



THE HERON PARK HERALD



<http://heronpark.ca/herald>

WINTER 2010

Seasons Greetings!

Joyeuses Fêtes!

Merry Christmas!

Joyeux Noël!

Buon Natale!

Heron Park 2011 Winter Carnival

Share in the winter fun with family and neighbours

Skating! Winter games! Hot dogs! Hot chocolate!

Date: TBA

Location: Heron Park Community Centre
and outdoor skating rink (at Clover & Richard)

Sponsored by the Heron Park Community Association

Volunteers needed and welcomed! (Great opportunity for area high school students to get their community service hours.)

* Check community poster boards and be sure to add your address to the community broadcast email listing to receive your update for this and other community news bulletins. Contact Rosella at rosella.macneil@sympatico.ca to provide your contact information.



OH COME ALL YE HERON PARKERS!

FIRST ANNUAL HERON PARK SNOWMAN CONTEST



Christmas Carolling
at Billings Lodge

Monday, December 20, 6:30 p.m.

Join friends and neighbours to celebrate the season in song at the Billings Lodge at 1180 Belanger Street (near Bank St.) Adults and children alike are welcome for an hour of indoor Christmas carolling with the seniors who reside at the Lodge. Operatic training not required but good cheer is a necessity! Jingle bells and song sheets provided on site. Contact Angie at 613-733-4025 or angiekelm@gmail.com.



Dig out those old tuques and scarves and stock up on carrots. You'll need them to decorate your frosty entry in Heron Park's first-ever snowman (or woman!) contest this winter.

As we can't predict the best timing for "that perfect snowman snow", details will be provided via Heron Park's community broadcast email at the appropriate time. If you aren't already on the list and would like to join in the fun (whether you have email or not), please contact Maritala: 613-316-3979 or maritala@sympatico.ca

A team of local judges will visit/view all the snowy entries and (snow gods willing) winners will be announced at Heron Park's winter carnival in February (date TBA). More judges are still needed for the panel. Please advise Maritala if you are interested.

You may have noticed the welcome splash of colour to this edition of the Herald, courtesy of a local "Santa". Drop by O'Brien's Pub and Eatery, or Cedars & Co. Food Market at 1255 Bank Street and you can thank Brian personally. Thank you Brian! (see inside pages 6 and 7 for more "local colour")



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As another year comes to a close, it is well to reflect on what we have accomplished and to consider what we should focus on for the next year. We finally have new playground equipment in Heron Park that is vastly better than what we had before. This has taken years to accomplish and is all thanks to the hard work of Maritala, Léo, Peter, and the rest of the fundraising and planning crew. We also must thank our retiring city councillor Clive Doucet for ensuring that city funds from new development that were formerly spent almost exclusively to build roads in the suburbs were made available for our park. This is a continuing source of new funds and it means (hopefully) that our long-held dream of getting some kind of decent community centre may be within reach. We are in the course of planning and discussing what we would like to have in a community centre. I would be happy to hear your comments and suggestions – you can email me at president@heronpark.ca. I don't know what kind of time frame this would be built in or how much building we can expect to get in Heron Park, but as the old saying goes, if you don't ask you don't receive.

Our long-serving councillor Clive Doucet, who ran for mayor last election, will no longer be serving and we will certainly miss him. Clive worked hard to get a fair share of the city pie for our ward in a city council that always seemed focussed on the wants and needs of the suburbs. He also tried to make decisions that improved the liveability and sustainability of the city. He didn't always win these arguments and sometimes it was a lonely battle, but he persevered and never sacrificed his principles. He always listened to our concerns and always did his best to help us. Many people would agree that Clive was the heart and soul of council, but he was the brains as well – these functions are by no means incompatible. I don't think anyone could truly take Clive's place, but I know that many people (myself included) will do our best to continue the struggle to make our city better. It's difficult to say goodbye but at the same time it must be noted that Clive has worked tremendously hard on our behalf and has more than earned some time off. He plans to travel in Europe for a while, but I'm sure it won't be long before he will soon find new challenges to keep him busy and to make yet another contribution to the public good.

Donna Silver, who has worked so tirelessly in Clive's office for almost as many years, will also be retiring from that position. She is a former president of the Heron Park Community Association and although she no longer lives in Heron Park she has always helped us to build the association and has always been a strong advocate on our behalf over many struggles such as the long battle to get access to the Heron Park Fieldhouse, to get windows in it, and most recently to get funding for the new play structures, and to help bring about the long-awaited sidewalk on Data Centre Road. Donna is taking a well-deserved month off in Cuba after which she plans to start a business.

On a personal note, both Donna and Clive have been excellent colleagues and friends and have always encouraged me in my work with Heron Park Community Association and my other endeavours. I will miss them both but I know they will both still be around and willing to lend a helping hand when needed.

In another sad goodbye, Eileen McGurrin, who is editor of the Herald and has been the advertising manager for the past four years, has decided to retire from these roles. It is a lot of work to get the articles and ads collected, proofread, and organized and Eileen has worked tirelessly on our behalf to create a high quality newspaper. We will miss her terribly and are not sure how to replace her.

The winner of the election was David Chernushenko, who was formerly a member of the Green Party. He has already indicated that he wants to attend meetings of the Heron Park Community Association. He will need some learning time to get up to speed on council issues, but I'm sure he will become an excellent representative of Capital Ward.

I suspect that we will be enlisting Mr. Chernushenko to work on our behalf sooner rather than later. Midway Family Fun Park, formerly located near the Museum of Science and Technology, has expressed an interest in relocating to a site in the industrial area on Kaladar Avenue. Midway offers games, food, and rides for children – I gather that they mostly host birthday parties. As of this writing I don't know any details about what they plan to have on Kaladar Avenue but I think the level of traffic and noise that they

Continued on Page 3...

