

CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER

January 1998

Vol 17 #6

Jessica's Trip to China or Our China Experience by Jackie & Jessica Clifford

Our trip to China was exciting and something we will always remember. We visited the cities of Beijing, Shanghai and Hangzhou from July 28th to August 12th.

Our first two and a half days were spent sightseeing in Beijing visiting The Great Wall, the Summer Palace, the Forbidden City, the Ming Tomb, Tiananmen Square and the Temple of Heaven. We even had time to squeeze in an Acrobatic Show, a Peking Duck Dinner, and some shopping.

We then flew to Shanghai to participate in the Shanghai International Children's Cultural & Arts Festival. Here we met kids from 14 different countries and through the week were able to see them perform as well as making friends with them. Each participant was given a commemorative envelope and medal by the Chinese organizers. As well, each child had their left hand imprinted in cement and before we left we were able to see the hand-print of each child displayed on a Friendship Wall at the China Welfare Institute Children's Palace. Our dance group performed several times during the week and also at the closing ceremonies which were broadcast on Chinese T.V. During our time in Shanghai we visited the Pearl

Tower, the Shanghai Zoo and Museum, Portman Theatre, the Nationality Cultural Village and took a boat cruise on the Huangpu River. The festival was well organized and great fun was had by everyone.

After the festival we travelled by train to Hangzhou, a very beautiful place to end our stay. We visited a silk factory, a tea plantation, a pearl factory, Liying Temple and Six Harmonies Pagoda. This city is comparative to Niagara Falls as many Chinese come here for their honeymoon or vacation. Our hotel had an outdoor pool and the whole group enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere. We then travelled back to Shanghai for one night and then started our trek home with a 5:30 a.m. call.



China is a very different and beautiful country undergoing many changes at this time. Our total China experience was

beyond a doubt, a trip Jessica and I will never forget. Jessica now has several pen-pals from different parts of the world and has started corresponding with them already.

Our thanks again to the community and Northwestern United Church for all your support.

Champlain Speaker Newsletter Staff

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|---|---|----------|
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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

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

Happy New Year, Party Favours, Resolutions, Family, Champagne, Streamers, Concerts, Hangover, Party, Dancing, Casual, Cheers, Excess, Noise, Bands, Chips, Hugs, Beer, Bus, Awake, Behave, Auld Lang Syne, Ice Celebrations, Ninety-eight, Fireworks, Food, Midnight, Music, Confetti, Pretzels, Friends, Singing, Formal, Bubbly, Toast, Snacks, Date, Levee, Kiss, Taxi,

Answer to last month's puzzle was:
You'd better be minding your Q's

PRESIDENTIAL PROSE

Lynne Bankier, 729-0955

Happy New Year to all! I hope you enjoyed the holiday season as much as I have. I miss sleeping in and I am back into the routine of lunch-making, school buses, homework supervision, not to mention actually going to work. I'd like to go back in time for a minute, to the grand kick-off to the holiday season in our neighbourhood, the annual Christmas Sleigh Ride. Thanks go to Jim Cocks, who led us successfully to Santa's house again this year, and to Laurie Fagan, who made sure we were well-fed and warmed up at the end. As usual, we had a large turn-out of children and adults. The sleigh was full of kids, followed by a large crowd of singing parents, who were accompanied by Don McVeigh playing his accordion, and Kay Young, handing out song - sheets. Now that would be a scene worth putting on a Christmas card!

So now it's back to more business-like pursuits. On December 8, I met with our new city councillor, Shawn Little, to discuss parking at the religious institutions in the neighbourhood. The executive wrote a report, which I presented and discussed with Shawn. You can get a copy of the full report from me, if you wish. Here are a few summary points:

(continued on back page)



Ah, the new year: a chance to reflect upon the previous year, the highs and lows, and to hope for a brighter and better year to come.

Now that we've survived the holiday season we can move toward creating a happy and prosperous new year for everyone.

For those who may not have thought about the impact of el Niño, just think about the ice storm we've just been through. The ranks of the trees in our neighbourhood have been thinned by Mother Nature. Some of the power lines have also taken a trip south too. Isn't it amazing though how when Mother Nature gives us a whipping, weather-wise, she makes up for it by making the landscape absolutely gorgeous? Just forget all the hassle you've been through chopping out from this ice storm, and look around at the landscape, at the ice coated trees - especially at night when the lights shimmer through the icy coating - and enjoy the beauty that only Mother Nature can provide us. I truly believe that it is a much better show than any man-made contrivance could ever hope to produce. *Sue*

Big Neighbour Thank-you

On behalf of the organizing committee for Sneezy Waters Coffeehouse, I'd like to thank all the dedicated volunteers who made the event such a big success.

