



CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER



WINTER CARNIVAL

Saturday, January 30
11 a.m.–3 p.m.

Rain or shine, sleet or snow, come out to meet your neighbours, slurp down some chili, munch on hot dogs, jump on a sleigh ride around the park, skate on the ice rinks, and more. Admission is FREE!

The lunch counter is always popular place to warm up after participating in outdoor games or the CHEZ shoot-to-win contest. As in years past, there will be a chili contest, so please submit both meat and vegetarian chili pots. Both kids and adults will be happy to sample your efforts and to vote for their favourites. By the way, the carnival is NOT just for kids. All ages are welcome!

This year, our longtime carnival coordinator, Anne Doswell, is stepping down and Sarah Reesor (who has stepped aboard) will be learning from Anne. The carnival needs volunteers to:

- help out with the games
- staff the lunch counter, and
- provide baked goods.

Can you play music? Do a magic show? Please call Sarah Reesor at 613-729-5677 to let her know how you can add to the fun or help out in more practical ways. Both kinds of help are welcome.

ICE RINK HOURS AND WHAT IS HAPPENING ON THE HOCKEY RINK

Monday to Friday: 5 p.m.–9 p.m.
Weekends and holidays: noon–7 p.m.

Volunteers are welcome to help with supervision and shovelling. High school students can earn volunteer hours.

Sunday evening: women's hockey from 7 p.m.–9 p.m.
Wednesdays: children aged 8 and under from 6 p.m.–9 p.m.
Children aged 12 and under from 7 p.m.–9 p.m.

Need more information? Contact Jim Kot at 722-7519.

BUILDING BOOM ON CARLETON AVENUE

by Lynne Bankier, Co-Chair of our community association (729-0955, lynne_bankier@sympatico.ca)

1. The bungalow at 171 Carleton (corner lot at Clearview) has been sold to a developer and will be demolished. We don't yet know what is planned for the site. Note that the current zoning allows only single-detached homes on 50-foot-wide lots. Since this is a double lot (100 feet wide), only two singles are allowed on the property. We are pretty sure that the developer will be requesting variances or exceptions to the zoning in order to build more units than the zoning allows. Neighbours living near the property will receive notices by mail from the City when variances are requested. The public is invited to submit comments and attend hearings.

(continued on page 2)

CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER

JANUARY 2010

CHAMPLAIN PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Co-chairs: Lynne Bankier (729-0955)
and Heather Pearl (725-1422)
Vice-chair: Jonathan Chaplan
(728-7670)
Secretary: Alexi Campbell
(792-3829)
Fieldhouse co-ordinator:
Laurie Fagan (728-1945)
Neighbourhood Watch:
Michael Cheng (722-3344),
Patrick Mates, (722-4120),
Neil Robertson (729-5439)
Spring cleanup coordinator:
Ian Reid (715-9504)
Social convenor: Vacant
Planning: Amy Kempster (722-6039)

Other roles:
Membership: Craig Wells (725-5288)
Treasurer: potter (728-4980)

CHAMPLAIN SPEAKER - YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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Leigh-Smith, Benjamin Holland, Marlene
Kells, Kelly Egan.

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

BUILDING BOOM ON CARLETON AVENUE (continued)

The community association will respond when the proposal is available. A working group is being formed. Neighbours who are directly affected by this should stay tuned and become involved. Each new development sets precedents for future development, so others in the R2 zone (Cowley, Carleton, Northwestern and the adjacent cross-streets) may also be interested in this development.

Stay informed about 171 Carleton via the listserv:

We'll try to get some "advance info" by contacting the developer. However, we may only know exact details when the City sends out its notices. The Committee of Adjustment only gives us two weeks' notice of hearings, so it is unlikely that there will be time to advertise meetings in the *Speaker*. We will use the listserv to keep people up to date.

If you would like to stay informed about developments and meetings related to 171 Carleton Avenue, please sign up for the community association's listserv by sending an e-mail to agmsmith@ncf.ca.

2. The semi-detached at the former 215 Carleton is already mostly built and for sale. As reported in the *Speaker* last year, the Champlain Park Community Association presented at both the Committee of Adjustment, where the development was disallowed, and at the Ontario Municipal Board, where the development was approved, but with design changes. Our grounds for opposing the development were that the structure was being built on a 50-foot-wide lot, whereas the zoning requires a 60-foot-wide lot.

3. The small apartment building at 195 Carleton will be demolished and the owner (Jim Cocks, who lives on Cowley Avenue) has obtained permission from the City to sever the land into two lots to build a semi-detached dwelling. This is a 60-foot wide lot, which allows doubles in our zoning, and no variances are being requested, so the community association opted not to attend the Committee of Adjustment lot severance hearing. The planned start date is in the next two months.

TIPS ON HOME SECURITY

by Patrick Mates

Volunteer coordinator, HOME SECURITY INSPECTION PROGRAM – WELLINGTON COMMUNITY POLICE CENTRE

SCAM ALERT-This is a follow-up to the article entitled *Protect Yourself from Fraud*, which appeared in the October 2009 edition of the Speaker.

A Scam Alert has been issued by the Ottawa Police Service to advise the public of a scam that has recently appeared in the Ottawa area. It seems to target seniors in particular. It has targeted U.S. victims and has also been happening in areas of Canada. While police say they have received only a small number of reports of these scams, they believe more individuals may have been victims but may not have reported the incident for fear of embarrassment. This is common in other types of fraud involving seniors.

