

# CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER

October 1997

Vol 17 #3

## **LANCE...** by Don McVeigh

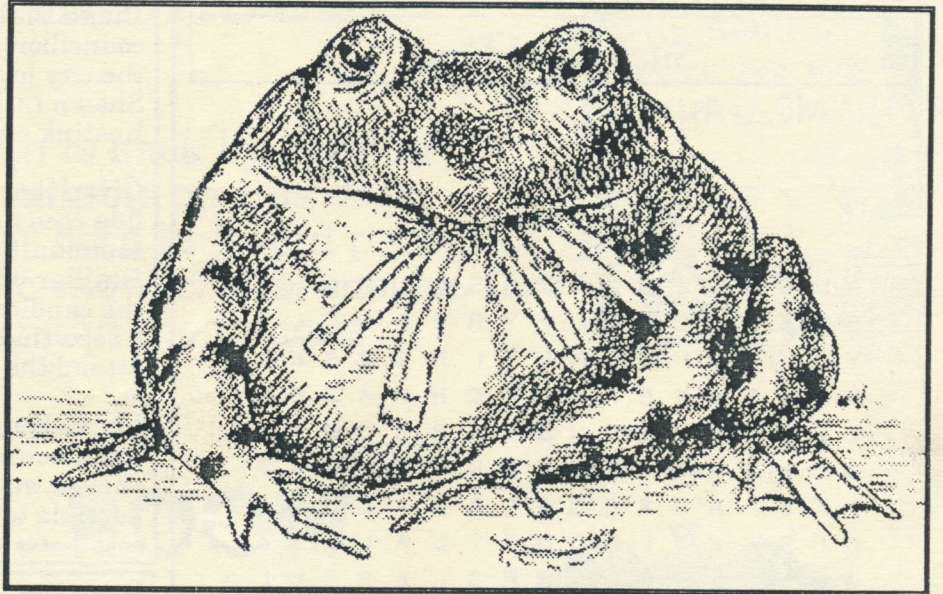
Down at our end of Northwestern Ave. this summer we've had a lot of interesting animal activities ranging from the family of six raccoons hanging around the back yards to a lost cockatiel landing on passers by. But the star act is definitely Lance the bullfrog.

Lance lives in my neighbour's pond. He's been there since spring melt and no one remembers, or admits, to putting him there. Lance was just a big frog in a small pond till the kids came back with a bucket of singing toads. Lance lunged and devoured the largest of the toads, leaving only a few toes peeking out between his lips. This was only the beginning of his reign of terror. Lance has swallowed at least four toads, a dead mouse (just an experiment) and any large insect that come his way.

The real surprise is his ability to catch birds. The first time we thought it was an aberration. The bird was young and foolish, and maybe the frog did it in self-defence and the bird was wasn't eaten.

Then, during a big out door family meal, Lance grabbed, drowned, and swallowed a sparrow that had come down for a drink.

Believe it or not. This is normal behavior. A bullfrog's usual diet includes insects, crayfish, other frogs, minnows, snakes, small mammals and birds. Ain't nature grand!



### Champlain Speaker Newsletter Staff

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### Champlain Community Association Executive

President:	Lynne Bankier	729-0955
Vice-president:	Elizabeth Mundell	728-7598
Secretary:	Amy Kempster	722-6039
Treasurer:	Kay Young	722-7955
Special Events:	Laurie Fagan	728-1945
Membership:	Jim Cocks	728-7881
Neighbourhood Watch:	Michael Cheng	722-3344

## Sue's Word Find

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

Highbush cranberry, Trembling aspen, Cascaraagrada, Mountain ash, Slippery elm, Elderberry, Witch hazel, California, Fringetree, English ivy, Eucalyptus, Sassafras, Buckthorn, Sweet gum, European, Hawthorn, Chestnut, Dogwood, Yew, Locust, Laurel, Scotch, Silver, Alder, Beech, Birch, Black, Sweet, Root, Berry, White, Rowan, Cone, Pine, Seed, Horse, Oak, Ash, Bay, Juniper, Buckeye, Boxwood, Camphor, Poplar, Flower, Catkin, Balsam.

