
CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER



January 2008

Vol. 28, No.1

Winter Carnival on Jan. 26

This year's Winter Carnival at Champlain Park fieldhouse and ice rink is scheduled from **noon to 3 p.m.** on Saturday, January 26.

Organizer Ann Doswell is hoping for good ice on the rink. And she says the carnival will proceed, rain or shine, ice or slush.

The famous chili cook-off will happen, as usual, with prizes for the best vegetarian and best meat chilis. The lunch menu will also include hot dogs, drinks, and desserts.

Here are some features of the upcoming carnival:

- Children of all ages may take a free ride on a hay-

filled sleigh pulled by horse.

- CHEZ 106's Shoot to Win Contest will award prizes to people handy with hockey sticks. Tug-of-war and broomball will be organized for kids and adults, too.

If you enjoy baking, many others will enjoy your effort! Cakes, squares or cookies are all sweet additions to the event's menu. You don't need to tell the organizer of your plans, just arrive a bit early with your goodies.

Volunteers are needed to staff the lunch counter. Please call Ann Doswell at 613-722-7705 if you can help.



One of a kind? This close-up of a snowflake comes to us courtesy of Barb Robertson of Cowley Avenue.

Skating rink ready for young and old

Champlain Park's rink is open for business! Regular hours are designed to give residents of the neighbourhood maximum time on the ice. Boys and girls aged 10 and under are invited to play shinny on Wednesdays from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Otherwise, the rink is not booked for regular hockey games or other events.

When the ice is stable and conditions favourable for skating, both the rink and the warm change room will be open at the times shown.

The rink coordinator, Greg Doswell, is the person to contact if you wish to book the rink for a birthday

party or other personal event. Saturday or Sunday mornings are good times to book those events.

Regular hours at the rink are:

MONDAY: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY: 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

SATURDAY: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

SUNDAY: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tom Sauve is hired by the City to flood the rink. He is on hand during regular hours of operation.

Champlain Park Community Association

Co-chairs: Lynne Bankier (729-0955)
and Craig Wells (725-5488).

Vice-chair: Heather Pearl
(725-1422)

Treasurer: potter (728-4980)

Secretary: Karen Maser (722-6700)

Ex-officio Past President:

Jonathan Chaplan (728-7670)

Membership: Craig Wells (temporary)

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 clean-up coordinator (vacant)

Social convenor: Vacant

Planning:

Amy Kempster (722-6039)

CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER your community newsletter

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basis with the generous support
of the Ottawa Citizen.

Soccer field to replace ball diamond at Champlain Park

The Ottawa Internationals Soccer Club has come to the City with a proposal to convert the ball diamond at Champlain Park to a soccer field. The idea of converting under-used ball diamonds to mini soccer fields is part of the City's Sportsfield Strategy (2004). The City asked the Champlain Park Community Association for its opinion, and we obtained details, as provided below. Overall, it seems that this will be a benefit to the community. The conversion to a soccer field will begin in the spring of 2008. The sand/clay/soil mix that makes up the current ball diamond will be removed and replaced with topsoil and sod.

* The soccer program will operate at the field May 15 to August 31 on Mondays and Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

* Traffic will not increase above the highest level seen on Monday and Wednesday nights last year

(when this program operated in 2007). There will be a shift from Wednesday to Thursday this year, due to the change in scheduling.

* The Development Soccer Program (DSP) run by the Soccer Club is a skill development program. This means that any "games" will be scrimmage-type matches among the players in the program. No outside visitor teams will be playing at the field.

* DSP promotes local participation in its programs and supports alternative forms of transportation such as bicycles.

* There will be no permanent structures such as goals set up on the field. This means there will be no impediment for building the winter skating rink in the usual location.

—by Lynne Bankier

268 Keyworth

Committee of Adjustment has ruled on the request by new owners for variances on how this property will be developed. Residents who signed a petition opposing the variances received copies of the ruling by mail. For details on this matter, contact Heather Pearl, vice-chair of the community association. Telephone: 725-1422 or e-mail pearhea@aol.com

TEENS available for babysitting

Emma J.	728-6681
Alexandra	722-7482
Berlin	722-2248
Ben	729-1218
Leigh	715-9473
Emma I.	728-1063
Anastasia	728-9014
Fiona	761-9262
Emma M.	728-4642
Elisabeth (bilingual)	722-0454

Activities at the Fieldhouse

The fieldhouse is a busy place. This calendar shows the groups that are booked into regular time slots. Unless otherwise stated, activities are open to all.

