

CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER

September, 2005

Vol. 25, No. 1

Annual meeting set for Oct. 6

The annual general meeting of the Champlain Park Community Association will be held on Thursday, Oct. 6, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the fieldhouse.

AGENDA

1. *Speaker from Creative Neighbourhoods* on ideas for development of our community's "main street." Please refer to adjoining article.
2. *Election of Officers.* Current officers have been in place for several years. Newcomers welcome. Nominations to be accepted from the floor, or call **Lynne Bankier** at 729-0955.
3. *Financial Report*
4. *Update on Mosque Parking Lot:* The land has been rezoned such that commercial parking is illegal. However, the Ottawa Muslim Association has continued to park commercially on the lot. They are submitting another application to the city, requesting to have commercial parking allowed. We would like the community's input on this new application. The new development is that they have been granted the opportunity for a temporary entrance from Ross Street. Our concerns are that the entrance would be temporary whereas commercial parking, if granted, would be permanent. To join a sub-group on this issue, attend the meeting or call Lynne.

On making Wellington work

by Andrew Davidge

The Champlain Park Community Association is linking up with other groups to think big about Wellington Street.

The effort is being led by a local non-profit organization called Creative Neighbourhoods. Its president, Michel Frojmovic, is an urban planner passionate about the idea of creating change at the neighbourhood level.

"Vibrant and distinct neighbourhoods are what make cities great," asserts Mr. Frojmovic.

"Wellington Street is a great place to start. It is one of Ottawa's important main streets but, in many ways, is one of its best kept secrets," says Mr. Frojmovic.

"Many people have a stake in Wellington Street; residents of the neighbourhoods that surround it, area workers, business owners. We wanted to bring all these groups together to promote the street and start imagining how to make it a better place to live, walk, work, shop and run a business."

The result of this imagining to date is Wellington Street Works, a promotional program for Wellington along its

length from the O-train line to Island Park Drive and encompassing the neighbourhoods that feed into it, including Champlain Park.

"Residents of Champlain Park definitely look to Wellington as their main street. Having such a diversity of businesses just a short walk away is one of the things that makes it a great place to live," says Jonathan Chaplan, president of the Champlain Park Community Association.

A coalition of community and business groups will approach businesses in the area to gain their support for a number of initiatives under the banner of Wellington Street Works.

"We're just getting started and the response so far has been very positive," says Mr. Frojmovic. "The short-term goals of our work are to create some neighbourhood improvements: better use of public space, reinforcing the distinctiveness of the area, maybe even public art. In the long term, our goals are to strengthen community, bring people together to think about the future of their neighbourhoods and get people excited about taking an active role in shaping change."

Bag of hammers: Flea market for garden, woodworking tools Oct. 1

A tool flea market for woodworkers and gardeners will be held Saturday, Oct. 1, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Champlain Park Field House.

Admission \$2; drinks available.

Buying: It's a great place to find bargains on second-hand tools. Hand and power tools available. Even some new items.

Selling: If you have a few tools

you'd like to turn into cash, consider renting a table or joining forces with a couple of friends or neighbours to rent one together. A limited number are available, at \$15 each, on a first-come, first-served basis. The event is a fundraiser, so each vendor is requested to donate 10 per cent of the money they earn, after the first \$150.

Contact us via email at tools@monkeysfist.com to reserve a table, or visit

the web page <http://www.tools.monkeysfist.com> to find out more.

You can also call Ian Holland at 729-1218. Donations of unwanted tools also being accepted.

Proceeds from this event support the Baobab Youth Performers Footsteps to Ghana 2006. The group is to put on a short performance on the day of the market, weather permitting.

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

CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER

Editor: Kelly Egan, 728-1945
lfagan@gamma.ca

197 Daniel Ave. K1Y OE1

Delivery Chief: Laura Robin

On-line project: Alexander Smith
agmsmith@rogers.com



Carriers: Kay Young, Terri

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.

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

Fall classics

Aerobics

Do you want to get fit and have fun at the same time?

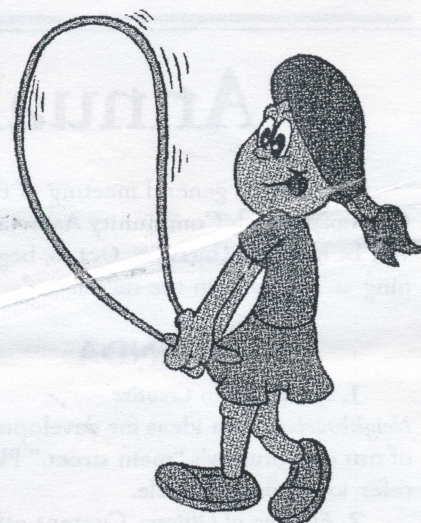
Why not join the Champlain Park aerobics classes?

The Champlain Park Community Association offers low impact aerobics classes taught by certified Y instructors. Classes include a period of stretching, a gentle cardio session, and some work with light weights for maintenance of muscle tone. The classes are suitable for people of all ages and fitness levels, including seniors.

Time: Monday and Wednesday evenings, 6:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

Place: Champlain Park fieldhouse, corner of Cowley and Clearview.

For information: Liz at 724-2162.

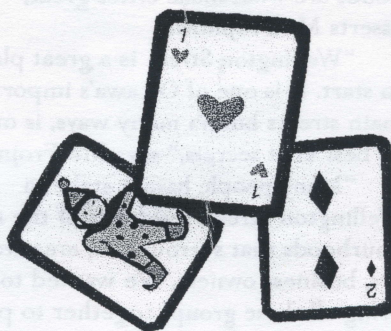


Bridge Club

The Bridge Club will resume meeting at 2 p.m. on Sept. 14. We meet regularly on Wednesdays from 2 to 4:30 p.m. for friendly bridge.

