newman

A tree planted in the downtown core of a city won't live for more than seven years.
- Carleton History Professor Joanna Dean

This is advice given Professor Dean by urban foresters and speaks to a problem when planning a denser city. On January 29, she and Will Knight presided over the opening of *Six Moments in the History of an Urban Forest*, their exhibit at the Bytown Museum. Professor Dean explained the changes that take place on the path from planting to cutting trees in an urban environment. The quote above reveals the conflict between us and our trees as we both try to live in the same urban environment.

Initially, the city of Ottawa was practically treeless. It was a woodcutting environment after all, and people seemed to prefer not to take a close-up look at trees. When Ottawa became the capital, a movement to plant trees began. Gradually, Ottawa's streets became treed with forest trees that grew tall and eventually interfered with power lines and had to be trimmed and cut back. Enter the arborist whose picture (perhaps idealised) is a favourite of Professor Dean's.

The curators, Dean and Knight, follow the life of a Burr Oak from the time of its beginning in 1854 to its final indignity as it is cut down, 157 years later. The exhibit at the Bytown Museum shows aerial

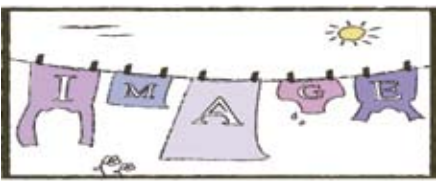
photos of the tree crown at various stages in its life and the life of the urban community around it. From nearby Tunney's Pasture, the city encroached closer and closer until the tree found itself in the yard of a house, both condemned to be razed for an infill development.

There are other aerial photos in the exhibit, showing the tree canopy cover in Alta Vista at various stages from early development to the current time. Canopy cover is seen to be almost 100% in the non-agricultural areas, dropping to below 50% due to development, and then, as trees were planted in the maturing residential neighbourhood of Alta Vista, growing again. This illustrates some of our values that change over time. With the forest all around us, we seek space and remove trees. As the forest becomes less of a visual barrier, we feel the need for more trees.

Six Moments in the History of an Urban Forest runs from January 24-May 13, 2012, funded by the Network in Canadian History and Environment (NiCHE), a Jack Kimmell grant from the Canadian Tree Fund, and Carleton University. The Bytown Museum would be happy to entertain you with this exhibit.



An early arborist, favourite of Prof. Dean.



BULLETIN BOARD

Marian Heringer

Long time Sandy Hill resident Marian Heringer died at home on December 27 at the age of 86. Marian was a big supporter of the community and was especially interested in the preservation of Sandy Hill's urban heritage. She was a founding member of Action Sandy Hill, was active on the community's Citizens' Planning Committee in the 70s and was also a charter member of Heritage Ottawa. Marian's interest in art led her to become a docent at the National Gallery, a position she enjoyed for many years. IMAGE sends condolences to her husband, Richard, and the family. We will miss her.

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Food Talks

Are you interested in meeting with others to share and learn about different food activities and programs that are happening in Sandy Hill? Join us for Food Talks, a place to discuss what is happening in the neighbourhood and to support each other in our efforts. Next meeting is Feb. 15, 10 a.m. to noon, please contact Geri Blinick, community developer at Sandy Hill Community Health Centre, gblinick@sandyhillchc.ca or 613 789-1500.

Rideau Centre Seniors Walkers!

Join us every Monday & Thursday anytime between 8:30 & 10:30 am on the 3rd level of the Rideau centre mall. Membership fees are \$15 per year. We are a heart wise program certified by the Ottawa Heart Institute. We are celebrating our 20th anniversary! For more information, please contact Natacha at 613-244-2816

