

Photo Katherine Takpannie



Nordic Lab and Annie Pootoogook studio open at SAW gallery

At SAW's Nicholas St. gallery, Maureen Gruben's "Big Hello" presents a dazzling shower of phone and tablet cases framing beadwork from moccasins and other Indigenous clothing, all testifying to the joys of communication. The show, which opened November 19 and continues until March 5, launches SAW's Nordic Lab and Annie Pootoogook studio. Read about it on page 15.

Is Sandy Hill a truly walkable neighbourhood?

Susan Khazaeli

Sandy Hill is a beautiful, diverse, centrally located, and walkable neighbourhood with some of the most gorgeous architecture in the country. While all of these were part of Sandy Hill's appeal when we considered where we'd live, being able to walk everywhere mattered most. (Full disclosure, I once lived in the suburbs and everything about it was misery.)

Walkability is hugely important. It has health, environmental, social, and economic benefits. Those in walkable neighbourhoods are less car dependent and more likely to walk, bike, or use public transportation. Some research also shows that those who live in suburbs suffer from more health problems than urban dwellers and that urbanites are generally happier than their suburban counterparts. And let's not overlook savings in money, time, and agony. No need for a car—and the gas, parking, insurance, and maintenance that comes with it. No idling in traffic, no near collisions, and no road rage.

Walkable neighbourhoods have long been a key concept in sustainable urban design. The City of Ottawa recently completed an evaluation of different communities and committed to the

promotion of 15-minute neighbourhoods in the Official Plan. Sandy Hill scored high for walkability.

That surprises me.

Yes, I know. I have thrown a curveball. But if we are being honest: walkability in Sandy Hill is less about what is in Sandy Hill than about what is around Sandy Hill.

Walkability is measured against access to available services, commerce, and amenities. In other words, can most errands be done on foot? That depends on where you live in Sandy Hill. For me in the northwest pocket, absolutely. But I appreciate that my friends and neighbours in the south end of Sandy Hill feel differently. They would likely welcome a grocery store (as they have with Safi Fine Foods), a dry cleaner (farewell Betty Brite), and other merchants.

And what if your child wants to swim or take part in certain other sports? Forget about it, you have to jump in a car and head to the 'burbs. To be a truly walkable neighbourhood, we need to push the City to invest in public recreation and we need to find ways to attract commerce in Sandy Hill.

The other pillar of walkability is concerned with the safety and enjoyability of the pedestrian environment. Over the last few years, residents have been increasingly vocal



Photo Bob Whitelaw

in their concerns about the safety and enjoyability of the pedestrian environment. Nelson Street – a major thoroughfare because of its access to Shoppers Drug Mart, Loblaws, and the Ottawa Public Library – is arguably the most litter strewn street in our

neighbourhood. Despite the fact that it is heavily used, it lacks bike lanes to support an eco-friendly lifestyle, trees to offer protection from the elements, and garbage receptacles for all of those wrappers and cans, owing in part to a parochial City decision to only locate these on "main streets." (As far as I know, there are no City-owned garbage and recycling receptacles along Somerset East or King Edward either.) Then there is Daly Avenue, a historic tree-lined street that offers a direct route to the Rideau Centre, the SAW Gallery, the Ottawa Art Gallery, and to the bike pathways along the scenic Canal but is underused because pedestrians and cyclists cannot safely traverse at King Edward. Daly is the only street that intersects at King Edward to have neither a stop light nor a protected crosswalk. It also happens to be one of the more dangerous areas of Sandy Hill because of the high volume of transport trucks along the King Edward-Rideau-Waller-Nicholas (KERWN) corridor. Just last month, someone was struck and injured at Cumberland and Rideau by a truck that should never have been allowed on a narrow and busy downtown roadway.

It is time for all residents in Sandy Hill to come together to make the 15-minute neighborhood a reality.

Susan Khazaeli lives on Daly Ave. and is President of Action Sandy Hill

IMAGE

Founded in 1972 under the direction of Diane Wood

22, av. Russell Ave.
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Fondé en 1972 sous la direction de 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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le 21 mars 2022

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IMAGE est rédigé, publié et distribué grâce au dévouement et au talent de nombreux bénévoles, mais aussi avec l'appui des annonceurs. Soutenez les commerces locaux, et tout particulièrement ceux qui font de la publicité dans IMAGE ou chez qui vous pouvez le trouver.

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IMAGE IN TRANSITION

As this issue goes to press, longtime editor Jane Waterston climbs out of the driver's seat. You have not seen the last of us though — IMAGE will be back in early April with an issue edited by Hilary Duff, business-managed by Jan Finlay, and laid out by the editor emeritus.

In the meantime (December through March), the engine is not turned off — we are merely going into neutral for a couple of months as we search for talent in the neighbourhood, receive offers of help and good ideas re content, and work out logistics for production.

From time to time, messages will be sent to the IMAGE Specials e-list (see masthead at left if you are not already receiving them) and there may be interim posts at the website. We encourage you to stay abreast of neighbourhood developments, events and news through Action Sandy Hill's newsletter and website.

A one-time only Zoom meeting, chaired by Susan Young, will happen in February. We will be pleased to send you an invitation if you decide to offer some time, expertise, and/or good ideas to help keep IMAGE on track through 2022 and 2023. While we particularly hope to hear from people who have some experience with journalism and publishing, commitment to the neighbourhood and voluntary activity are really our bottom line.

If you would like to stay or become involved in Sandy Hill's 50-year-old newspaper, please send us a note before Feb. 1 at:

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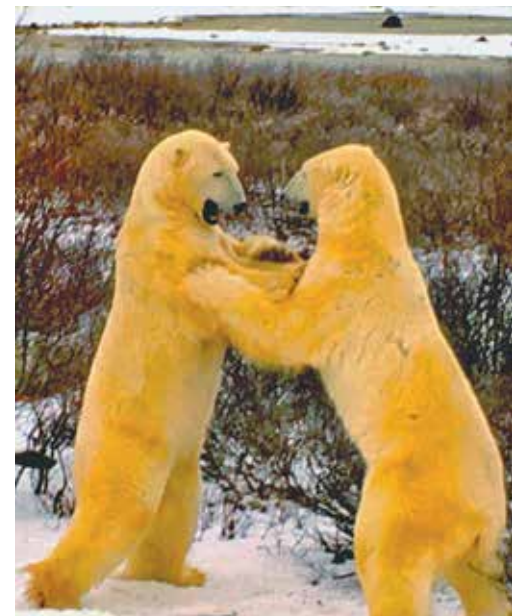
IMAGE Abroad

Intrepid Sandy Hillers catch up on the news in bear country.



Daniel Boswell (aka Daniel Patterson) and Diane Beckett took a news break while hiking up to the warning sign on Hudson's Bay's windswept shore outside Churchill (Manitoba) in early November, when polar bears migrate.

Beckett, who lives there now, reports that the sign is no joke: bears are not a rare sight. In the summer one jumped into the Churchill River estuary where she was kayaking, and in the fall another came right into her backyard. The bonus for taking his holiday in Churchill in November was that Daniel got close to them too, as evidenced by these photos...



Photos Daniel Boswell



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*Sandy Hill's
place
in the Market*

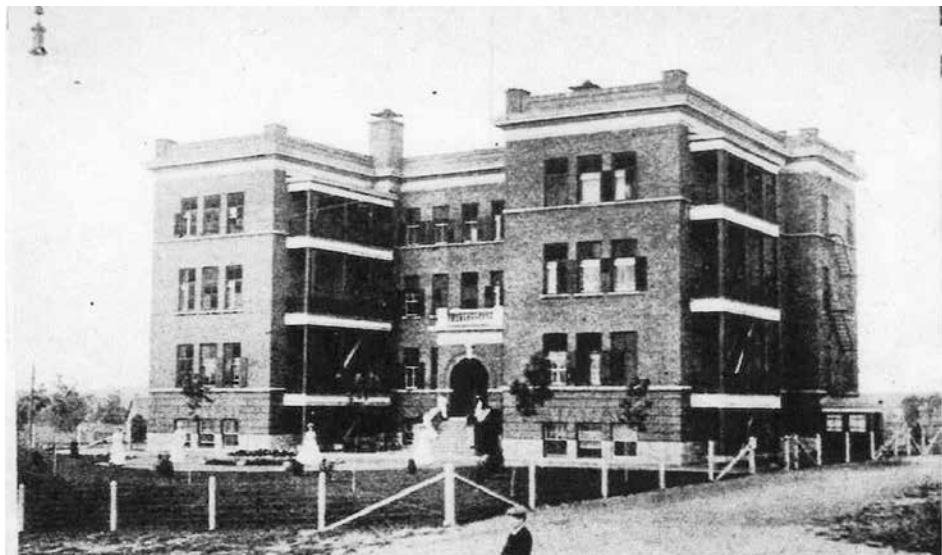
*Côte-de-Sable
se retrouve
au Marché*

You've been flagged



Letters to the Editor

We were happy to receive two letters responding to articles in the Oct-Nov 2021 edition.



What the Strathcona Isolation Hospital looked like

Enjoyed the article by Betsy Mann about the Strathcona Isolation Hospital on Range Road. As I now reside where the hospital used to stand I have been interested in learning about its history and what it looked like. For others who might be interested as well, here is a photo showing the front of the hospital facing Range Road. It can be found in: *Ottawa*

Illustrated, Recent Glimpses of Noteworthy Buildings and Statistics of the Recent Progress of the Dominion of Canada at the Ottawa Public Library's Main branch.

Denice Willis
Range Road

Re: What's up with all these needles?

Thank you for the substantive and interesting articles and photos in IMAGE's last issue. I learned a great deal in the special report about a difficult subject I witness everyday on my walks in Sandy Hill. Keep up the good work.

Gwynneth Evans
Range Road

Ed—See Ralph Blaine's follow up, Sites of despair, on page 8.

Test your memory and IMAG(E)ination

Photo Bob Whitelaw



Do these golden arches look familiar to you?

Let us know where they are in Sandy Hill and we'll give you some newsprint applause in the April issue of IMAGE.

Photo Bob Whitelaw



Last issue's mysteries revealed

The sign painting in the first photo was happening at Chef Ric's new storefront on Rideau St., former location of the Rideau Bakery. As for the second photo, 154 Mann Ave. is the address of the field house at Dutchie's Hole, south of Strathcona Park. Who knew?

Our frequent guesser, **Poonam Varshni** did! It took her a while to track down the location but once again she gets us cheering. Good luck to all with those golden arches.

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Sandy Hill scenes

Photo Bob Whitelaw



End of 2021 gardening season (left)
Strathcona Heights Community Garden members Jeanne Izabayo and Hildegard Henderson are shown at their plots in mid-November, preparing for winter and planning for next year. This was the first year Jeanne gardened; Hildegard has been active at the site for years.

The Strathcona community gardens, behind Wiggins Private near Lees Avenue and Chapel Street, opened in 1993 and expanded in 1996 to 40 plots. More than 125 community gardens are located in the Ottawa area and increasing in number as more people decide to grow vegetables for personal use or to give to food banks.
— Bob Whitelaw

Fire destruction on Daly (right)
After a painstaking and majestic renovation was completed at 335 Daly Ave., neglect grew year after year. Finally consumed by fire on Nov. 29, this lovely home is now lost to us all.
— Michael Barnes



Photo Michael Barnes

Reflections on the aftermath to the Panda Game riot last October

François Bregha

On October 2, “we lost our innocence” admits Trish Ferguson, Acting Deputy Chief of Community Policing. She was referring to the Panda Game “party” or “riot” (take your pick) that took place that evening on Russell Avenue and led to considerable property damage (a car was flipped and some front porches were damaged), at least one assault, residents being intimidated as well as national news headlines. The police charged eight individuals with a variety of offenses, including mischief over \$5000 and unlawful assembly. Their investigation continues. By-law also issued several tickets for noise violations.

