



# The Rockcliffe News

June 2016

## Rockcliffe Park

### Residents Association

[www.rockcliffepark.ca](http://www.rockcliffepark.ca)

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Board meetings are held monthly and are open to all. See calendar for dates and times. Comments and suggestions are always welcome. Correspondence to Board members and any enquiries for administration purposes may be addressed by email to [secretary@rockcliffepark.ca](mailto:secretary@rockcliffepark.ca).

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### JUNE

- Ongoing.....Rockcliffe Park Recreation Centre registration for summer camps\*
- 4 Saturday 10 am - 4 pm ....Doors Open Ottawa, Ashbury College, 362 Mariposa Avenue\*
- 9 Thursday 6:00 pm .....Ottawa Art Gallery's 20th Annual Silent Auction Fundraiser, Ottawa Art Gallery, 2 Daly Avenue\*
- 11 Saturday 10 am - 4 pm ....Centrepiece Art Fundraiser for Autism, Residence of the Benin Ambassador, 488 Acacia Avenue\*
- 15 Wednesday 7:00 pm .....Public Meeting with the City of Ottawa and the RPRA to consult with residents on permitting the construction of secondary residences (coach houses), Community Hall\*
- 17 Friday time TBD .....Elmwood's Hawaiian-Style Luau, Elmwood School, 261 Buena Vista Road\*
- 17 Friday 7:00 pm .....RPRA Night at the Ball Park: Ottawa Champions vs. the Cuban National Team, RCGT Baseball Park, 300 Coventry Road (just off Vanier Parkway)\*
- 18 Saturday 12:30 pm .....Elmwood Theatre presents "Miss Bruce's War," Academic Hall, uOttawa, 135 Séraphin-Marion Private\*
- 22 Wednesday 7:15 pm .....RPRA Board Meeting, Community Hall
- 25 Saturday 12:00 pm .....Elmwood Theatre presents "Miss Bruce's War," Academic Hall, uOttawa, 135 Séraphin-Marion Private\*
- 25 Saturday 6:00 pm .....Annual Social of the Rockcliffe Lawn Tennis Club, 465 Lansdowne Road North\*

\*Additional information on these events may be found in this newsletter.



**Reminder: Dogs in Parks** As residents take to the trails and parks with their four-legged friends, please remember that dogs need to stay on a leash at all times in parks designated as "dogs on leash" by the City. Such areas include the Caldwell-Carver Conservation Area or where indicated by private property policies, like the Beechwood Cemetery. To check the status of a given park, go to [www.bit.ly/dogparksward13](http://www.bit.ly/dogparksward13). And please pick up after your dog! Let's keep Rockcliffe, and all public spaces, clean and enjoyable for all. *Tobi Nussbaum, Councillor, Rideau-Rockcliffe Ward*



### THE ROCKCLIFFE NEWS • VOLUME 16 • NUMBER 3

The Rockcliffe News, the newsletter of the Rockcliffe Park Residents Association (RPRA), is published six times each year: February, April, June, August, October and December. Submissions pertaining to the Village are welcome by mid month before publication. Copy may be edited for clarity, length and content. Paid advertising is not accepted. Current and past issues are posted on the RPRA website, [www.rockcliffepark.ca](http://www.rockcliffepark.ca). Editor: Cynthia Hamady, [editor.rockcliffenews@rockcliffepark.ca](mailto:editor.rockcliffenews@rockcliffepark.ca).

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Reflecting back on events over the past few months, I realize that the term “It takes a village” is an apt description for the effort that went into two recent events. This year’s Rockcliffepark Library Book Sale was an epic effort that yielded spectacular results. With some fine spring weather and a much larger tent permitting more books to be displayed, the sale returned over \$36,000, roughly a 40 per cent increase on last year’s revenues! As usual, a huge round of applause goes to **Jane Dobell** and her crew of 70+ volunteers who put in an enormous amount of effort throughout the year unpacking, sorting, pricing, repacking and hauling in excess of 25,000 books. I would also like to recognize and thank this year’s sponsors, **Rockcliffepark Landscaping, The Chartwell Rockcliffepark Retirement Residence, RBC Wealth Management | Montgomery Asset Management** and **Dymon Storage** for their generous support, and **Epicuria Fine Food** for their delicious sandwiches for the volunteers during the sale.