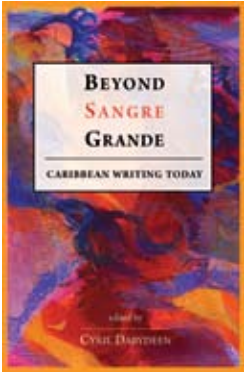
Joignez-vous au club de marche des aînées du centre Rideau entre 8h30 et 10h30 les lundis et jeudis. L'adhésion est de \$15 par année. Nous sommes un programme certifié Corps à coeur par l'Institut du coeur de l'université d'Ottawa. Nous célébrons notre 20e anniversaire! Pour de plus amples informations, contactez Natacha au 613-244-2816

Cyril Dabydeen—new books

Announcing two new titles by Sandy Hill poet/professor /resident Cyril Dabydeen

— *Beyond Sangre Grande: Caribbean Writing Today*, edited by Cyril Dabydeen (TSAR Publications, Toronto). Cyril was invited by the director of TSAR, novelist M. Vassanji, to put this collection together. It includes work by over 40 writers, including Nobel Prize-winner Derek Walcott.

— *The Short Stories of Cyril Dabydeen* (The Caribbean Press/University of Warwick, UK): a volume of selected stories specially requested by editors of the Caribbean Press.



Forces In The Air

An Autobiography of a Canadian Forces Brat; copy from crowcreations.ca or gayelouise@rogers.com . A great little read and timeless.

Christianity 101

A new program gets under way at St Alban's Anglican Church called "Christianity 101" for the curious, the skeptical, and the just plain interested. Led by the rector, Rev. Mark Whittall, the discussion group meets Sundays at the church from noon to 1:30 p.m., following the morning service. The seven-week program runs to April 1. Lunch is laid on (no charge) and a textbook provided (also no charge). You don't have to attend the church service to take part in the 101 discussion group and no prior knowledge or faith commitment is required. Just bring your questions and a willingness to talk about faith and life. For more information call the church at 613 236-0342, email Kate at office@stalbanschurch.ca, or visit www.stalbanschurch.ca. St. Alban's bills itself as a Spirit-led, Christ-centred, contemporary urban church located at 454 King Edward Ave. at Daly Ave.

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Activités pour le Mois du patrimoine, à Ottawa-Gatineau en février 2012



par
Michel Prévost,
archiviste en chef
de l'Université
d'Ottawa

Comme à chaque année, la communauté archivistique et du patrimoine profite du Mois du patrimoine dans la région de la capitale fédérale pour organiser, tout au long du mois de février, une kyrielle d'activités afin de diffuser notre riche patrimoine.

Nous vous invitons à participer en grand nombre à tous ces événements organisés par les centres d'archives, les sociétés d'histoire et les associations du patrimoine de Gatineau et d'Ottawa. Nous lançons une invitation particulière à la population de la Côte-de-Sable afin qu'elle se déplace en grand nombre à la Fête du patrimoine de la Ville d'Ottawa qui a lieu, le 21 février à 11 h 30, à l'hôtel de ville d'Ottawa. C'est important de démontrer à nos élus que la communauté du patrimoine est bien vivante dans la capitale.

Je vous souhaite un très beau Mois du patrimoine qui s'avère une très belle occasion de mettre en valeur notre riche patrimoine archivistique, historique, bâti, généalogique, toponymique et archéologique.

Voici le calendrier des activités en février :

Dimanche 12 février à 14 h
Société d'histoire de Buckingham
Visite guidée – Buckingham, ville énergie Guide : Michel Riberdy

Départ— édifice du Vieux-Marché,
379, avenue de Buckingham, Gatineau (Québec).
Gratuit. 819 281-7111 ou
soc_hist_buck@hotmail.com

Mardi 14 février, de 19 h à 20 h 30
Ville de Gatineau

Conférence – Actualité de la vie et de l'œuvre de Claude-Henri Grignon
Conférencier : Pierre Grignon
Bibliothèque Bowater, 855, boulevard de la Gappe, Gatineau (Québec)
3 \$ (abonnés de la bibliothèque) / 4,50 \$ (non-abonnés). Renseignements et inscription : 819 561-7300 ou www.gatineau.ca

