

# CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER

November 1996

Vol 16 #4

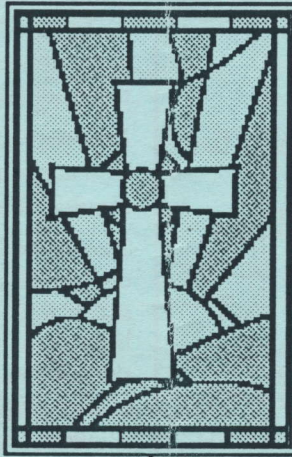
## The Great Halifax Explosion

This is a story of a person living in Ottawa who experienced the horror and destruction of war in a city in Canada. That city was Halifax, Nova Scotia and I was that person.

It was during the Great War (1914-1918), the war to end all wars and Dec 6th 1917 had dawned a bright and cold winter day. The peace was suddenly shattered by the great explosion just after 9 a.m. killing two thousand people, injuring thousands more and destroying the north end of the city.

I was eight years old living with my younger sister, parents and grandparents in the north end of the city. We didn't know what had happened until the soldiers came and told us that we had to leave our home and go to the common in case of more explosions. Later that day we were allowed to go home. It was then that the clean up began. There were no windows or doors as well as other damage to the house. Fortunately we had an Uncle who was captain of an American tanker at the oil refinery in the lower harbour. He sent some of his crew with canvas to nail to the important doors and windows. At that time there were no radios or TV to hear the news that two ships had collided in the harbour. One of them was loaded with munitions.

During the night I awoke to hear sounds of pounding. Childlike, I got up to see who or what was making the noise. I found my mother and father nailing the carpet off the floor to what had been the window to keep out the snow. It was then that mother saw the flames from the fires that had been set by the stoves in the destroyed homes. It was a sad



time and one that is not forgotten. Many of you reading this may have read "Barometer Rising" by Hugh MacLellan, a Haligonian who lived through the explosion.

Then came 1939 and war again. I was a dietitian at the Veterans Hospital, Camphill, where some of the first world war veterans still lived. Soon it became a hospital filled with the casualties of the North Atlantic.

The wards and corridors were filled with men from many countries. So many lost their legs and some lost ears and noses caused by burning oil in the sea. Many of these were very young men.

One day I was asked by a doctor to visit a young patient who was not doing very well. I talked with him and asked if I could get anything for him. He replied "could I have a cup of tea?" I could have cried.

In 1945 we had the second explosion. At that time we had radios. We were told what had caused the explosion and that we should keep in the open, open all windows and doors in case there was another explosion. Knowing what had happened in 1917 we were fearful that it might happen again. There was a second explosion in the night but that was all. We were thankful there was no loss of life.

Through the port of Halifax in both wars, thousands of our men left for England, and so many never returned.

I am happy that I was born in Halifax, the old Citadel by the sea. With Nov 11th and Dec 6th near at hand I will quietly remember my life there and be happy.





### Champlain Speaker Newsletter Staff

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Sandy Milne.


### Champlain Community Association Executive

President: Tim Frank 729-0882  
Vice-president: Amy Kempster 722-6039  
Secretary: Laura Muldoon  
Treasurer: Kay Young 722-7955  
Special Events: Laurie Fagan 728-1945  
Membership: Jim Cocks 728-7881

## Editors Notes

Thank you to our contributors this month for your articles. It is nice to have new contributors as well as our regulars. I hope to be able to uphold the high standards set by previous editor, Don Monet. Hopefully we'll be able to start a 'Junior Journalist' column in the next issue. There are a large number of young people in our neighbourhood. Their opinions are as valid as ours (adults). We seek input from any Champlain Park youth 16 yrs. of age and under. Anyone interested in submitting articles to the **Speaker** can reach me at 724-5871. I look forward to hearing from you - Sue.

