

CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER

January, 2006

Vol. 25, No. 4

Did somebody say party?



Winterfest rocks Jan. 28. Lend us your mittens, your skates, your chili

What a wacky winter for weather.
What to do but confront the beast?

Winterfest arrives in the nick. This year's event will be held Saturday, Jan. 28 from noon to 3 p.m. The event will proceed, rain or.....Sorry, rain is so *last week*.

Outdoors, there will be games and tests of skill on the hockey rink. Inside, there will be food and a warm glow. The community association invites everyone to briefly abandon hibernation.

Following a successful launch in 2003, this year we're having the Chili

Cook Off once again.

Those wanting to compete in a taste-test are asked to drop off a bowl of their famous concoctions, meat or vegetarian, by 1 p.m. We are also looking for larger quantities of chili to actually feed the hungry skaters at lunch. Please speak to **Don Monet** about a possible contribution. After the meal, a taste test will be held. Winning recipes, with the chef's permission, will appear in a future *Speaker*.

There will also be hot dogs and drinks for the young ones.

Outside, a sleigh ride is planned, from 1 to 3 p.m., as is a roaring fire.

Outdoor music is being arranged to lend to the party atmosphere.

Face-painting should be available as well as a tug of war and the CHEZ goal shoot-out.

Don (728-1750) is looking for volunteers to bake, or help with set-up or tear down.

Admission is free but there will be a charge for lunch..



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: Debra Huron (722-8048)

Neighbourhood Watch: Michael Cheng (722-3344), Patrick Mates, (722-4120) Neil Robertson (729-5439)

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

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

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

Social convenor: 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
Joey (babysitting)	728-5792
Katrina (babysitting)	725-5423
Geneviève (babysitting)	722-0454

CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER

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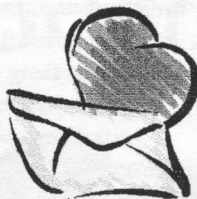
Blanchard, Sandy Milne, Philip Cutfield, Patrick Mates, Rita Palin, Laura Robin, Becky Rynor, Jim Hay, Wendy Huculak, Heather Pearl, Ann Potter, Emma Morris, Linda Steele, Nancy Leigh-Smith, Benjamin Holland, Marlene Kells, Thomas and Meredith Lauzon.

The *Speaker* is produced monthly with the generous support of the Ottawa Citizen.

HUSH-HUSH

1 GARDEN CLUB

The club holds its monthly meeting on **Tuesday, Feb. 14**, starting at 7 p.m. Rockcliffe Landscaping will encourage us to think of our garden as a room with floors and walls. Join us for a slideshow on vertical gardening. It may drive you up the wall, but in a good way. Become a member or pay a drop-in rate. For more information, **Laurie Fagan, 728-1945**.



2 KIDS YOGA

Santosh Yoga, on Richmond Road near Bridgehead, is offering a new yoga class for kids this winter, for six weeks to start. This is for kids and parents, or just the kids. The details: For ages **six to 10**; no experience or special equipment required; yoga mats provided; **\$60 for a six-week session**; Thursday after school, from **4 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.** First class on Jan. 19th. Parents can pay as they go (\$10 a class as well, or pay for the session in advance. Minimum 10 people for the class to start. To register, call Santosha at 235-5378, or visit www.santoshayoga.com

Question Quigley: Go ahead, ask him stuff

1. When is the rink open?

Unofficially, it's open all the time. Officially, the rink is supervised for a certain number of hours every day, except Monday; meaning the change-room is open and the outdoor lights are on. The hours are: **Tuesday to Friday, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.** The boarded rink is generally for hockey and the side rink for skating. Helmets, particularly, for children, are encouraged.

2. Great sleigh ride on Dec 23rd. Was it all magic or did some muggles help out?

Well, our thanks go out to chief organizer **Jim Cocks** for pulling all the right levers. **Joanne Chianello** kindly arranged for the hot chocolate and many others contributed with baking and cleanup. (Apologies, our list of volunteers is incomplete.) We also required a last-minute stand-in as Santa Claus. (Bravo to a red-haired gentleman, who shall, in the spirit of Santas everywhere, remain nameless.) And Buck Sauve's house looked magnificent.

3. So what about the 10 grand?

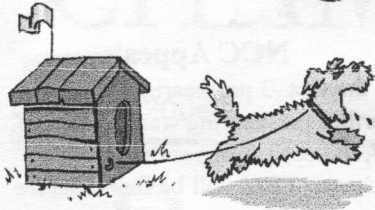
Last month, we floated the idea that the community association might want to undertake an improvement project, using funds now sitting idle in our bank account. There was an excellent suggestion from Debra Huron that the association arrange for a proper sign on the fieldhouse. Anyone who has tried to direct outsiders to the brick building knows this is a problem. It has neither a street number, nor an identifying mark of any kind.

Perhaps a good soul will volunteer to move this project forward.

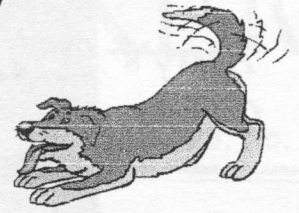
4. What to do with old tires or ancient electronic equipment?