Jeudi 16 février à 19 h
Centre régional d'archives de l'Outaouais
Lancement du 4^e numéro de la revue Hier Encore
Collège Saint-Alexandre, 2425, rue Saint-Louis, Gatineau (Québec)
Participation au lancement gratuite, mais réservation requise. Renseignements et réservation : 819 243-2345, poste 3205 ou frederic.laniel@banq.qc.ca

Jeudi 16 février à 19 h
Société de généalogie de l'Outaouais
Conférence – Déménager au Canada : l'établissement du Canada français en Ontario et dans l'Ouest canadien (1850-1914) Conférencier : Gratien Allaire
Société de généalogie de l'Outaouais, 855, boulevard de la Gappe, salle 211, Gatineau (Québec). Gratuit.
Renseignements : 819 243-0888 ou sgo@genealogieoutaouais.com



Samedi 18 février, de 9 h à 17 h
Dimanche 19 février, de midi à 17 h
Bibliothèque et archives nationales du Québec et Conseil régional de la culture de l'Outaouais
Atelier de diffusion du patrimoine – Ensemble pour vivre notre histoire
Promenades de l'Outaouais, près du magasin La Baie, 1100, boulevard Maloney Ouest, Gatineau (Québec)
Gratuit. 819 568-8798 ou melanie_plouffe@banq.qc.ca

Samedi 18 février, de 18 h 30 à 20 h 30
Ville de Gatineau
Réception du patrimoine de la Ville de Gatineau – Remise de certificats honorifiques du patrimoine
Les Jardins du Château, 100, rue du Château, Gatineau (Québec). Gratuit
RSVP : 819 243-2345, poste 2428 ou lemelin.diane@gatineau.ca

Dimanche 19 février, de 13 h 30 à 15 h 30
Association du patrimoine d'Aylmer
Causerie (en anglais) : According to Jack Couture Conférencier : Michael P. MacDonald. Ancienne chapelle méthodiste, 495, chemin d'Aylmer (entrée rue du Golf), Gatineau (Québec). Gratuit.
Renseignements et réservation : 819 684-6809 ou heritage.aylmer@videotron.ca

Mardi 21 février, à 11 h 30
Cérémonie et réception de la Fête du patrimoine de la Ville d'Ottawa
Hôtel de ville d'Ottawa, Place Jean-Piquet, 110, avenue Laurier Ouest, Ottawa (Ontario). Gratuit. Renseignements : tél. : 613 562-0405 ou www.choocopo.ca

À compter du 21 février, du lundi au vendredi, de 9 h à 15 h
Ville de Gatineau
Exposition permanente – Deux siècles d'incendies
Caserne Jean-Claude-Charbonneau, 315, rue Saint-Rédempteur, Gatineau (Québec). Gratuit. Renseignements 819 243-2345, poste 3545 ou savoie.bernard@ville.gatineau.qc.ca

Samedi 25 février, de 9 h à 16 h
Société de généalogie de l'Outaouais
Atelier d'initiation à la généalogie de l'Outaouais. animateur : Michel Béland
Société de généalogie de l'Outaouais, 855, boulevard de la Gappe, salle 204, Gatineau (Québec). Coût : 20 \$ (membres)

Venez découvrir, le 29 février à 10 h, la richesse architecturale du pavillon Tabaret, le symbole de l'Université d'Ottawa. On voit ici le pavillon Tabaret à la suite de son agrandissement en 1914.