The other event of note was the Annual Village Clean Up, which took place on April 16 this year. No less than 31 volunteers pitched in and spread out through the Village and collected 15 bags of litter! Back at the Community Centre, a crew raked the lawns and cleaned up the beds, producing 30+ bags of garden waste! On a bit of a smelly note, one crew happened upon a number of plastic bags of dog waste chucked into the bushes along the “dog walk” on the west side of the lake, along Hillsdale and in the wooded valley of the park. This is disappointing and serves as a reminder that we pet owners have to be vigilant in ensuring that we and others keep our beautiful public spaces clean and enjoyable for all.

On a cautiously positive note, the Pond looks to be in better condition this year than last. While the water level at the Pond was up early in the season, at the time of writing we are concerned that it has been dropping steadily over the past few days. The situation continues to be monitored closely and we will be undertaking a hydrogeological study to try to understand how the Pond is filled and drained. Later this year we hope to have some remedial work done on some areas of the shoreline. We extend our thanks to **Councillor Nussbaum** and the City for their support for helping us to manage this incredible resource.

Our new Heritage Conservation District Plan (HCDP) passed first reading in City Council on March 23 and it was hoped that it would become law by the end of April. However, there have been two appeals to the Ontario Municipal Board and it will take several months for these to be dealt with. On a related matter, you will read elsewhere in this newsletter about the provincial intensification policy requiring municipalities to permit the construction of Coach Houses in back yards and the public meeting to be held to discuss it. The RPRA board has raised concerns with the City that the application of such an intensification policy would be incompatible in an area whose very heritage is defined by a lack of intensification. We encourage your participation at the public meeting on June 15 at the Community Centre to learn more and voice your opinion.

Looking forward, please save the date for the Rockcliffepark 90th Anniversary Village Fête to be held at the Community Centre on Saturday, September 17. Details may be found in this newsletter. We are also looking for volunteers willing to champion a project for Ottawa’s sesquicentennial celebration. Interested residents should contact the RPRA at [secretary@rockcliffepark.ca](mailto:secretary@rockcliffepark.ca).

It does indeed take a village to get the things done. We have many things on our radar with which we could use some help. If you would like to participate and volunteer your time, please do not hesitate to contact us at the email address above. Also, as we only publish this newsletter six times a year, we often send out announcements and updates by email. Sometimes, as when there was a rash of car break-ins, these messages can be important and time sensitive. We can only reach you if we have your email! Make sure we do. Finally, it is your support that allows us to get things done. Please check that your membership subscription is up to date. It is only \$25 per household; see information on how to join or renew in the box below.

Have a safe and peaceful summer holiday. *Peter Lewis, May 2016*

***Please Join Us and Help Support Your Community!*** Thank you to the many residents who have paid their 2016 membership dues. With your support, the RPRA is able to:

- Represent residents’ interests to the City;
- Preserve Rockcliffepark’s Village character;
- Maintain the Jubilee Gardens, Village Green, soccer field and conservation area;
- Notify members by email of pertinent community issues and events;
- Organize community events, e.g. Speakers Program, Christmas Tree Lighting, Children’s Christmas Party;
- Publish The Rockcliffepark News;
- Protect our environment;
- Support Rockcliffepark library through the annual book sale;
- Help keep Rockcliffepark safe through Neighbourhood Watch; and much more.

If you have not yet paid your 2016 membership dues, or if you would like to check to see if you are paid up, email [secretary@rockcliffepark.ca](mailto:secretary@rockcliffepark.ca).

## Thank You to the 2015 Community Appeal Donors

In addition to those listed in the April edition of The Rockcliffe News, we would like to thank following individuals who generously donated to the 2015 Annual Appeal of the Friends of the Village of Rockcliffe Park Foundation and to those other donors who have chosen to remain anonymous. The appeal has raised \$17,300 as of June 2016. It is not too late to support your community! If you missed making your donation and would like to do so, please mail your cheque payable to the "Friends of the Village of Rockcliffe Park Foundation" to **Jane Newcombe, 25 Westward Way, Rockcliffe Park, ON K1L 5A8**, or donate online at [www.rockcliffeparkfoundation.org](http://www.rockcliffeparkfoundation.org).