PS. The answer to the word find will be in next month's issue



## Playgroup Newsletter

### Theme Days for November

November 12<sup>th</sup>: Face Painting Day

November 21<sup>nd</sup>: Mix & Match Day

November 26<sup>th</sup>: Hat Day

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### Local Teens Interested in Work:

Tom Arnason 729-6639 Snow Shoveling  
Rachelle 722-6303 Babysitting  
Jessica 728-8413 Babysitting  
Sarah 722-2687 Babysitting  
Paul Ratsch 728-2583 Snow Shoveling  
Rory Taylor 798-0036 Snow Shoveling

## PROPOSED ZONING CHANGES

### *How they May Affect the Character of Our Neighbourhood*

On Sunday, October 20, a municipal official presented information to the community regarding proposed zoning changes for our neighbourhood. This presentation alerted me to the fact that we must become active on this issue in order to preserve the current character of our neighbourhood. Here are some facts to help you understand the issue.

**Current Zoning:** Our neighbourhood's zoning is currently split into two parts. Patricia, Daniel and Keyworth (plus adjacent portions of Premier, Sunnymede, Clearview and Pontiac) are zoned R3 which allows only single family homes. Northwestern, Carleton, Cowley (plus adjacent portions of the cross-streets) are zoned R4X, which allows semi-detached homes on 60 foot wide lots, but prohibits townhouses and group building projects.

### *Proposed Changes under the new 2020Z Zoning Bylaw:*

The current R3 area remains the same, allowing only singles (The new code is called R1).

The current R4X area will be changed to the new R2C designation. As a community, we must pay careful attention to the potential impact of this zoning change, because it is not just a change in the code, but a change in the nature of development that will be allowed in this part of the neighbourhood. Semi-detached homes will be allowed on narrower lots (50 foot wide instead of the current 60 feet requirement). The other change is that "street-oriented group buildings of singles or semis" would also be allowed on 50 foot wide lots.

I have studied the land use maps for our neighbourhood and have compiled the following statistics:

*Number of Homes in the Neighbourhood:* 346 (182 in R4X, 164 in R3)

*Number of Non-Single Detached Homes (includes semis, duplexes):* 25 (All in R4X, Northwestern to Cowley, as that is the only area non-singles are allowed)

*Of the 25 above, the number of Semi-Detached Homes:* 10 (7 on 50 X 100 Foot Lots; 3 on larger lots of size 100 X 100 and 75 X 100)

In summary, both halves of our neighbourhood are largely comprised of single family dwellings. Only 3% of the homes are currently semi-detached.

The new zoning by-law aims to promote intensification, but at the same time to "preserve the character of neighbourhoods". The changes proposed for our neighbourhood would not preserve its character, but alter it.

Most of the lots in this neighbourhood are 50 feet wide. A few are 100 foot wide (lots that were never sub-divided) and some are miscellaneous widths. If the proposed changes go through, one half of the neighbourhood could experience over time a gradual conversion to more intense development. The neighbourhood could lose its current "village-like atmosphere" as one of the long-time residents here describes it. There could be less green space as more lots had larger dwellings with two driveways, and  
(continued on page 4)



# NOVEMBER/96

**SUNDAY**

**MONDAY**

**TUESDAY**

**WEDNESDAY**

**THURSDAY**

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. Social Group meets at Fieldhouse 2 to 4 pm Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.	<b>5</b> Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. T'ai Chi 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Fly Fishing 7:00 p.m.	<b>6</b> Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.	<b>7</b> Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. Yoga 7:30-9:00 p.m.	<b>8</b> <b>BLUE BOX</b> + YARD WASTE Nature Walks 9:30 a.m.	<b>9</b> Northwestern United Church Bazaar and Hollyberry Luncheon 11:00 to 2:00
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→ CHAMPLAIN PARK ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP DRIVE TO NOV. 30th ←