Heron Park Community Association

Executive

President:	James McLaren (president@heronpark.ca)
Vice-president:	Maritala Robinson
Treasurer:	Colin MacLean
Secretary:	Rosella Mac Neil

The Herald 'Staff'

Editors:	Eileen McGurrin, Rosella Mac Neil
Advertising:	Eileen McGurrin (heraldads@heronpark.ca)
Layout:	Derek Gour (theherald@heronpark.ca)
Distribution:	Judy Mordy (613-737-4196) Rosella Mac Neil (613-526-0062)
Contributors:	Rosella Mac Neil, Eileen McGurrin, James McLaren, Donna Silver

Opinions and information published in the Herald in letters, individual columns and articles do not necessarily reflect the opinion of this newspaper, its staff or the Heron Park Community Association president, its directors, or its members. Submissions are edited for space, inappropriate content and language concerns.

Letters to the editor are always welcomed.

We welcome suggestions on what we can do better or things you'd like to see. Send your comments and/or questions to:

theherald@heronpark.ca

or call the Community Centre at 613-247-8278 and leave a message. We look forward to your insight.

Thank You to all those who deliver the Heron Park Herald

Angie Bueneman, Angie, Kate and Anne Kelm, Benita Kosabek, Bill Weatherup, Cynthia Modjeski, Diane Ferrier, Derek Maidment, Sarah and Brian Edgar, Gloria Williams, Isabel Gillissie, Jacob, James McLaren, Jane Supino, Joan Lesiak, Johanne Bérubé, Judy Mordy, Julia Driedger, Kelly Thomas, Laura Elkin, Lyn McDonald, Olita Schultz, Lynn McKenzie, Michel Sader, Milada Svoboda, Miriam Koene, Mrs. Larmonica, Mrs. Paquette, Noreen Gibbons, Rosella Mac Neil, Ruth McDonald, Suzanne Hiscock.

We need a few more volunteers to deliver the Herald on the south side of Heron. It's just four times a year and you're only asked to deliver on one street, so it won't take much of your time. Please contact either Judy Mordy (737-4196) or Ruth McDonald (737-3791, rmcdonald65@hotmail.com) to volunteer.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Christmas Carolling at Billings Lodge

December 20th, 6:30 p.m.

Deadline for Herald Spring Issue

March 3, 2011

HPCA Monthly Meetings (at Clover & Richard)

Tuesdays, 7 p.m.: January 11, February 8



COMMUNITY NEWS

HPCA AGM NOVEMBER 9

Rosella MacNeil

Despite the mild weather we'd been enjoying, it was a very small group who gathered for the 2010 HPCA Annual General Meeting.

HPCA president James McLaren opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, residents and guests, Councillor Clive Doucet and Donna Silver who were attending their last meeting – at least officially - and our federal MP David McGuinty and his assistant.

After people had nibbled on some cheese and crackers and cup of something hot or cold, the meeting began when David McGuinty described what he is currently involved in: 12,500 active files, many of them immigration cases, his new position as opposition house leader; what he has accomplished locally: two new soccer pitches with turf surfaces, completing the work on the canoe club; and what he hopes to do in the coming years, including getting more power for the house speaker to affect the conduct of members more effectively.

He answered questions from the group, including his opinion on the plan to spend \$9B-\$16B on fighter planes and the G8 summit's move from Huntsville to downtown Toronto.

Clive Doucet spoke about his 13 years representing us at city hall, and the projects he is happy to have helped accomplish for us. He will give us a list of Heron Park projects that have begun or should be started soon.

We then elected the people who will serve on our HPCA board in 2011 and 2012. The new board members are shown below. James then led the group in a short discussion of current activities of concern. He asked us for suggestions for a wish list for our community. The biggest item on that list is an addition to the field house, to make a community centre that will work for us, meeting our needs now and for years to come.

- President James McLaren
- Vice-Pres Maritala Robinson
- Treasurer Colin MacLean
- Secretary Rosella MacNeil
- Members at large: Rodney Ryan, Adam Dodd, Léo Derome.

Work that is not part of the board is ongoing: Derek Gour does the layout for the Heron Park Herald; Eileen McGurrin is the editor, chief reporter as well as marketer, selling advertising that pays for the newspaper; Léo Derome oversees the making of our rink and its ongoing maintenance, which is our principle source of funds each year; Colin MacLean, with John MacFarlane, run the weekly Wednesday night youth program; community events are planned and run thanks to many people, often with Maritala Robinson at the helm.

Thank you, everyone at Billingswood Manor, for generously providing us your lovely dining hall and warm drinks to offset the chill. And finally, a great big Thank You to everyone who has worked for Heron Park this year and all past years.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Continued From Page 2)

might generate would be inappropriate for a location directly across from a residential street. Please stay tuned – we will be posting any information we obtain in the Herald and on our website, www.heronpark.ca, as soon as it becomes available and letting you know how you can become involved in this important issue.

Jim Watson won the mayoral election and there has been quite a change on City Council with a number of long-time councillors retiring and others being defeated. In all there will be eleven new faces at the council table. It is a fresh start for city council but at this point we really don't know how or even if these new representatives will change the rather dysfunctional dynamic of the former council. The only thing certain is that with the critical issues of transit and Lansdowne Park looming over the new council, we are facing the curse of living in interesting times.

As president of Heron Park Community Association, let me end by offering best wishes to you and your family for the holiday season. I hope that the year 2010 has been a good one for you, and that new opportunities and new challenges lie ahead in 2011.