**Brian Dickson**  
**Nancy Greenley**  
**David Halton**

**Scott and Liz Heatherington**  
**Diana Shen and John Hewitt**  
**Malti Kesarnani**

**Dennis and Andrea Laurin**  
**Sheila Nelles**  
**Susan Ross**

The Village Foundation is a unique charitable organization established at the time of amalgamation with the City of Ottawa to manage an endowment, the interest from which is used to support community projects and programs in three areas of focus: conservation of the environment, preservation of the heritage character of the Village, and promotion of a sense of community for all residents.

Is there a Conservation, Heritage or Community Building project you think the Foundation should be considering? We welcome your ideas. Please contact **Bonnie Robinson** at **613 749-5297** or by email at [bonnie@rockcliffeparkfoundation.org](mailto:bonnie@rockcliffeparkfoundation.org).

### THE 2016 VILLAGE FOUNDATION BOARD

*Executive:* **Bonnie Robinson**, Chair | **Michael McIntyre**, Vice-Chair | **Grant McDonald**, Treasurer | **Jane Newcombe**, Administrator  
*Board Members:* **Dr. Aly Abdulla**, **Sarah Baxter**, **Chris Denison**, **Nancy Greenley**, **Ryan Kilger**, **Elaine Nadeau** and **Jane Panet**

## SPEAKERS PROGRAM

### Paul Lang on the Art of Élisabeth Vigée Le Brun

As part of our Speakers Program, **Paul Lang**, the Chief Curator of the National Gallery of Canada, entranced a standing-room-only crowd on April 27 as he told the many stories connected with the splendid exhibition of 90 of the paintings of Élisabeth Vigée Le Brun that, following hugely popular showings in the Grand Palais in Paris and the Met in New York, will be at the National Gallery from June 9 to September 11. Vigée Le Brun was court painter to Queen Marie-Antoinette and of the French aristocracy before fleeing the revolution to secure a position for herself among the elite in the great capitals of Europe. Unless you were very rich, you could not afford her.

Paul told the story behind the rare loan of the famous portrait of Marie-Antoinette with her children. Its motive was political: the Queen was loathed for her extravagance, so the idea was to depict her as a mother surrounded by her children who would continue the royal line. Every bit of the painting – from the colour of the Queen's dress, to the empty cradle, to the jewel cabinet in the background – meant something to observers of the time (and to us, thanks to Paul). This is the first time the painting has ever left its home at Versailles to travel outside France.

Another rare loan is one from our own Queen. The exhibition in Ottawa also includes nine beautiful portraits from Russia that were not permitted to be shown in New York, and our Gallery's own lovely portrait of the Countess Tolstaya, which was recently gifted to the Gallery by a generous donor.

The popular Speakers Program will resume in the fall.

*Susan d'Aquino*



*Photo: Globe and Mail*

## RPPL BOOK SALE

### 2016 Book Sale Shatters Records...

...and not the vinyl kind! The 2016 Rockcliffe Park Spring Book Sale held on April 23 and 24 achieved the highest sales recorded in its 19-year history. Over 20,000 books as well as large collections of CDs, DVDs and vinyl attracted close to 3,000 enthusiastic buyers who swarmed the sale, giving organizers an astounding 38.5 per cent increase in revenues over last year.

“This result far surpassed our expectations,” said **Jane Dobell**, Chair of the Rockcliffe Park Residents Association (RPRA) Library Committee and Spring Book Sale organizer. Contributing factors to this year’s success included a new communications program promoting the sale through social media; the large numbers of high quality books, which attracted dealers and collectors; a much larger tent, which improved the shopping experience; and perfect weather.

Close to one hundred volunteers collectively devoted hundreds of hours (if not more) to make this sale happen. “Their collaboration and commitment lie at the very core of the sale,” said **Linda McDonald**, Volunteer Coordinator. Jane Dobell also emphasized the importance of sponsorship to this event. “We face mounting operational costs and cannot thank enough **Rockcliffe Landscaping**, **The Chartwell Rockcliffe Retirement Residence**, **RBC Wealth Management | Montgomery Asset Management** and **Dymon Storage** for their exceptional contributions,” she said. **Epicuria Fine Food Store and Catering** also donated food for the volunteers over the course of the two-day sale – another invaluable service!