<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. Social Group meets at Fieldhouse 2 to 4 pm Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m. Fly Tying 9:00 p.m.	<b>12</b> Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. T'ai Chi 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Garden Club Meeting 7pm	<b>13</b> Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.	<b>14</b> Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. Yoga 7:30-9:00 p.m.	<b>15</b> <b>BLUE BOX</b> Nature Walks 9:30 a.m.	<b>16</b>
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<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. Social Group meets at Fieldhouse 2 to 4 pm Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.	<b>19</b> Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. T'ai Chi 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Fly Fishing 7:00 p.m.	<b>20</b> Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.	<b>21</b> Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. Yoga 7:30-9:00 p.m.	<b>22</b> <b>BLUE BOX</b> Nature Walks 9:30 a.m.	<b>23</b>
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<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. Social Group meets at Fieldhouse 2 to 4 pm Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m. Fly Tying 9:00 p.m.	<b>26</b> Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. T'ai Chi 5:30-6:30 p.m.	<b>27</b> Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.	<b>28</b> Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. Yoga 7:30-9:00 p.m.	<b>29</b> <b>BLUE BOX</b> Nature Walks 9:30 a.m.	<b>30</b>
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## DECEMBER

<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. Social Group meets at Fieldhouse 2 to 4 pm Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.	<b>3</b> Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. T'ai Chi 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Fly Fishing 7:00 p.m.	<b>4</b> Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.	<b>5</b> Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. Yoga 7:30-9:00 p.m. Meeting about The City Budget to be held at Dovercourt in the Preschool Rm. 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.	<b>6</b> <b>BLUE BOX</b> Nature Walks 9:30 a.m.	<b>7</b>
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\*\*\*Playgroup will run every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30a.m.  
 \*\*\*Aerobics Classes Monday and Wednesday evenings, 7-8 p.m. for 14 weeks, Sept 16 to Dec 18, 1996.  
 \*\*\*T'ai Chi Classes Tuesdays evenings, 5:30-6:30 p.m. for 8 weeks, Oct 15 to Dec 3, 1996.  
 \*\*\*Yoga Classes Thursday evenings, 7:30-9:00 p.m. for 8 weeks, Oct 17 to Dec 5, 1996.

TO ADD ITEMS NEXT  
MONTH - CALL 729-5439



# AMY'S CORNER

Amy Kempster 722-6039

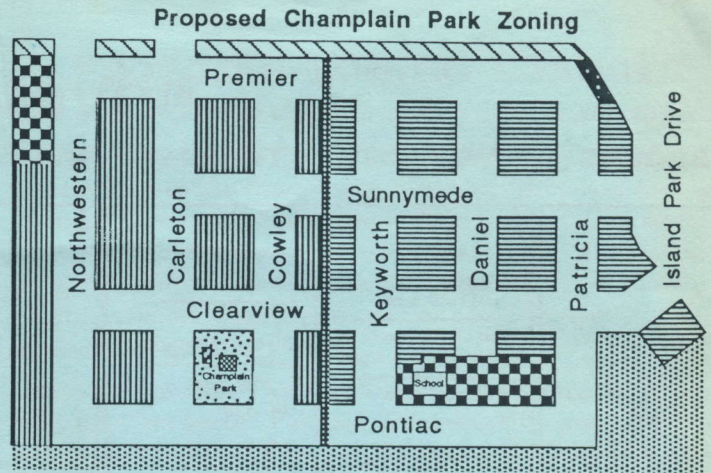
**Champlain Bridge:** The NCC decision is a partial victory but unfortunately it leaves the situation unsettled. The decision was to build a three-lane bridge but suggests that during the next year the Region and the Outaouais Region work together on the problem of whether to operate it as a three or two-lane facility. Given this decision our work is not finished. The Community Before Cars Coalition intends to pursue the matter in court on the grounds of inadequate public consultation and problems with the environmental assessment, particularly with regard to its effects on the community. More details next month.

**New Zoning By-Law:** The hearings on this are proceeding: a group from Carleton, Northwestern and Cowley will attend on Nov. 5. An Information session is planned by the City and FCA on Nov. 16 at City Hall if you are interested. Call Amy Kempster for more details.