James McLaren, HPCA President



Hany Komy - Pharmacy Manager

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ELECTION RESULTS BY POLLING STATION FOR HERON PARK

Polling station	Bob Brocklebank	David Chernushenko	Eugene Haslam	Isabel Metcalfe	Domenic Santaguida	Total Votes (Top 5 candidates)	Total Votes (all candidates)	Registered Voters
Billings Lodge	8	3	1	24	1	37	40	71
Billingswood Manor	4	3	2	17	3	29	36	46
Ecole Lamoureux	96	245	105	248	190	884	904	2845
Clementine Towers (Adv 1)	8	51	2	49	3	113	128	
Rockingham Apts (Adv 1)	1	2	0	10	0	13	13	
Total	117	304	110	348	197	1076	1121	2962
%	10.9	28.3	10.2	32.3	18.3			

Heron Park had 2,962 registered voters but only 1121 cast their votes for candidates for Capital Ward councillor, for a voter participation result of 38%. Somewhat disappointing, but kudos to all who took the time to mark their ballots. For the other 62%, you know the unspoken rule, if you don't vote, you can't complain or take credit for the results.

David Chernushenko garnered the most votes overall in Capital Ward (which includes the Glebe, Old Ottawa South, Old Ottawa East, Riverside, Dow's Lake and Heron Park) although he came second to Isabel Metcalfe in

the Heron Park community by a difference of 44 votes. They were clearly both very strong candidates with solid experience and well run campaigns.

The table includes only the 5 candidates with the highest overall votes in Heron Park. The two candidates not shown are Mano Hadovand and Ron Leblanc.

For more information on municipal election results, go to the City of Ottawa website www.ottawa.city.ca/city_hall/elections

*Data provided by City of Ottawa website

Why not become a rink volunteer?

The community association benefits greatly from the funds we receive from the city to build and maintain the rink. What we manage to save allows us to run various programs and to hold festivals, picnics, publish this paper...

Why not commit to supervise a few shifts over the January to mid March period?

Contact Colin MacLean
(613) 863- 5101
cmaclean_esl@yahoo.com



COMMUNITY NEWS



Report on Ottawa Carleton District School Board

by Rob Campbell
Trustee for Zone 9 Rideau-Vanier/
Capital

Late French Immersion Phaseout

As per the Board's decision a few years ago now, this current school year is slated to be the last one offering Late French Immersion 9 (Grade 7 start). I agreed then, and continue to do so now, that having three general entry points (we also have SK and Gr.4 entry points) is hard to justify pedagogically and financially.

Despite the valid reasons for reducing the immersion entry points from three to two, it creates an inequitable situation for those who simply could not take advantage of enrolling in the Gr. 4 French immersion program, primarily due to lack of access. With the cancellation of the Gr. 7 entry into the program, it effectively shuts the door to high school French immersion for these individuals.

I am considering bringing forward a motion to retain one or two Late French Immersion centres to address this equity of access issue. Any comments appreciated.

Student Survey

A survey of students will be hitting the schools at some point in the next few weeks. It should help us correlate subgroups to help identify and address bullying in our schools and with achievement and dropout rates, among other serious issues. At press time, there was word that it might all be delayed in order to address privacy concerns but I'm confident that it will be going ahead in some form or other. At the end of the day, confidentiality will be assured.

My hope is that this data will allow us to be more strategic in budget allocations and policy directives. The goal is reduced dropouts and higher achievement by ensuring we have identified and tackled any systematic barriers which may exist in this district.

Equity in Busing Motion for Alternative Education (Alt Ed)

Readers will recall that the elementary alternative program was reviewed last year and reconfirmed as a valuable program the Board wanted to retain. One of the implications of this for me is that we now need to set about improving aspects of the program which had been unaddressed for years pending this review.

A glaring problem for me has been the inequity in busing provisions. We bus students from Stittsville to Arts Canterbury, from Barrhaven to Mutchmor Gifted, and everywhere else for Immersion and yet we do not offer busing for the Alternative Education program. Further, this program is only offered at centres inside the Greenbelt.

In time, we may find a way to open additional centres outside the Greenbelt where sufficient demand exists, though there will always be transport needs. Meanwhile, I believe that it is important to provide busing to existing Alt Ed sites if it is in our capacity to do so. A motion will be put forward soon calling for a stepwise approach to this question.

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

HERON PARK RINK REPORT

Colin MacLean

2010 was another successful season for the HPCA rink for skaters and shinny enthusiasts! Colin MacLean and Léo Derome will run the rink again for the HPCA. We rely on many volunteers and minimum-wage staff to keep the ice in excellent. If it snows, please come out to help shovel!

The City of Ottawa provides a grant to run the rink. Money not spent on the rink provides important program funding. Rink events include:

Making the base — when we have good snow coverage and lows of -10°C. It involves as many volunteers as possible. Léo Derome and some hardy volunteers donate many hours; they always need more hands.

Opening weekend — usually by mid-January

Winter Carnival — Saturday, late Jan.-early Feb.

Capital Ward Cup Shinny Tournament — before the 2nd weekend in Feb. Includes teams from Heron Park, the Glebe, Ottawa East & Old Ottawa South.

Hockey Day in Ottawa & Canada — Saturday, Feb. 12 Compete with other rinks in Ottawa & across Canada to see who has the most players.

Rink Workers Appreciation Breakfast—Saturday, Feb. 26 Jim Durrell Centre

Volunteer Appreciation Party—Usually after March break for all volunteers

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Making the base 2-hour shifts, as many days/nights you are available

Maintenance weeknights after 9 pm, noon on weekends, and when Léo Derome is available

Interested in VOLUNTEERING? Call Léo at 613-739-5687.

RINK WORKERS NEEDED!

At least 1 shift/week during operating hours; minimum wage.