The city of Ottawa has a program called Take it Back! It offers a number of options for responsibly disposing of dozens and dozens of items such as automotive parts, electronics, scrap metal, old garden flats, used syringes, appliances and power tools. There is some leg work involved (a retailer is usually involved) and hours are limited. Fees may also apply. Full details are on the city's website.

DOGS IN THE HOOD



By Thomas and Meredith Lauzon



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



There's a good dog, MOLLY!

NAME: Molly

AGE: 8 years old

BREED: Mixed. Collie, German Shepherd, other.

FAMILY: McCauley-Sparks household, starring Steve, Evelyn, Emily, Jocelyn and Vivian.

GOT HER START: Humane Society.

PUPPY PALS: Vera, Jenny.

TRICKS: Sit, lie down, shake a paw.

FUNNY MOMENTS: Getting ready to go for a walk. She goes crazy!

FAVOURITE SNACKS: Bacon, and flavoured bones.

THE GOLLY ON MISS MOLLY:

She is very tall, nice, friendly and pretty.

I DID NOT KNOW THAT:

There are two Mollys on Daniel Avenue. Meet the north end Molly!

Amy's Corner



by Amy Kempster
722-6039

Please vote, it won't hurt a bit

Your vote counts! Do get out and vote on Jan. 23!

The case of the disappearing no-left-turn signs

First you see it and then it's gone!

About a month ago, there I was driving east on Richmond Road and I saw a sign "New" with a no-left-turn symbol.

Then, at the corner of Island Park, appeared a no-left-turn sign. This rather disturbed me as I did not recall it being there before. A day or two later I was coming to the same intersection from the other direction and there was a similar "New" sign and no-left-turn sign. This week I checked to see if they were still there. No, they had disappeared!!

My question to the city general inquiries number was not answered. However, the fact that these signs were no longer there provided my answer. They were temporary for the construction period, I presume.

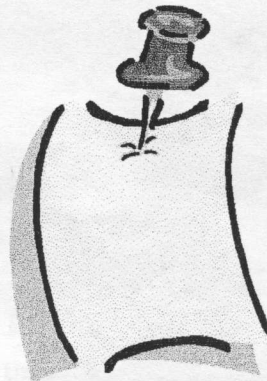
A friend who lives near Holland and Wellington told me the advanced green that existed for a while at that corner was there because of the construction on Parkdale and would disappear when that was finished. That proved true. In any case, it is interesting to note that our city traffic managers will arrange for changed traffic signals and add signs to accommo-

date traffic changes caused by construction.

Hampton Park saved from Queensway incursion

Our MPP Richard Patten announced about a month ago that the intersection at Island Park Drive and the Queensway would remain unchanged in design, thus sparing Hampton Park from any loss of greenspace. This was a great relief to many in the area who cherish this park.

The large turnout at the meeting somewhat earlier in the year was probably a factor. As well, the actual assessment



showed the do-nothing alternative rated only marginally below the option to move the Queensway ramp into the park.

Part of my own criticism was that some natural environment factors, such as flora and fauna, had not been included.

Richmond Road Widening

Local newspapers have given this topic good coverage. I did not attend the meeting myself. However, one comment I heard was that, unfortunately, this topic overwhelmed the others on the same agenda, which thus did not get proper consideration.

The importance of the greenspace of the Byron strip is part of the picture, even though our Councillor has said that he would oppose any loss of that greenspace.

However, as important may be the question of where the increased traffic will go once it reaches Westboro Village. While Richmond Road is four-lane in the village, the parking is normally taken up and, in effect, there are only two lanes, at least in the late afternoon. In any case, money for this project was taken out of the capital budget for the next few years

so it is unlikely to proceed in that period.

NCC Appeals

At the Oct. 3 pre-hearing, the dates for a further pre-hearing were set at Feb. 6 and 7, 2006. One hopes that solutions for Rochester Field will be found before then.

Scott Street development

There was a proposal recently for a new home for adults recovering from mental illness at Athlone and Scott Street.

If this, and an earlier project at Winona and Scott move forward, that will result in a transformation of Scott near Churchill. The former of these projects will meet a very great need: residences for recovering mental patients.

Such persons constitute a fair proportion of the homeless. The deinstitutionalization of mental patients was based on the idea that they would be better cared for in the community. Unfortunately we are still catching up to the need for facilities for these people to function well in the community.

City Notices in the area

a) *Grange Park*: A notice regarding the rezoning to residential of Grange park has been posted on the site. A single family residence is the proposed use.

b) *Superstore*: As suggested at the time of the rezoning for the Loblaw's Superstore, there is now a site plan application for another building to the west, along Richmond Road. It is for an LCBO store.

City Budget

"The budget includes operating expenditures of just over \$2.1 billion and capital expenditures on projects totalling \$1.17 billion. The budget includes a total tax increase of 3.9 per cent on the combined tax and utility bill, including the Ottawa Police Service and Ottawa Public Library budgets. During five days of deliberation, Council chose to cut \$41 million from the budget."

Source: *City of Ottawa website.*