AUO-PHO-NB-38A-2-292

/ 40 \$ (non-membres). Renseignements et inscription : 819 243-0888 ou sgo@genealogieoutaouais.com. Minimum de 5 inscriptions et maximum de 10 acceptées

Dimanche 26 février, de 13 h 30 à 15 h 30
Association du patrimoine d'Aylmer
Causerie - Un regard sur l'Outaouais à travers les cartes postales rares de l'époque Conférencier : Stefan Wodicka
Ancienne chapelle méthodiste, 495, chemin d'Aylmer (entrée rue du Golf), Gatineau (Québec). Gratuit. Renseignements et réservation : 819 684-6809 ou heritage.aylmer@videotron.ca

Lundi 27 février, de 10 h à 11 h 30, suivi d'un dîner
Centre Pauline-Charron, Archives de l'Université d'Ottawa et Centre de formation continue de l'Université d'Ottawa
Conférence – Les églises historiques catholiques francophones d'Ottawa-Vanier : des joyaux du patrimoine religieux à préserver Conférencier : Michel Prévost, archiviste en chef de l'Université d'Ottawa
Centre Pauline-Charron, 164, rue Jeanne-Mance, Ottawa (Ontario). Coût : 7 \$ pour le dîner. Renseignements et réservations : 613 741-0562

Mardi 28 février, de 10 h à 12 h
Retraite en action
Conférence illustrée – L'Institut canadien-français a 160 ans Conférencier : Jean Yves Pelletier, historien de l'Institut
Centre Richelieu Vanier, 300, avenue des Pères blancs, Ottawa. Coût : 8 \$. Réservation obligatoire : Mme Chantal Richer, 613 860-1099, poste 2. Renseignements : info@retraiteenaction.ca

Mercredi 29 février, à 10 h
Archives de l'Université d'Ottawa et Retraite en action
Visite guidée du pavillon Tabaret, le symbole de l'Université d'Ottawa
Guide : Michel Prévost, archiviste en chef de l'Université d'Ottawa
550, rue Cumberland, (départ de la Rotonde), Ottawa (Ontario). Coût : 5 \$. Réservation obligatoire : Mme Chantal Richer, tél. 613 860-1099, poste 2 Renseignements : info@retraiteenaction.ca

Nous tenons à remercier le Service des arts, de la culture et des lettres de la Ville de Gatineau et le Réseau du patrimoine franco-ontarien qui ont colligé ces activités.

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Illustration Dawna Moore

CALENDAR

February - March 2012

Events and shows taking place in or near Sandy Hill

February and March - Art exhibitions at the Heartwood Gallery, Hopewell Eating Disorder Support Centre (February) and Vladimir Frolov (March), 153 Chapel St., Mon-Thurs 4-6 p.m., Fri 3-5 p.m. or by appointment, 613-241-5937.

Feb. 5 - Apr. 1 - "Christianity 101" at St. Alban's Church, 454 King Edward Ave. (at Daly) Sundays at the church from noon to 1:30 p.m., includes lunch. For more information visit www.stalbanschurch.ca

Until Feb. 12 - Enfolded features the work of Ghitta Caiserman, anabe, The Ottawa Art Gallery, Arts Court, 2 Daly Ave., 613 233-8699, www.ottawaartgallery.ca.

Until Feb. 19 - Edna Patterson-Petty, African-American Contemporary Quilts, The Ottawa Art Gallery, Arts Court, 2 Daly Ave., 613 233-8699, www.ottawaartgallery.ca.

Until Feb. 19 - Star Blankets by Wally Dion, talk with curator Catherine Sinclair on Feb. 17, 12:30 p.m., The Ottawa Art Gallery, Arts Court, 2 Daly Ave., 613 233-8699, www.ottawaartgallery.ca.

Feb. 9 - Why does bullying hurt so much?, Insight from Neuroscience by Dr. Tracy Vaillancourt, Our Lady of Mount Carmel School, free admission, please register online at www.education.uottawa.ca/45th 6:30-7:30 p.m., 675 Gardenvale Rd.

Feb. 11 - The Psychic Experience with Matthew Stapley, a fast-paced, high-energy entertaining show of psychic phenomena, Ottawa Little Theatre, 400 King Edward Ave., 7-9 p.m., \$30.00, a portion of the proceeds go to Operation Come Home, for tickets phone 613 233-8948 or www.thepsychicexperience.ca.