I'd especially like to thank Heather Pearl, Carol Arnason, Eloise Holland, Adrienne Scott and Amy Kempster for selling tickets, canvassing businesses, making desserts, setting up the room and cleaning up. The work of these women clearly ensured a fantastic evening.

There were also many others who helped sell tickets, donated items, loaned furniture, and generally helped to get the event off the ground. When all was tabulated, we raised \$1977.00 for the legal fund of Communities Before Cars Coalition.

Once again Champlain Park rose to the challenge and exceeded all expectations. Thanks to all in the community who attended and bid on items.

Over 40 businesses along Wellington Street and Richmond Road donated items and services. We'd really like to commend their community spirit and generosity.

My last thank you goes to Sneezy. After promising a 45 minute set, he ended up playing an hour and a half gig.

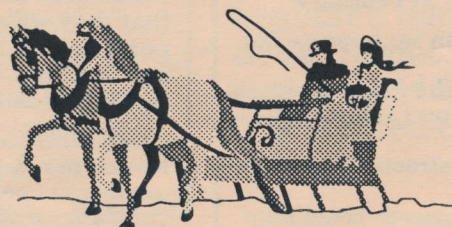
The audience was clapping and shouting for more.

Our sincere thanks to Sneezy Waters for helping out his old neighbourhood. (He grew up on Daniel Avenue)

Once again thank you Champlain Park - we can hold our heads high.

Laurie Fagan

The new and improved Winter Carnival
is coming in February.



Details in next Champlain Speaker

AMY'S CORNER

Amy Kempster 722-6039

2020Z, New Zoning bylaw: The revised schedule for the new zoning by-law is as follows: Planning and Economic Development Committee will hear delegations on all outstanding issues on February 19 and 20, 1998. City council will consider the recommendations of the Committee on March 15, and authorize the final version of the by-law, for enactment be City Council on April 15. For Champlain Park the outstanding issue is the question of planned unit developments. As currently proposed street-oriented planned unit developments, consisting of singles or doubles and duplexes only, would be allowed in the east half of Champlain Park. As a result of the mediation process between the development community and the Federation of Citizens' Associations, it is proposed to delete all planned unit developments from R2 zones, i.e. they would not be allowed in Champlain Park if this proposed amendment is accepted. (Note that group building as these types of developments were known in the past are not allowed under the current zoning by-law.) Since those representing the development community at these meetings agreed as did staff, it seems likely this amendment will pass. Nevertheless it might be an idea to call our Councillor Shawn Little to tell him you support this change if you agree.

Former Store on Carleton Avenue: The former store had what is called a non-conforming right to remain as long as it was operated, but the zoning for Carleton allows only residences. In the spring there was a request for a variance for the property with regard to a reduced front yard. Having been informed of this I went down to City Hall to see the site plan. The owners intend to convert the store to a single family dwelling and the front yard reduction was for a front porch to allow sheltered entry. The front porch as shown on the site plan was generous but not excessive in size and the variance was granted, subject to the location and size of the proposed construction being in accordance with the plans filed.

City budget: The documents with regard to the City Budget planning are available from Hintonburg Community Centre or can be borrowed from me. Highlights of staff recommendations are for capital spending to be confined to maintenance items for hard-core services (roads, sewers, etc) with some costs to be covered by user fees (sewer rates). For the operating budget recommendations are: to reduce administrative costs, increase or implement new user fees, reduce service levels for cultural programs and support, by-law enforcement, planning and building permits, recreation facilities and programs and parks and playgrounds. More details will be available later this month.

Champlain Bridge: Fund-raising to pay our lawyers will continue. If you have any ideas about fund-raising, please call me. Note that Community Before Cars is planning a garage sale in the spring so save any items until then. There will also be a cigar and brandy fund-raiser in February.

Thoughts for the future: What ways can we improve our community?

Looking at Champlain Park I thought of the following ideas:

- 1) Perhaps we could have a teen program on Friday nights at the Field House.
- 2) We could help slow down traffic on our streets by ourselves driving at 40 kilometres.
- 3) If we have a sidewalk in front of our house we could help keep it clear of snow to allow the pedestrians in our midst to walk safely.

What are your ideas as to how to improve our local community? Why not contribute them to the Champlain Speaker next month.