If interested, contact Colin MacLean 613-863-5101 or cmaclean_esl@yahoo.com.

CRIME PREVENTION IN HERON PARK

The Apolydor/Lasalle Neighbourhood Watch recently passed its first anniversary as an official Neighbourhood Watch unit. It includes 70 households and is currently the only official Neighbourhood Watch unit in our area. To help improve our neighbourhood and make it safer and more of a community, we should have one on every block.

If you are interested in starting one on your street, or if you'd just like more information, give me a call, 613-863-5101.

We have a new community police liaison with the Ottawa Police Service (OPS): Constable Gary McCoy, South Ottawa Police Centre, T: (613) 236-1222 ext 5842 mccoyg@ottawapolice.ca Community vigilance is the best crime prevention in a neighbourhood, so don't hesitate to call the community police number above to report any suspicious activity (during or after the fact). (Remember 911 is only for emergencies.) You can remain anonymous by calling Crime Stoppers at 613-233-TIPS (8477) or 1-800-222-8477. These numbers do not have call display. Your call will not be traced.

If you would like to receive community alerts by broadcast email, contact me at cmaclean_esl@yahoo.com to be added to our list.

Colin MacLean

Coordinator of Apolydor/Lasalle Neighbourhood Watch

Chair of Heron Park North Neighbourhood Watch Committee



COMMUNITY NEWS



A MESSAGE TO THE RESIDENTS OF HERON PARK

David Chernushenko, Councillor, Capital Ward

I wish to open my first of many columns by paying special tribute to Clive Doucet, who has served this ward with remarkable devotion, diligence, passion and compassion. Clive has always been available to the community, to serve and to listen, and I intend to carry on that tradition.

I am deeply honoured to be elected to serve Heron Park as your new councillor for Capital Ward. While I had the good fortune to be chosen from a field of candidates, I want to thank Isabel Metcalfe, Bob Brockelbank, Domenic Santaguida, Eugene Haslam, Ron Le Blanc and Mano Hadavand and their campaign teams for engaging in what was a positive and constructive exercise in democracy at the grassroots.

In my first weeks as "councillor-elect", I and my cohort of 10 new councillors received a thorough series of orientation sessions with

the help of city officials, and I seized the occasion to meet as many of my future colleagues on Council as possible, to develop good working relationships, and to raise the important issue of the future of Lansdowne Park in particular. The current redevelopment process serves neither our democracy nor our pocketbooks, and there is much work to be done to ensure that we build what the city and nearby community actually need.

As we enter into the busy but always exciting month of December, it is always a challenge to slow down, reflect on our many fortunes as citizens/residents of Ottawa and Canada, and take the time to be with friends and family - the heart of community. I, along with my office staff, wish you happy holidays and a Merry Christmas.

My contact details as are:
David.Chernushenko@ottawa.ca
613-580-2487



Heron Park's team finished in second place at this year's wheelchair relay race fundraiser at Ridgemont High School.

AU REVOIR FROM CLIVE

Dear Heron Park,

We've done a lot together over the last 13 years. I have to say it's been an interesting journey. We've turned the old field house into a community activity place, with some small but important renovations. Now that we have completed the Old Ottawa South Firehall Community Centre, a proper conversion and expansion of this facility will now be made (? should now be the next priority? is this in the works?) to better serve the needs of Heron Park residents.

We amalgamated Heron Park's north and south communities, made major improvements to protect Sawmill Creek by bringing the Sawmill Creek Constructed Wetlands Storm Water Management Ponds into existence to control storm surges and clean the water. We've turned a property full of neglect into what is now the much travelled, well lit Timmermans Park. Unlike many other parks across the city, we also ensured that it was zoned as dedicated parkland, protecting it from easily being rezoned for other land uses. With dedicated effort, we helped bring about a long-awaited project on Heron Park's wish list this past summer with the completion of the Data Centre Road sidewalk.

You worked hard to make the Heron Park Herald one of the best little community papers in Ottawa, and have a great web site that is easy to navigate and full of current events. You tirelessly raised funds for over a year to get the money needed to partner with the city for the greatly improved playground in Heron Park. You run playgroups and after school programs from a facility that desperately needs to grow. You run a rink with tightly stretched volunteer capacity. You have heart, and it shows. Bravo.

But what I will always remember the most are the wonderful people I've worked with these thirteen years: Rosella MacNeil, Colin MacLean, James McLaren, Donna Silver, Emma Gama-Pinto, Léo Derome, Eileen McGurrin, Angie Kelm, Kelly Thomas, Gloria Williams, Ruth McDonald, John MacFarlane, Derek Gour, Renso Vettoretti, Marion Hall, Bev Davis, Alison Baily, Wayne Reid, Linda Gama-Pinto, Tereshka Gama-Pinto, Marlene Hodges, Marie McIntosh, Peter Fourney, Maritala Robinson and many, many more who got involved in protecting or improving their community and came to help out at the community sponsored events - they are the backbone of Heron Park.

There will be lots more to do for your new councillor, David Chernushenko, as the work of a councillor, like housework, is never done. I am sure incoming Councillor Chernushenko will face new challenges and also achieve many positive outcomes with Heron Park residents. A new pedestrian bridge over Sawmill Creek could be a community-led initiative, in addition to the expanded community building that this community is ready to work towards. Let's not forget the community development plan that is just starting but will change the face of Bank Street from the Rideau River to Walkley.

My hope is that your new councillor will be excited to discover Heron Park, the people and businesses. What a real jewel of a community it is! Despite often being in the shadow of the bigger neighbourhoods in Capital Ward, Heron Park is increasingly demonstrating its own vibrant energy and a determination to create a bright future for the community and its residents.