**Regional Official Plan:** Council has still not debated the Regional Development Strategy and lobbying of Councillors can still be done. If you are concerned about urban sprawl and the cost of developing outside the Greenbelt, especially in Leitrum and the Eastern portion of the South Urban Community, call Peter Clark and express your concern that development be directed to those areas which are cheapest.

**City Budget:** The news from the City re its budget is not good. The idea of closing Westboro Beach, for example, suggests that staff are targeting areas which citizens will find unacceptable. Would an increase of \$5 a year in your taxes be unacceptable? Your Councillor Joan Wong will be holding a meeting on the City Budget during November. This will be your opportunity to discuss where you think the city should make cuts and if you feel the line should be held on taxes at the expenses of some services.

**Traffic Calming:** Check the December issue of *NEWSWEST* for notice of a public meeting re the traffic calming and this column. Comments from the technical agencies have been received and it is hoped that the public meeting can be held in early December.



- I1: Minor Institutional Zone
- L2: Leisure Linkage Zone
- L3: Community Leisure Zone
- R1H: Detached House Zone
- R2C: Semi Detached House Zone
- EW: Environmental Zone, Waterway Corridor

(continued from page 2)

"welcome-to-my garage" fronts. Parking, traffic and sewer capacity are other concerns.

This is not just an issue for people on the affected streets. We are a small neighbourhood, with very distinct boundaries, and we currently have a pretty homogeneous, mostly single-family home atmosphere. The field house, park, skating rink are located in the part of the neighbourhood that would be affected by this change. The character of the neighbourhood could eventually become split into two different "ambiences."

We are making a presentation on behalf of the neighbourhood on Tuesday, Nov. 5 at 7:30 PM, at City Hall. This newsletter may get to you after the meeting has occurred, but we are also circulating a petition. If you wish to sign a petition opposing this zoning change, please call Lynne Bankier (729-0955) or Elizabeth Mundell (728-7598).

## Sue's Word Find

I N O R T H W E S T E R N U F C B  
 W S O T T A W A A R T E P A D H R  
 E U L R I V E R A E L E R L L A I  
 S N A A D A N I E L R M U Y G M D  
 T N I N N R E R O T T O C S T P G  
 E Y C S A D T O H T G S P S W L E  
 R M I I L S P T R E E Q R S E A S  
 N E R T E K R A P O S U L P I I U  
 R D T W A O C C R A H E E E V N B  
 E E A A W A P A R K W A Y N R O R  
 I T P Y I Y Z O C D D O S C A T E  
 M L E T S E M O H A W R D E E E K  
 E K N C H U R C H L O I I R L L A  
 R O G O V E R N M E N T K V G R E  
 P T U N N E Y S P A S T U R E A P  
 R I C H M O N D V E Y E L W O C S

Patricia, Daniel, Keyworth, Cowley, Carleton, Speaker, Northwestern, Western, Pontiac, Clearview, Sunnymede, Premier, Scott, Richmond, Bus, Rockhurst, Oakdale, Perth, Gould, Spencer, Fun, Parkway, River, Champlain, Bridge, Park, West, Transitway, Ottawa, Mosque, Church Street, Government, Homes, Kids, Cozy, Tree, Snow, Poo Farm, Plus, Tunney's, Pasture, Island Park Drive



## WHY SHOULD I PARTICIPATE IN NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH?

- \* The news media has reported a general drop in the crime rate, I feel secure.

Crime against property is another story. In the nine months from January to September 1995 break-and-enter incidents increased 35% in the Ottawa-Carleton Region. In October 1995 the Police established a Break & Enter Squad to focus on this crime. Staff Sergeant Valcour has emphasized the importance of community member participation in solving property crimes. The Police need evidence, information and witnesses in order to solve crimes. For property crimes in particular, help from the community is vital. If we want effective services, we must work together with the police.

- \* The police will recover my lost property. If not, the Insurance Company will pay.

