
CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER

March 2007

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Inter-species communication?



Photo by Barb Robertson 2007

Calling on Grades 2, 3 and 4 students...

Here's what we know:

1) Ms. Squirrel is curious. She runs from tree-to-tree and from street-to-street. Sometimes, Ms. Squirrel goes into the woods near the river.

2) A few weeks ago, when she went into the woods, Ms. Squirrel

made some new friends.

3) A family of Eastern screech owls is living in our neighbourhood. Last summer, they made a lot of noise. That's why they are called "screech" owls. Many people saw or heard them at night. Owls hunt for food at night.

4) This year, some baby screech owls were born in the woods near the river. How many baby owls do you see in this picture?

If you can write a story called **Ms. Squirrel and the Baby Owls**, the Editor will print it next month.

Community Association

Co-chairs: Lynne Bankier (729-0955)
and Craig Wells.

Vice-chair: Glenna Patrick

Treasurer: potter (728-4980)

Secretary: Vacant (Lynne filling in)

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)

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

Nick (**computer help**) 798-7652

Joey (**babysitting**) 728-5792

Geneviève (**babysitting**) 722-0454

CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER

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Meredith Lauzon, Kelly Egan.

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Community Supported Agriculture brings fresh farm produce to the city

If you like to buy fresh veg-
gies at the Parkdale Market, maybe
you've wondered: How could veg-
etables be any fresher? This is not a
rhetorical question.

The answer is: if they were
picked that morning by your very
own female farmer and dropped off
at a location here in the west end at
11 a.m.

Having your very own female
farmer means
you'd be able to
eat a selection of
fresh and organic
greens, roots, pep-
pers and tomatoes
from a basket
delivered to the
city once a week
from early June to
late October. You'd
also be somebody
who is support-
ing Community
Supported Agriculture (CSA).

Last summer, our family decided
to jump on the CSA bandwagon. We
hired Hilary Chop to be our personal
farmer. Actually, in hiring Hilary,
we got a package deal. Two other
humans who like to dig in the dirt
from dawn to dusk work with Hilary
to produce some of the most deli-
cious produce I've ever tasted.

CSA is happening all across
North America. We're not the only
family in Champlain Park that sup-
ports it. I know of at least 4 other

families that munch their way
through Hilary's veggies throughout
the summer.

Hilary's life purpose

She studied journalism and envi-
ronmental studies at Carleton. Then,
she took a break to work on a CSA
farm in Massachusetts. As an appren-
tice farmer, she was bitten by a bug
whose mantra was: "Here's a really

positive way to
live your life."

When she
came back to
Ottawa hoping
to farm, she had
the good luck to
discover an older
couple in Almonte
keen to rent 2.5
acres of land to an
organic grower.
This season, that
small piece of

land will produce 75 shares of veg-
etables. Each week's share will feed
a family of four or five people.

If your family is smaller or you
are just a couple, you might want
to find someone who would like to
share a share. This is called splitting
shares and it makes some people
jump for joy.

To sign up for CSA with Hilary,
or for more information about how
CSA works, call 613-296-0599 or e-
mail teamworkcsa@hotmail.com.

—by Debra Huron



The Japanese connection

Teikei is a Japanese word that means "cooperation," "joint business,"
or "link-up." In reference to CSA, it is commonly translated as "food
with the farmer's face on it."

—Wikipedia

Neighbourhood Watch matters (to all of us)

Spring has arrived and with it comes some sobering news: warmer weather means an increase in property crimes. Please be more vigilant when it comes to securing doors, windows, garage doors, cars, and bicycles. Here are some reminders:

1) If you would like to review how to make your property more secure, our Community Police Centre (CPC) can help you. Simply make your request for a free Home Security Audit by calling the CPC at 236-1222, ext. 5870. If no one answers the phone, leave a message and you will get a call back the next day (Monday to Friday).

The Police Centre will arrange to come to your home. Two screened and trained volunteers will visit you to recommend ways you can upgrade your home's security. You will also be provided with some free literature on the subject. The whole inspection takes less than an hour to complete.

2) You may wish to visit our CPC Officer Constable Tim Senack at the Community Police Centre located at 1329 Wellington Street. He can give you reference materials to take home. The CPC's office hours are Monday to Friday from noon to 4 p.m. Phone Tim at 613 236-1222, ext. 5871 for an appointment before you go to the Police Centre.

To report a problem

To report any suspicious activities, call 613 236-1222, ext. 7300. When you make a report, please ask for the report number so that we can trace back for further information, if necessary.

