

CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER



December 2008

Vol. 28, No.8

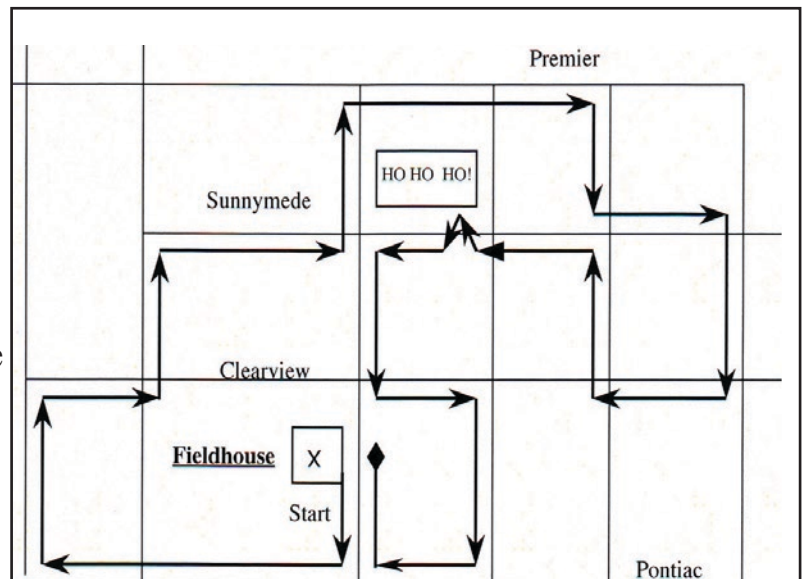
14th Annual Sleigh Ride on December 21

This year's sleigh ride will be held Sunday, December 21. The sleigh will leave the fieldhouse around 6:15 p.m. and will wend its way through the neighbourhood (see map), returning to the fieldhouse around 8 p.m. A stop to visit Santa will happen around 7 p.m. on Sunnymede Ave.

Hot chocolate and sweets will be available at the fieldhouse. We are looking for donations of cookies and Christmas goodies. Please call Jim Cocks at 728-7881 if you can help.

If the weather is extremely poor, the backup plan is to meet at the fieldhouse for some indoor festivities.

In the spirit of the season, a container for donations to the Ottawa Food Bank will be available at the fieldhouse.



Rink volunteers are needed now and throughout the skating season

- ✦ Young and old volunteers are needed to maintain and supervise the rink at Champlain Park.
- ✦ High school students can earn volunteer hours.
- ✦ With your help, we can keep the rink open throughout the season and for longer hours.



Please call Jim Kot (613) 722-7519

This year, Jim Kot will assume responsibility for flooding and maintaining the rink. Greg Doswell will continue as rink coordinator.

Hours for the rink will be posted in the January edition of the Champlain Speaker.

Champlain Park Community Association

Co-chairs: Lynne Bankier (729-0955)
and Heather Pearl (725-1422)

Vice-chair: Vacant

Treasurer: potter (728-4980)

Secretary: Karen Maser (722-6700)

Ex-officio Past President:

Jonathan Chaplan (728-7670)

Membership: Vacant

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

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

Neighbourhood Watch:

Michael Cheng (722-3344),

Patrick Mates (722-4120),

Neil Robertson (729-5439)

Spring cleanup coordinator (vacant)

Social convenor (vacant)

Planning:

Amy Kempster (722-6039)

CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER your community newsletter

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Laura Robin, Becky Rynor, Jim Hay,
Wendy Huculak, Heather Pearl, Ann
Potter, Emma Morris, Linda Steele,
Nancy Leigh-Smith, Benjamin
Holland, Marlene Kells, Kelly Egan.

The *Speaker* is produced on a regular
basis with the generous support
of the Ottawa Citizen.

Playgroup needs you

We have had interest in re-starting the Champlain Park playgroup on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. A mom in our neighbourhood wants to share the duties of co-ordinator with one other person. If you want a nice space for your toddler pre-

school child to interact with other children, then why not consider sharing the duties? Two heads and four hands lighten the load. If you are interested, please call Laurie Fagan at (613) 728-1945.