A month later, Mathieu Fleury chaired an unusually-well-attended Town and Gown meeting to conduct a post mortem of the day’s events. The police, by-law, the university and the City’s special events team essentially all said the same thing: we’re sorry, we were caught off-guard and we

were overwhelmed. Yet, all, as well as Action Sandy Hill and the Councillor’s office, had prepared for the day’s events: they distributed information to students in advance; they organized a pre-game tail-gate party at the Sandy Hill Arena with a free shuttle service to Lansdowne Park where the game was held; they deployed additional resources, including paramedics, to patrol the streets the day of the game that the University of Ottawa, Carleton University and the Ottawa Sports and Entertainment Group (OSEG) paid for. At 6 p.m., the extra officers were released and the organizers thought their work had paid off. Party-goers started assembling shortly thereafter and soon there were some 2000 loud revellers on a single block of Russell Avenue.

A gathering of 2000 people is not a spontaneous affair. Word must have gone out on social media telling people where to gather. So, why was the police caught flat-footed? After all, this was not the first time this block of Russell Avenue attracted large unruly crowds on Panda Day, albeit earlier in the day. Similar “parties”

forcing the closure of the street have taken place in 2019 and earlier years. (The Panda Game was cancelled in 2020 due to COVID).

On October 2, our City institutions showed their limitations: they developed a plan for the Panda Game, they executed the plan to the letter and they were unable to adapt when circumstances changed. The problem here is not a lack of goodwill, or ideas or even a lack of resources; it is a lack of leadership. Every organization does its bit but none is accountable for the day as a whole. Each plans within its bailiwick but none takes ownership for ensuring that our residential streets remain quiet on game day. As a frustrated Russell Avenue resident stated, “I don’t want a university student to die outside the window of my two and a half year old because our City managers can’t devise a plan to control an illegal gathering.”

At the Town and Gown meeting, the police, by-law, the City and the university all said that they were reviewing their actions in order to learn lessons for the future. Part of that reflection will include

proposing solutions that would avert a repetition of the October 2 events. These solutions could include distributing information to incoming students about being good neighbours, introducing a Code of Student Conduct, providing venues for parties outside of residential areas and deploying resources for longer periods (the police has already committed to do so) but they are unlikely to include the Panda Game’s cancellation.

ASH has made a number of recommendations to reduce the likelihood of a repeat event (see website: ash-ac.s.ca). In addition, ASH is calling on senior University of Ottawa officials to demonstrate their contrition by walking around the neighbourhood to learn first-hand about residents’ concerns. ASH is also calling on the Student Federation to encourage students to engage positively in the community through activities such as neighbourhood litter clean-ups.

Our institutions may have lost their innocence on October 2. Now, they need to step up and assume responsibility for maintaining order on our streets.



- Dr. Michel Bastien
- Dr. Harry Prizant

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My Mom's Co-op première at the ByTowne on Dec. 13

Leah Geller

The Sandy Hill Housing Co-op is pleased to present the Ottawa premiere of *My Mom's Co-op* (*La coop de ma mère*) on Monday, December 13 at 6:45 p.m. at the ByTowne Cinema. Tickets are \$10 available on eventbrite or at the door.

Written and directed by Quebec filmmaker Ève Lamont, this charming, heart-warming film follows the challenges and joys of the 42 members of Gatineau's *Co-operative d'habitation St-Louis*, including the filmmaker's mother.

"I've wanted to take a look at the co-operative housing model for a while," explains Lamont, who has tackled many social justice issues during her 30-year career making documentaries. "When I focused my camera on the St-Louis co-op, where my mother lives, I saw a particular kind of multicultural, multigenerational melting pot—a better way of living together."

At a time when Canada is facing escalating housing prices, co-operative housing offers a viable, democratic and sustainable solution to the affordability crisis. In the Ottawa region alone, there are 65 housing co-operatives providing 3,600 homes for people with low and moder-



For more than 35 years, the Sandy Hill Housing Co-op has provided a stable anchor to the neighbourhood.

ate incomes, including seniors, families, newcomers and those living with a disability.

Founded in 1984, the Sandy Hill Housing Co-op is made up of approximately 150 people in 63 units near the University of Ottawa. Gillian Graham is on its board of directors, and has lived and raised her

family here for 14 years. "Our co-op not only provides stability in the neighbourhood, it also supports local businesses through partnerships like this one with the ByTowne," she explains.

My Mom's Co-op (*La coop de ma mère*) is screened in French with English subtitles.

Contemplating changes on Daly Avenue: your opinion needed

John Verbaas

Some residents in the northwest area of Sandy Hill have asked for Action Sandy Hill's assistance in facilitating more movement along Daly Avenue between Waller Street and King Edward Avenue, a route that leads directly to many destinations such as the Shaw Centre, the Canal, the Rideau Centre, and Arts Court. Before bringing this request to the City of Ottawa, ASH would like to open up the discussion and hear viewpoints from the community.

The impetus behind the initiative stems from the increasing use of this section of the street as a place to congregate, leading to incidents of public disorder and trespassing, as well as increased challenges with garbage, hazardous waste, and other public health concerns. As a result, many residents no longer feel safe walking the sidewalks on the western sections of Daly and increasingly avoid the area altogether.

Improvement of mobility through this area could take the form of opening up the *cul-de-sac* of Daly at Waller, as well as adding a protected pedestrian crossing at King Edward. The opening at Waller Street would allow some amount of car

traffic, which also could help lead to a normalization of movement through this area, contributing to making it feel safer, and potentially reducing the number of public safety incidents that occur there.

An important issue to discuss with City staff is whether an opening of the *cul-de-sac* would lead to excessive non-local through traffic, in which case that would have to be weighed against the perceived benefits of this initiative. However, before proceeding to this engagement with the City, we at ASH, are inviting you, the community, to share your views with us.



There are other potential benefits of a *cul-de-sac* opening. These include making it easier for emergency response vehicles to reach this area and park their

vehicles on Daly, rather than blocking the busy vehicle lanes on Waller. The opening also would provide a cycling connection through the *cul-de-sac* to improve connectivity between Sandy Hill and the multi-use path on the eastern side of the Rideau Canal, connecting onward to the cycling lanes on Mackenzie Avenue, and shortly on to new lanes on Wellington Street as well. This intersection opening would also improve access and mobility to other service vehicles for snow clearing and garbage collection instead of having to contend with awkward turnarounds at the current dead end.

If you have any thoughts or reactions to share with us, please access the survey which can be found on the home page of the Action Sandy Hill website at www.ash-ac.s.ca. Typing "Daly" into the search box on the website is another way to find the survey. This will help determine what next steps to pursue in supporting residents in this neighbourhood.

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

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



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Regard en arrière et mouvement vers l'avant

À l'approche de la fin de l'année, je suis étonné de ce que nous avons accompli en tant que communauté. Surtout en ces temps différents et incertains. Et bien qu'une nouvelle année approche à grands pas, il reste encore beaucoup à faire, notamment terminer l'examen du budget de 2022 de la Ville.

En l'état actuel des choses, ce n'est pas un budget que je peux appuyer sans y apporter des changements importants. Parmi les changements pour lesquels je travaille sans relâche, il y a l'augmentation des investissements dans le logement abordable, une stratégie d'intervention appropriée en matière de santé mentale et de toxicomanie, un financement pour les espaces de loisirs et la programmation pour les jeunes et la nécessité de faire en sorte que le transport en commun puisse être un choix de vie tout en étant abordable et fiable pour la Ville.

En plus de ces demandes à l'échelle de la ville, je m'intéresse également aux besoins propres aux quartiers. Ces priorités comprennent l'entretien hivernal et les réparations des trottoirs, veiller à ce que les plans de conception secondaires de notre communauté aillent de l'avant, une Stratégie de vieillissement chez soi pour les aînés et des ensembles résidentiels abordables sur les terres du TLR. Nous allons examiner le budget de chaque comité et l'ensemble du budget le 8 décembre.

MISES À JOUR SUR L'INFRASTRUCTURE

Le projet d'infrastructure de l'avenue Mann et du chemin Range a été achevé cette année. Ce projet d'envergure englobait l'avenue Mann, le chemin Range, la rue Templeton et l'avenue Russell. La route a été reconstruite, réasphaltée et dotée de nouveaux services publics et de trottoirs. OC Transpo finalisera également les arrêts d'autobus au printemps, et une nouvelle jardinière sera ajoutée sur l'avenue Mann.

CHANGEMENT DU NOM D'UN PARC

La dernière étape pour renommer le parc Côte-de-Sable a eu lieu le 7 novembre. On a rendu hommage à l'héritage d'Annie Pootoogook, une artiste inuk, bien-aimée et innovante, en rebaptisant le parc Côte-de-Sable parc Annie-Pootoogook cet hiver. La cérémonie officielle de dénomination a eu lieu le 7 novembre avec des invités très spéciaux. La fille d'Annie, Napachie Coburn, a assisté à la cérémonie, ainsi que son Excellence, la très honorable Mary May Simon, gouverneure générale du Canada, et son Excellence Whit Grant Fraser.

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Phil Caron's Portfolio



When the leaves fall, Sandy Hill's architecture is on full display. This charming duplex is on Daly Avenue.

News Bites

Community saves Besserer Park!

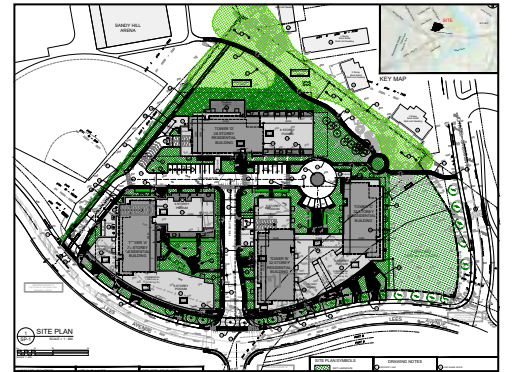
The Sandy Hill September rally was victorious! Community organizer and activist Michael Barnes reports, "...as well, over 750 people signed an online petition. In the end, the public saved Besserer Park."

Developer TCU has now modified plans for the apartment building on Fountain Place so that no part of Besserer Park will be paved. Parking will be accommodated on Fountain Place rather than from Besserer Street into the park.

Ottawa is indebted to the organizers of the rally — Horizons Ottawa, Action Sandy Hill, Greenspace Alliance, musicians Ronney Abramson and Jerry Golland, and to everyone who turned up or signed on to save our "small green gem." — *Judy Rinfret*

Site plan submitted for 2 Robinson Avenue apartment development

Development Review (Urban Services) of the City of Ottawa has announced that a Site Plan Control application has been submitted for 2 Robinson Avenue (320 Lees Avenue) "to construct two 28-storey and two 32-storey residential towers atop one- and six-storey mixed-use podiums, containing a total of 1,440 residential units and 2,520 square metres at-grade commercial space, with 988 parking spaces." The file number is D07-12-21-0202; search at devapps.ottawa.ca/. City contact for questions or concerns: email Andrew. McCreight@ottawa.ca



Site plan and rendering of the development proposed for Mann and Robinson

Community working group

There has been ongoing consultation between the developer and community organizations including Action Sandy Hill, Sandy Hill Community Health Centre, Ottawa Community Housing and Coopérative d'habitation Voisins. A 2 Robinson working group has been established and is working towards obtaining benefits to the community from this development. To contact the group email Cynthia Mitchell: cynmitch@outlook.com or info@ash-acs.ca

See also *IMAGE Feb-Mar and April-May 2021*, at imagesandyhill.org.

Action Sandy Hill debates and updates

Dealing with public security concerns

As a result of recent concerns from residents about ongoing & worsening public space security issues, especially in northern Sandy Hill, ASH invited two health care professionals to speak about the programs they are providing at the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre (SHCHC) and to discuss residents' concerns. Residents were pleased ASH had organized the meeting, noting that the City and SHCHC had not responded to residents' written concerns.

Later in the meeting, Councillor Fleury informed the group that the City had agreed to hire more staff to coordinate efforts and respond to 311 calls.

Rob Boyd, Executive Director of the Oasis Program at SHCHC, spoke about the services they provide, including a supervised injection site. He highlighted some of the structural changes, such as the reduction in low-income housing, access to rent supplements, the worsening opioid crisis, and how these have all been exacerbated by COVID-19, which has reduced services, both by limiting access (safe distancing etc.) and because of higher staff shortages.

He acknowledged residents' concerns about the adverse impact recent events have had on the local community. He outlined the steps SHCHC has taken, including increased staffing, engaging a security firm to monitor the entrance area around the clinic (they have recently replaced the firm following a survey) and given police "agent status" to the property outside office hours.