Answer to last month's puzzle was:  
**How does your garden grow?**

# PRESIDENTIAL PROSE

Lynne Bankier, 729-0955

The Municipal Election is coming up on Nov.10. Champlain Park is hosting an **ALL CANDIDATES MEETING on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28 at 7:30 PM at the FIELD HOUSE.**

A week-end article in a local newspaper bemoaned the lack of candidates running in this election in some ridings. A number of candidates for both regional and city councillors are running un-opposed. However, we are fortunate in this riding to have more than one contender at both levels. At the regional level, we have (in alphabetical order!) Diana Brebner, Linda Davis (current regional councillor), Joan Wong (current city councillor). At the city level, we now have several candidates, Shawn Little, Lynda Kitchikeesic-Juden, Michael Kostiuk and Andre Vertes.

Given that we have the good fortune to have a bona fide race in our riding, it is important that community members do their best to become familiar with the issues, the candidates and where the candidates stand on the issues. For this reason, I hope that as many of you as possible will be able to attend the all candidates meeting.

I have been giving a lot of thought to the format of the meeting. My primary goal for the meeting is to ensure we all receive as much **INFORMATION** as possible to help us make informed choices.

(continued on last page)

**From the Editor** I would like to take the time to thank the ungrateful vandal(s) that tried to break into my school bus on the 4-5 Oct 97. This thoughtless act of stupidity has cost me the right to keep the bus at home over the weekend. It has gotten me into trouble at work and may, ultimately, cost me my job. Why? Because someone (or some people) thought it would be fun to get into the school bus. What possibly could be gained by gaining access to the bus? Vandalize the interior? Steal a radio? Rip out a seat or two? This thoughtless and stupid act has ruined my weekend, my upcoming week and month. I will now have to fill in more paperwork than I care to think about and pending the outcome of the safety hearing, may cost me the amount it takes to fix the damage as well as my job. Is the thrill of damaging the property of a neighbour worth this aggravation? I don't think so. Yet despite the presence of the **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH** in our "hood", vehicles of all sorts are continually being broken into. What can we do? Increased publicity of this activity will make our citizens more aware of it and, hopefully, cut down or stop it altogether. Catching the perpetrators and having them or, in the case of minors, their parents pay for the damages may help too. That isn't what I'd like to do to the miserable dolts who did this, but we do live in a somewhat civilized society.

Sue

# CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN PARTY

\*\*\*SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26TH\*\*\*  
5:30 TO 7:30 P.M.  
AT THE FIELDHOUSE

## Why on a Sunday?

Magician Chris Pilsworth is back by popular demand and he is only available on this date.

Enjoy a scary evening for both kids and parents.

The fun includes a magic show, crafts, snacks, face (adults and kids) painting and the famous



## "SPOOKY ROOM"

Carve a small pumpkin at home and bring it along for judging in the "teeny, tiny" pumpkin carving contest.



Looking for volunteers to setup, decorate, bake and cleanup.

Please pre-register your spot for the party.

Call Laurie at 728-1945



# AMY'S CORNER

Amy Kempster 722-6039

## **Birds and Riverbank Ramble Sunday, October 19 at 1:30 P.M. Champlain Park Field House.**

The first Riverbank Ramble was a great success with about 50 people attending. So we are having another. This time the subject is birds with Tom Reeve, Vice-president of the Ottawa Field Naturalists. Tom will have a short slide show, longer if the weather is poor and we will attempt to find some birds in the neighbourhood and along the river. Come and join us and learn about our feathered friends.

**Elections:** Three more candidates have joined Shawn Little in running for City Councillor for our ward. They are Lynda Kitchikeesic-Juden, Michael Kostiuk and Andre Vertes.

**Island Park Drive/Kirkwood Traffic Calming study:** Today I learned that this study will likely not be coming before City or Regional Councils before the election. Since it was promised in June it is difficult to explain the delay. You should ask candidates for Chair, Mayor and our ward to explain this delay. Perhaps it is being held up by the NCC which will not decide on the operation of the Champlain Bridge before Nov. 20, and staff may wish to know that decision before finalizing their report.

**New Zoning By-law:** The latest version of 2020Z, the new zoning by-law, should be available shortly. The final disposition will occur in December. This week the FCA group, who have been working on some problem areas (funded by the city), presented some principles and some models showing how the new by-law might affect neighbourhoods in its original and revised versions and suggesting possible alternatives. These problem areas concern primarily planned unit developments, non-street oriented and apartments so should not affect our neighbourhood.

