

CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER



April, 2002

Vol. 21, No. 7

Life's messy; April 27 we clean it up

A River Runs Through Us: Cowley Avenue resident Don Monet scouts the shoreline near the Parkway tunnel.

Don Monet is Champlain Park's co-ordinator of the Adopt-a-Riverbank program. **The Speaker** asked Don to explain the concept and its key event, this month's cleanup

Briefly, what is the idea behind Adopt-a-Riverbank or river-keepers?

We are the eyes and ears of a specific part of the river. It's just people thinking about what we can do to benefit the river and ourselves. And it involves all kinds of different groups and businesses and associations. It's usually a lot of fun. The river is one of our treasures, one of the wonders of living here and we are keepers, good or bad, of our piece of it.

What does it involve?

This is our second year for the river cleanup, which is on Saturday, April 27th. It starts at 9:30 a.m. and goes until noon, with a barbecue afterwards at Westboro Beach. Bring some work gloves, rubber boots if you want to work down by the water, work clothes and maybe a hat. We supply the garbage bags. Our stretch of the river runs from Champlain Bridge to Parkdale.

Any future plans?

We hope to have four seasons of activity in terms of stewardship. That's our goal. In an ongoing way, we want to just keep an eye on what's going on in the river, whether it's the level of debris or the state of the ducks. This year we're hoping to get into training some volunteers who can take some water samples for testing. We used to have a beach at Remic Beach and people will tell you that Remic often had the best quality among the three Ottawa River beaches.

Walk in the Park

April 27th is also the day for the spring cleanup of **Champlain Park**, starting at 9:30 a.m. Bring a rake or any other useful tool. Children can help too. Coffee, juice and doughnuts or muffins will be available for volunteers. We will also supply garbage bags and gloves (courtesy of the city) and, for the kids, buttons. If we have enough volunteers, we can also clean up along the path in the woods, the median on Northwestern or along the transitway.

The other big thing is nature rambles, having different experts from our area doing some interpretation of plants and wildlife and that kind of thing. and down and pick up the garbage.

How did it go last year?

Last year, about 15 to 20 bags of garbage were picked up along with a load of pressure-treated wood and a huge piece of plastic that looked like it blew off a truck.

What do you find out there?

Probably 70 per cent of the stuff is pop cans, beer bottles and wrappers. But we also found some old boots, household garbage. Last year, a washing machine was found and an old engine. You just never know what you're going to find.

Sounds like enough work for an army?

Last year, we had about 15 working on the park cleanup and maybe 10 on the river side. We could definitely use a few more, even if people just have an hour to spare.

How can people find out more?

They can contact me at 728-1750, email me at dmonet@magi.com or check out www.ottawariverkeeper.ca

Community Association

Co-chairs: Linda McShane (798-1338)
Lynne Bankier (729-0955)

Vice-president: Jonathan Chaplan
(728-7670)

Planning: Amy Kempster (722-6039)

Secretary: Mark Cianfagione (722-5674)

Treasurer: Marie Laurence (728-2078)

Membership: Amy Kempster (722-6039)

Neighbourhood Watch: Michael Cheng (722-3344)

Fieldhouse bookings: Laurie Fagan (728-1945)

Rink co-ordinator: Jacques Bourbeau (728-0337)

Adopt-a-Riverbank co-ordinator: Don Monet (728-1750)

TEENS AT WORK

Tom (**yard chores**) 729-6639
Jessica (**babysitting**) 728-8413
Morgan (**yard chores**) 728-6530
Kym (**babysitting**) 729-5439
Paul (**yard chores**) 728-2583
Rory (**yard chores**) 798-0036
Karl (**yard chores**) 728-7589
Miriam (**babysitting**) 728-7589
Nick (**yard chores**) 798-7652
Daniel (**yard chores**) 798-7652
Joey (**babysitting**) 728-5792
Katrina (**babysitting**) 725-5423
Geneviève (**babysitting**) 722-0454

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Albert A. Tunis

Sept. 26, 1921 — Feb. 4, 2002

(Mr. Tunis was a resident of Cowley Avenue and a frequent contributor to the *Speaker*. The following is a short tribute written for his funeral.)

Born in Winnipeg in 1921, of immigrant parents, Al Tunis was raised in Montreal during the Depression and attended Baron Byng High School.

He enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force in World War II, and upon his return pursued a B.A. (Hon. Sociology) at McGill University.

While a student, he worked as Editor of the *McGill Daily*, and as a reporter for *The Gazette*. He also met and married his wife, Barbara, and after both graduating they moved to New Brunswick and began to raise a family.

While there, he taught Sociology at the University of New Brunswick; worked as News Editor at the *Fredericton Daily Gleaner*, and then embarked on a career in public relations.

As such, he held various positions with the Government of New Brunswick; the University of New Brunswick, and the Graduates Society of McGill University.

In 1964 he became director of the Information Office at McGill, then in 1970 took the post of Registrar at Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario.

His last position, as Director of Information and Education for the Standards Council of Canada, was perhaps the most personally fulfilling, and continued part-time well beyond his retirement in 1987.

Al was a lifelong lover of the arts, particularly music and theatre. He was a thinker, a philosopher, a brilliant writer and witty humorist.

He was also a true humanist; friendly and open-minded with people of all backgrounds and ages. A thoughtful person with a gentle sense of humour, he was a loving and devoted husband and father, and upheld solid moral principles and values throughout his life.

Although he could no longer fully communicate or express himself in the last few years, his warm, friendly personality continued to shine through until the end.

He will be missed and always remembered by his wife Barbara; sons Michael, David and Andrew and their families; many relatives and family members, and, of course, countless friends and colleagues.

An educational scholarship in the name of Albert Tunis has been set up by the Department of Music at the University of Ottawa, thanks to the generosity of an anonymous benefactor.

Neighbourhood Watch News

You can now use the internet to access crime statistics in any neighbourhood in Ottawa. The web address is:

<http://www.ottawapolice.ca> and the steps are as follows:

1. Open <http://www.ottawapolice.ca>
2. Select English or French
3. Click on crime analysis and statistics
4. Click on district/neighbourhood profiles
5. Select **central west** then click **go**
6. Click on the period in which you want information

You will see a summary of statistics for our district 23, followed by statistics of different neighbourhoods.

7. To get to **Champlain Park Neighbourhood**, you have two options: **a)** scroll down to the fourth neighbourhood; or **b)** click on the search icon (binocular symbols on toolbar), a box will appear. Type **Champlain Park** then click the Find button.

Any questions, call **Michael Cheng** (722-3344) or **Neil Robertson** (729-5439).

April 2002

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	1	2 Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. Ottawa Fly Fishing 7-9 p.m.	3 Yoga noon Bridge Club 2 p.m. Fitness class 6:45-7:45 p.m. Yoga 8-9:30 p.m.	4 Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.	5 ODS PLAYGROUP 9-11:30 a.m. Theatre GROUP 7-10 p.m.	6	
7 7 p.m. Karate Classes	8 Fitness class 6:45-7:45 p.m. Yoga 8:15-9:45 p.m. Blue 	9 Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. Champlain Park Garden Club 7-9 p.m.	10 Yoga noon Bridge Club 2 p.m. Fitness class 6:45-7:45 p.m. Yoga 8-9:30 p.m.	11 Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.	12 ODS PLAYGROUP 9-11:30 a.m. Theatre GROUP 7-10 p.m.	13	
14 7 p.m. Karate Classes	15 Fitness class 6:45-7:45 p.m. Yoga 8:15-9:45 p.m. Black 	16 Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. Ottawa Fly Fishing 7-9 p.m.	17 Yoga noon Bridge Club 2 p.m. Fitness class 6:45-7:45 p.m. Yoga 8-9:30 p.m.	18 Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.	19 ODS PLAYGROUP 9-11:30 a.m. Theatre GROUP 7-10 p.m.	20	
21 7 p.m. Karate Classes	22 Fitness class 6:45-7:45 p.m. Yoga 8:15-9:45 p.m. Blue 	23 Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m. Ottawa women's Fly Fishing 7-9 p.m.	24 Yoga noon Bridge Club 2 p.m. Fitness class 6:45-7:45 p.m. Yoga 8-9:30 p.m.	25 Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.	26 ODS PLAYGROUP 9-11:30 a.m. Theatre GROUP 7-10 p.m.	27 Spring cleanup 9:30 a.m.-NOON AT THE PARK, ALONG THE RIVER	
28 7 p.m. Karate Classes	29 Fitness class 6:45-7:45 p.m. Yoga 8:15-9:45 p.m. Black 	30 Playgroup 9:30-11:30 a.m.					<p>To add items, call 728-1945 or email lfagan@magma.ca</p>

Amy's Corner

by Amy Kempster
722-6039

New paths, homes, roads on the table

An open house and presentation on the proposed changes to the Pathway system, west of Champlain Bridge to New Orchard Street, was held recently.