Donna Sarrazin, owner and operating partner of Recovery Care, then gave a summary of her "Safer Supply" project which is running at six sites, one being SHCHC. It is a Health Canada funded pilot project (ends March 2023), with a

total of 350 participants. The project provides daily dispensation of medications and "wrap-around services" provided by nursing, addiction & mental health specialists as well as housing, outreach, harm reduction and community workers. They promote the process of transferring participants to locations outside the downtown core when it can be done safely (over 50 participants have been relocated so far). They have detailed outcome measures with data being collected and analysed monthly by epidemiological experts. One of the high-level outcome measures is "improved communities" with data collected showing items such as less pan-handling, fewer on-street drug transactions etc. Sarrazin was open to discussing further measures to monitor the effects of the program on the surrounding community (while taking into account mitigating COVID-related factors).

Winter Carnival 2022

ASH is looking for someone to co-ordinate the event, usually held towards the end of January. Anyone interested in helping please email Info@ash-acs.ca.

Pollinator Garden in Strathcona Park

ASH has heard from Carefor, who want to celebrate their 125th anniversary by planting a bee pollinator garden in Strathcona Park. No details are yet available about where exactly, or about size and composition (presumably these would have to be approved by City officials), but Carefor would provide volunteers to implement and maintain. ASH voted to support the initiative.

— notes from Kathy Moyer

Wondering about NCC's Long-Term Interprovincial Transportation Plan?



John Verbaas

The NCC released on November 9 a draft version of its Long-Term Interprovincial Transportation Plan. This marks the culmination of a two-year process with several steps of public engagement along the way. This plan is of interest to residents of Sandy Hill as the shortcomings of the current interprovincial transportation network – lack of an appropriate connection between the 416/417 highways in Ontario and the 5/50 in Quebec – result in about two thousand trucks per day travelling along Waller, Rideau and King Edward for no other reason than access to the Macdonald-Cartier Bridge. In the peak periods of the day, the flow of trucks approaches about 200 per hour or one truck every 18 seconds. The majority of these trucks are tractor trailers.

The NCC Plan, in my reading, is closer to a plan to come up with a plan rather than a plan itself. At a high level it recommends going ahead with the existing proposed project for a Gatineau western LRT crossing to Ottawa on the Portage Bridge, terminating on Wellington Street. It then goes on to say that even with this project, more crossing capacity will be needed somewhere by 2050, but then doesn't go much further than that.

On the subject of trucks, the Plan points out that a new bridge in the east end of Ottawa would attract only about 15% of the trucks away from downtown, and that to remove more of the trucks would require other measures such as changing truck routes (i.e., forcing trucks to take a longer roundabout route via that east end bridge) or changing the logistic structures of how goods are moved in the region. The study makes no attempt to show what either of those could look like, nor what would be the social and economic challenges of accomplishing such a change. Shifting all trucks to the Gatineau and Ottawa side of any new proposed crossing, has to date been so controversial that all efforts at doing so over several past decades have failed. This Plan has not made any contribution towards resolving this impasse.

The study also mentions the possibility of a downtown tunnel between the 417 and the Macdonald-Cartier Bridge which

could remove more trucks from the downtown than a bridge option, but points out it would not adequately address the challenges of providing more crossing capacity and crossing locations across the Ottawa River.

It could be said that all of the above were already relatively self-evident, without another study from the NCC. Another two years of work and more money has been spent, without bringing the region any closer to breaking the stalemate preventing authorities from moving forward with a new bridge or a downtown tunnel. Having said that, one contribution the Plan does make is to look at the interprovincial transportation challenge in a broader context, compared to previous efforts which were simply asking the question of where to build a sixth bridge. In this Plan we are made aware of the challenges that result from the lack of appropriate connectivity between the 417 and the 5/50, and we are provided a view of a wider set of potential options for improving interprovincial transportation.

The study leaves us with one implementable action, in the form of a monitoring framework to measure trends in demand for trucks and cars to move across the river. The study notes the importance of doing this, especially given the changes to commuting patterns that the Covid pandemic has brought about, and the potential changes that electric cars, ride hailing, etc. might bring to the way citizens move around in the future. This certainly would be a step forward. For decades past, studies predicted large increases in demand for crossing the river; yet in reality there is not much evidence that this has occurred. This kind of monitoring framework would set planning on more solid ground than it has been to date.

Unlike past repeated predictions of future gridlock for cars, which so far do not yet seem to be materializing, one thing we know for sure in Sandy Hill and Lowertown: the trucks have been a problem since 1967 and we still do not have a plan for what anyone intends to do about it.

The document can be found by searching the term "long-term" on the NCC website.



Lucille Collard

MPP / députée Ottawa-Vanier



Votre députée à l'œuvre pour vous

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

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

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

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

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

Mon équipe demeure disponible pour vous aider. N'hésitez pas à nous appeler au 613-744-4484 ou à nous envoyer un courriel à lcollard.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org.

Your MPP at work for you

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

The work that I do in Toronto at Queen's Park is probably the part of my job that you are the least aware of. I want to take a moment to explain what I do there and how your concerns and interests help me.

I am committed to being the advocate for the residents of Ottawa-Vanier by defending the issues that concern you and that you bring to my attention. My interactions with constituents inform my approach to holding the government to account during Question Period. My ultimate goal, as a member of the opposition, is to verify that the priorities and concerns of the people are understood by the government and to ensure that it is working to respond to these.

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

This is the job I do when I am in Toronto, but when I am in the constituency, I take the opportunity to increase my meetings with stakeholders, elected officials, and residents on the issues that we want to take action. These conversations are important, and that's why I'm always happy to hear from you.

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

Constituency Office / Bureau de circonscription

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Sites of despair

Ralph Blaine

It was about 4:30 p.m. on October 14. Tiffany and I were chatting on the asphalt strip next to Pizza Pizza just opposite the supervised injection site (SIS). She is an animated young woman who is currently living in a tent. My first article on the SIS had recently come out (What's up with all these needles?, October-November 2021) and she had read it. She had objections and said she was going to write a letter to the editor. I encouraged her to do that, and to also consider writing a piece highlighting her own story on and off the streets of Ottawa. I offered to put her in contact with IMAGE and we exchanged texts. Then she leaned closer and, glancing off to the side, asked "Is he OK?"

I had asked the same question on several occasions over the summer. Perhaps the first time was on Besserer Street near the stairs that led down to Shoppers Drug. A man with tangled hair was propped against the side wall of 295 Besserer preparing to inject. He told me he was not using the SIS because Stéphane had banned him – apparently for unacceptable behaviour. I had heard this story before.

The "he" that Tiffany was concerned about had a different story. I had already seen him sit down and methodically set out his syringe kit. Asked why he wasn't using the SIS, he seemed to indicate that he preferred not to. Once again, I had heard much the same story from another man injecting behind 306 Besserer.

Anyone walking around the streets, alleys and waste spaces within a two-block radius of the SIS is likely to find, from time to time, bits and pieces of syringes, blue arm tension bands, light blue plastic water capsules, etc. But there are at least four locations within a block of the SIS where such debris can be found virtually any time. The reader can see typical scenes from these locations in the attached photos.

In effect, the presence of the SIS has

spawned a handful of unsupervised, or sometimes self-supervised mini-injection sites. There seems to be a significant number of addicts who don't wish to use the SIS or are not allowed on the premises. Nonetheless, the area around the SIS attracts drug users for at least two reasons.

The first reason is the easy accessibility of drugs, and not just from the ever-present dealers attracted by the clients of the SIS. There is ample evidence that the legal supply of drugs being given to a select number of addicts in the experimental "Safe Supply" program is finding its way into other hands. This Safe Supply program is run out of a store front less than a block away from the SIS. It is not uncommon to see prescription vials of hydromorphone (Dilaudid) or methylphenidate (Ritalin) from this outlet littering the ground of the satellite injection sites. Since these drugs are "safe" (no fentanyl, etc.), the addicts using these drugs may not feel they need the SIS injection supervision.

Adding to the dependable supply of drugs near the SIS, the addict can also count on getting, directly or indirectly, a free supply of injection hardware from the SIS itself. With all these advantages



Near Besserer and Nelson, September-October 2021

Photos Ralph Blaine



it is not surprising that the "shooting galleries" that have sprung up in backyards, alleys and waste areas seem to be well patronized by those who are not allowed, don't wish or don't need to use the injection booths of the SIS.

Every initiative has unintended consequences. But surely the parties who sponsor new programs, if they want to maintain the goodwill of the community in which they are located, have a responsibility to monitor the unexpected spinoff effects and be prepared to take immediate measures to address problems that arise. And to be fair, over the last month the litter problem near the SIS has improved significantly. But a little over two years ago Sandy Hill residents were told the neighbourhood would be the site of a drug injection site. We now find ourselves with at least five. Does that seem right?



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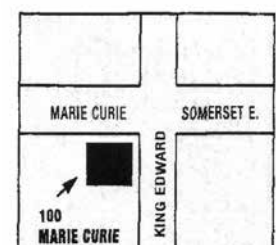
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www.campuspharmacy.com

University of Ottawa students looking out for refugees lend a hand in Sandy Hill at Carty House

Michelle Miller

One crisp fall day in 2020, we got an email from a University of Ottawa student who wondered if her newly founded student group could partner with us at Carty House. We are a local transitional home for female refugees who arrive alone in Ottawa, and we can use all the support that we can get! We were delighted to say “yes,” and thus started a great relationship with the Refugee Support Association (RSA). They just dropped off some essential items for Carty House this week, and with university students often receiving press that is less than flattering, we thought it was important to highlight some good and inspiring news, as well.

The RSA began in September 2020, when Zeynep Cildir, Nour Abdulkhalek and Aysa Khorami got together to move an idea into a reality. They all had personal experiences regarding refugees; one worked as a refugee settlement worker, another worked with teaching immigrants and refugees, and they also had family and friends who had been, or are refugees, themselves. “We realized that the refugee process is hard, and what refugee settlement organizations are doing is amazing.



A student with the Refugee Support Association makes a drop off at Carty House transitional residence for female refugees in Sandy Hill.

So, we wanted to help them out in any way we can and raise awareness to these issues,” stated one of the founders. As students, they felt that unless you are in-

involved with, or studying about refugees, you might never be exposed to their challenging situation.

They have worked hard, even in the

midst of the pandemic, and have managed to raise \$1,000 for Carty House, through events such as a talent show, a movie night, two essential items drives, and a panel discussion featuring a professor of refugee studies, an immigration attorney, and our very own Manager of Refugee Services. The University has also recognized their dedication and has awarded the RSA with “The Best New Club Award” as well as “The COVID Award.”

The residents at Carty House are often amazed at how generous Canadians are. We couldn’t agree more. And the witness of these students and their own passion for refugees is not lost on our residents, either.

We asked the RSA what they wanted the Sandy Hill community to know about university students. “We have a lot of diversity, and that benefits the Sandy Hill community, any community, for that matter. We’re also hard-working and passionate individuals that are working towards the future for the better.”

We have been really impressed with these students and wish them and all of our city’s university students a safe and restful holiday break. Thank you for your service.

To learn more about Carty House, feel free to visit us at www.CartyHouse.org or email us at Outreach@CartyHouse.org

It’s time to give gifts that mean more

Photo Domino Creative

Leigh Anne Williams

Sandy Hill’s Centre 454 is one of seven community agencies that will benefit from a gift guide produced by the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa this Christmas.

Like the now familiar gift guides produced by organizations including World Vision and the Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF), which enable people to buy gifts such as a goat or chickens for a family in a developing country in honour of a loved one, this guide offers opportunities to give a gift that benefits vulnerable people in Ottawa.

Centre 454, as well as St. Luke’s Table and The Well, have expanded their day program services during the pandemic to provide for basic needs as well as helping people who are struggling with poverty or mental health issues. “Sadly, we are seeing more and more people who are sleeping rough, who are unsheltered. During the pandemic, many people were scared to access the shelter system,” Executive Director Rachel Robinson explains.

The gift guide also features gifts that support Cornerstone Housing for Women (which started as an overnight hostel in All Saints’ Bate Hall at Blackburn and



Laurier E.), the Ottawa Pastoral Counseling Centre, a refugee settlement program and a drop-in centre in Cornwall, Ont. Donors can choose to support all of these agencies collectively or support a specific one with gifts such as these:

A gift of \$50 to Centre 454 in Ottawa will provide an individual with hygiene supplies for a month. A \$500 gift will help an individual access clinical support for psychiatric disabilities and addictions.