Proceeds from the sale benefit the Rockcliffe Park Branch of the Ottawa Public Library and Ottawa Public Library’s literacy programs.

*Claire Schofield*



*Left to right: back row: Brian Montgomery, Vice President and Portfolio Manager, Montgomery Asset Management of RBC Dominion Securities; Mark Taylor, Deputy Mayor, City of Ottawa; Marc Arnold, President, Rockcliffe Landscaping Inc.; Tobi Nussbaum, Councillor for Rideau-Rockcliffe; Peter Lewis, RPRA president; Tim Miller, Store Manager, Dymon Storage. Front row: Catherine Strevens-Bourque, Lifestyle and Program Manager, The Chartwell Rockcliffe Residence; Madeleine Meilleur, MPP, Ottawa Vanier; Jane Dobell, Rockcliffe Park Spring Book Sale Organizer and Chair, RPRA Library Committee; Danika Miller.*

## RECREATION

### Summer Fun at the Centre!

#### For the Kids

Summer is mostly for children at Rockcliffe Park Community Centre! Come out and play at **Camp Ottawa Adventure**, for children aged 6-10 years. Bring all your energy to camp for days of adventure and making friends. Sports, games, crafts, special events and, of course, out trips! Weekly camps run Monday to Friday, 8 am to 5 pm, except on Stat Holidays.



Discover a different theme each week:

**Medieval Times**, July 4-8 (\$165 / 1024427); **Arts & Crafts and Messy Play**, July 11-15 (\$165 / 1024428); **CSI-Camp Scene Investigations**, July 18-22 (\$165 / 1024429); **Nature Quest**, July 25-29 (\$165 / 1024430); **Fun with Board Games**, August 2-5 (\$132 / 10244310); **Olympic Games**, August 8-12 (\$165 / 1024433); **Pirate’s Treasure**, August 15-19 (\$165 / 1024434); **Outdoor Explorers**, August 22-26 (\$165 / 1024436); and **Ooey Goey Science**, August 29-September 2 (\$165 / 1024437).

#### For the Adults

**Fitness:** Join the early birds, 7:30-8:30 am, and stay fit with **Total Muscle Conditioning 50+**, Tuesdays, July 5-August 23 (\$78.75 / 1009524) or Thursdays, July 7-August 25 (\$78.75 / 1009525).

**Cards:** If it’s cards you like, join us at Richelieu-Vanier, 300 des Pères-Blancs, to play **Duplicate Bridge:** Wednesdays, June 22-August 31, 1-4 pm. Drop-in fee of \$7.15, payable at the reception desk. First come, first served.

#### Program Registration

Registration is ongoing: **1.** Online at [www.ottawa.ca](http://www.ottawa.ca); or **2.** In person at any City of Ottawa recreation facility or Client Service Centre during operating hours, or **3.** By Touch Tone Telephone, **613 580-2588**.

Avoid disappointment, sign up in advance! Course registration is reviewed one week prior to the start of all programs to ensure we’ve met the minimum numbers to offer them.

#### Where (and When) to Find Us

The Community Hall is available to rent for meetings and special occasions. Call us for details at **613 842-8578** or send your request by email to [rockcliffe@ottawa.ca](mailto:rockcliffe@ottawa.ca).

Rockcliffe Park Community Centre registration office is located at **360 Springfield Road** (shared space with the Community Police Centre).

**Hours of Operation** during the summer, June 27 to September 2, are Mondays 8 am to Noon. See you this summer!

## Dining on Beechwood: Old Favourites and New Choices

In the February 2016 issue of The Rockcliffe News, I provided a report on all the new and ongoing real estate developments occurring on each side of Beechwood Avenue. To follow up on that report, readers will note the substantial progress that has been made on the Kavanaugh redevelopment on the south side of the Avenue, which is now nearly completed, and the progress that has occurred in Minto's redevelopment of the burnt-out block on the north side of Beechwood. It is now up to the ninth-storey level with two more to go. Both redevelopments are advertising condo units for sale or rent in the new buildings.

There are now quite a number of pre-existing and new commercial food establishments along Beechwood and its Hemlock extension as far east as St. Laurent Boulevard.