Clive Doucet

Season's Greetings From
The Heron Park Herald



COMMUNITY NEWS

Winter Scenes From Heron Park





COMMUNITY NEWS

CELEBRATING CLIVE

On Tuesday, November 23rd, a good sized crowd, people from Heron Park, Old Ottawa East, Old Ottawa South, the Glebe and Dow's Lake, gathered to spring a surprise on our outgoing councillor. They lured him to the Glebe Community Centre with a fail-proof plan: they asked him to attend their monthly community association meeting. They knew he wouldn't be able to say no – he never does. So, even though this was his last week on the job and he had just finished a tough election campaign, being Clive, he still couldn't say no.

So Clive walked into the place unawares, carrying a gift for them: a memento from his office. (He has one for each of the community associations.) The well-wishers turned the tables on him, thanking him and presenting him with a few gifts of their own: a very large jigsaw puzzle with an appropriate scene on it, which he said he'll work on with Felix, his five year old grandson; a banner, one of several that will be used to welcome passers-by to the neighbourhood's parks. This gift was presented by Catherine Lindquist of

the Business Improvement Association in appreciation of his work to enhance life for area residents and retailers alike. (The puzzle was presented by the community association; I can imagine why Caroline Vanneste and other board members may feel a puzzle best represents the past decade but they didn't say, so I'd better not!)

Clive has worked on Capital ward issues for 13 years, pouring his energy and passion into projects and problems alike. Whether they agreed with him or not – and many didn't, people still admired his integrity, his willingness to go all-out to reach a goal. Even his political opponents respect his commitment, his vision and his ethics.

Thank you, Clive, for your hard work and dedication to your and our community.

Salut et à bientôt!
Rosella Mac Neil, on behalf of Heron Parkers and Capital Wardens – er, Warders



DONNA SILVER ADDS SPICE!

Thank you Donna, for the commitment and energy you demonstrated in all your endeavours to help us improve our Heron Park community these many years. As an integral member of Clive's staff, we've relied on you for your advice, information and insight into the ways and means of working with the City. As a Heron Park supporter in your "off-hours", we've relied on you

for your gardening skills, pots of chili and your tireless efforts to maintain and improve Sawmill Creek and its environment, to name just a few of your accomplishments. Enjoy your well-earned holiday. The "door to Heron Park" is always open to you whenever you want to drop by!

This holiday season is the time to re-discover a great neighbourhood grocery store:



Cedars & Co. Food Market
at 1255 Bank Street past Riverdale



Fresh seafood, meat, dairy and produce
Baked goods
Take-home meals, salads and fresh dips
Fish and chips, shawarmas and so much more



Enjoy convenient grocery shopping with friendly staff, an inviting location and free parking.

Hours: 9 am - 10 pm, 7 days/week

Season's Greetings from Brian and all the staff at Cedars & Company Food Market!



COLUMNS

REMEMBRANCE AND CREATING MEMORIES

Earlier this Fall, my family, all 17 of us, travelled to France for a significant family "holiday". The purpose was to honour the memory of my maternal grandfather, Francis Kelly, who was part of the Canadian Forces in Europe during WWII. He joined in 1940 when my mother was 9 months old and returned in June 1945 when she was 5 1/2 years old. When I shared this story with my children, it made them very sad to think of their "Nan" missing so much time with her father when she was a little girl.

Following our trip, they, and their cousins, have a deeper understanding of the sacrifices our Canadian soldiers made in WWI and WWII. The adjoining article is written by my mother, Helen McGurrin, and is followed with some lasting impressions our trip had on six of her grandchildren (the seventh, at 19 months, hasn't quite mastered a keyboard yet).

This past November 11th resonated strongly for the entire family. I am grateful indeed (as my son would say) for the memories and for the privilege of visiting sites and memorials honouring Canada's soldiers, those who rest there and those who returned, most especially Frank Kelly.

Eileen McGurrin

Frank Kelly's Great-Grandchildren Speak

When we went to Bretteville-sur-Laize Canadian War Cemetery, I enjoyed it indeed very much. We looked for the grave of one soldier, Lt. William Charles Selby that we found in the book (Register of Graves). I wanted to see it to thank him for protecting our nation. I was also glad that my cousin Etta was there 'cause after we did our prayers for Lt. Selby we would play with her and forget about many things. It was great to enjoy that experience and to remember that many men risked their lives when they answered that message to join the war. And what's so much greater now is that Germany and many other countries will never want war again.

Brian Edgar, 8 years old

I was named after my dad's grandfather Frank Kelly, but my middle name is Francis because Frank is a boy's name. Now that I've been to France I know more about him. Like he fought in the war and that he chose to go and fight because he wanted to make a difference in the world and bring peace. He has a name tag at Juno Beach and I picked a purple flower for him and stuck it beside so he'd know I was there. When my Nan saw that we were all with her at Juno beach, she cried. I think she was happy and sad at the same time. Now I know why my mom and dad named me Francis and I'm proud to be named after a very brave man.

Claire Francis McGurrin, 9 years old

My father joined the Black Watch Regiment of Canada on June 4, 1940, in Montreal.

Private Francis Kelly D-82297 became a fully trained infantryman and served as such throughout the war; four years with the Intelligence Section, and one year with the Regiment's carrier platoon. In September 1944, Dad was the sole survivor when the carrier he and three other soldiers were in drove over a couple of explosive mines. After treatment in a field hospital, he was back on duty ten days later and saw further action in Belgium, Holland and Germany. Dad returned home in May 1945. My father never spoke of his war experience, and when questioned would answer "War is awful". My own four children would also receive his reluctant answers ending with "War is awful". My father died November 3, 1986. That November 11th Remembrance Day Ceremony, and every November 11th since then, has become more meaningful, and poignant.