**Hilson School:** The future of Hilson School is now uncertain. The old school has been torn down but whether a new one will be built is a question that will be decided on Tuesday, Oct. 7 by the Local Educational Improvement Commission at 330 Gilmour Street. The space allocations for the new combined school board will not allow all schools promised to the former Carleton Board and the OBE. If it is not built the children may have to continue to attend Fisher Park. As you may be aware Elmdale is already using portables and with probable infilling in the area space would not be available at other elementary schools. If you are concerned attend the community meeting Oct. 6 at Fisher Park High School at 7:30 P.M.

**Champlain Bridge:** Thank you to several residents who sent money to help pay our legal bills. Fund raising continues; remember the House Tour Oct. 4 and keep in mind the Coffee House with Sneezy Waters and silent auction on Nov. 8. Also try to write the Commissioners before Nov. 20 asking that they restrict operation to two lanes.

(Presidential Prose continued from page 2)

We have two issues affecting this neighbourhood that have generated a lot of discussion and media attention. They are the mosque parking situation and the Champlain Bridge. Such "hot topics" can sometimes dominate a meeting and overshadow other equally important issues. In order to ensure that this doesn't happen at the meeting, I am proposing the following:

1. To have a community member give an overview of the major issues facing us at both the regional and city levels.
2. To set aside defined blocks of time for the potentially more contentious issues.

Given that we have two well-known politicians running against each other at the regional level, there is also the danger that this individual race could dominate the meeting. It would be unfair to the other candidates, and to community members who would like to hear from them, if we allowed this to happen. Therefore, the moderator (who will not be me) and time-keeper will do their utmost to ensure that all candidates have equal time. It is especially important that the regional race not over-shadow the city race, as we have candidates running at the city level that we don't know much about yet. We want the opportunity to hear from them. Having said the above, I think it is also an appropriate time to thank both Joan Wong and Linda Davis for their hard work on behalf of their constituents to date. This thanks will be delivered at the meeting.

In summary, our goal should be to have an orderly, respectful meeting that will allow those in attendance to gather the information they need to make an informed decision on election day. It would be much appreciated if all attendees could do their utmost to help achieve this goal.

Please bring some good questions to the meeting. Hope to see you there!



## **NATURE CORNER**

**What to look for:** small size, short bill, black and white pattern on head and wings, white back, red patch on head (male).

**Habitat:** woodlands, orchards, suburbs, parks.

Photo by  
Barb Robertson

# OCTOBER/97

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

			1 Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.	2 <u>Rosh Hashanah</u> Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. T'ai Chi 6:00-7:00 p.m. Yoga 8:00-9:30 p.m.	3 <b>BLUE BOX &amp; YARD WASTE</b> Nature Walk 9:30 a.m. Northwestern United Church Rummage sale	4
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5	6 Social Group meeting at Fieldhouse 2 to 4 pm <u>Aerobics Class</u> 7-8 p.m. <u>Fly Tying</u> 9:00 p.m.	7 <u>Playgroup</u> 9:30-11:30 a.m.	8 Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.	9 <u>Playgroup</u> 9:30-11:30 a.m. <u>T'ai Chi</u> 6:00-7:00 p.m. <u>Yoga</u> 8:00-9:30 p.m.	10 <b>BLUE BOX &amp; YARD WASTE</b> Nature Walk 9:30 a.m.	11 <b>YOM KIPPUR</b>
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12	13 <b>Thanksgiving</b>	14 <u>Playgroup</u> 9:30-11:30 a.m. <u>Garden Club Meeting</u> 7pm	15 Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.	16 <u>Playgroup</u> 9:30-11:30 a.m. <u>T'ai Chi</u> 6:00-7:00 p.m. <u>Yoga</u> 8:00-9:30 p.m.	17 Nature Walk 9:30 a.m.	18 <b>BLUE BOX &amp; YARD WASTE</b> Second Fabric Flea market! 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Tbm Brown Arena upstairs hall Bayview at Scott
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19 <b>Workshop on Birds</b> 1:30 p.m. at the Champlain Field House Cowley near Clearview	20 Social Group meeting at Fieldhouse 2 to 4 pm <u>Aerobics Class</u> 7-8 p.m. <u>Fly Tying</u> 9:00 p.m.	21 <u>Playgroup</u> 9:30-11:30 a.m.	22 Northwestern United Church Anniversary <u>Dinner 5:00 p.m.</u> Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.	23 <u>Playgroup</u> 9:30-11:30 a.m. <u>T'ai Chi</u> 6:00-7:00 p.m. <u>Yoga</u> 8:00-9:30 p.m.	24 <b>BLUE BOX &amp; YARD WASTE</b> Nature Walk 9:30 a.m.	25
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Change the batteries in your smoke detector.  
Don't forget to turn your clocks back 1 hour.