To book the fieldhouse for an event, contact Laurie Fagan at 613-728-1945.

Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Monday		AEROBICS AND PILATES Start time: 6:45 p.m. Contact: Liz Gyalokay 613-724-2162
Tuesday PLAY GROUP 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Contact: Katharine Leonard 613-728-4938		FLY FISHING & TYING 1st and 3rd Tuesday each month GARDEN CLUB 2nd Tuesday of each month
Wednesday	BRIDGE CLUB 2 p.m. Contact: Amy Kempster 613-722-6039	
Thursday PLAY GROUP 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Contact: Katharine Leonard 613-728-4938		WOMEN'S DRUM CIRCLE Open to aboriginal and non-aboriginal women 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. 2nd and 4th week each month
Friday		ADULT DRAMA GROUP Not open to public
Saturday		DRUMMING FOR ALL 6:30 p.m. Feb.9, Mar.8, Apr.12 DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE (see below)

Dances of Universal Peace are open to all. The schedule for the coming months is as follows:
Jan. 26, Feb. 23, March 29, April 26, and May 24. The group meets from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m.

Amy's Corner



by *Amy Kempster*
613-722-6039

City's Operating Budget: As far as I know, the final budget does not include dropping of services such as our fieldhouse and wading pool. The rink grants will also continue. Taxes will rise by 4.9 percent.

Closing of our local Canadian Tire store:

Unfortunately, the new big box Canadian Tire store on Carling Ave. has resulted in the closing of our local store just west of Island Park Drive on Richmond Road. The store closed on January 9. Many of us will probably miss this store as it was so handy.

Review of City's Official Plan: The City is using somewhat different consultation techniques in connection with this review. To that end, it has produced the following white papers:

Addressing Ottawa's Transportation Challenges; The Balance of Jobs and Housing in Orléans; Climate Change and the Official Plan Review; Residential Intensification: Building More Vibrant Communities; Supporting Growth in Ottawa: Water and Sewer Challenges; Development in the Greater Ottawa-Gatineau Area; Compensation Options for Wetlands and Other Environmental Lands; Moving Forward with Rapid Transit; and Ottawa's Natural Environment System: How Well is it Working?

Papers have also been produced by residents on rural topics as follows: Development Outside of Villages; Village Development; Groundwater Resources – Their Wise Use and Protection; and a paper on Process.

The City held a rural forum and a Cite Café in conjunction with these papers. The website has the report from the rural Forum (http://ottawa.ca/residents/public_consult/rural_settlement/) and from the councillors' discussion of the white paper (https://ottawa.ca/residents/public_consult/beyond_2020/

special_session/) The City Café report should be available soon. You can still send comments on the white papers to the Planning Department if you are interested.

Comments on the rural documents can be sent to RRS_SRP@ottawa.ca The rural papers are worth your attention because if country lot estates continue to proliferate in the rural area, we will suffer more commuter traffic, and there will be pressure for rural road improvements.

Other City News: Corporate Services Committee will discuss the following on January 15: Our Interim Tax payment due on March 20, 2008 is to be set at 50% of the 2007 Adjusted Annualized Taxation.

At last week's Planning and Environment Committee meeting, a report on vacant residential land stated that Ottawa has a supply sufficient for 23 years. This suggests the urban boundary need not be changed.

Accessibility: With reduced mobility due to an infection in my knee, I am again aware of the problems of accessibility. A visit to the General Campus of The Ottawa Hospital illustrates the problem. We got there to find the garage full. (Note: the garage has insufficient disabled spots for the demand.) We were directed to another parking lot with no sign of disabled parking spaces and then had to negotiate a route which involved at least one spot where one needs one to get up from one's wheelchair and lift it over a small difference in height. As the population ages, the need for disabled spots will increase. Some institutions have recognized this, as I know that the number of such spaces at the National Arts Centre has increased over the years. Other institutions seem not to take account of this change. Even some commercial enterprises are neglecting the need for buttons to open doors or the need for ramps if they have stairs.

UPDATE ON PARKING COMMITTEE

Charles Patrick, who is head of a parking committee within the Community Association, reports that his committee is discussing a number of proposals with Councillor Leadman and staff of the City.

In the coming months, a survey that sets out parking options for certain streets will be circulated in Champlain Park. Get ready to let the committee know what you prefer.