—by Laurie Fagan

After-school drama group

An eight-week program designed to satisfy the demands of both the novice and the veteran actor in a creative and safe atmosphere will begin in January at the fieldhouse.

Drama is the perfect educational tool for differentiated learning. Students of all abilities are able to shine. In these classes, emphasis will be placed on imagination, process, and the acquisition of theatre skills such as movement, teamwork, speech, stage presence, improvisation and character building. Each week promises to be high energy and challenging.

Lesley Buxton has taught theatre and creative writing for over 14 years, working with students of all ages in Ottawa institutions such as the Canadian Children's Museum, Ottawa

Little Theatre, Arts Under One Roof, Tournesol Dance, Glebe Montessori, and Youth Infringement. A graduate of Mountview Theatre School in London, England, she is renowned for her child-centred teaching and enthusiasm for experimenting.

When: Thursdays from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Ages: 11-14

Cost \$70.00 per student

Space is limited to 12 people.

To sign up, contact Lesley at
lesleyb@magma.ca or call her at
(613) 722-2188.

Teens who babysit

Karah P. 722-6039

Emma J. 728-6681

Alexandra 722-7482

Berlin 722-2248

Ben 729-1218

Leigh 715-9473

Emma I. 722-1063

Anastasia 728-9014

Fiona 761-9262

Emma M. 728-4642

Elisabeth (bilingual)

722-0454

Association news

January 29, 2009 has been set as the date when the Community Association will appear before the Ontario Municipal Board on the matter of a proposed development at 215 Carleton Ave.

A report on the Annual General Meeting of the Champlain Park Community Association will appear in the January edition of the Speaker.

Tips on home security

by Patrick Mates

Co-coordinator, Champlain Park Neighbourhood Watch
& Volunteer Coordinator, Home Security Inspection Program

If your home has a patio door, it is important to be aware of the weaknesses in these doors and how to remedy them. Patio doors most often come with a fixed outer panel and a sliding inner door. In some, the sliding door is on the outside, but similar remedies apply. Burglars seldom attempt to break the glass and will usually attempt to attack the door itself or to break the lock.

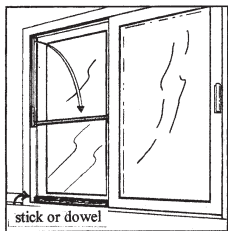
First, the locks on these doors will never win any awards for security. They must be supplemented to protect the door against being forced open. Do this by fitting a stick or dowel (piece of hockey stick or broom handle) snugly into the bottom track. Also available is a safety bar called a "charlie bar" that is screwed to the jamb opposite the sliding door. It is placed about a third of the way up the door and is visible from the outside. If the door is vinyl, three- or four-inch screws will have to be used to penetrate the wood framing behind the vinyl sash.

Second, many of these doors have a gap or space at the top that allows the door to be lifted out of its bottom track. (Some can be adjusted so that there is no gap.) To counter this, eliminate the gap. There are two ways to do this: 1) Install a "jimmy plate", i.e., a horizontal piece of wood or metal that is screwed into

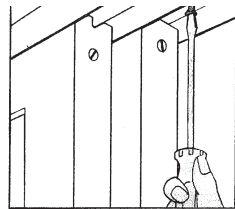
the top track. 2) Screw two or three long pan-head screws into the top track in pre-drilled holes at 10-inch intervals and allow them to protrude enough that the door cannot be lifted out (while still sliding freely). Together, these techniques will make the door much more secure.

Finally, an auxiliary lock can be installed, such as a sturdy slide bolt mounted on the inside edge of the door to penetrate the fixed panel frame, the floor, or the top track. If the door is on an outside track, this slide bolt can be attached to the floor or fixed panel to penetrate the sliding door. As well, or as an alternative, pin the mid-section in the bottom corner by drilling a downward angled hole through the sash of the inner panel and part way into the sash of the outer panel. Then place a removable nail into the hole to act as a lock, as can be done on most double-hung or sliding windows.

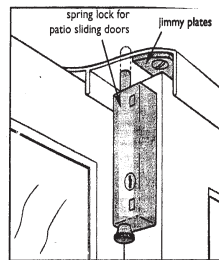
The **Wellington Community Police Centre** offers free home security inspections for anyone who wishes to have an impartial opinion on their home's security. They take less than an hour to complete. Just call the Centre at 236-1222, ext. 5870. If no one is there, leave a message and we'll get back to you to set up an appointment.