A gift of \$125 will provide nutritious meals for a month to a person who comes to St. Luke’s Table in Ottawa because they have to choose between paying rent and buying food.

Friends meet up at St. Luke’s Table day program on Somerset St. W.

A \$600 gift can provide shelter for a woman in need in Ottawa for one month through Cornerstone Housing for Women.

The whole gift guide can be found online at www.todayfortomorrow.ca. With each gift, the giver can send a greeting card directly to let the receiver know what gift has been given in their honour. Perfect for that difficult-to-buy-for person who already has everything, especially if that person has a big heart!

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Provide hope this Christmas by giving a meaningful gift, and “Love your neighbour as yourself.”

—Mark 12:31

Today 4 Tomorrow, the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa’s annual appeal, partners with the Community Ministries (CMs), seven social service agencies with a strong track record of providing practical support and a sense of belonging for the most vulnerable people in our communities.

We are calling on you to help Centre 105, Centre 454, Cornerstone Housing for Women, Ottawa Pastoral Counselling Centre (OPC), Refugee Ministry, St Luke’s Table, and The Well to serve people living precariously, struggling with poverty, and challenged by mental health issues.

Through your special Christmas gift, you can support our Community Ministries participants and give a meaningful gift to a family member, friend or colleague. With each gift that you make, you will receive a personalized gift card you can send out for Christmas, letting your loved ones know you made a gift in their honour.



How to give

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Provide a safe community for refugees

Your gift will help the Refugee Ministry Office support families, parishes, and community groups as they strive to sponsor refugees fleeing from perilous experiences in their home countries to settle into welcoming

communities in Canada. Sponsored refugees are supported to learn English as a second language and to find employment while safely housed.

“Parishes and other partners are very important to helping individuals and families settle and integrate into our communities. They will become even more important for our response to the Afghanistan crisis and the approximately 20,000 refugees who could be seeking resettlement. Your financial support is essential to helping with their transition from perilous situations at home to the safety of our communities.”

—(Refugee Ministry Staff)



Your gift of \$1,000 will contribute to providing a refugee family with clothing as they begin their new lives here in Canada.

Item: LTN-4303RF-1



Your gift of \$2,000 will contribute to providing a refugee family with housing when they arrive in Canada.

Item: LTN-4303RF-2



Provide basic human necessities

Many people who come to St. Luke’s Table are experiencing poverty, mental health issues, and addictions. They are living on the street, or in rooming houses or shelters. Often they are faced with the choice to either pay rent or buy groceries. Every week St. Luke’s Table serves up hundreds of meals as well as companionship and support for daily living.

“I live in a rooming house where I can’t afford to pay rent and also buy groceries. It made a big difference to my life when I started going to St. Luke’s Table every day for nutritious meals. My life would be so much harder without St. Luke’s Table and the day-to-day practical support and hope it offers.”

—Brian



Your gift of \$125 will provide an individual with nutritious meals for a month.

Item: LTN-4303SG-1



Your gift of \$1,500 will provide an individual with nutritious meals for a year.

Item: LTN-4303SG-2

Order Online at todayfortomorrow.ca or call 613-232-7124 ext. 221



Provide a welcoming place for people in Cornwall

Invest in providing a welcoming atmosphere, social recreational programs and warm nourishing breakfasts to many people within Cornwall's most vulnerable population. Centre 105 reaches out to the homeless and those at risk providing them with connections to Cornwall's social service networks and ensuring that they receive the help they need.

“ I didn't have anywhere else to go in Cornwall, but I knew I would find help here. You come in, sit down, and talk to people and they treat you like a person at Centre 105.”
—Tom



With your gift of **\$75**, you will provide a hearty breakfast for one person, three days per week, for one month.

Item: LTN-4303TP-1



With your gift of **\$1,000**, you will help people at Centre 105 to access support services such as pastoral counselling, legal aid advice, and public health nurse visits.

Item: LTN-4303TP-2



Extend counselling support to those who lack resources

The Ottawa Pastoral Counselling Centre (OPC) offers counselling support to people experiencing family crisis, depression, loss, and grief, and many other human issues. The isolation and uncertainty of the present pandemic has increased the need for mental health services. Donations to the OPC's Counselling Support Fund help people access counselling services.

“ People reach out to the OPC seeking care and counselling support. Many do not have the financial resources for counselling services. Thanks to your generous giving, the OPC has been able to respond to the mental health crisis that is before us. Your donation to the OPC's Counselling Support Fund helps us extend our services now and beyond this pandemic.”

—Sharon York, Executive Director
(PHOTO ABOVE)



Your gift of **\$100** will support counselling services for children and teens.

Item: LTN-4303SO-1



Your gift of **\$500** will help provide counselling to a family in crisis.

Item: LTN-4303SO-2



Provide essential services to those experiencing homelessness

When people are empowered, the community benefits as a whole. Centre 454 provides essential services to people who are experiencing homelessness or are precariously housed. The Centre believes in a community where everyone belongs, feels safe, and receives support to bring about positive change in their lives. Centre 454 works with individuals to increase their dignity and welfare while combating addictions and extreme poverty.

“ I grew up on the streets and got into crime, drugs, and alcohol. I was dead in so many ways. It was at that time in my life that I connected with Centre 454. The Centre has been with me for a long time through so many hard times providing support and helping me choose hope.”

—Shawn



Your gift of **\$50** will provide an individual with hygiene supplies for a month.

Item: LTN-4303SA-1



Your gift of **\$500** will help an individual access clinical support for psychiatric disabilities and addictions.

Item: LTN-4303SA-2



Contribute to a safe community, nutritious meals, and other services for women and children

A sense of community is so essential for the wellbeing of women. The women who access The Well for support are often living in difficult housing situations and may have other challenges in their lives such as mental health and addictions which are compounded by poverty. They may be caring for children who also benefit from The Well. The Well provides nutritious meals, social interaction and other services in a safe place. Men living in precarious housing situations are served too.

“ It's amazing how when I started coming here it gave me that hope, that fight, that extra push I needed. The Well gave me a welcoming, safe community where I could be accepted as me. It has literally changed my life.”

—Dee Dee



With your gift of **\$75** you will provide an individual with nutritious lunches for one week.

Item: LTN-4303ST-1



With your gift of **\$300** you will be providing healthy breakfasts for one month.

Item: LTN-4303ST-2



Provide support for the only shelter and housing provider in Ottawa that is specifically for women

Cornerstone Housing for Women provides emergency shelter and safe, supportive, permanent housing for women experiencing homelessness. Through its permanent housing, shelter, and outreach programs, approximately 600 women's lives are transformed each year. Cornerstone Housing for Women offers the only shelters in Ottawa that are for women only.

“ For a long period of time, I didn't live anywhere. I would go from place to place to place without any hope of having a place to call home. Now, I have lived at Cornerstone for more than nine years, and I am finally at home.”

—Sheena



Your gift of **\$175** will provide home-cooked meals for one month for one woman in emergency shelter.

Item: LTN-4303WA-1



Your gift of **\$600** will provide shelter for one woman for one month.

Item: LTN-4303WA-2

Photo Christine Aubry



Takeaway from COP-26: Think globally, act locally with intention

Gwynneth Evans

As COP26 wound down in Glasgow, participants returned home to face the evidence of the climate crisis. Each person and family has a role to play, in the context of the broader communities of decision-makers: business, governments and dedicated not-for-profits and activists. Some say our contribution is “a drop in the bucket,” but if we do not add a drop, we will not have water for our daily needs.

Over the last twenty months, we have also been exhorted to think globally and act locally to lessen the spread of COVID-19. Every entrance has a sign and instructions about the spacing in closed spaces, the wearing of masks and the cleansing of hands!

A number of daily events have caused me to follow the trail of our activities in Sandy Hill. I can report from a 10-storey building, that Amazon and various eateries deliver dozen of parcels every day. These have been ordered online, sight unseen. But I can also report that Strathcona Park attracts individuals and groups— young and old, many with dogs—from dawn to late at night. And if you follow a routine, you likely meet neighbours on your walks from Old Ottawa East, Vanier and neighbourhoods farther afield—Centretown and New Edinburgh. More and more, we greet one another – a nod or a small hello or bonjour. While we share the path with many, the cyclists and wheelchairs are the masters.

One of my favourite destinations has been Singing Pebble Books on Main Street in that block of sustainable inde-

pendent businesses near Saint Paul University. I realized early in the pandemic that we want to feel part of the community. Many of us have preferred not to use the box stores and online giants, except for bulky necessities.

Acting locally and intentionally encourages the development of personal relationships, the core of community. Through the systems that some small bookstores now use, each can relate and refer to other indies. At Singing Pebble Books you can find both new and used books, although the second-hand sales are small. What draws many to the indies are their attractive windows, with colourful puzzles, trinkets and alluring titles to be browsed on site or online. In Sandy Hill there are several second hand bookshops, but our closest independents are on Beechwood, Elgin and Main.

And on foot, on a bike or even climbing aboard the 16 bus, we can visit these shops, keeping our carbon footprint small and our health and well-being positive. I have learned that the indie bookstores also have award systems. So in addition to accessing the stock online, ordering and, in some cases, offering the possibility of delivery, the independent shops in our neighbourhood—whatever their type of merchandise—are doing their part for the climate by recycling to lessen their carbon footprint; they are sharing among themselves and are offering personalized services which encourage us to think globally but act locally, using the considerable natural spaces of Sandy Hill but also our adjacent neighbourhoods. Some of us are involved formally with fighting the climate crisis; all of us can join together to work as a community to decrease the damage to our environment.

BOOK REVIEW

The story of a good woman and her life, in poetry

Maureen Korp

A good many of us walking about in Ottawa's neighbourhoods did not grow up here. We do not know the stories of earlier generations. We've never heard of the arguments, the scandals, the whispers of what no one speaks about in the presence of children.

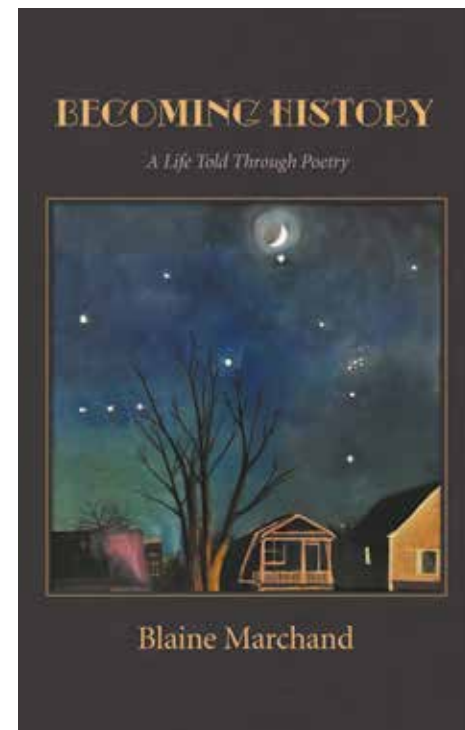
Blaine Marchand's new book of poetry, his seventh, is the story of a good woman and her life, one long-lived in Ottawa. It is also a story framed by another, a story of hidden parentage, betrayals.

Becoming History relates the tale of Blaine Marchand's mother, Kathleen Dorothy. She grew up on Echo Drive, was schooled by nuns at the convent school on Rideau, and married William Edmour Marchand in 1937. They made their home on Conley, near Tunney's Pasture. Theirs was a long, married life, birthing and raising eight children. In 2016, she died at 103 years of age.

During the last two years of his mother's life, Marchand visited her daily at Grace Manor. She had many stories to tell her son—the raspberry tale, for example. She gathered raspberries along Echo Drive, boxing them nicely, to sell to the “well-heeled of the Glebe.” Kathleen Dorothy had a talent for sales, for speaking to strangers nicely. When she married, she lost her good job as a salesgirl at Ogilvy's, but Mr. Ogilvy, himself, gave her two \$100 bills as a wedding present. Apparently, it was unlawful for married women to work outside the home.