# NOVEMBER

26 <b>CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN PARTY</b> 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the fieldhouse	27 Social Group meeting at Fieldhouse 2 to 4 pm <u>Aerobics Class</u> 7-8 p.m.	28 <u>Playgroup</u> 9:30-11:30 a.m. <u>Fly Fishing</u> 7:00 p.m. <i>All Candidates meeting 7:30 p.m. at the fieldhouse.</i>	29 Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.	30 <u>Playgroup</u> 9:30-11:30 a.m. <u>T'ai Chi</u> 6:00-7:00 p.m. <u>Yoga</u> 8:00-9:30 p.m.	31 <b>BLUE BOX &amp; YARD WASTE HALLOWEEN</b> Nature Walk 9:30 a.m.	1 <b>Snowflake Bazaar</b> Westboro United Church 450 Churchill 9:30 to 2:00
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\*\*\*Playgroup will run every Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

\*\*\*Aerobics Classes Monday and Wednesday evenings, 7-8 p.m. for 15 weeks, Sept. 8 to Dec. 17, 1997.

\*\*\*Yoga Classes Thursday evening, 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. for 12 weeks, Sept. 18 to Dec. 4, 1997.

\*\*\*T'ai Chi Classes Thursday evenings, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. for 10 weeks, Sept. 17 to Nov. 20, 1997.

TO ADD ITEMS NEXT MONTH - CALL 729-5439 BEFORE THE 25TH OF THE MONTH

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Local Teens Interested in Work:

Tom Arnason	729-6639	Yard Chores
Rachelle	722-6303	Babysitting
Jessica	728-8413	Babysitting
Sarah	722-2687	Babysitting
Kim	729-5439	Babysitting
Paul Ratsch	728-2583	Yard Chores
Rory Taylor	798-0036	Yard Chores

## **Island Park & Scott St.**

Caregiver Available Immediately.  
Experienced - Non-Smoker.  
By the hour, day, or week.

Call: Kathy  
728-4938

## **Birds and Riverbank Ramble**

Sunday, October 19, at 1:30 p.m.  
Champlain Park Field House.

## **Future of Hilson School**

If you are concerned attend the  
community meeting  
October 6, at Fisher Park High School  
at 7:30 p.m.

## **Northwestern Western United Church**

Anniversary Dinner  
October 22, at 5:00 p.m.  
Adults \$8.00 Children \$5.00

## **The 9th annual Ottawa Storytelling Festival**

November 8-9, 1997  
at Fisher Park School  
250 Holland Ave.  
Ottawa

Call 592-1223 for information

## **Neighbour Watch: Change of Block Captains**

Carole Johnson of 240 Northwestern (729-8873) has kindly agreed to take on Block D (183-291 & 184-222 Carleton) previously served by Lynn Bankier. This relieves Lynn for her many added responsibilities as our President. Thank you Carole and Lynn.

Ben Svenhard of 165 Northwestern (722-0993) has kindly agreed to take on Block B (155-201, 156-198 Northwestern & 10 Clearview) previously served by Carole Johnson. Welcome Ben.

## **Alert: Thefts from Cars**

A number of thefts from cars have recently been reported in our community. We urge you not to leave valuables in your cars. Make sure that your vehicle is locked and be aware of unusual or suspicious activity around parked vehicles. Several victims have reason to believe that some of these crimes were committed **by youths who may reside in our community**; please pay attention to this possibility and see if we can prevent future incidents.

Engraving tools are available to mark your possessions. If you would like to borrow one, call your Block Captain or Michael Cheng at 722-3344. We plan to include an updated Block Captain's list in the November Speaker.

## **DAYCAMP DURING TEACHERS STRIKE**

Plans are underway for a daycamp, sponsored by Northwestern United Church, should there be a teachers strike. For more information, call 722-1840

## **Fabric Lovers! Join us for the Second FABRIC FLEA MARKET Bigger and Better**

Oct 18 th.  
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
at Tom Brown Arena (upstairs hall)  
Bayview Ave. at Scott St.

40 tables of fabrics, knitting yarn, needlework supplies, notions, and patterns. Sewers, knitters, and needleworkers -pick up some new treasures for your next project. Tell all your friends about this unique opportunity.