On the average, only about 10% of the break-and-enter cases are resolved. In other words, in only one in ten cases is the offender caught and convicted. The insurance claim process is tedious. Furthermore, your insurance premium may increase. You may not recover articles of sentimental value.

- \* I have a good security alarm system or a dog in my house. I cannot be concerned about the neighbours' homes.

People with security alarms and dogs have things stolen from their homes. Frequent break-ins to neighbourhood houses will create a bad reputation for the neighbourhood, encouraging offenders to be active in the area and that would not be in your own interests. An effective Neighbourhood Watch is a strong deterrent to thieves and vandals. Helping your neighbour is helping yourself. **Prevention is the key.**

- \* What can Neighbourhood Watch do?

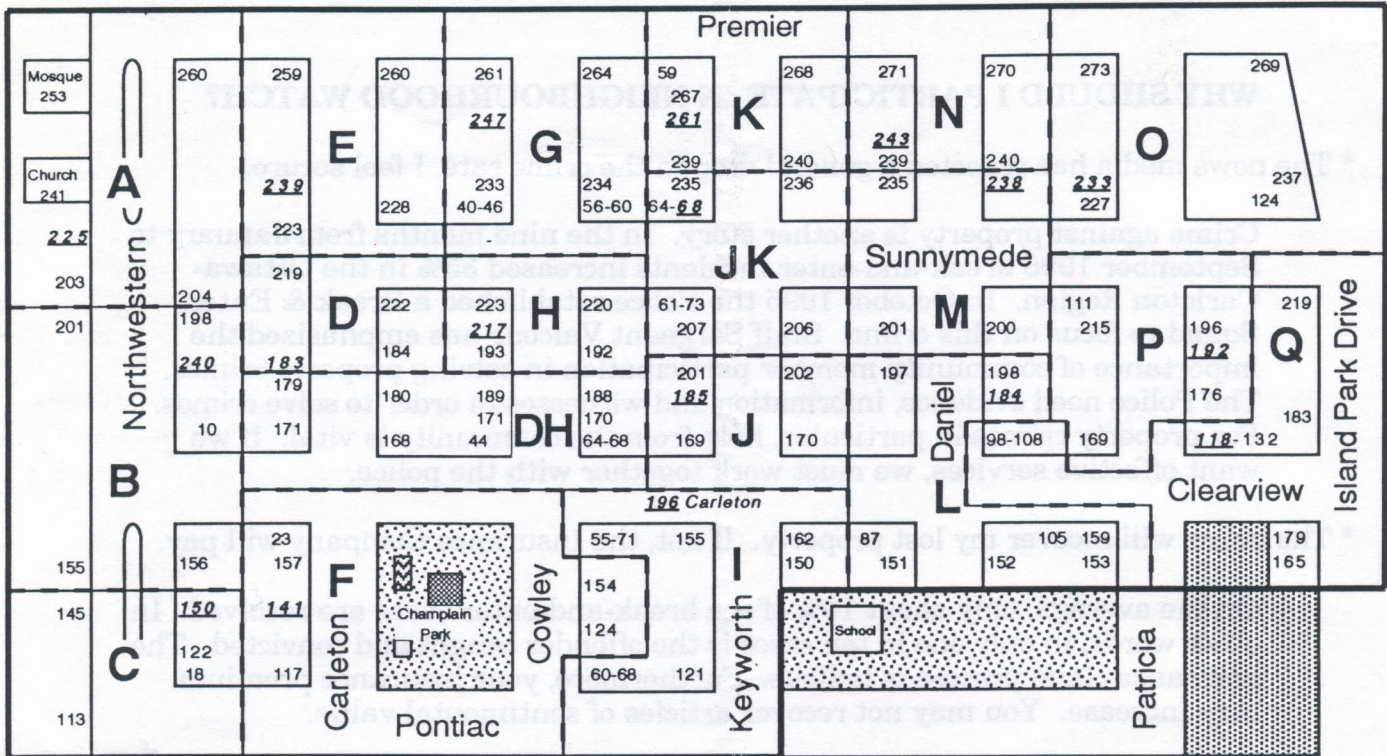
The program encourages residents to adopt an active interest in protecting their own property as well as their neighbours'. No one can watch your own home as effectively as you and your neighbours. So we join together to watch over each other's property and report any suspicious behaviour to the police and share security tips with your neighbours. This is the most effective and least costly way to protect your home and enhance neighbourhood security.