Feb. 11, 12, 18, 19 - Ottawa Art Gallery sponsored Winterlude events, Ephemeral Art Making at Confederation Park, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., all ages welcome, event is free, www.ottawaartgallery.ca, 613 233-8699 ext. 228, presented in collaboration with the Downtown Rideau BIA.

Feb. 12, 19 - Creative Sundays at the Ottawa Art Gallery, an afternoon of free hands-on art-making activities, presented with the Downtown Rideau BIA 1-3 p.m., Arts Court, 2 Daly Ave., 613 233-8699 x 228, www.ottawaartgallery.ca

Feb. 14 - Mar. 3 - *Translations*, a drama by Brian Friel and directed by Klaas van Wieringh, Ottawa Little Theatre, 8 p.m., \$25, \$22 (seniors), \$10 (students), matinee on Feb. 26 at 2 p.m., 400 King Edward Ave., 613 233-8948, www.ottawalittletheatre.com.

Feb. 14, Mar. 13, 27 - The Tree Reading Series meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, featuring Leslie Vryenhoek and Marilyn Bowering (Feb. 14), Jane Munro (Mar. 13), and E. Alex Pierce (Mar. 27), Arts Court Library, 2 Daly Ave., doors open at 7:30 p.m., free admission, 613 749-3773, the Tree Reading Series also offers free one-hour poetry workshops, 6:45-7:45 p.m., www.treereadingseries.ca.

Feb. 15 - Food Talks, a place to discuss food activities and programs in Sandy Hill. 10-12 a.m. at the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre, Rideau and Nelson. Contact: Geri Blinick, community developer SHCHC gblinick@sandyhillchc.ca or 613 789-1500.

Feb. 16 - Heritage Ottawa's seventh Bob and Mary Anne Phillips Lecture, "Full Circle: Conservation and 'Adaptive Use' in Restoring the Jeanne D'Arc Institute on Sussex Drive," presented by Ian Johns and Sarah Jennings, Ottawa Public Library Auditorium, 120 Metcalfe St., 7 p.m., free admission, in English, 613 230-8841, heritageottawa.org/en.

Feb. 16, Mar. 22, Apr. 12 - Taizé prayer, named after a town in France where the form

of worship originated after the second world war, is punctuated by meditative songs with simple phrases in many languages. At Sacré-Coeur church, 7:15 p.m., 591 Cumberland St.

Feb. 18 - *Cyrano de Bergerac* by Edmond Rostand, translated by David Whiteley, featuring Richard Gélinas as Cyrano and Élise Gauthier (from Sandy Hill) as Roxane, at the Gladstone, 910 Gladstone Ave., www.thegladstone.ca or 613 233-GLAD.

Feb. 18, 25, Mar. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Apr. 7, 14 - Frontier College Reading Circle/Cercle de lecture Frontier College, help your child become a better reader through stories and games, led by Frontier College volunteers, ages 5-10 years old, in English and French, 10:45 - 11:45 a.m., 377 Rideau St., 613 241-6954, www.bibliottawalibrary.ca/en/main/program

Feb. 27 - Action Sandy Hill meets the last Monday of the month, 7 p.m., 613 241-4646, Sandy Hill Community Centre, 250 Somerset St. E.

Feb. 28 - Launch of R.J. Harlick's newest Meg Harris mystery, 7 - 9 p.m., Heart and Crown, 67 Clarence St. in the Byward Market.

Mar. 1 - Nomination deadline for ASH/UOttawa Outstanding Student Neighbours Award, awards total \$1200, see story on page 5.

Mar. 5, 19, 26 - Cook it up! are healthy cooking demonstrations by staff and community members for Nutrition Month. Afterwards, taste recipes and greet other participants. From 5:30-7:30 p.m., Sandy Hill Community Health Centre, 221 Nelson St., in English, registration required, call Olly at 613 244-2792.

Mar. 6 - 25 - CUBE Gallery presents BLOOM, photographic works on glass by Karina Kraenzle, Vernissage Mar. 11 from 2 - 5 p.m., 1285 Wellington St. W. near Parkdale Market.