Long ago, poets recited complex sagas of progeny, history, tales of retribution and of triumph to one and all. *Becoming History* has been written in that tradition. The poems of Blaine Marchand's work have two or three sequential storylines in their telling. They tell of his mother's life and, at the same time, of his own location within her story. They also tell us of Ottawa's working class then, and perhaps of our own families, even today.

The book is divided into three parts: The first section of prose poems is entitled *I Should Have Known (1913-1942)*. We learn Kathleen Dorothy grew up believing Joseph and Margaret Irish were her “Mummy” and “Daddy.” Admittedly, they already had seven children, most of them grown; but how would a baby know the Irishes were too old to be her “real parents.” Everyone else in the neighbourhood knew. The whole town knew her birth mother had



run off to Montreal, abandoning her baby and 2-year-old son to the care of “the Protestant orphanage on Elgin.”

Blaine Marchand begins the story with a descriptive meditation, entitled “Lunar Caustic: A Studio Portrait.” He holds in his hands an old photograph. The man is in uniform, the woman dressed in a “...cumbersome fur coat.” It is a photograph of his mother's parents. Noting its likely date, the poet writes: “...your brother and you abandoned in Ottawa.” The photograph was made, c.1919, at Rice Studios, Montreal.

The second section is entitled *I Always Remember (1952-1964)*. We read of several discrete events from Kathleen Dorothy's adult years and of Blaine's own childhood memories—the beggar, for example, who comes hobbling door-to-door selling shoelaces, ribbons. He has but one leg. Without fail, his mother will “...extract a twinge of coins” from her purse when he knocks.

A Cappella (2013-2016) is the third and last section of the collection. Kathleen Dorothy may well have known the end was nearing. She tells him how it was to walk to Grace Hospital, in labour, “...clutching telephone poles for support, up Carleton, down Wellington, across Holland, past Parkdale,” because there is no time to wait for a taxi. “...and, in moments of hurting you whisper the Hail Mary and beg to be delivered.” Watching her die, Blaine Marchand wears his loss “...like a shirt, tailored to the contours and misshapes of my skin and mood.”

Kathleen Dorothy Marchand, age 103, dies June 30, 2016: “All those years—a lifetime so long, vanished, now so short.”

Becoming History: A Life told through Poetry by Blaine Marchand is available locally at a number of bookstores, including: Singing Pebbles, 206 Main St.; Perfect Books, 258 Elgin; Books on Beechwood, 35 Beechwood; and at Octopus Books, 116 Third Avenue in the Glebe. The cost is \$20.

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BOOK REVIEW

Maureen Korp: poet

B.G. Page and J. Waterston

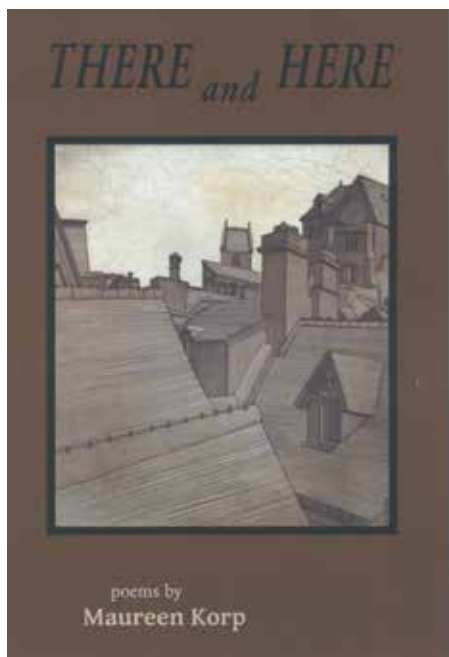
Maureen Korp, who has been reading IMAGE for many years and, latterly, reviewing nearby art shows for us, is an independent scholar, writer and art critic. And now we learn she is also a poet.

Hot off the press — from Hidden Brook Press (HBP) — is a handsome new collection of poems called *There and Here*. Some of the poems have appeared in *Soundings*, *Verse Afire*, *Glebe Report*, *Bywords* and elsewhere — finding them in a single collection is a treat. Damon Kowarsky’s graphics, especially the cover design showing rooftops at Mont St-Michel, are the icing on the cake.

We particularly enjoyed the sequence of Aviator Cinquains that leads off the collection. It starts with 12 five-line poems in Section 1.0—Pre-Flight Checks. Here is number 1.1:

The flight formation: geese ducks, F-14s, 18s — same principle: twinned, slipstream—one out front.

And we are off—on a deceptively simple trip through the trajectory of childhood, love, loss, and death.



The five-line poems feature lines of eccentric length and punctuation, and Korp layers her sketches to create vignettes of meaning. A new moon is a “whiplash crescent”; the sky becomes a “red clay bowl”. That each poem is so brief means that the reader is quickly captured, the feeling accessible and immediate. And yet the effect is complex, deserving a second read, or even a third.

In the second section, called Heresies, the author invokes memories of world events. She writes of war and protest, atrocity and peace. She dedicates these poems to those “trying to get from one place to another”.

This slender volume evokes a strong sense of place and a satisfying emotional reaction. You can find it at Octopus Books, 116 Third Ave. and Black Squirrel, 1073 Bank St. Seek it out!

The gift of a creative brain

Peter Evanchuck

For most of us Christmas is a time of gift giving. We scurry around and contact our friends and family to advise them of our progress as we meander through cyberspace or reality, gazing at and thinking of ideal gifts or at least ones that we can afford.

Seldom do we give the gift of our minds to those we care most about; but those who remember the “good old days” may recall how many homemade Christmas gifts and displays were created by so many of us who had insufficient funds to buy shiny new things.



As a first generation Canadian of Ukrainian parents, I recall we had to count our dollars carefully to make sure the heat and lights stayed on over Canada’s frigid winters. Frivolous expenditures were out. We had to use our minds and hands to create gifts: thus, unique gifts with remarkable personal touches were created and wrapped carefully with newspaper or saved wrapping paper.

Of course, after extensive education and hard work produced good jobs, we fell into the common fold of buying those new things from Eaton’s, Simpsons, The Bay, Holt’s and other shiny places.

Personal, creative contributions to our gifts were lost. Our minds dulled as we saw that as the way to go.

These days, my partner Hélène Lacelle and I are again using our minds and hands to create personal gifts. We were gifted by nature with energy and very creative minds and hearts so it was a natural transition away from shiny retail. We have been making original gifts for several years. It’s very satisfying and, by the way, often cheaper to use our minds and our hands to make them.

Kathleen Kelly: A heron at the park



“...when I see the motionless profile of a patient heron, my thoughts move on ...to an awareness of being held while growing, [of] being safe while taking risks.”

— Caroline Balderston Parry, *Heron Spirals*



SANDY HILL POETRY PROJECT

This past year, the Sandy Hill Poetry Project was created by a Sandy Hill neighbour, Rebecca Gibbons. Through this project, community members write and record poems, as a way to reflect on their pandemic experience. The voice recordings are featured on a website - launched this past fall - which offers a space for creativity and connection.

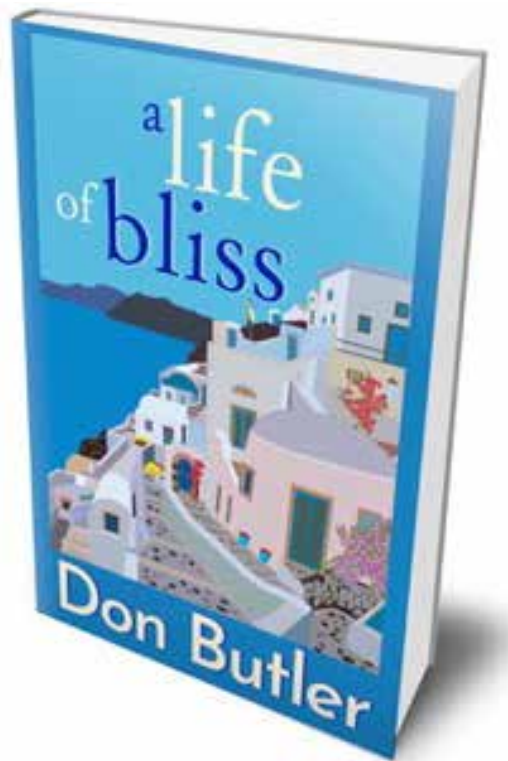
If you have a moment, please check out the website and have a listen to the incredible poems here:

<https://sandyhillpoetryproject.com/my-site>

*The project is accepting poems into 2022! If you want to submit a poem or have any questions, you are encouraged to message

sandyhillpoetryproject@gmail.com.

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— **Jamie Portman**, *Postmedia Newspapers*

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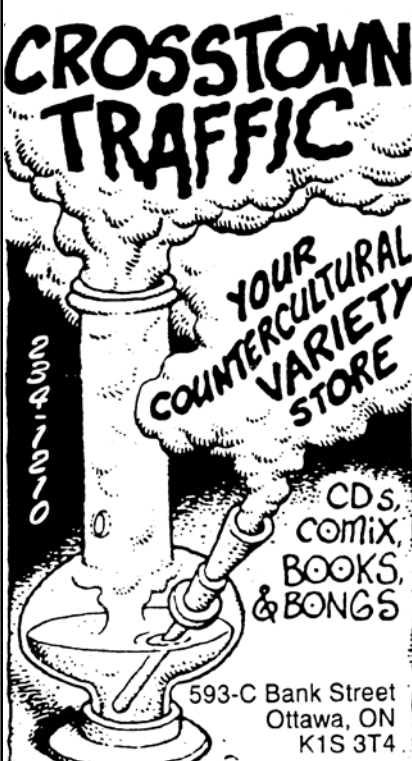
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Sandy Hill event leads off the newscasts

Art gallery directors, the Governor General and her husband, an Inuk filmmaker, our MP, two City councillors, Sandy Hill's "park lady" (Stéphanie Plante) and a family of dancers and drummers gathered by our park's new sign with Annie Pootoogook's daughter Napachie Coburn on Nov. 7. Hosted by Councillor Mathieu Fleury, the upbeat renaming ceremony included tributes to the late artist, who died in 2016 on the nearby Rideau River shore.

Below—Two Inuk women offered traditional throat singing, and the chorale from École Francojeunesse sang the national anthem.



MP Mona Fortier's new assignment — the Treasury Board

Christine Aubry

On October 26, our Ottawa-Vanier Member of Parliament, Mona Fortier, was sworn in as the President of the Treasury Board for the federal government. This new assignment means she is now responsible for translating the policies and programs approved by Cabinet into operational reality and providing departments with the resources and the administrative tools—policies, guidance, and authorities—they need to do their work, a role she has compared to being the Chief Operating Officer (for the entire federal government, that's no small task!).

In a recent written statement, Minister Fortier explained, "The Treasury Board is responsible for ensuring that all federal government policies and regulations protect the health, security and safety of Canadians, while supporting initiatives that create innovation and allow businesses and the economy to flourish. The protection of the environment has always been a key consideration in overseeing federal proposals, and the Government of Canada also has a leadership role to play – having committed to reducing its own greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050."

Treasury Board also acts as the employer of the core public service. Minister Fortier says she wants to hear from public servants, including the many federal public servants living in Sandy Hill, to make sure they have the tools they need to continue to deliver the services that are so important to Canadians.

Although Minister Fortier has been Sandy Hill's MP for nearly five years already, my conversation with her was a first for IMAGE. I was very grateful that the Minister accorded me some time so we could talk not only about her new position, but mainly about how she feels she is best able to support the needs of our neighbourhood. Minister Fortier being Franco-



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau introduces Mona Fortier to Governor General Mary Simon, on October 26 at Rideau Hall.

phone and a strong supporter of la Francophonie, we chatted *en français, bien sûr!*

La ministre Fortier et sa famille habitent le quartier de Beacon Hill, mais elle a tissé beaucoup de liens avec la Côte-de-Sable au fil des années. Ancienne de l'Université d'Ottawa, elle a vécu ici pendant ses études. « C'était une belle expérience, dit-elle. J'ai fait du bénévolat, j'avais des bons voisins, des bonnes familles ».