To join the Neighbourhood Watch e-alert network, send your email address to Neil Robertson, at

cpnw@sympatico.ca. This network was set up at the Champlain Park Community Association's annual general meeting last September. We will send neighbourhood security alerts by e-mail to people on the network. The alerts may originate with the police or other local sources.

Fieldhouse Safety

Our Field House Park offers us a tranquil environment for social and recreational activities. But it is also vulnerable to mischievous activities. For example, last September about 30 teenagers congregated at night in the Park to drink and hold an outdoor party. People who were meeting at the fieldhouse that night felt threatened. If you see any suspicious activities in the Park, please report them to the police 613 236-1222, ext. 7300.



Ottawa Senators

Finally, we are pleased to inform you that the Ontario Neighbourhood Watch Executive Committee (ONWEC) is working to form a partnership with the Ottawa Senators' Foundation. This process may be complete by the fall of this year. The result? We may see Neighbourhood Watch promotions or events at some of the Senators' home games. This partnership would also provide excellent opportunities to involve kids and other young citizens in community security.

Please participate in Neighbourhood Watch and maintain our record as one of the safest communities in Ottawa.

—by your Coordinators
Michael Cheng,
Patrick Mates and Neil Robertson

Amy's Corner



by *Amy Kempster*
722-6039

News about the Preliminary Draft Richmond Road/ Westboro Community Design Plan (CDP)

Nepean High School's Auditorium was filled to near capacity on Thursday, March 22 to hear the presentation of this plan and the traffic analysis connected with it. The crowd's concerns seemed to relate almost exclusively to traffic worries even though the traffic expert said that "The traffic analysis indicates that there would not be a requirement to carry out wholesale widening of Richmond Road to a 4-lane divided facility throughout the corridor as a result of proposed CDP (Community Design Plan) traffic generation."

The area covered by the plan is bordered by the Ottawa River, Island Park Drive, Byron Avenue and the Ottawa River Parkway as it turns south.

Highlights of the CDP are as quoted below:

- 1) "The CDP proposes that all of the Atlantis-Selby lands and the Rochester Field parcel be preserved as green space. The means of preservation will be determined through discussions among the City, the NCC and affected community groups as an implementation measure of the CDP, which should also consider needed recreation facilities in the Planning Area.
- 2) Ensure area develops in such a way as to ensure that it is pedestrian and cyclist friendly.
- 3) Preserve scale and character of existing neighbourhoods and ensure compatibility of new development."

In practical terms, the plan could result in 700 more units than current zoning allows. The area was divided into sectors. The proposals for the most easterly sectors are:

1. The sector bordered by Tweedsmuir Avenue and Island Park Drive along Richmond Road. In that sector, the plan suggests some four-storey units and a maximum of six to seven storeys. The plan calls for promotion of reuse/rede-

velopment of existing industrial and automotive-oriented uses to traditional main street uses. The impact of new housing units overlooking existing residences is to be minimized.

2. For the Scott Street and Westboro Transitway Station Area the plan suggests encouragement of the redevelopment of the former CBC site to a new pedestrian-friendly mixed-use office/residential complex, including a landscaped courtyard and improved pedestrian access to the Transitway station. The height limit is unchanged but a suggestion to allow up to 12 storeys at the time of development is included. Pedestrian access to the station along Churchill and McRae Avenues is to be improved and development should provide an appropriate transition with the residential community to the rear, and minimize overlook.

3. Westboro Beach/Atlantis-Selby. No in-fill development is expected during the lifetime of the CDP. Any new development must be compatible with the existing adjacent residential community

4. McRae and Churchill Avenues. Here the City is to foster the evolution of these residential/commercial (Churchill) and industrial (McRae) streets towards an enhanced mixed-use image, with an emphasis on office and residential uses. Development should provide appropriate transition with the residential community and minimize overlook.

5. Westboro Village-City should promote the development of a prominent new building to create a landmark at the intersection of Golden; encourage the conversion of existing non-traditional mainstreet related uses to more traditional mainstreet types, especially between Churchill and Tweedsmuir Avenues. Height limits may be reduced to six storeys.

6. Maplelawn. Besides preserving Rochester Field as greenspace, the plan suggests providing a transition from the four to six-storey mainstreet of Richmond Road and the existing high-rise apartment buildings in the eastern part of this sector, and ensuring new buildings on Richmond Road define a series of public/semi-public plazas to assist in providing enhanced access from Richmond Road to the Dominion Transitway Station.

If you wish further details you can borrow my copy of the plan. In general, it seems to have pleased most people compared to the earlier versions and both Councillors (Christine Leadman and Alec Cullen) have agreed to request it become a secondary plan within the Official Plan.

Other good news: Hampton Park's Official Plan designation is to be changed from Major Open Space to Urban Natural Feature.