The National Capital Commission intends to construct a wider pathway for all users (bicycles, roller-blades and pedestrians) along the north side of the Parkway. They also intend to extend the pathway on the south side through to Island Park Drive. In a few stretches there would be two paths on the north side.

Discussion from the audience focused on the loss of a pedestrian-only path, which exists in theory now, and the situation of crossing to get to the path in the Woodroffe area. (Meeting was held in Unitarian Church). It was suggested that, where there were parallel paths, one could be confined to pedestrians. If you are a path user and missed the meetings you can write the NCC with your opinion.

Scott Street Woods

The correct name of the woods is the Freiman wood lot, and the address is 195 Richmond Road. The sign is now up

on the property and comments should be submitted as soon as possible.

I have a copy of the site plan, which seems to leave more of the woods than I expected. The plans call for 117 houses, all except two off a new interior road. Most are townhouses, with about 32 doubles. There will be 66 three-storey and 59 two-storey units, with two singles off Patricia, according to the site plan. Along Scott Street the woods will be left, except at Lanark where the entrance to the development will be placed.

The extent of woods left will be from 22 metres, or about a 72-foot depth, along most of Scott Street up to about 30 metres from the Lanark entrance.

Budget

Ottawa City Council made very few changes to the budget and, in the process, one wonders whether they are really committed to "smart growth", which should mean less dependence on roads. Left in the budget were the following road-related expenditures: Environmental Assessment Studies (ongoing: Alta Vista Trans. Corridor Study; Merivale Road Widening Study; Hazeldean Road Widening Study; Limebank/River/Armstrong Road Study; 11 future projects) for \$1.75 million in 2002; Castlefrank Overpass and Interchange \$17.5 million; Traffic signals & intersection changes \$1.059 million (all for Kanata, Cumberland and Nepean areas); Navaho Drive extension (north of Algonquin) \$1.141 million; Woodroffe/Fallowfield grade separation \$6 million; Terry Fox Reconstruction (Palladium to Hazeldean) \$9.7 million; Terry Fox Ext. \$7.2 million; Local Collector Roads Project (all in Kanata, Gloucester or Nepean) \$3.226 million; Stranherd/Armstrong Bridge \$2 million, plus several smaller projects of less than a million, etc., for a total of \$51.9 million on roads related to growth as compared with \$3.726 million for transit.

Association



Notes

By Lynne Bankier
729-0955

Mark your calendar now for the Annual General Meeting, scheduled for **Thursday, May 23, at 7 p.m.**, Champlain Park Fieldhouse.

The association needs new volunteers to serve on the executive. We particularly need a social convenor. Please consider playing a role in your association. I was very pleased to have some new executive members join us last year, and look forward to hearing from others who would be interested this year.

The City of Ottawa Advisory Committees are requesting volunteers to submit applications.

The committees are: Accessibility (Disabilities); Arts, Environmental, Equity and Diversity (racial and ethnic). Apply by Friday, April 12 by submitting a letter of application, including qualifications and committee of interest, home address to:

Stephani Roy, Supervisor, Advisory Committees and Boards, City of Ottawa, 110 Laurier Ave. West, Ottawa, Ont., K1P 1J1. Fax: 580-2423 e-mail: committees@city.ottawa.on.ca

(These words of thanks were cut from an earlier column. Sorry Lynne, the Editor).

I would like to thank and congratulate our new editor, **Kelly Egan**, for the "new look" newsletter that we had delivered to our doors in February.

Thanks also to **Laura Robin**, who has taken on the role of "Delivery Chief."

Now Hear This

1 Used bike carrier for sale. Fits onto back of sedan-type vehicle. Holds up to three bikes. Brand new. Asking \$75.00. Call 722-8048.

2 The **Speaker** is interested in testing opinion about an on-

line edition of the newsletter and the creation of a website. If you would like to sign up, send an email, including your address, to champlainspeaker@sympatico.ca