My husband and I visited Normandy, France in 2005. We visited the Juno Beach Centre, Canadian cemeteries, and sites where the Black Watch Regiment saw action. We were overwhelmed by the respect, honour and gratitude of the citizens of St. Andre sur Orne who have streets named to commemorate the sacrifice of Canadian soldiers: Rue du Black Watch Regiment of Canada, Rue des Canadiens, Boulevard Colonel Ostiguy. We visited Point 67-Verrieres Ridge where flies the Canadian flag and sits the Black Watch Regiment monument erected in 2002 to mark the battle of July 25, 1944; the second greatest loss of Canadian soldiers after Dieppe. The inscription ends with

this quote:

"In memory of the men of The Black Watch of Canada and their comrades who fought for the liberation of Europe and the hope of a better world."

This year I had a Memorial Brick mounted at the Juno Beach Centre for my father.



(MID – Mention in Despatches for gallantry and distinguished service)

(WIA – Wounded in Action)

As I grow older, the need to create memories for my grandchildren meshes with the need to remember the courage and sacrifice of Canada's soldiers in both World Wars. So for my 70th Birthday, I invited my children, their spouses and grandchildren to come to France to see the plaque for Sgt. Francis Kelly. And all 17 of us, including little 19-month old Etta, visited WW1 and WW2 sites, including a special group visit to Juno Beach Centre and the Memorial Brick for Sgt. Francis Kelly. It is my way of saying "Thank You Dad" from me and from the great-grandchildren that you never met.

Helen McGurrin



Helen and Brian McGurrin with their 7 grandchildren at Vimy Ridge Memorial

The first week of our trip was the most important week. We visited World War I and World War II battlefields. At Vimy, there are many fences and signs saying "Keep out, unexploded mines" and a lot of craters. That is where we saw our National Chief of Defence. (Chief of Defence Staff, General Walter Natynczyk)

This was really exciting because not everyone gets to meet him and he represents all of the Canadian soldiers. A couple of days later, we

went to Juno Beach, the main reason we went on our journey. That's where the plaque of my great-grandfather, Francis Kelly, is placed. Later on that day, we visited Bretteville-sur-Laize, a Canadian War Cemetery. It was really sad 'cause when I looked around there were thousands of graves (more precisely 2,793) and I realized it was only one cemetery and there were so many, many more.

Sarah Edgar, 9 years old

Continued on page 9...



COLUMNS

REMEMBRANCE (Cont'd From Page 8)

Standing there on Juno beach in France, watching how rough the waves were, I was imagining how hard it must have been on the soldiers who landed there. My great-grandfather Kelly was among those soldiers. He was a great man and when I think of him, I will always remember the soldiers he fought with and their amazing bravery.

Colleen McGurrin, 12 years old

When my family visited France, we saw many beautiful sites including: Juno Beach, Mont St. Michel, and much more. But the sight that I thought was the most important was Vimy Ridge. Vimy Ridge was where the Canadian army fought the German army in the trenches. I thought it was really nice that Canada was helping France like that.

And I really don't understand why we have big wars in the first place. Why can't people just learn to respect each other and their opinions? I know we can't be perfect but we can at least be better.

Lauren Walker, 13 years old

I found Juno Beach amazing. How they had it all planned out and how there were so many Canadian troops willing to give their lives to stop Hitler. I also found it amazing that even though France was captured, there were still people who rebelled and helped the Canadians take Juno Beach. It's also a very sad sight to think about how many died on that beach, so many brave men gave their lives in that war, and I find it is very important to never forget.

Shane Walker, 15 years old

This was written by my nephew who lives in another part of Ottawa, but it applies to every neighbourhood, so I wanted to include it in our paper.
Rosella MacNeil

PUTTING THE UNITY BACK IN COMMUNITY

Mylan Clairmont

When I was doing a bit of background research on community, I found a few interesting definitions. I found that they weren't wrong, but they weren't right. For example: "a group of people living in a particular local area." This isn't wrong, but it really isn't the whole picture. There isn't anything in this definition that speaks of the close bonds built over time that seem to endure forever. I have also found that the neighbourhood I live in is a lot more unified than many others that I've heard of through friends or family. There are a few reasons, one of which is children.

Children have a funny way of bringing people together. They provide a great way to connect with those around them. I still remember the huge block-wide super soaker fights with all the kids on my street. And playing road hockey in my free time with a friend who lives down the street. Through all the time I spent with my friends, my parents seemed to grow closer to the parents of my friends, talking over coffee as they watched over us playing in the yard. When you have twenty-eight kids on the block, it can really build a strong community. Another thing that builds a strong community is celebrations.

There's a saying: the families that have the most celebrations are the strongest families. This seems to carry over into community as well. Every year, the families on our street have a block party; there is a pot-luck dinner and everyone contributes. All the kids usually end up having a water fight, and making huge chalk drawings on the road. The parents

end up talking and reconnecting with all the neighbours, renewing their relationships before the summertime.

You will find that, most of the time, a good strong community is filled with people who can depend on each other. I've lived in one house my whole life, and know for a fact that if there is a problem, I can go to any of my neighbours and ask for help. Whether my house is on fire, or I need two eggs to do some baking. My community will help me out, just like I would help them.