The New Edinburgh Pub is gone and is currently being renovated for its new tenant, The Royal Oak, a long-established British-style pub with several locations in Ottawa. It will specialize in British beers and fish and chips. There will be an outdoor seating area as well as an upstairs parlour with TV screens, etc.

Other well-known establishments along Beechwood include Da Bombe, which is located just west of the Metro store, and Sushime, a neighbourhood staple. A new restaurant, Beechwood Gastropub, completes the block. Other choices on the north side of the Avenue include the new Clarkstown Kitchen & Bar and, for those on the run, Subway. On the south side of Beechwood, The Scone Witch, Second Cup and Arturo's are all old favourites. Down the street is Red Door Provisions, with seating and a great selection for take out.

And of course we can't forget Bridgehead, which is very popular for its coffee drinks, sandwiches and the like, and with a great outdoor area for relaxing in fine weather.

Bread and Roses, the wonderful bakery store that was destroyed by the Beechwood fire, has relocated to the far east end of Hemlock. There is also a very good fish and chip restaurant, Cat's, in that same location, and a congenial new Indian restaurant, Mia's.

Finally, located just off Beechwood are Fraser Cafe and Fraser Cafe Table 40, Ola Cocina, and Clocktower Brew Pub.

We who live in Rockcliffe Park and surrounding neighbourhoods are very fortunate to have so many wonderful choices so close at hand.

*Alexander Macklin, RPRA*

## From Rockcliffe to Wakefield: The Story of Juniper Farm

*Sandy McKay-Smith, a longtime Rockcliffe resident, somehow ended up as a volunteer organic farmer in Wakefield, QC. How did it happen? It's a convoluted story involving his son and daughter-in-law, and an old Rockcliffe friend and RPPS classmate, Alan Gill. This is Sandy's story.*

Rockcliffe Park was an idyllic place to grow up and it has never changed. I still walk and drive through the Village, naming, to the utter boredom of my own family, the wonderful people who lived in each house.

I met my wife Gwen picking vegetables on Kibbutz Ein Gedi in Israel. Perhaps that influenced our son, Alex. A Carleton U film studies graduate, he later attended George Brown Culinary School and then became a chef at a small restaurant in Toronto. Among other pursuits, he grew vegetables on the roof of his Toronto apartment and "woofed" (volunteered on organic farms) near Guelph and in Hawaii.

He met his wife, Juniper Turgeon, at a plant seed fair in Toronto. They discovered that they shared the same vision and started a small organic farm on nine acres on Kallaha Road in Wakefield. And so Juniper Farm was born.

Now, back to Rockcliffe. Alan Gill organized the last RPPS reunion and I helped him. To repay Alan and his wife, Sevilla, for all the organizing meals I had at their house, I invited them on a tour of Gatineau and Wakefield. It included a visit to Juniper Farm, where they spent some time talking to Alex and Juniper. On the drive home, I remembered that Alan, before his World Bank career, had owned a farm somewhere near Wakefield. He said, "I still own it. Turn right." And there was a 200-acre dormant farm, not five minutes from Wakefield. Alan said that he always wanted to sell to someone who would farm responsibly... and so Juniper Farm grew.

Today, five years later, Juniper Farm, with its certified, biodynamic farming of some 65 vegetable varieties, services approximately 40 high-end restaurants and groceries in Ottawa, Wakefield and Chelsea. It also has a weekly box system of vegetables and other treats with some 200 members each year, and a newly renovated Farm Store.

So now I have come full circle. Juniper Farm is starting home delivery of vegetables to Rockcliffe and New Edinburgh – not so different from Hy Soloway's much loved, open-sided, "choose your vegetable" truck, which passed door to door to Rockcliffe families for many years... so long ago.

For more on Juniper Farm, go to [juniperfarm.ca](http://juniperfarm.ca).

# HOUSE OF COMMONS / QUEEN'S PARK



*From the desk of Mauril Bélanger  
Member of Parliament for Ottawa-Vanier*

## Veterans House Initiative

I would like to inform you about an initiative which will hopefully be added to the new neighbourhood being built as part of the former Rockcliffe Air Base Redevelopment project: Veterans House. Headed by the MultifaitHousings Initiative (MHI), Veterans House is an important step in addressing homelessness among veterans in our region.