The scam involves someone contacting an elderly person and pretending to represent a grandchild in trouble with the law. The person will tell the victim that the grandchild has been arrested by a police service outside of Ottawa and requires bail money. The scam artist gives the victim a number to call for verification, pretending either to be a lawyer or the police sergeant in charge of the case (or a variation on this story). The caller usually implores the victim not to contact the parents so that the grandchild will not get into any more trouble. The victim is then asked to use a money wire service to send several thousand dollars for bail.

Canadian police agencies do not contact individuals for bail money and certainly do not use money wire services.

To guard against this type of scam, everyone should be constantly vigilant and sceptical of calls from strangers asking for money for whatever reason. If it happens to you, here are a few rules to follow:

- 1) Get the name of the apparent "lawyer" and contact them by getting their listed numbers from phone books, Bell 4-1-1 service or other internet services (such as Canada 4-1-1-). Record but DO NOT CALL THE NUMBER PROVIDED BY THE CALLER.
- 2) If the person on the phone names a particular police agency, contact that agency directly using numbers listed in the phone book or on an official website.

3) Contact the Ottawa Police Service to report the incident if you receive such a call. If you have call display, write down the caller's number and give it to the police.

4) Contact family members directly to verify whether the grandchild is in the town or city mentioned by the caller.

5) NEVER send money through wire services to people you do not know personally. The money can be picked up anywhere in the world once it has a transaction number.

Anyone with information on this or any other type of fraud should contact the Ottawa Police Service Organized Fraud Section at 236-1222, ext. 5433 or the Ottawa Police Communications Centre at 236-1222, ext. 7300. You may also report the incident to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 and/or Phone Busters at 1-888-495-8501.

KEEP OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD CLEAN!

For almost seven years, I've walked through the Champlain Park area every day and I'm sad to say that this year I have noticed an increasing amount of dog poop left on sidewalks, roadsides, and snow banks in our neighbourhood.

We all know that pet feces is a health hazard for people and other animals and that it pollutes the environment. Failure to pick up after your dog is a City of Ottawa bylaw offence that carries a fine under the Provincial Offences Act. However, it appears that this isn't a deterrent. Garbage cans are available in several locations, so there's no excuse for leaving doggie doo-doo on the ground.

I know that most dog owners are responsible and clean up after their pets. But it only takes a few neglectful people to cause the problem and tarnish the image of all dog owners.

What can we do? Champlain Park residents and visitors: please be responsible and pick up after your dog at all times. Carry extra bags to offer to someone who starts to walk away without "stooping and scooping." And if your dog's "accident" catches you by surprise, return as soon as possible to remove the mess.

With only a little effort we can make sure that our neighbourhood remains one of the cleanest, healthiest, and most dog-friendly places to live in Ottawa!

-Denise Boyle

AMY'S CORNER



BY AMY KEMPSTER
722-6039

Ottawa's 2010 Budget:
New items included in the budget are: 23 new paramedics; support for the new Green Bin program to avoid future costs for landfills; staffing for a new

Ottawa West fire station set to open in 2011; more service for Para-Transpo users; bridge financing to maintain stability in the Child Care program; increased capital spending for infrastructure renewal; and reduction of the cost of transit to the taxpayer by continuing to move transit fare recovery costs to 50 per cent. Note as well that the Crime Prevention Bureau funding was eliminated by the Audit, Budget and Finance Committee—a new committee that was set up to oversee the 2010 budget.

Besides these new approaches, one wishes to have an overview of these two parts of the budget: operating and capital items.

- On the operating side, the breakdown does not include water and sewer services as these are funded by the water and sewer fees. The percentage breakdown shows that 42% of operating funds are spent on community and protective services, which include fire, health, paramedics, community and social services, parks and recreation, etc.

The police budget accounts for 11% and is decided separately. Transit takes 16%; roadways and parking 6%; non-departmental 11%; general government and corporate support 7%; planning and environment 5%; and library services 2% (again, a separate body does that budget).

- On the capital side, the breakdown is slightly different: transit at 40.4%; transportation at 41.4%; general government at 5.0%; recreation at 4.5%; solid waste at 3.0%; emergency services at 2.7%; information technology improvements at 1.9%; environment at 5%; and all others at 0.6%. Note that the total of \$624 million does not include capital projects of the police or library boards, which were not yet available on the city website at the time I wrote this.

This all adds up to a 3.9 per cent increase in your taxes. This information, however, is not the final word. You can have your say at Councillor Christine Leadman's meeting (also hosted by several other

councillors) to be held at Andrew Haydon Hall, City Hall, 110 Laurier Ave. West on Wednesday, January 20 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Condominium Corner: With the new condominium going up across from the Metro and the development along Richmond Road just past Island Park Drive on the former Canadian Tire properties—along with the already-built building at the corner opposite the Metro—this is my name for the area around the Island Park Drive/Richmond Road corner: Condominium Corner. One hears through the grapevine that there will be another development exactly on that corner (on the current Pro-Shine site) but whether it, too, will be a condominium is not yet known.

Review of the Greenbelt: The National Capital Commission (NCC) is in the process of reviewing the Greenbelt Master Plan. As part of this process, I took part in a Forum on the future of the Greenbelt on November 25–26. Each of the speakers at the Forum was taped for a webcast. You may view the webcasts on the NCC's website and make comments. The Forum webcasts will remain up until January 20.

In general, the tenor of the discussion was towards protection with some minor suggestions about alternative agricultural uses for agricultural lands. If you take the time to view the webcasts and make comments, I would very much appreciate if you could share your comments with me since I am part of a coalition of groups concerned about protection of the Greenbelt. My e-mail address is kempster@rogers.com.