Mar. 8 - 17 - *The Player's Advice to Shakespear* by Brian K. Stewart, a New Theatre of Ottawa production, directed by Diana Fajrajsil, Arts Court Theatre, 8 p.m., \$30, \$25 (students and seniors), matinees on Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m., 2 Daly Ave., 613 564-7240, www.newtheatreottawa.com.

Mar. 11 - The Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program and the Department of English welcome you to "Irving Layton: A Centenary Celebration," celebrating the writings and legacy of Irving Layton (1912-2006), with readings from his works by poets and Members of Parliament. Hosted by Professor Seymour Mayne. Admission is free. University of Ottawa, Rm 129 Simard Hall, 60 University St., 2:30 p.m. Contact mayne@uottawa.ca.

Mar. 12 - 16 - March Break activities at the Ottawa Public Library, Rideau Branch, 377 Rideau St., 613 241-6954, include:

- Mar. 12 - What do you mean, no screen?! / Comment ça, pas d'Internet?! Ages 6-8. Registration. / Pour les 6 à 8 ans. Inscription. 2-3 p.m. / 14-15h
- Mar. 13 - NFB Film Club, animated films for children including The Dingles, Painted Tales: Winter Still, Oma's Quilt, Sunday. Ages 6-12. Registration. 2-2:40 p.m. / 14h-14h40
- Mar. 13 - Adventure Beat / Bouge de là! Musical storytime. Ages 3-5. Registration. / Contes en musique. Pour les 3 à 5 ans. Inscription. 10:30-11 a.m. / 10h30-11h
- Mar. 14 - Imagination Station / Pause créativité. Ages 6-8. Registration. / Pour les 6 à 8 ans. Inscription. 2-3 p.m. / 14h-15h
- Mar. 15 - Survival Isle the Game / Île désert le jeux. Ages 6-12. Registration. / Pour les 6 à 12 ans. Inscription. 2-3 p.m. / 14h-15h
- Mar. 16 - Fairy Tale Survival Kit / Pourrais-tu survivre aux contes de fées? Ages 6-8. Registration. / Pour 6 à 8 ans. Inscription. 2-3 p.m. / 14h-15h

Mar. 12 - 16 - March Break Drama Camp, Ottawa Little Theatre, for children 9-12 years of age, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., \$210, before and after care is available from 8-9 a.m. and from 4-5 p.m., at a cost of \$10/week for before OR after care and \$20/week for both, full details about the camp available at www.ottawalittletheatre.com or 613 233-8948.



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Mar. 12 - 16 - March Break Camps available at the Ottawa School of Art, 35 George St., visit www.artottawa.ca for more details.

Mar. 17 - Centretown Trees & Greenspace Committee presents CROPS in POTS with master gardener Edythe Falconer. Ornamental or edible, plants in containers can be very rewarding for small places such as porches, decks and balconies. 1:30 p.m. at Ottawa City Hall. Contact Bonnie at 613 237-1056.

Mar. 20 - Apr. 7 - *Self Help*, a comedy by Norm Foster, Ottawa Little Theatre, 8 p.m., \$25, \$22 (seniors), \$10 (students), matinee on Apr. 1 at 2 p.m., 400 King Edward Ave., 613 233-8948, www.ottawalittletheatre.com.

Mar. 21 - Heritage Ottawa lecture series presents "The West Block Redux," talk by Julia Gersovitz, Ottawa Public Library Auditorium, 120 Metcalfe St., 7 p.m., free admission, in English, 613 230-8841, heritageottawa.org/en.

Mar. 26 - Action Sandy Hill meets the last Monday of the month, 7 p.m., 613 241-4646,

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Mar. 27, Apr. 3, 10, 17, 24 - Family Storytime (session 2) at the Rideau Branch, Ottawa Public Library, stories, rhymes and songs for children of all ages and a parent or caregiver. / Contes, rimes et chansons pour les enfants de tous âges et un parent ou gardien. Registration / Inscription. 10:30 - 11 a.m., 377 Rideau St., 613 241-6954, www.bibliottawalibrary.ca/en/main/program.

