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# CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER

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February/March 2005

Vol. 24, No. 5

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## Mosque parking meeting March 10

The Community Association has called a meeting for **March 10** to discuss the rezoning application for commercial parking at the Central Mosque on Northwestern Avenue.

We have already stated our opposition in writing. The meeting is to discuss the presentation to a city of Ottawa committee that is scheduled for April.

If you can't attend, but would like

to attend the city hall hearing to express your views, you can call Jonathan, Lynne or Amy (phone numbers on page 2). The meeting begins at **7:30 p.m.** in the fieldhouse.

As many of you know, there is some history that explains why the association would oppose the rezoning.

In 2004, the Ottawa Muslim Association (OMA) was able to pur-

chase their existing parking lot (formerly leased from the federal department of Public Works) plus some adjacent land.

This step was supported by the community association.

The mosque has now applied to have the land rezoned from "government" to "place of worship" use, as required by the City.

*(Continued on next page)*



**Hey! Wait up!** *The Pinto Valley Ranch sleigh ride was a big hit at Winterfest this year. See story on next page.*

## Unleashed, out of control: *Bad dogs in our woods?*

### DOGS IN THE HOOD.

It was good to read the above section in last month's *Champlain Speaker*.

Amongst other things, it helps to identify good dogs from bad dogs.

I customarily enjoy a daily walk through the woods in our area north of Pontiac and south of the Parkway. But today was the third time in the past four weeks that I have been seriously con-

cerned for my safety when threatened by an aggressive dog.

On all three occasions during my walks, I have been obliged to stand still to minimize what was to me an unambiguous threat of being bitten. The dogs were large, unleashed, unmuzzled, and not in the immediate control of their guardians.

I do not have a general dislike of dogs, and have sufficient experience of

them to recognize both friendly and aggressive canine behavior when I see it. The offending dogs were three different animals, and in each case I suggested to the guardian that, were the dog to be muzzled, I would be much happier.

Consider.

There is the stress that I and many people experience during such incidents.

*(Continued on back page)*

## Community Association

**Chair:** Jonathan Chaplan (728-7670)

**Vice-chair:** Mark Cianfaglione (722-5674)

**Treasurer:** potter (728-4980)

**Secretary:** Lynne Bankier (729-0955)

**Planning:** Amy Kempster (722-6039)

**Membership:** Amy Kempster (722-6039)

**Neighbourhood Watch:** Michael Cheng (722-3344)

**Fieldhouse co-ordinator:** Laurie Fagan (728-1945)

**Rink co-ordinator:** Greg Doswell (722-7705)

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

## TEENS AT WORK

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
Nick (computer help)	798-7652
Daniel (yard chores)	722-6134
Joey (babysitting)	728-5792
Katrina (babysitting)	725-5423
Elisabeth (babysitting)	722-0454

## CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER

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## Mosque Parking: (Continued from front page)

They have also applied to use the land for commercial parking.

However, as a condition of purchase, the OMA agreed to accept a legal covenant prohibiting commercial parking on the land, which now will be able to hold about 300 cars.

Purchase of the land was intended to:

Help alleviate mosque-associated parking and traffic problems for the

surrounding community;

Relieve the OMA of the high leasing fees it was paying to the federal government;

Provide much-needed additional parking for Mosque visitors.

The request to allow commercial parking is contrary to the original resolution (a "win-win" solution arrived at by both communities with assistance from Coun. Shawn Little) passed by City Council in 2000.

Consequently, the community association opposes it.

## Vital stuff

### 1 SPRING FLING

Dinner and family entertainment at Northwestern United Church on Saturday, **March 12**. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., entertainment about 7 p.m. Tickets \$10.00 for adults, \$5 for children. Contact: Marion Reid **722-0274**.

### 2 AEROBICS

If your New Year's resolution includes getting more exercise (and



having fun doing it), why not join the Champlain Park **aerobics class**? Low impact aerobics classes, taught by certified Y instructors, are held at the fieldhouse on Mondays and Wednesdays at **6:45 p.m.** For more information or to register, call **Liz at 724-2162**.

### 3 GARDEN CLUB

**Tuesday, March 8:** Rideau Woodland Ramble was created as a result of the Ice Storm of 1998. Come hear Dave Dunn talk about unusual conifers and small shrubs. For info, 728-1945.

## All hail Winterfest!

Winterfest was a smokin' success again this year.

Many thanks to **Don Monet**, the chief organizer, for pulling together the many pieces. The live music during lunch-hour was a delightful addition this year. Well done, **Don McVey and the Black Hanky Boys**.

Many hands made the event happen. Here are some of them: Laura Muldoon, Anne Doswell, Diane Merhi, Becky Rynor, Emma Monet, Amy Kempster, Paul Andratick, Sue Bradley, Kathy Kott, Joyce Mortimer, Theresa Kott-Brander, Tom Sauve, Buck Sauve, Laurie Fagan, Craig Wells and Doug Schearer.

(Apologies to anyone left off the list.)

In the chili contest, meat category, first prize went to **Diane Merhi**, second to **Bob Kempster** and third to **Paul Andratick**. Among the vegetarian entrants, first went to **Moragh Muldoon** and second to **Emma Monet and Shelby**.