Other great communities that I have the pleasure of being a part of are my school and the summer camp where I work. I am a grade 11 student at Notre Dame High School. Being part of a school community is amazing. I've found that aside from the obvious social community, there are three other large ones: the Arts, the Academics, and the Athletics. I've been able to be a part of all of these groups in my time so far at Notre Dame, through bands, sports and academic activities, each of which has just made me more involved in the school community. The feeling that comes with being part of a community that supports you through your everyday struggles is nothing short of awesome. Being on the Rugby and Football teams I've noticed that there seems to be a very strong bond between the players on sports teams. This is especially true in contact sports where you have to rely on your teammates to support you on and off the field. The strongest feeling of community is probably with the Rugby team though. In a game where there are

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Funding provided by City of Ottawa, HPCA and generous neighbours
Colin MacLean 613-863-5101
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thirty players on the field, fifteen to each side, there isn't any room for individuals. All players are one team, represented by their captain, accepting the mistakes of their teammates, and working harder for each other. But you don't have to be playing a contact sport to have a community.

The feeling of closeness that I feel towards my co-workers at the summer camp where I work is unmatched. During the summer I work for seven weeks at a camp for at-risk youth in the Ottawa area, and living with these people for seven weeks, you soon learn a few things: one, that you have to rely on the support of others around you, and two, that you have to support others around you. Working with these kids for such a long time brings out the best and worst of everyone who works there. You learn quickly that if the camp is to be successful, then by the time training week is over there already needs to be a community in place.

Going over my communities: my neighbourhood, my school, my teams, and my work, I have found a few parallels among them, and decided to take a stab at making a definition of community. Here it goes: a community is a group of people who are brought together by something, and will support each other through thick or thin. This is very general, but every community that I am a part of has those two components. Without community, I don't think anyone would have made it as far as they have. We learn, grow and enrich our lives through community.



COLUMNS

MORE SLOPE STABILIZATION ON SAWMILL CREEK ...AND TALK ABOUT A BRIDGE!

Donna Silver

City staff recently advised that they will be doing some work on Sawmill Creek to add to the ongoing work to stabilize the shoreline. This is no doubt great news for the people whose backyards face the ravine, in the vicinity of the community centre in Heron Park. Since the late 70's, the condition of the shorelines has been identified as needing to be monitored and the work to build the Sawmill Creek Constructed Storm Water Management Ponds south of Walkley Road was one of the measures put in place. Heavy rainfalls north of the pond have continued to be a problem for the shorelines, and more work is required if the erosion is to be stopped.

This roving reporter cannot add much more detail at this time, as the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority is looking into the access required for the work to commence, and the necessary

permits are pending. More information will be available when I meet with the City Stream Watch committee, which happens after the deadline for this issue of The Herald.

However, while we are waiting for the permissions to undertake the work, one thing I can tell you is that the work would see the construction of a temporary bridge so the workers could move materials to both sides of the creek. As is often the case, I thought "Wow. Wonder if this bridge could be made permanent?" So, Heron Parkers, time to talk amongst yourself about this. There are, as with most opportunities, pros and cons to this idea. Is it possible? I don't know yet, but I will certainly be asking this question at the City Stream Watch meeting and reporting back to you.

On the pro side, it would provide

an opportunity for pedestrians and cyclists to access the Heron Transit Station or to explore the wild meadow on the other side of the creek more easily. It is quite a beautiful walk there in the summer, especially when the milkweed is in full bloom and you can sometimes see a flock of monarch butterflies. It's also a wonderful cross country ski adventure in the winter, which I used to enjoy. It would also allow people to cross over without having to walk across the rink or through the soggy grass - both undertakings which are best avoided. On the con side, there could be a rise in trash being thrown into the ravine, a very difficult undertaking for the folks who attempt to retrieve the garbage on clean up days. Lighting and maintenance (who would pay?) are also possible issues. There are, no doubt, other concerns that may arise, but I hope the community gives serious

consideration with some public discussion before a decision to ask for a more permanent bridge is taken.


As with all good things, my time on the City Stream Watch will end at the next meeting. It has been a passion of mine for at least fifteen years to ensure that someone is keeping an eye on Sawmill Creek as it is one of the last remaining creeks in an urban setting in Ontario. It is Heron Park's best kept secret, but that will not last as the city continues to intensify. After a wee rest, I will be tackling new challenges in urban sustainability, and I do hope that someone from the community will step up to look after the creek. Just send a letter to president@heronpark.ca if you are interested, the information will be forwarded to me and I will get in touch to chat about the past, the present and the future.




A junior fan of Heron Park's new playstructures.



The Heron Park hockey players from the Capital Ward Cup



David McGuinty



Member of Parliament—Ottawa South
Député—Ottawa-Sud

Season's Greetings!

My office provides information on the services offered by the Government of Canada, including:

- ◆ The Canada Pension Plan;
- ◆ Old Age Security;
- ◆ Guaranteed Income Supplement;
- ◆ Small Business Assistance;
- ◆ Citizenship Inquiries;
- ◆ Canadian Passports;
- ◆ Immigration Matters;
- ◆ Grants & Funding;
- ◆ Students Loans; and
- ◆ Taxation Issues.


If I can ever be of assistance to you, please contact my office.

Meilleurs vœux!

Mon bureau vous renseigne sur les services offerts par le gouvernement du Canada, notamment:

- ◆ le Régime de pensions du Canada;
- ◆ la Sécurité de la vieillesse;
- ◆ le Supplément de revenu garanti;
- ◆ les occasions d'affaires;
- ◆ les demandes de renseignements relatives à la citoyenneté;
- ◆ le passeport canadien;
- ◆ les questions d'immigration;
- ◆ les options de financement;
- ◆ les prêt aux étudiants; et
- ◆ les questions sur l'impôt.


Si jamais je peux vous aider, n'hésitez pas à contacter mon bureau.



David McGuinty, M.P.