Mar. 29 - *Law and Disorder - A Legal Comedy Debate*, featuring John Wing Jr., Mark Ertel and Pierre Brault, 5-9 p.m., Arts Court, 2 Daly Ave., tickets \$150 and \$125 (charitable tax receipt will be issued), call 613 569-4821 ext. 234 to purchase tickets. www.artscourt.ca.

Window on the Rideau



Cardinals: the reason why many people start into birding.

A flash of winter red

Robin Harlick

I don't know about you, but whenever I spy a flash of red in the deadpan whiteness of winter, I can't help but feel a frisson of excitement and cry out to my husband that a cardinal has arrived at our feeder. To me this brilliant red bird is pure magic and I'm not alone, for it is said that they are probably responsible for getting more people interested in birding than any other bird.

The name Cardinal actually refers to a family of large passerine birds found in North and South America. The bird that brightens our winters is known as the Northern Cardinal, the most northerly in the Cardinal family. And yes, the name does come from the red vestments of a Roman Catholic cardinal.

When I first arrived in Ottawa in the mid 1970's a sighting of a cardinal was a rare occurrence. But almost forty years later they have moved in in great numbers, expanding their range from the southern U.S. states to as far north as Kenora. One of the few songbirds that does not migrate, this expansion can in part be attributed to the proliferation of backyard feeders and warming temperatures. Black oilseed is the best way to lure them to your feeder and once they are enticed they will be a frequent visitor.

I say they, because they usually travel in pairs, the red male and much duller female, who I've discovered is the better singer, unlike most songbirds. Apparently the female often sings while sitting on her nest. It is thought she is nagging her mate to bring more food. No doubt you've heard the male's song in early spring and searched until you discovered his brilliant plumage at his favourite singing perch at the top of a tree. I have also learned that if

the size of your feeding area is limited you will only attract a single pair, for cardinals being very territorial will chase other cardinals away. Although we generally see them in pairs, they tend not to mate for life, preferring to change partners frequently. And speaking of life, the oldest recorded lifespan of a cardinal is 15 years.

Cardinals are known for attacking car mirrors and windows, particularly in spring when they are obsessed with defending their territory from intruders. Although I have never seen a Northern Cardinal do this, I did come across a Brazilian Cardinal in Hawaii intently looking at his image in a car mirror. It is thought that they believe their reflection is another bird and so they keep trying to chase it away and tend not to stop until their aggressive hormones wane.

They are thrilling birds to watch as the flash of red flits in and out of your feeder. If you seldom have a chance to observe one or you can't get enough of them, you can watch a variety of videos featuring the red bird and his mate on www.cardinal-bird.org.

Before signing off, I want to mention a rare bird occurrence that is happening in Ottawa this winter. Robins, the feathered kind. Many have decided to stay in Ottawa instead of flying south to their usual warmer climes. I sighted one on a recent walk along the Rideau River. With temperatures in the minus teens and a good foot of ice and snow I did wonder how the poor bird was going to get his worm. Local ornithologists believe the warmer than normal fall temperatures and a good berry crop have enticed them to remain. But I do hope the urge to fly south happens before the food supply runs out.

Writing as R.J. Harlick, Robin's newest Meg Harris mystery A Green Place for Dying is about to hit the stores and library shelves.

Park Watch: December 2011

Photo Lise Ausman



On December 6, there was the first of a series of political demonstrations at the Congolese Embassy on Range Rd. Police used pepper spray to disperse the crowd in an attempt to quell violent outbursts and maintained a presence on the street for many days.

Photo Claire MacDonald



Above — Many committed Sandy Hill residents have been helping flood and maintain our outdoor rink since temperatures dropped in December. Below—The fantastic result has been a very popular venue for exercise breaks and pick-up hockey on frosty days.

Photo Claire MacDonald



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