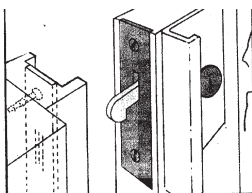
Self-storing "Charlie bar" to brace sliding patio door.



Install long screws in upper track to prevent sliding panel from being lifted



"Jimmy plate" and spring bolt to prevent lifting & sliding



Typical patio door lock

Aerobics in the new year

A new session of the Champlain Park Aerobics Club starts in January. We exercise at the fieldhouse on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:45 to 7:45 p.m.

Contact Linda Steele for more details by calling 613-724-6679 or by e-mailing linda.steele@sympatico.ca

Amy's Corner



by *Amy Kempster*
613-722-6039

Richmond Road/Westboro Community Design

Plan (CDP): This plan has finally been approved as a secondary plan to the Official Plan (OP). For our community, some of the interest about this plan lies in the designations of the following greenspaces:

- 1) Rochester Field which extends from the Ottawa River Parkway to Richmond Road just west of Maplelawn (The Keg restaurant) and
- 2) the Atlantis-Selby lands in the area of those streets in our neighbouring community of Westboro Beach. While Rochester Field is still the subject of an OMB appeal, there was no appeal of the designation of the Atlantis-Selby lands in the OP. However, the National Capital Commission (NCC) expressed reservations about them being categorized as greenspaces in this secondary plan. I am quoting the NCC's position below from the City's website:

"Please note that we have reviewed this from a Capital Planning perspective and support numerous principles outlined in this OPA; including design concepts related to improved linkages to recreation pathways, improving streetscape amenities, implementing provisions to increase the landscaped areas and sidewalk widths along main street corridors and retaining parkland (cash-in-lieu) fees in this community. As noted in previous circulations of the CDP, we also continue to have concerns with respect to the greenspace designations and illustrations of passive open spaces to be confirmed via this CDP on federally owned lands. We do acknowledge some of the revisions in the text to note that the Rochester Field site remains subject of an active appeal to the OMB and therefore any designation and future land use(s) for this site are, at this time, unconfirmed. We continue to take the position this CDP does not

appropriately reflect the NCC's position for federal lands in the study area...

"The NCC is preparing the Capital Urban Lands Master Plan for federal land holdings within the urban area. This federal level master plan is comprised of evaluation, analysis, and public consultation phases and will ultimately develop policy and identify appropriate land use for federal lands. Some sectors identified in the CDP are also the subject of this master plan. We reiterate to the City that the NCC has the legislated authority for the planning of federally owned lands within the Ottawa River Parkway corridor lands. The Capital Urban Lands Master Plan will examine the Ottawa River Parkway corridor in some detail, with provisions for full public consultation and we look forward to integrating to the greatest degree possible the requirements for federal lands with the evolving maturation and diversification of the Richmond Road community."

The designation of these lands as greenspaces was retained in spite of these reservations by the NCC. If you are interested in other aspects of this Community Design Plan (CDP) check out the November 14 Agenda of the Planning and Environment Committee. It is available on the City's website.

City Budget: This year I did not attend any of the budget sessions. I am rather tired of the farce that is the City budget process. Every time the City needs to save money, what gets put forward? Arts and social programs/outdoor rinks and increases in user fees, etc. The police budget gets a relatively free ride because the City does not have direct control over that budget. It is not easy to find the exact sums the City spends on various items and there is no readily available bar or pie chart of City expenditures in its operating budget by type or area of expenditure. The information is there but not in what is supposed to be information for the public (the Draft Budget Booklet-Budget at a Glance), which talks about pressures for increases and solutions but does not give an actual breakdown of where the money is to be spent. There is a report that outlines where \$1,000 of your taxes was spent in 2007. It shows that public safety was the biggest item, at \$205 of the \$1,000. Transit was also very large at \$146. On the other hand, in the Capital budget there is somewhat more than \$113 million for roads. Details are available on the City's website, www.ottawa.ca, for those who wish further information.