PRESIDENTIAL PROSE

Lynne Bankier, 729-0955

(continued from page 2)

1. Last summer, the city required the mosque to put forward a site plan control (landscaping plans) for the back parking lot they lease from the federal government. This is the issue that made the news media last summer, as one of the requirements the city put into the plan was that the mosque must not lease parking spaces to public servants on Fridays, their day of worship. The mosque contested this, and let the site plan control expire. They must now re-apply. Our position is that we want to see the no Friday rental parking provision retained. However, we would not insist that the mosque spend money to landscape the parking lot at this point in time. Our primary concern is that they use the lot for worshipper parking.

2. The mosque has a temporary variance that allows cars to drive over mosque-owned property from Northwestern Avenue, to enter the leased parking lot at the back. This variance comes up for renewal this year. We will support a temporary renewal, and request a no Friday rental parking provision. There is a city-wide study planned to examine rental parking at religious institutions. We will wait for the results of this study, and ask that the city schedule a review of the variance again when this study is completed.

3. The Northwestern United Church has temporary re-zoning of their parking lot to allow rental parking. We will also support a temporary renewal of this re-zoning, to be reviewed when the above-mentioned study is completed.

4. The mosque wishes to purchase the leased parking lot from the federal government, and we have heard that they wish to build a two-storey parking garage on the land. Our position is that "we would be very concerned about an outright purchase by the Muslim Association of the currently-leased land, if that land retains any zoning designation which would permit commercial parking." We would also encourage the federal government to allow an access road to be built from Tunney's Pasture into the parking lot, so that the access from Northwestern Avenue could be closed. We do not support a parking garage.

5. We requested that the city conduct a safety inspection of the area when street parking is at its peak during Friday worship services at the mosque, to assess whether emergency vehicles could get through in the event of a fire or medical emergency.

Shawn Little has given top priority to finding a solution to the mosque parking issue. He has assigned a staff person to this "special project". He will actively lobby the federal government to sell the currently-leased lot to the Ottawa Muslim Association (OMA) and to allow an access road to be built from Tunney's Pasture. He assured me that the land would be re-zoned from the current zoning, which allows commercial parking, to a zoning for religious institutions, which does not allow commercial parking. The OMA states that they will not have to rent out parking spaces if they purchase the lot, as over time their costs will be less. They say that they need to rent out the spaces currently due to the high leasing costs charged to them.

Note that the zoning for parking lots at religious institutions located in residential neighbourhoods does not allow commercial parking. Some institutions have requested temporary measures to allow them to rent spaces in their lots. Councillor Little will support a return to the original intentions of the zoning by-laws for parking at religious institutions.

I would like to thank Shawn Little for the prompt attention he is giving to this long-standing issue in our neighbourhood.

JANUARY/98

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 BLUE BOX |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|-------------------|

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| 4 | <p>5</p> <p>Social Group meets at Fieldhouse 2 to 4 pm</p> <hr/> <p>Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.</p> | <p>6</p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Fly Tying 9:00 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Women's Hockey 8 to 9 p.m.</p> | <p>7</p> <p>Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.</p> | <p>8</p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> | 9 BLUE BOX | 10 |
|---|--|---|--|--|-------------------|----|

Christmas tree pick up • Week of January 12, 1998 NO PLASTIC BAGS

| | | | | | | |
|----|--|--|---|--|---|----|
| 11 | <p>12</p> <p>Social Group meets at Fieldhouse 2 to 4 pm</p> <hr/> <p>Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Fly Fishing 8:15 p.m.</p> | <p>13</p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Garden Club Meeting 7pm</p> <hr/> <p>Women's Hockey 8 to 9 p.m.</p> | <p>14</p> <p>Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.</p> | <p>15</p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Yoga 8:00-9:30 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Commuter Rail Forum RMOC HQ at 7:30 p.m.</p> | 16 BLUE BOX XMAS TREES | 17 |
|----|--|--|---|--|---|----|