MHI is a non-profit organization with members of over 70 faith communities. Their goal is to provide safe, affordable housing for low-income residents. In many cases, they have even provided work for future tenants allowing them to take part in the creation of their new homes.

According to plans, Veterans House would be a 40-unit permanent residence that will serve a multitude of functions. It would mainly allow veterans who are living in challenging conditions to benefit from stability and covered basic shelter needs. It would also ensure proper access to resources helping address mental health conditions and addictions, in both official languages.

I support this important project, which is an opportunity for us to positively change the lives of many, as well as to create awareness within this new community, while allowing citizens to come together in support of a great cause.

For more information, please visit the MultifaitHousings Initiative website, [www.multifaithousing.ca](http://www.multifaithousing.ca).



*From the desk of Madeleine Meilleur  
MPP, Ottawa-Vanier*

## June is Seniors Month in Ontario

### Province Helping To Reduce Social Isolation Among Seniors

The province is investing \$2 million to support not-for-profit community projects that increase volunteerism, social inclusion and community engagement for seniors. Reduced social contact is associated with a lower quality of life among seniors and with a number of negative outcomes, such as poor health and depression.

Through the Seniors Community Grant Program we are working to help seniors to continue to lead engaging and fulfilling lives. Here in Ottawa-Vanier Projects that will be funded by the grant program this year include:

- Retraite en Action;
- Volunteer Ottawa;
- School of Dance - Ottawa;
- Centre Pauline-Charron;
- Centre de ressources communautaires de la Basse-Ville;
- Capital Fair; and
- Centre des services communautaires Vanier.

Launched in 2014, the Seniors Community Grant Program aims to reduce social isolation that can have negative effects on seniors' quality of life. Since its launch, the program has supported 544 projects, helping close to 116,000 seniors participate in their communities.

There are more than two million adults over the age of 65 in Ontario, and that number is expected to double over the next two decades. We all have a role to play in helping our seniors stay healthy, active and connected to their communities.

Again this June, Ontario will be celebrating and recognizing the contributions seniors make to our communities. June 2016 marks the 32nd anniversary of Seniors' Month. To recognize the important role seniors play in our communities, this year's theme is "Seniors Making a Difference."

Please join me in celebrating a generation of people whose wisdom and compassion for others have helped build the province we love and enjoy.

**20** years ans  
**Le pARTy**  
Art Auction L'encan d'art

**Tickets available on March 30, 2016**  
for the Ottawa Art Gallery's  
annual Le pARTy silent auction!  
**Thursday, June 9, 2016 at Ottawa Art Gallery**

Le pARTy silent auction is the major annual fundraising event for the OAG with a goal to raise \$100,000 to support the exhibition and educational programming needs of the Gallery. Le pARTy art auction features 65 original artworks by emerging and established artists who work in a variety of media including painting, sculpture, ceramics, photography, new media, and installation.

Le pARTy 2016 marks both the 20th OAG auction and the last auction to be held in our spaces before the OAG opens its doors to its expanded gallery in 2017.

Get your tickets at [www.ottawaartgallery.ca](http://www.ottawaartgallery.ca)

**oagao** OTTAWA ART GALLERY  
2 Daly, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 6E2 | 613-233-8699 | [f](https://www.facebook.com/ottawaartgallery) [i](https://www.instagram.com/ottawaartgallery) [t](https://twitter.com/OttawaArtG) @OttawaArtG



*From the desk of Mayor Jim Watson  
City of Ottawa*

## Sport Tourism in Ottawa

With the year 2017 and Canada's historic 150th birthday fast approaching, Ottawa's athletes have been hard at work enthraling fans while making history of their own. In only their second season, the Ottawa RedBlacks won the East Division title – the first time since 1978 that an Ottawa franchise has done so. Also in their second season, the Ottawa Fury left their mark, appearing in the league championship for the first time. 2015 saw pro baseball return to the City, with the Ottawa Champions' inaugural season at RCGT Park. Alongside Champions President David Gourlay, I recently announced a historic three-game series against the Cuban National team, taking place in Ottawa June 17-19.

Not only is this exciting for fans but sporting events can be a major boost to our local economy. In fact, tourism is the third largest contributor to our local economy, behind the high-tech and government sectors. With sport tourism becoming an increasing priority, I asked City Council to appoint Innes Ward Councillor **Jodi Mitic** as Ottawa's first Sports Commissioner. With a keen interest and passion for sports, Councillor Mitic will act as an ambassador to pitch Ottawa as a host for high-profile sporting events.