C'est à cette époque qu'elle devient membre du Parti libéral du Canada. Elle décrit son prédécesseur, l'Honorable Mauril Bélanger, comme un mentor, pour qui elle a travaillé pendant huit campagnes électorales, tout en sachant qu'elle espérait prendre la relève un jour. « C'était un rêve de vouloir me présenter un jour en politique », dit-elle. Avec neuf quartiers dans la circonscription d'Ottawa-Vanier, chacun avec ses propres besoins, la ministre Fortier dépense un de ses plus grands défis. « Il y a tellement de bons projets, dit-elle, et on

veut tous les mener à terme. »

Elle est fière de la participation fédérale dans plusieurs projets récents dans la Côte-de-Sable, dont la construction du pavillon STEM de l'Université d'Ottawa; la collaboration sur le projet de l'Allée des premiers ministres (Prime Ministers' Row) ainsi que le financement pour le « Winter Trail » (l'aménagement d'une longue piste d'hiver polyvalente en pleine ville); et plus récemment, le 7 novembre dernier, la dénomination du parc Annie-Pootoogook, derrière le Centre communautaire de la Côte-de-Sable.

Elle est aussi fière de l'appui que le gouvernement fédéral a apporté aux petites et moyennes entreprises lors de la pandémie, en termes de subvention salariale et d'aide au loyer.

Parlant développement économique, elle ne retient pas son enthousiasme envers l'amélioration continue des zones commerciales, ainsi qu'envers l'importance de la diversité et d'encourager nos com-

munautés noires et autochtones d'avoir « pignon sur rue ».

« Le développement touristique ainsi que la promotion de l'entreprise sociale est un moteur important ici. Cela fait partie de mon rôle d'en faire la promotion dans nos quartiers », dit-elle.

En réponse à mes questions concernant les défis dans notre quartier, elle soulève l'importance d'une collaboration étroite et de s'asseoir régulièrement avec ses collègues, Mathieu Fleury (Conseiller municipal) et Lucille Collard (Députée provinciale), qu'elle dénomme « le trio Mathieu-Lucille-Mona ».

« Les trois niveaux ont chacun leur rôle pour coordonner et influencer de manière positive le développement et la communauté et c'est un partenariat important », explique-t-elle.

La ministre Fortier veut aussi continuer de cultiver la relation avec Action Côte-de-Sable et être à l'écoute de nos préoccupations. Elle reconnaît que même si un problème ne relève pas du fédéral, elle peut tout de même exercer un certain levier d'influence.

Faute de temps, nous n'avons pas eu la chance de parler de ses autres priorités, dont l'augmentation de logements abordables et la propagation d'espaces verts. Elle termine en revenant à son nouveau rôle en tant que présidente du Conseil du trésor.

« Je suis tellement fière de ce rôle parce qu'on a une économie forte dans notre région qui dépend des fonctionnaires, qui travaillent très fort. C'est très importante de les garder informés, de les soutenir et de grandir ensemble. »

And those were essentially the recurring themes of our conversation—the importance of listening to the concerns of constituents and public servants, and establishing key partnerships, in order to ensure positive and sustainable development, throughout Canada and right here in Sandy Hill.

New Nordic Lab with studio and workshops opens at SAW Centre

Photos Katherine Takpannie

Paula Kelsall

The Nordic Lab at the SAW centre was meant to open in 2020, but as we all know, many plans went awry over the last year and a half. The initiative, which SAW's website describes as an "Indigenous-led research and production space with a focus on artists from the circumpolar world," has been carried on remotely over the last several months. Instead of having artists in residence, the centre has supported "residencies" in artists' homes. Over the coming months, the visual and musical works these artists have created will be shared with the public at SAW.

The Nordic Lab finally had its grand opening on November 19. The opening exhibition, which will be on view until March 5, features works by three artists: Maureen Gruben of Tuktoyaktuk, Alaskan artist Sonya Kelliher-Combs, and Sissel M. Bergh, who is based in Trondheim, Norway. All three have used found objects from both the natural and manufactured worlds in the exhibition, which is called *Alakkaajut* (*Many Things Appear*).

The show was curated by Nordic Lab director Taqralik Partridge, who says that all three artists have used this unusual time to contemplate a lot of things. Their works portray aspects of life in their communities in ways that are sometimes charming, sometimes startling. Sonya Kelliher-Combs' "A Million Tears" is a wall of kerchiefs traditionally worn by Indigenous women, layered with plastic flowers like those commonly found in graveyards in the North. Sissel Bergh's "sieid/seid" is a collection of 14 talismanic sculptures incorporating natural materials like bone and antler



(L-R) Taqralik Partridge, Sonya Kelliher-Combs, Sissel M. Bergh and Maureen Gruben at the opening night of *Alakkaajut*, currently showing at SAW.



Left— Maureen Gruben's "Big Hello" is a beautiful shower of beaded phone cases

with objects like pens and hoses. The title combines a Sami word describing powerful objects found in sacred places, with an old Norse word referring to dark magic.

In the last room of the show, Maureen Gruben's "Big Hello" is an exuberant tribute to radio in the North, a shimmering downpour of telephone and tablet cases framing beadwork salvaged from moc-

casins and other discarded clothing. The piece's title refers to northern communities' use of the radio to stay connected with one another, in a region where the internet is still not robust, and the way that people who are calling a radio station often start their calls with the words, "I want to say a big hello to . . .," reaching out to friends and family.

When life returns to normal, the Lab should be a busy place. Its studio (named for Annie Pootogook) and workshops include screenprinting equipment, digital workstations and a large-format photography printer. Plans are underway to offer educational programs for Indigenous youth, to support Ottawa's Inuit community, and to allow Indigenous and non-

Indigenous artists from polar regions as diverse as North America, Scandinavia and Siberia to collaborate, here and in their home countries.

Taqralik Partridge, who grew up in Kuujuaq and moved to Ottawa from Norway in April 2020 to take on the directorship of the Nordic Lab, is looking forward to co-curating a show next year featuring the work of Tarralik Duffy, this year's winner of the Kenojuak Ashevak award from the Inuit Art Foundation. "The arts are a daily practice for all Inuit," says Partridge, "a natural activity for everyone." We can all look forward to being inspired by seeing this principle in action at the Nordic Lab.



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Ken's Bygone Sandy Hill

When Sandy Hill was cattle country

Ken Clavette

Would you believe me if I told you that Sandy Hill was once the home of the largest abattoir in the city? Well, it was! Sometime in the late 1890s, a slaughterhouse was established at the eastern end of Lees Avenue on the banks of the Rideau River. At this point it was in Nepean Township and Hurdman Bridge Village, but by 1907 it was in Ottawa and Sandy Hill, listed at 229 Lees. It started in a building not much larger than a house but grew as the city, and its desire for meat did. In 1949 it was purchased by Ottawa Beef which in time became Capital Beef Corp. formed from the merger of Capital Meats and Ottawa Beef in 1981. By the time I moved into the community that same year, they were no longer live-killing, but processing frozen carcasses. For a time, it was the largest abattoir in the city.

While the facility had changed over time, Ottawa Beef was nothing more to me than a place where one had to climb through a fence to walk along the river. However, there were many stories about what life was like when it was in full operation. My neighbour told me about being a lifeguard at Dutchie's Hole in the 1940s, having to deal with screaming kids fleeing the water when an animal part floated downriver towards them, often tossed in by workers to watch the reaction. Oh yes, our beach was a few hundred yards downstream from a working abattoir.

There were also stories told about livestock that would from time to time make a break for freedom and end up being chased though the community by wannabe cowboys, and police officers with guns drawn. In March 1955 the *Ottawa Citizen* reported—

"Two frisky cows and a driving snowstorm turned Mann Avenue district into the site of a hide-and-seek roundup Saturday night. But swirling snow quickly discouraged both bossies and they sought shelter. The interior of 20 Philips Court, a large apartment building, looked inviting so the cows poked their snouts against the front door and pushed."

Chased out of the building by Police Constable Tom Flanagan, he and Ottawa Beef employee Rolly Chateauvert got one cow into the back of a truck with the help of locals, but the other cow took them on a chase. It "... galloped through backyards to the shore of the Rideau River. It galloped through snowdrifts, floundered up the riverbank, dodged traffic on Hurdman Road, and scared scattered pedestrians half out of their wits," the reporter wrote. "One unidentified motorist reportedly took to the ditch when the cow burst out of a snow swirl a few feet in front of him."

PRANKSTERS FREE CATTLE AT ABATTOIR

Thirty men spent nearly an hour playing cowboy early today as they rounded up a herd of cattle which was set free from the Ottawa Beef Company abattoir on Lees avenue by unknown persons.

City police said a chain had been cut with a saw in order to set the animals free. They were rounded up by 1:30 a.m. today following a chase in the Mann avenue and Range Road district. There were no injuries or damage reported.

Story, Aug. 12, 1959

It took two hours before the pair got the cow back into the stockyards.

A year later the *Citizen* wrote "Wild west cowboys and Mexican bullfighters have nothing on Ottawa police." A bull had gotten out of the yard at Ottawa Beef. Constables Robert Wood and Ronald Rockburne chased him down Lees Avenue to just south of the Ottawa Gas Works, where they managed to lasso the rampaging animal. "He was brought back to the yards without having gored anyone or wrecked any china shops."

"Echo Drive 'Roundup' stops Escaped Steer," a headline read in 1959. "A bellowing steer charging any object in sight and pursuing policemen who loosed a fusillade of shots before the animal was downed, gave Echo Drive a wild-west aspect yesterday afternoon," the paper reported. It took six shots by the two constables to down him in a backyard.

Not long after that came the news that "Pranksters Free Cattle at Abattoir." That event sent 30 men on the roundup for an hour playing cowboy. Police reported that a chain had been cut with a saw allowing the animals to escape. The cattle were rounded up following a chase in the Mann Avenue and Range Road district. "There were no injuries or damage reported."

"Alderman Wrestles Runaway Steer" was the 1960 *Ottawa Journal* headline. "An Ottawa alderman played the leading role of cowboy hero Sunday morning, supported by a cast of dozens, including policemen armed with .38 calibre revolvers, in the roundup of two runaway steers



A sensational story in the *Citizen*, Monday, March 28, 1955



January 4, 1960 headline. Five years later, it happened again.

on the Hurdman Road approach." Ottawa Beef asked that police shoot the animals, but St. George's Ward Alderman Charlie St. Germain said they "... were going nowhere in particular" just plodding along Hurdman Road. However, the arrival of RCMP officers, followed by Ottawa police, meant the chase was on towards Mann Avenue. "One animal surrendered in exhaustion at the foot of the hill at the back of the coal yards. The other entered the school yard and played tag with a number of his pursuers. He ran around the school a few times, then took a look at the new church at the corner of Russell and Mann."

St Germain told the reporter, "It was there I came upon the steer. I got a red blanket out of my car and grabbed the animal around the neck, trying to hold him." The steer shook the alderman off and bolted again. Up the hill he went with the police in hot pursuit. The steer galloped into a yard on Blackburn where "... a well-aimed shot from a police revolver brought it down. It died instantly." The other steer was also shot and both carcasses were handed over by police to employees of the Ottawa Beef Limited.

It was not only cattle that entertained the locals. Former Sandy Hiller, Normand Laviolette, told me he remembered swimming at Dutchie's Hole in the mid-1960s, when a herd of pigs escaped from Capital Meats. "It was a hoot seeing the pigs run around people on the beach," he reminisced. "Those pigs were going wild. People were laughing."

Mr. Laviolette also remembers seeing beef and pig guts floating in the Rideau River, an ongoing issue with the location of an aging slaughterhouse. The Board of Health and the City Council often dealt with complaints. By the 1950s, Ontario law prohibited such facilities within 200 yards of residences; but Ottawa Beef had been there for as long as the houses, so it stayed.

In 1964, the City tried unsuccessfully to take Ottawa Beef to court over dumping in the river, only to have the charges dismissed by Magistrate C. Edwards Carter. The City had poured green dye (probably fluorescein, editor) into a company drain, and two minutes later the dye was in the Rideau River. But company lawyer Galligan and Magistrate Carter both held that this proved nothing except that dye was poured into the river. The judge ruled that the city had not done any chemical analysis of the fluids coming out of the pipe. "A dangerous situation might exist there, but the city must prove more than green dye is coming out of that pipe," said the

magistrate. He suggested the company as "... good citizens should do something about the situation."