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Tel/Tél: 990-8640
Fax/Télex: 990-2592
Email/Courriel:
McGuinty.D@parl.gc.ca



COLUMNS

CITY BEAT

James McLaren

Clive

It's the end of an era at city council and more specifically for Capital Ward. Clive Doucet has been our councillor since 1997, but since he decided to run for mayor last election he will unfortunately be proverbially hanging up the skates that he has used so often to commute to City Hall. Clive has fought a sometimes lonely fight over those years to try to make the city of Ottawa more liveable and more sustainable for all of us, and sadly over the years he has lost some of those battles. In a city now dominated by the wants and needs of the suburban voters it has been difficult to convince people of the need for more and better transit and for directing development towards increasing density and thus lowering the average cost of municipal services for taxpayers. Clive never gave up the battle despite all the opposition and, let's face it, personal insults and lies directed at him. I was always impressed with his tirelessness, his dignity in the face of opposition, and most of all his refusal to stoop to the low tactics of his opponents. He will be missed.

New Council

The election caused the biggest turnover on city council since amalgamation, with a total of eleven new faces. Current mayor O'Brien was defeated by Jim Watson. The defeated councillors were Alex Cullen, Christine Leadman, George Bedard, Glenn Brooks, Michel Bellemare, and Rob Jellet. Gord Hunter, Peggy Feltmate, Jacques Legendre, and of course our own Clive Doucet all did not run for council seats and so will not be returning. What caused this massive turnover? Certainly people have been frustrated at the poor decisions and dysfunction council has demonstrated over the last four years. The cancellation of the North-South Light Rail, the decision to build a tunnel over surface rail, and the Lansdowne Live debacle are good examples. Unfortunately most of the people who voted in favour of these decisions kept their seats. Who knows if the new councillors will be any better? Only time will tell.

On the plus side Larry O'Brien was defeated. Certainly I'm not shedding a lot of tears at the loss of a mayor dedicated to

the proposition that government of the developers, by the developers, and for the developers shall not perish from the face of the Earth. I really think that instead of having to pay a deposit, potential candidates for political office should have to pass a test. The test might include questions about how to chair meetings, how to play nicely with others, and simple math. Example questions might be "If expenses rise by 3% per year, can zero really mean zero?" or "Explain exactly how spending over \$170 million on a stadium and giving away all potential income from it to a private consortium is "revenue neutral." Let's just hope that the new councillors would be capable of passing such a test.

Green Bin Pickup

Starting in December the green bins will only be picked up biweekly, the same week as the black box is picked up. Green bin pickup returns to every week in April so they don't get too stinky. If you don't have a collection calendar you can print a copy by going to ottawa.ca and clicking on "Garbage and Recycling Schedules".

Construction

Winter may be upon us, but the good news about that is it means The Summer of a Thousand Construction Projects is finally over. The new sidewalk on Data Centre Road is completed, and it's awesome – I've never felt less like a sitting duck walking over to Billings Bridge! Also Riverside Drive is now repaved. Now it's (a) a lot less like riding a roller coaster with a lot of really bad bumps in the track, and (b) very, very, slow at rush hour instead of being very, very, very, very slow as it was when it was down to one lane in each direction. The bike path through Hog's Back Park has been modified making the hill down to the underpass of Heron Road less steep. I consider that cheating, but luckily the hill on the bike path at the O-Train track and Brookfield is still plenty steep so I'm not complaining.



Is It a Giant Dollhouse?

Been wondering what the weird little building near the corner of Clementine and Ohio is for? Me, too. Apparently it will be a sales office for some condos going up behind Billingswood Manor (the seniors residence at the corner of Bank and Ohio). They are intended to feature one-bedroom units probably directed towards seniors. The site plan and all that was approved some years ago – apparently they're just getting started building them now.

Lansdowne Saga

In this episode of "Lansdowne and Peace" the old city council, in one of its last acts, approved the stage 1 site plan for the park. I attended the "Open House" for this plan back in November, only it wasn't especially open. There were lots of pretty pictures of happy people walking among trees, which is odd because as far as I could gather these would be strictly limited to the back third of the park. (The trees, I mean – well, probably the happy people too.) Every new iteration seems almost completely different from what came before. This time, there are 16 and 18 storey condo towers, one at the corner of Bank and Holmwood and the other at Bank next to the bridge right in front of the park. The rest of Bank and Holmwood would be faced with buildings about six storeys high. There were no wide angle pictures of the park from Bank or Holmwood or 3D models of what the structures would look like. Apparently all you'd see from Bank or Holmwood

is a wall of buildings. The park is criss-crossed by access roads for shuttle buses, which would be necessary because there would be only about a third of the parking spaces that are there now. The Horticulture Building would be moved back to the east corner of the Aberdeen Pavilion to make room for a Cineplex and underground parking. Funny – I thought the winning plan for the "urban park" did not include moving the Horticulture Building. The Farmer's Market would be limited to around half the space that it has now, and the trade shows would be entirely gone. Good thinking – move the only thing that actually makes money at Lansdowne to another site, and the fact that that other site would be owned by Shenkman Corporation (one of the OSEG partners) is I'm sure entirely a coincidence. Oh, and the planned new site for trade shows is on wetland near the airport that might be protected by provincial statute. Stay tuned for the next episode, in which the city faces 14 appeals to the Ontario Municipal Board and one court challenge of its Lansdowne plans.



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Join us December 31st and celebrate New Year's Eve in your own neighbourhood!

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Medium Pepperoni Pizza
20 wings
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Red or House Draft

Mon - Thurs
4pm to closing
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Pizza Special

Combination or Hawaiian
Medium = \$13.50 (+tax)
Large = \$14.50 (+tax)
Includes 2 canned soft drinks

Brian welcomes you to visit his newly opened Cedars and Co. Food Market at 1255 Bank St. (see p. 7 for details)



O'Brien's Pub Hours:
Monday- Saturday 11 am - 1 am
Sunday 12 pm - 11 pm