- \* Why should I share my ordeal and experience with neighbours if I have a break-in?

First it will alert them. Then collective efforts from the Neighbourhood Watch will help to trace the thieves and provide preventative measures. Information and leads from the neighbours can greatly help the police in identifying the thieves.



**Champlain Park Neighbourhood Watch (Police ID: D2/212/008)**



The addresses of block captains are highlighted.

Block	Area Covered	Block Captain	Address	Telephone
A	203-253 & 204-260 Northwestern.	<b>Brian Cornelius</b>	225 Northwestern	729-6525
B	155-201 & 156-198 Northwestern, 10 Clearview.	<b>Carole Johnson</b>	240 Northwestern	729-8873
C	113-145 & 122-150 Northwestern, 18 Pontiac.	<b>Charlotte Wilson-Miller</b>	150 Northwestern	761-1101
D	183-219 & 184-222 Carleton.	<b>Lynne Bankier</b>	183 Carleton	729-0955
DH	171-179 & 168-180 Carleton, 171-189 & 170-188 Cowley, 44-68 Clearview	<b>Christine Uriarte</b>	64 Clearview	761-9150
E	223-259 & 228-260 Carleton	<b>John Texeira</b>	239 Carleton	725-9463
F	117-157 Carleton, 124-154 Cowley, 23 Clearview and the Park	<b>Nick Montero</b>	141 Carleton	728-7545
G	233-261 & 234-264 Cowley, 40-60 Sunnymede.	<b>Carol Arnason</b>	247 Cowley	729-6639
H	193-223 & 192-220 Cowley.	<b>Jacques Bourbeau</b>	217 Cowley	728-0337
I	121-155 & 150-162 Keyworth, 55-71 Clearview, 60-68 Pontiac.	<b>Jo-Ann Benn</b>	196 Carleton	729-1346
J	169-201 & 170-202 Keyworth.	<b>Verne Potvin</b>	185 Keyworth	725-5423
JK	207-235 & 206-236 Keyworth, 61-73 & 64-68 Sunnymede.	<b>Tom Sauve</b>	68 Sunnymede	728-0191
K	239-267 & 240-268 Keyworth, 59 Premier.	<b>Lee Scott</b>	261 Keyworth	729-3035
L	151-197 & 152-198 Daniel, 87-105 Clearview, 153-159 Patricia.	<b>Evelyn Sparks</b>	184 Daniel	728-5552
M	201-235 & 200-238 Daniel.	<b>Carole Copeland</b>	238 Daniel	729-7824
N	239-271 & 240-270 Daniel.	<b>Helen Joseph</b>	243 Daniel	722-4088
O	227-273 Patricia, 237-269 Island Park, 124 Sunnymede.	<b>Lynda Fancy</b>	233 Patricia	725-1315
P	169-215 & 176-196 Patricia, 111 Sunnymede.	<b>Karen Maser</b>	192 Patricia	722-6700
Q	98-132 Clearview, 165-219 Island Park	<b>Amy Kempster</b>	118 Clearview	722-6039

**FOR EMERGENCY CALLS, DIAL 911**  
**For non emergency situations, call 236-0311**

- § *make your home secure*
- § *watch your neighbour's property*
- § *report any suspicious activities to the police*

**District Police Office, 418 1/2 Richmond Rd.**  
**Telephone: 236-0311, ext 5871**

**Your coordinators are:**  
**Michael Cheng, 145 Carleton Ave., 722-3344**  
**Nick Montero, 141 Carleton Ave., 728-7545**