The City of Ottawa and Tourism Ottawa have been hard at work with a "bid more, win more, host more" strategy. We have made significant progress securing major sporting events for 2016-17: Red Bull Crashed Ice, the 2017 Canadian Tire National Skating Championships, Rugby Canada National Championships and Canadian Sprint Canoe/Kayak National Championships. Recently I announced that the Canadian Triathlon Championships would also be coming to Ottawa for 2016 and 2017. Through major events like these, we expect to create more than 3,000 jobs and add more than \$230 million to the local economy in 2017.

Following the success of the Brier Curling Championships, Ottawa is quickly emerging as a sporting hub in Canada. We hope to host the Roar of the Rings Curling Championship in 2017. In addition to its major economic contributions, this will determine which teams will represent Canada at the 2018 Winter Olympics in PyeongChang, South Korea.

If you would like to know more about these exciting events or get involved, visit [www.ottawatourism.ca](http://www.ottawatourism.ca).



*From the desk of Councillor  
Tobi Nussbaum, Rideau-Rockcliffe Ward*

## Rockcliffe Park Updates

**McKay Pond:** I shared in the last edition of The Rockcliffe News that an engineering consultant had been hired to conduct a pump test and undertake research to identify the root causes of last year's decrease in water levels at the Pond. The engineering consultant has begun the work and at the time of writing is awaiting necessary provincial permits to draw water and conduct the pump test. I am eager to read the findings of this test and the report. I will provide updates via my monthly Tobi Talks email newsletter and on my website, [www.tobinusbaum.ca](http://www.tobinusbaum.ca).

**Coach Houses:** Last fall, the City began a zoning study to determine the appropriate standards to permit coach houses, which are accessory dwellings in residential back yards. Secondary dwellings can bring benefits by providing flexible housing options, easing pressure on the urban boundary, allowing seniors to age in place and assisting with homeownership costs. Any changes, however, must also consider issues of green space, privacy and impact on the surrounding streetscape including, in the case of Rockcliffe Park, by fulfilling all of the requirements set out in the Heritage Conservation District Plan. A discussion paper, survey results and draft recommendations are all available for review at [ottawa.ca/coachhouses](http://ottawa.ca/coachhouses).

The Rockcliffe Park Residents Association is hosting a meeting on this topic. City staff will present information on the study and proposed zoning provisions as they relate to the Rockcliffe Park context. I encourage you to attend this meeting on June 15 at 7 pm in the Community Hall, 380 Springfield Road. This ongoing public consultation will help inform recommendations for a report that is anticipated to be considered by the City's planning committee in the fall.

**Spring Tree Planting:** The City's forestry department's spring tree planting program began in May and will run until the end of June. This program includes planting trees in parks, at City facilities and along streets. Where a tree planting is scheduled on City property adjacent to a residence, individual notifications will be provided. Residents may also see paint and flags marking utility locations on the ground prior to planting. Please don't hesitate to contact my office if you have any questions or would like more detailed information.

# SCHOOL REPORTS



## A Dramatic Announcement

The nominations are in for the Cappies – Ottawa’s answer to the Oscars – and both Elmwood Theatre and Elmwood’s Cappies Critics team are up for a record number of awards. The school has been nominated in 12 categories this year, which is virtually all of the categories for which we were eligible – an unbelievable achievement!

The nominees are Best Play: *Les Belles Soeurs*, directed by **Mrs. Boychuk**; Lead Actress in a Play: **Emily Wright**; Supporting Actress in a Play: **Eleanor Duffley**; Featured Actress in a Play: **Bronte Assadzede**; Comic Actress in a Play: **Hannah Dolhai**; Ensemble in a Play: *8 Women at the Table*; Top Critic Team: led by **Ms. Marquis**; Top Female Critic: **Fumi Shibutani**; Marketing and Publicity: **Sydney Greenley, Julia Crystal, Sijyl Fasih, Sophia Swettenham**; Hair and Make-Up: **Emily Bangsboll, Safa Siddiqui, Caroline Capehart, Sheetza McGarry**; Costumes: **Vicky Bolitho, Carine Ladki, Diya Dadlani, Florence Campbell**; Lighting: **Dana El-Ramahi, Sheetza McGarry**.