Special thanks also to **Pierre Paradis** of C.A. Paradis on Bank Street. He kindly gave us a whack of new dishes for this and future community events.

## Dating Yourself

**Blue Box:**

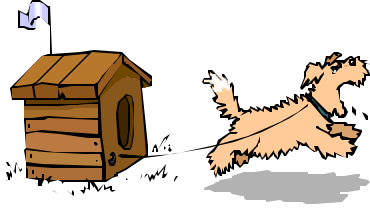
March 7, 21



**Black Box:**

Feb. 28, March 14,  
Tuesday, March 29

# DOGS IN THE HOOD



By Thomas and Meredith Lauzon



If you would like us to profile your dog, call or email Thomas and Meredith c/o their mother Kim (785-0770 or kim.haliburton@bell.ca.)

## There's a good dog, Chloe!

Chloe is one of many Golden Retrievers on Patricia Avenue and probably the friendliest!

**FAMILY:** The Fowlers, Ali, Doug, Sam, and Hannah.

**AGE:** 10 years old, slowing down a little, a bit of grey around her eyes, but the new kitten in the house keeps her moving.

**TRICKS:** The usual. Sit, lie down, but also "lick a hand" on command.

**FAVOURITE ACTIVITIES:** Going to the cottage; swimming at the cottage; being pet and rubbed. By far her favourite activity is sitting on her front lawn waiting for someone, *anyone*, to come along and pet her.

**NEAT INFO:** Chloe is the most gentle, friendly dog you've ever met! She actually is probably too friendly for some people, but wouldn't hurt a flea.

**AHH! FACTOR:** She loves her family so much that she once followed their canoe for quite a while across a large lake.

The Fowlers only noticed Chloe after they had pulled up on a shore to have a picnic. Chloe came out of the water to join them!



**TOP:** *Chloe strikes a pose on the lawn. Looking good, girl!*

**LEFT:** *Here she is at the cottage, leaping off the dock, with Sam in the background. You bet she's a Retriever!*



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## Amy's Corner



by Amy Kempster  
722-6039

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## Know thyself: Anyone want to tell our story?

Our neighbouring community of Westboro Beach has a history committee and Hintonburg has had a local history published.

Shall Champlain Park be left really far behind?

This year is the 150th anniversary for the City of Ottawa and what better project for the neighbourhood than some research into the history of what used to be called Riverside? Students, budding authors, seniors and others, can we get some entries in a contest for the best local history of our neighbourhood? Do we have some people who would act as judges of such a contest? Or would we rather form a committee to do the history?

If there is a volunteer out there interested in heading up a committee to research and write up our local history please call me at 722-6039. Past issues of the Champlain Speaker may help.

(**Editor's note:** Amy, good soul that she is, has very kindly offered to donate a cash prize to anyone prepare to put together a local history.)

### City Budget:

By the time you read this, the budget debate will be over and the decisions will be made.

We will have to face increased charges for water and taxes increased by roughly four per cent.

While an efficient city administration is desired by everyone, there are differences as to what the city should support in its budget.

Myself, I keep in mind that if there are too many gaps in the things supported by the city, some area of our quality of life may suffer: either in more homeless on the street, icy streets, a city with fewer trees and worse air, a city with less cultural attractions and thus less attrac-



tive to visitors and residents, etcetera.

Personally, I believe our councillors have very difficult decisions to make and I do not envy them the problem.

Giving a presentation where I was mainly asking that greenspace items in the budget be retained and not cut, I heard some of the requests for additional funds and they all seemed worthy.

One case was an example of where the liability problem had created a situation which might have been handled some years ago by other means: apparently the Highway Traffic Act requires that adult crossing guards be employees.

So if more are needed the city needs to supply the money to the organization that hires and trains them. Volunteers cannot be used.

Just for your information, there were several items in the capital budget of interest to this community: replacement of playground equipment and of the school-age play structure in the park.

Also included were minor repairs and upgrading of the changerooms area of the structures at Westboro Beach.

We are also due for water pipes work on Premier; resurfacing of the Parkway where it is used by the Transitway (between Dominion and Lincoln Fields) and more work on Richmond Road (between Kirkwood and Western).

For Scott Street, we have sewer work (between Ross and Holland) and resurfacing (between Winona and Lanark).

(P.S. Assuming none of these projects is cut from the budget.)

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### Unleashed: (Continued from front page)

Then again, the merest nip which draws blood requires at least the need to determine quickly that there is documentary evidence the dog has had a valid rabies injection.

Then perhaps I would myself have to undergo an extended and often painful inoculation process.

My mind also boggles at the thought that I might meet an unmuzzled and aggressive dog while walking

through the woods with my young grandchildren.

I understand that dogs like to run free in the open, but I believe that it should not be at my or other people's peril. The suggestion of a good, stout, muzzle is a minimum for animals with the capability of causing serious injury.

My preference is that dogs taken for a walk should be both muzzled and on an adequate restraining leash, especially where pathways are quite narrow.

I do not believe that a dog is to be allowed even one unprovoked bite.

Muzzles and leashes would be an ultimate kindness to the animals themselves.

I have laid no complaints or had any discussions with city authorities, wishing rather to bring the situation to the attention of Champlain Park residents.

It would be encouraging to have some responses to this note in next month's **Speaker**.

*Garfield, a resident of Patricia Avenue.*