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|----|---|--|---|--|--------------------|----|
| 18 | <p>19</p> <p>Social Group meets at Fieldhouse 2 to 4 pm</p> <hr/> <p>Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.</p> | <p>20</p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Fly Tying 9:00 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Women's Hockey 8 to 9 p.m.</p> | <p>21</p> <p>Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.</p> | <p>22</p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Yoga 8:00-9:30 p.m.</p> | 23 BLUE BOX | 24 |
|----|---|--|---|--|--------------------|----|

| | | | | | | |
|----|--|---|---|--|--------------------|----|
| 25 | <p>26</p> <p>Social Group meets at Fieldhouse 2 to 4 pm</p> <hr/> <p>Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Fly Fishing 8:15 p.m.</p> | <p>27</p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Women's Hockey 8 to 9 p.m.</p> | <p>28</p> <p>Aerobics Class 7-8 p.m.</p> | <p>29</p> <p>Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.</p> <hr/> <p>Yoga 8:00-9:30 p.m.</p> | 30 BLUE BOX | 31 |
|----|--|---|---|--|--------------------|----|

***Playgroup will run every Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30a.m.

***Aerobics Class Monday & Wednesday evenings, 7-8 p.m. for 18 weeks, Jan. 12 to May 13, 1998.

***Yoga Classes Thursday evenings, 8:00-9:30 p.m. for 12 weeks, Jan 15 to April 2, 1998.

TO ADD ITEMS NEXT MONTH - CALL 729-5439

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 |

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By the hour, day, or week.

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Good with children
Needs somebody to love.
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What a Neighbourhood! by Louise Hawthorne

When I was describing this neighbourhood and its history to Jim Butler, our contact in Children's Aid, he said "You're really proud of your neighbourhood, aren't you?" And I am.

The Youthtree Project worked wonderfully. Not only did more than 200 youths-in-care have gifts for the holidays, but they knew that the Champlain Park community had taken a stand for them. Jim Butler, who works with these young people, said that he was amazed at the response to a first-time program. We should be proud of ourselves! The musical celebration at St. Joseph's was great fun! It was a chance just to play and sing music, very laid-back, very eclectic. We had everything from amazing Irish dance to a teen band to audience rounds. And the treats were delicious!

Special thanks to the team: Emily Pearlman, Amanda Le Duc, Valerie Glaude, Sylvia (?I'm Sorry!), Aziza Virani, Julia Mills. It was a privilege being with such dedication. Thank you, neighbour, for your invaluable support: Eloise Holland, Kim Haliburton, Evelyn Sparks, Barb Robertson, Rebecca Le Duc (Irish Dancer!!!), Norm Mills, David Constant, Brian Cornelius, Ben Svenhard, Ruth Campbell-Balagus.

And thanks to our community businesses: Hampton Holistic Chiropractic Clinic, Holland Cafe, Zap and Zoom Videos, Select Flowers, Mud Oven, Occupational Therapy Works, Critter Jungle, Herb and Spice, Ottawa Bagel, CD Warehouse, Athlete's World, Process Inc, Art Signage, Xavier Cl  roux (Parkdale Market), Michael's Donuts, Roman Catholic Board of Education, Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police Association, City of Ottawa staff, Office of the Auditor-General staff, and Nortel 7A04 staff.

Overindulged over the holidays?

Not to worry, the post Christmas aerobics session starts soon.

Aerobics classes will be held Monday and Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m.

January 12 to May 13 at the Fieldhouse.

Instructors will be Patricia Cianci and Julie Vout.

Cost: \$79. for the full session of 35 classes, or half-time attendance can be arranged.

For information or registration, call Liz at 728-7160 or come to the first class.

A NOTE OF THANKS

to president Lynn Bankier and the executive, 1997. They have served the "Champlain Community" extremely well.

May they continue in their efforts to provide us with the same excellence leadership in the coming year.

Theirs isn't an easy task. They work very hard to give us the best support possible. May we the residents of this area give them 100% support in return during the coming year.

From all of us to all of them a Happy Healthy New Year.

The residents Champlain Park

Renew Yourself Through Yoga

Take some time out for yourself and join instructor Peter Beecham for beginner - intermediate Yoga Classes at the Champlain Park Fieldhouse,

Thursday evenings, 8:00 -9:30 p.m.

Classes to commence on Jan 15th.

The cost for 12 sessions is \$55.00

A minimum of 10 students is required.

Please call Adrienne Scott at 729-0337 to confirm your attendance.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

We'll be playing again on every Tuesday evening (weather permitting) from 8 to 9 p.m. Women of all skill levels are welcome. If you want more information,

call Kay Young at 722-7955.

See you there!

False Alarm Reduction Policy Review

Regional Police are soliciting public feedback on proposed options at a meeting to be held in the council chambers of RMOC headquarters, 111 Lisgar Street, January 15 th. from 7 to 10 p.m. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend.

LOOKING FOR

A used washer and dryer in working condition for a needy family.

Please call Barb at 729-5439.