A pig's head, reportedly seen in the summer of 1967 by Alderman Claude Bennett, floating downstream from Capital Beef at Dutchie's Hole beach, was not theirs they said; they had stopped slaughtering pigs. I guess maybe only live pigs were theirs.

By 1967 with Centennial pride in full force, the *Journal* reported on efforts by the Planning Department to beautify the entrance to the city by removing industries like Capital Beef. City Council turned down the recommendation to buy the abattoir and an abandoned cement plant, "eyesores," with no money for such a project.

By the mid-1970s there was growing development pressure on Ottawa abattoirs. Three local meat producers were looking to build a single multi-million-dollar livestock slaughtering complex. Their current facilities were being encroached on for road and residential construction. The Board of Control once more turned down a proposal that the City buy the Capital Beef land, so that it could move forward on one major processing plant.

By 1981 the media reported that the company was hoping to reopen the plant to major killing operations, something it had suspended in 1979. The *Citizen* reported that local farmers were sending their cattle to Toronto for slaughter. The demand was for 800 to 1,000 slaughtered beef cattle per week in the Ottawa area, so the company was going to "... apply to reopen the old Ottawa Beef Co. slaughterhouse on Lees Avenue."

Neither the expansion nor the return of killing operations happened, despite the company's seeking Committee of Adjustment approval in 1985 to expand the Capital Beef building to include a two-story office tower. An auction notice appeared in the *Citizen* in October 1996 that "... 229 Lees Ave Capital Beef Corporation Building has to be demolished so everything must go." A year later the Lands End on the Rideau development was underway.

Thomas G. Flanagan was one of the police officers called out in the snowstorm in March 1955; he went on to serve five years as Chief of Police. The 474 Elgin St. Police Headquarters was named in his honour, March 3 1993. Tom, who began his policing career in 1951, quickly made an impression on the community with his ability to chase down a suspect on foot earning him the nickname Fleet-Foot Flanagan. I think I know a few Sandy Hill cows that would agree.



A scene from Hilary Duff's Dark Side of Sandy Hill walking tour with Heritage Ottawa, Sunday, Oct. 24.

One of the more notable stops was Laurier House where Duff spoke about former Prime Minister William Mackenzie King's interest in spiritualism—a common practice in the past. Mackenzie King's own diaries speak about his many encounters with mediums in both Canada and the United Kingdom.

Photo: Katherine Spencer-Ross

After decades away, the Martin Terrace window returns home

Photos: Valérie Daoust

Hilary Duff

It's a heritage restoration project a quarter-century in the making. The most recent chapter took place in late 2020, when Richard Gervais and Jeffrey Reid found themselves up on step ladders re-installing a piece of Sandy Hill history: an ornate stained glass window displaying the name Martin Terrace.

Gervais is the owner of the King Edward Bed & Breakfast at 525 King Edward. Reid co-owns 523 King Edward with his partner, Valérie Daoust. In 2020, Daoust purchased the next door property at 521 King Edward, where the stained glass window in question was being mounted.

You likely know the property I'm talking about. Located near the intersection of King Edward and Laurier, Martin Terrace is four row homes at 519-525 King Edward Avenue. The block was designated a Heritage Conservation District in 1982.

Like many historic properties in Sandy Hill, Martin Terrace has a story to tell. Gervais recently served as my guide back through time, gesturing at photographs and paintings of the property; rustling through drawers in search of old receipts and newspaper clippings.

The row homes – as well as much of this block along King Edward – were owned by Emma Martin until she passed away in 1973. Emma was the widow of Daniel Martin – a well-known flour and feed merchant who owned a general goods store at the corner of Rideau and Dalhousie Streets, established by his father, Thomas Martin, in 1853.

According to his obituary, Daniel suffered an untimely death in 1924 and left the property to Emma. After her death, the row homes fell into a state of disrepair, twice avoiding demolition thanks to the perseverance of heritage advocates.

Richard Gervais entered the picture in



The recently remounted window at 521 King Edward Ave. While each of the four properties has a stained glass window above the front entranceway, this was the only one that included the original name of the property.

1980, when he and his then-partner were looking to buy an apartment building with character. After months of searching, he was almost willing to accept defeat. Curiosity led him to tour Martin Terrace, which had been on the market for nearly a year.

"It was an abandoned slum property," says Gervais of the row homes in 1980. "No electricity, no running water. I had a hundred pigeons living in the side of the house. Everything was a disaster."

But Gervais was young, energetic, and undeterred by the cracked mouldings, filth, and burnt pillars. "When my mom saw what I bought, she cried and thought I'd lost my mind. But I saw the potential." Gervais did many of the renovations himself, and opened 525 King Edward as a bed and breakfast in 1993.

Later that decade, he received some surprising news during a heritage home tour of his property. One of the attendees was Barry Martin, the grandson of Emma Martin. "I started talking with him and learned he had this Martin Terrace stained-glass window in his home that was once on our building," says Gervais. Barry or another member of the family had taken the window before the property was sold to developers in the 1970s. "I told Barry, 'That's terrible! That doesn't belong in your home, that belongs in this historical building!'"

That was the end of the story for the next 20-25 years. In 2020, Gervais heard from his friend, Claude Jobin, local realtor and former Sandy Hill resident, that Barry had died. "Two days later, Claude gets back to me and says he has some good news. He



Richard and his dog Sandy sit on the front stoop of 525 King Edward with a painting of Martin Terrace from 1978.

said, 'Barry left the stained-glass window for you,' and that's how I found out," says Gervais. Within a week the window was back in Sandy Hill, along with an old, framed photo taken in Gervais' entrance foyer at the turn of the 20th century.

Gervais gave the window to his neighbour, Valérie Daoust, after she bought the property at 521 King Edward in November 2020. "I was excited and it was an interesting story in the sense that this window had been away for more than 40 years," says Daoust.

Now, the Martin Terrace window has taken its place alongside the other decorative stained glass that hangs over the entranceway of each unit, a nod to the past to accompany a story that transcends the ages.

The names they are a-changing

Jane Waterston

Sandy Hill Park is now Annie Pootook Park. Prince of Wales Bridge is now Chief William Commanda Bridge. The Langevin Block is now the Office of the Prime Minister and Privy Council. Carleton University is preparing to rename Robertson Hall.

There is upheaval happening across Canada's commemorative landscape and Goulburn Avenue resident Randy Boswell (a journalist, Carleton professor and heritage thinker) is following it closely. From the front row, in fact, since Henry Goulburn is one of those "old, dead, white men" whose claim on community veneration is being questioned.

A year ago, Councillor Scott Moffatt unilaterally announced that his Rideau-Goulburn ward would change its name to Rideau-Jock because an open discussion "would be a very dangerous conversation to have." Boswell objected to Moffatt's move in a *Citizen* opinion piece and commented again on it in a late-November presentation to the Historical Society of Ottawa.

"Avoiding a difficult discussion and end-running a proper decision-making process robs the community of an opportunity to learn more about the past," he said. "All citizens of Ottawa would [have benefited] from understanding more about Goulburn's life...this [was] a teachable moment."

Boswell admits that changing the name of his street (not in the works at this point, but it could happen) would be "a pain, but less painful than living on a street named for a man who owned slaves at a time when slave-owning was already widely condemned in Britain and elsewhere." Yes, says Boswell, Goulburn played a role in British politics and served in ways that

may have improved British and ultimately Canadian interests in the War of 1812. But there was this other part of his identity which is troubling...if there are Black Canadians down the street who know the real story of Goulburn, this would not be a welcoming place."

He points out that Peter Russell, after whom Russell Avenue may have been named, is another one we need to think about. Not only was he a slave owner, he is known to have resisted progressive legislation that would have abolished slavery in Upper Canada in the 1790s. In addition, Russell unscrupulously used his power to grant himself land.

While it may be tempting to use numbers or topographical features, which help somewhat with wayfinding, as an easy escape from controversial names, Boswell says, "Personally, I'm not allergic to controversy. In a democratic society we can discuss these things and make decisions. First we learn about things, then we have discussions. Some people advocate change and there will be people who argue against it. We listen to them all. Perhaps in some cases it is important not to make changes. But it is certainly important that all jurisdictions embark on this process."

An "orderly reassessment" of how we commemorate history in Canada's public spaces and honorary nomenclature is long overdue, says Boswell. "Lovers of history and heritage – I'm one of them – may feel resistant to renaming lakes and towns and schools, or may fear this will all lead to tearing down countless more contentious statues. We shouldn't."

"I believe we do need to scrap some commemorations, modify many others, find innovative ways to honour people traditionally overlooked by history, and do it all in a coherent, transparent, inclusive, constructive and continual way."

Of course, we have been changing place



Knowing what he does about Henry Goulburn, Randy Boswell would be okay if the name of his street were to change.

names around here forever: Range Road used to be Salisbury Avenue and Mann Avenue used to be Ann Avenue. What is different today is the attempt to right historical wrongs by no longer celebrating individuals whose record we now disagree with. But we have to be careful not to create unwittingly another wrong in our enthusiasm to correct the past. Clear criteria to guide any name changes are therefore important.

And how we change names is equally important. "If certain communities in certain circumstances – after thoughtful

deliberation, following due process – choose to update their collective memory-scape, to shed certain tributes and add some fresh faces to the pantheon, I'm good with that," says Boswell. "History doesn't have to be set in stone."

Given the value Boswell sees in public conversations and due process it is not surprising that he is very encouraged by the City of Ottawa's undertaking to develop a citywide commemoration policy, guided by a 10-member advisory group. The work started last March and Sandy Hill resident (and occasional IMAGE correspondent) Trina Cooper-Bolan is one of the experts steering the ship.

You can engage in the City process by registering at the interactive engage.ottawa.ca webpage and linking to "Remembering Ottawa: Stories and Legacies."

Until January 31, this question is on the table: "Most of us are familiar with commemoration that involves plaques, statues, memorials and the like. What other traditional, cultural, artistic or innovative methods of commemoration would you propose?"

Think about it – here is an opportunity to reflect better Sandy Hill's – and Ottawa's – historical diversity.

The video of Randy Boswell's interesting presentation "Upheaval across Canada's Landscape of Commemoration" is found at: www.historicalsocietyottawa.ca/resources/videos

Photo Jan Meldrum

Le lien au pont Hurdman : la communauté s'est mobilisée

François Bregha

Aujourd'hui, un cycliste ou piéton voulant se promener à partir du parc Strathcona dispose de plusieurs options : il peut bien entendu emprunter la passerelle Adàwe pour poursuivre sa randonnée à Overbrook. Ou il peut continuer vers le sud sur la rive ouest de la rivière Rideau, en passant par Dutchie's Hole, le parc Robinson et Robinson Village, pour se rendre jusqu'au pont Hurdman d'où un autre choix de pistes s'offre. Un article dans le numéro d'IMAGE de mars-avril 1997 (« New pathway from Dutchy's Hole to Hurdman footbridge ») nous rappelle que ce dernier choix n'existait pas il y a 25 ans parce que la propriété de Capital Beef faisait barrière à tout passage vers le sud au-delà du parc Robinson. S'il existe une piste aujourd'hui, c'est grâce aux efforts de plusieurs citoyens de la Côte-de-Sable, notamment Reine Degarie, qui, armés d'une bonne idée, de la chance et de la persévérance, ont su ajouter un tronçon important à notre réseau actuel de pistes polyvalentes.

En 1996 avec l'appui d'Action Côte-de-Sable, Mme Degarie forme un groupe de résidents pour avancer le projet; pour faire un clin d'œil aux canards de la rivière ils prennent le nom « les colverts ». Elle met à contribution l'architecte local Barry Padolski qui accepte d'offrir ses services sans frais. Elle obtient par la suite l'appui financier de la Ville d'Ottawa, de notre conseiller de l'époque, Stéphane Énard-Chabot, de l'Université d'Ottawa, du Centre de santé communautaire Côte-de-Sable, du développeur des nouvelles maisons à Robinson Village et d'Action Côte-de-Sable. À ces bailleurs de fonds s'ajoute la contribution de nombreux bénévoles qui parachèvent le projet au printemps 1997 en s'occupant de l'aménagement paysager.



Reine Degarie, cet automne, heureuse de constater que le sentier est très utilisé.