All are welcome.

We take turns at playing if we are one over a fourth at times, and use a running dummy if we are seven. We would gladly welcome more players. There is no cost for this activity other than membership in the Champlain Park Community Association, and occasional contributions of tea, coffee, cookies and the like. For more information, call Amy at 722-6039.



Garden Club

The Champlain Park Garden Club has started a new season and is looking for new members.

The club, which began in 1990, meets on the second Tuesday of every month. Each meeting has a different guest speaker.

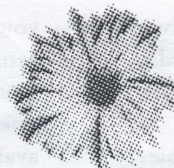
CBC gardening guru Ed Lawrence kicked things off in September. In November, Mary Ann Jackson-Hughes, a botany and soils teacher, will talk

about creating a drought resistant garden.

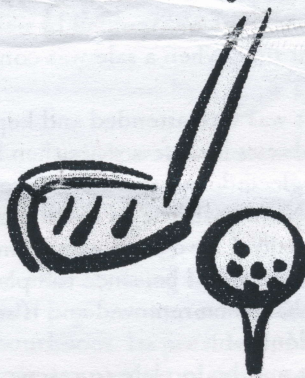
Thorne and Co. operator Linda Thorne is scheduled to deliver a talk on the gardens of Ireland in December.

Field trips are also on the agenda. The meetings are a great way to fend off the effects of winter.

For more information, call Laurie Fagan at 728-1945.



Champlain Park 2005 Community Association Membership Drive



You are already part of the "club"
...because you live in Champlain Park

You can be part of the "drive"
...by volunteering to meet your neighbours!

This year's membership drive will be held
September 24 – October 15, 2005

We need volunteers to commit to 3 hours of canvassing.
Canvassing is fun and easy! No prior experience required.

Please call Debra Huron at 722-8048 for more info.

MEMBERSHIP DAY - Saturday Sept. 24

10 a.m. - noon at the fieldhouse - Free coffee!

If you are able-bodied, please drop by. We will accept
your payment and give you a membership card.

AMY'S CORNER



by Amy Kempster
722-6039

NCC appeal of Maplelawn to go ahead

City Council overruled the staff recommendation to accept the National Capital Commission's suggested designation of General Urban for Rochester Field (beside Maplelawn) and several other parcels (southern corridor and a green stretch between Merivale Road and Woodroffe, just north of the rail tracks).

Thus they retain the designation of Major Open Space and the NCC appeal to the OMB will go forward. The OMB

pre-hearing on the future of these NCC parcels (and other matters) will take place at 10 a.m. on Oct. 3 in the Keiffer Room at City Hall. The public can attend.

Grange Street Park

According to *The News* (Westboro-Hampton Park), the little park at the corner of Scott and Grange Avenue is to be sold by the city for development (probably of a single-family house).

This park was declared surplus some years ago but was rescued by neighbours at that time when a sale was contemplated.

It was well attended and kept by neighbours for a few years then began to be neglected, and again declared surplus. Now a sale seems to be imminent. Personally, I have been wondering what its future would be, since the play structures had been removed and it seemed abandoned.

It may be too late to rescue this time. The importance of consistent community involvement in their neighbourhood parks is illustrated by the probable loss of this small park.

Q'way/Island Park

The proposed new ramp from the Queensway to Island Park Drive, which would introduce cars into Hampton Park, was strongly opposed by residents at meetings earlier this summer.

In this case, residents showed they

cared about their park and the politicians have listened: Coun. Shawn Little introduced a motion at City Council requesting the Ministry of Transportation's proposed Island Park off-ramp and roundabout be deleted from proposed plans. The motion passed. And our MPP was quoted in the recent *Newsweek* as stating: "We will see what the engineers and designers come up with that will impact the least on Hampton Park."

Slow down; kids ahead

Our local streets, even those which are used by buses, are surrounded by homes, many of which have small children.

As well, we now have an elementary school in the neighbourhood with small children walking to school. With the school year starting up again, we all need to be more careful in our driving.

In principle I believe we should not travel faster than 40 kilometres per hour on our neighbourhood streets. (That is the speed limit on most residential streets in what was Nepean). In fact, the more I think about it, the more I believe we should follow the example of Island Park Drive and ask for the speed limit on the streets within our neighbourhood to be lowered to 40 kilometres.

Many bylaws are being standardized among the former municipalities and perhaps we should suggest that the city standardize the residential street speed limit to 40.

A reply to Amy's Corner from Councillor Little

I am writing with reference to *Amy's Corner* in the April/May issue of the *Speaker* to clarify a few points.

The developer for the property in question south of the Unitarian House was Charlesfort Developments, not Routebourne.

Mrs. Kempster mentions that I'm not a member of the Planning Committee and that I was not present at the meeting either.

She's right on both counts. However I would normally attend the meeting in any case, as all members of council can attend any standing committee meeting.

I was out-of-town on city business as one of our city's delegates to a municipal conference in Toronto.

The provision she refers to regarding funding the contribution to a "visioning exercise" for Richmond Road only came about as a result of a previous motion I drafted so that funding would be available to proceed with this initiative in 2005, despite the fact it was not funded by or included in the city's work plan.

Simply said, my motion moved things forward in a more timely fashion at zero cost to the taxpayer.

In closing, the traffic study Mrs. Kempster refers to is not a "study", but rather an area traffic management plan (TMP).

In other words, it will examine existing cycling, vehicular and pedestrian traffic volume/patterns and potential ways to mitigate individual situations as necessary. Kirkwood Avenue is not the eastern boundary of the area TMP, but rather it is Churchill Avenue.

**Shawn Little
Councillor,
Kitchissippi Ward 15**