Le concept d'une piste tout le long de la berge ouest de la rivière Rideau se discute à la Ville depuis 1984. Ce concept n'est toujours pas complété mais il a fait un grand pas en avant en 1997 lorsque le tronçon de Robinson Village a été ouvert. Depuis, le projet s'est prolongé au Campus Lees de l'université et à l'ancienne propriété des Oblats à Ottawa est. Avec un petit détour dans des rues résidentielles, on peut maintenant suivre la rivière jusqu'au-delà de la rue Bank.

Tout ceci montre que le progrès souvent ne se réalise que pas à pas. Il faut saisir l'occasion quand elle se présente mais aussi s'armer de patience. Il y a 25 ans, nous avons eu de la chance qu'une femme visionnaire arrive sur les lieux juste au moment que Capital Beef s'apprêtait à partir et qu'elle mobilise la communauté en vue de prolonger la piste cyclable. Aujourd'hui, nous sommes nombreux à bénéficier de cet investissement.



Rideau Winter Trail

Pull out your skis and snowshoes

Martha Jeacle

After a beautiful summer in the nation's capital, the thoughts of those of us at the Rideau Winter Trail have definitely turned to winter at this point. The RWT is a volunteer-run not-for-profit organization managing a trail in the heart of the city, running along the Rideau River from Donald Street (where the Rideau Sports Centre is located) to Bank Street (more on this below!) There are approximately 12 km of groomed trail for cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, fat biking and walking.

We are thrilled that our application for funding through the Community Foundation of Canada's Healthy Communities initiative was a success and we are grateful for this financial support. This funding has allowed us to purchase some of our own equipment, which is huge for our trail. Previously, we were reliant on the (fantastic) grooming services of a contract groomer, who is very busy with multiple contracts. When snow arrived, we waited until the groomer was available to come and get the trail ready.

"With our own equipment, and with the work of our awesome volunteer groomers, we will be able to get the trail ready more quickly and more often," says Head Groomer and RWT's Director of Operations, Peter Nor. As we did last year, we will be grooming two paths—one for multi-use (skiing, snowshoeing, walking, fat biking) that runs directly along the river, and one that ideally is kept for skiers and snowshoers, so that the grooming is preserved for these users.

There are a number of exciting things on tap for the 2021/22 Rideau Winter Trail season, including an extended trail. Yes, we will groom all the way to Bank Street this year, giving users a few more kilometres of trail to enjoy. That will also mean some additional reliance on "Shovel Elves" to move snow under the Smyth Road bridge. Our long-term goal is to groom all the way to Mooney's Bay, and this gets us a few kilometres closer.

There was a problem last season with people leaving garbage on top of closed

-off bins along the trail, which had to be collected and removed by volunteers. We kindly ask that people take any dog waste or other garbage with them and use the open receptacles at bins that will be placed at trail entrances, where City of Ottawa garbage trucks can easily access for collection. Please encourage other trail users to do the same!

We are excited about a partnership with the Ottawa Outdoor Gear Library, which will provide available equipment for loan to local residents. Details on location and hours will be made public soon. We are also working with local schools and will be grooming the trail in advance of their visits. "We want to get as many students out on the Rideau Winter Trail as possible, and we are happy to be working with local schools to ensure a great experience for the children," says Nor.

Another exciting addition this year is the opportunity to rent equipment right at the trail on a few weekends during the season. We plan to announce these dates in advance, but the best way to keep updated on all things RWT-related is to follow us on social media. You can find us on Twitter (@RideauWinter), Facebook (@RideauWinterTrail) and Instagram (@RideauWinterTrail). We also encourage you to visit our website (www.rideauwintertrail.ca)

Local City Councillor and RWT Board member Mathieu Fleury says the trail in the heart of our city, which is free to use, would not be possible without the work of volunteers and support of sponsors. "We are so grateful for the incredible support of our amazing community, the City of Ottawa and the National Capital Commission, which makes this trail possible," says Fleury. "We will continue to work with and seek sponsors and other funding opportunities, so we can continue to increase our trail offerings."

If you'd like to volunteer to help, we'd love to hear from you. Write to us at rideauwintertrail@gmail.com. We will also be setting up a new GoFundMe for those who'd like to provide a financial contribution to help us maintain and expand the Rideau Winter Trail for years to come.

Music and Beyond presents the Twelve Days of Christmas, virtual edition

Beginning on December 10, a new virtual concert will be released on our website (musicandbeyond.ca/virtual-christmas/) and on our YouTube channel, concluding on Dec. 21. Live concert **December 21 at 7:30 p.m.**, Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre. Tickets must be purchased in advance: <https://musicandbeyond.ca/>

Ottawa Guild of Potters: Holiday Sale, Dec. 10-12, Horticulture Building, Lansdowne Park. Friday: 3 p.m.-9 p.m. Saturday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

All COVID-19 protocols, as set by the City of Ottawa, will be enforced. Masks, social-distancing, proof of full vaccination, and Government issued photo identification will be required for entry.

Ottawa Newcomers Club is a non-profit social organization for women who have recently moved to this area or who have experienced a significant life change and would like to meet new people of similar interests by joining our many group activities. See our website: ottawanewcomersclub.ca or contact newcomersclubottawa@gmail.com

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Thirteen Strings Orchestra Christmas concert / Concert de Noël; Sunday, Dec. 12, 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre. Trumpet soloists in celebration of Christmas joy Andrew McCandless, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra; Karen Donnelly, the National Arts Centre Orchestra. Visit www.thirteenstrings.ca for online ticket sales updates.

Photo Dodi Newman

Here comes our second pandemic holiday season! The shops and restaurants of Sandy Hill are here to help make it a festive one; let's remember to treat ourselves to life's small pleasures whenever we can this winter, and to support our local businesses. Please share stories of your favourite Sandy Hill food experiences with image22@rogers.com



Chef Ric's, 384 Rideau St. Judging by the lunchtime lineups I've noticed lately at Chef Ric's, Sandy Hill has discovered the filling and affordable daily specials prepared by the food services training program affiliated with the Ottawa Mission. Chef Ric's lunch specials at \$6.99 are tasty and filling; a recent chicken stir-fry special came with two scoops of fried rice, two little egg rolls and a fortune cookie. The restaurant also serves breakfast and offers a selection of sandwiches, soup, muffins and cookies. Mains such as chicken pot pie, meat loaf and lasagna are also available in frozen portions to take home.

Okey-Dokey Tea House, 507 Rideau St. Most of the many bubble tea shops in our area seem to be franchises, but the one at the east end of Rideau Street is definitely unique. In spite of having opened in the midst of a pandemic in a rather out-of-the-way location, the optimistic little guy in their logo seems to have been on to something, as the shop keeps busy with a steady stream of drop-in customers and delivery services. Though the menu is completely devoted to fancy drinks, there is lots to explore here. The champagne grape slush is a gorgeous shade of purple, and if you order the brûlée milk tea, they will actually take a blowtorch to the top. There's no food on the menu except for small duckling-shaped cakes, which come with some of the drinks and which you may find so cute you'll have to order some to go.

Safi Fine Foods, 296 Somerset St. East It's a joy to see Safi open again, after so many months of anticipation. The shop looks great, with an elegant seating area inside the front window. The shop is ready

to furnish most of your basic grocery requirements along with some specialty items like kefir, bottled milk and a fine selection of cheeses, but it's the takeout counter that seems to be bringing in many of the customers. The much-loved samosas are back, and if you step in as a fresh batch of basmati rice is nearing readiness the aroma will compel you to order a bowl. The teriyaki tofu bowl is terrific, with a fine mixture of textures from nutty black beans and corn kernels, crisp shredded vegetables and corn chips, and the tofu, sautéed to order in its sauce, nestled on a bed of that delicious rice. Word has it that the chicken and steak bowls are also excellent.

Soup Fairy Malatang, 425 Cumberland St. Brightening the bleak block of Cumberland just south of Rideau, and providing quite a contrast to the Tim Hortons next door, Soup Fairy offers a culinary adventure on the way to the ByWard Market. On entering, customers pick up a big plastic bowl and a pair of tongs, and help themselves from a lavish display of noodles, vegetables, seafood, soy products and meats. Your selections will be weighed, and you'll be charged \$3.19 per 100 grams, with a 400 gram minimum. Then you choose from six different broths and take your seat. A few minutes later, an enormous bowl of steaming soup is delivered to your table. I found the lemon grass Tom Yum broth warming and delicious, just spicy enough to impart a pleasant glow on a grey day. It was fun to see how all the ingredients I'd chosen turned out. Broccoli, spinach and bok choy cooked perfectly in the broth, and were tender but still bright and fresh tasting. I really enjoyed discovering the chewiness of dried lily flowers and ribbons of tofu skin. Little knots of kelp were too briny for me, and I'd leave them alone another time, but with an array of over 60 choices there are still lots of things to try on my next visit.

Working Title, 330 Laurier Ave. East Winter is settling in and the lovely patio is closed for another year, but Working Title has holiday treats in store. The new lunch and dinner menus are enticing, and we really enjoyed both the smoked salmon potato rosti stack and the mixed mushroom croque monsieur at a recent lunch. The Working Title refrigerator continues to be full of an ever-changing selection of frozen foods to take home, and their always-excellent soups have brightened up many a lunchtime at our house. If you're looking for a special gift for a food lover, the restaurant has both sweet and savoury gift boxes on offer, and they are also prepared to host a private party for you—drop by to pick up one of their sample menus for lunch, dinner or cocktails.



Fennel bulbs to the rescue

Feta and fennel in tomatoes

Dodi Newman

This is the season when holiday preparations take it all out of you and a quick, delicious meal is a godsend. It is also the time of year when it is difficult to find green vegetables with fresh flavour and good texture. As winter goes on and on, I get bored with spinach, Swiss chard, and members of the cabbage family, nice as they all are. This is where fennel bulbs with their warm, summery flavour and great texture come in.

Fennel is wonderful, whether raw in salads or cooked au gratin: baked in the oven with an equal amount of sliced 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. As with any simple and quick dish, it is important to use the freshest vegetables and herbs you can find. As for the feta cheese, sheep's milk feta is best, but a good cow's milk feta will do.

Serve this dish over noodles (or French bread to soak up the wonderful broth) and accompany it with a green leafy salad with a lemon and herb dressing.

1 large fennel bulb
1 large yellow onion, peeled and cut into 1.25x2.5 cm (1/2x1" chunks)
30 ml (2 tablespoons) virgin olive oil
1 can (796 ml / 28 ounces) whole, unseasoned tomatoes, crushed
1/2 lemon, the juice
1 small bay leaf
3 ml (1/2 teaspoon) salt
pinch freshly ground pepper
250 to 350 g sheep's milk feta cheese, crumbled into 2.5 cm (1 inch) pieces
22 ml (1-1/2 tablespoons) finely chopped fresh dill, or to taste
30 ml (2 tablespoons) finely chopped fresh parsley, or to taste

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, lemon juice, bay leaf, salt and pepper. Stir well and bring to a boil. Turn the heat to low and simmer, covered, for 15 to 20 minutes, or until the fennel is done to your liking.

Add the feta cheese and simmer for 1 to 2 minutes—don't overcook, you don't want it to melt into the broth. Just before serving, very gently stir in the dill and parsley. Serves 4.

**HALLOWEEN 2021:
THIS WAS A SPOOKY NEIGHBOURHOOD**



Photos: Action Sandy Hill



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Photo Harlequin Studios

Some of the Sandy Hill folk who have brought you IMAGE through 2021 gathered before the snow arrived (and booster shots came available) to send seasonal good wishes en masse to our readers. Front, left to right: Dodi Newman, Lena Creedy, Marilyn Whitaker, Jan Finlay, Jane Waterston, Larry Newman, Peter Rinfret, Michael Barnes. Rear: Ken Clavette, Hilary Duff, Paula Kelsall, Bob Whitelaw, Kathy Moyer, Ralph Blaine, Judy Rinfret, Rob Sinclair, Stephanie Plante, Yvonne Van Alphen, Dave Elden.

Putting out this all-volunteer, community focussed newspaper brings pleasure to these and many more. If you are thinking it's time for you to give your talent and experience a bit of a workout — to get writing, editing, photographing, fact checking, reporting, finding ads, designing InDesign pages, illustrating—please read our transition note on page 2 and send us a message! IMAGE is actively searching this winter for local talent.



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