We are so proud of our actresses, critics the crew, and Mrs. Boychuk and Ms. Marquis, for this wonderful achievement.

## Music to Our Ears

After a fantastic showing at the Capital Region Musicfest, Elmwood’s Grades 6, 7, 8 and Senior Concert Bands were invited to perform at the national-level Musicfest Canada

on May 9-14, 2016. Gold ratings were awarded to the Grade 6, 8 and Senior ensembles, and the Grade 7 group was awarded a Certificate of Excellence in addition to their Silver rating. Congratulations to our musicians and their conductor, Elmwood Head of Music **Nicholas Gummesson**.

## Limited Spaces Available for Elmwood Summer Camp

We are thrilled to be offering a full slate of camps this summer, including our popular Discovery Camps as well as our new Elmwood Skills Academy and Sports Camps! For details and registration, see [camp.elmwood.ca](http://camp.elmwood.ca) or call **613 749-6761**.

Back by popular demand: **Discovery Camps**. With exciting new weekly themes such as It’s Magic, Slime Time, Olympics Week and Island Escape, girls from Kindergarten to Grade 6 will discover new challenges, develop new friendships and enjoy a dynamic range of hands-on, interactive activities.

New this year: **Elmwood Skills Academy and Sports Camps**. Elmwood’s new camps offer an outstanding range of academic, special interest and sports programs. Taught either by Elmwood’s talented faculty or by other experts in their field, our Skills Academy and Sports Camps combine superb instruction with dynamic activities, sure to appeal to girls of all ages and skill levels.

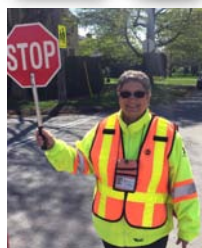
## Elmwood Says “Aloha” to the Centennial Year

Our Centennial Committee has been hard at work planning one final bash to cap off the School’s Centennial year in style. Join us on Friday, June 17 for a family-friendly Hawaiian-style luau, complete with a delicious BBQ, hula and limbo competitions, live entertainment and more. Tickets are \$20 and everyone is welcome. For more information and tickets please visit [elmwood100.ca](http://elmwood100.ca).



## ROCKCLIFFE PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL

### Ottawa’s Favourite Crossing Guard



Our own **Monique Laviolette** has been voted Ottawa’s Favourite Crossing Guard! Monique arrives to work every day with a big smile and takes up her post at the Springfield Road and Park Avenue intersection. Almost nine years ago, a friend of hers sug-

gested she become a Crossing Guard and she has been with the Ottawa Safety Council ever since. She has had almost perfect attendance during that time, missing only four days out of the over 1,500 school days these past eight and a half years. Her husband Ben is also a Crossing Guard.

Monique is a grandparent of six children, and she considers all the children who cross at her intersection as if they were her own. In her free time she enjoys spending time with her grandchildren, biking, walking and doing crafts.

We are very fortunate to have Monique in our community!



# SCHOOL REPORTS

## Coding on the Hill

The Government of Canada partnered with Actua and Ladies Learning Code during Science Odyssey week to present “Coding on the Hill,” a day was designed to inspire STEM and coding interest among youth. The goal is to demystify what coding is and to inspire youth to become the active creators of tomorrow’s technology. The Grade 4 elementary school students from Rockcliffe Park Public School were in

attendance to participate in the workshops. The Honourable **Kirsty Duncan**, Minister of Science, and **Terry Beech**, the Parliamentary Secretary for Science stopped by the workshops to say hello and engage in the activities.

The event took place on Tuesday, May 10 in the east block courtyard of Parliament Hill and featured Actua network member, the University of Ottawa’s Makerspace and Ladies Learning Code’s code:mobile.



Rockcliffe Park Public School held their annual Grandparents Reading Day on May 5. One hundred forty grandparents joined us for reading day and our School Council provided lunch. Photo: Green Tea Photography



RPPS Principal Shari Brodie and students Zoya Arnold-Thompson (right) and Josie Girvan presented a cheque for \$1,750 to Kelly Meincke, Coordinator of Events of the “Do It For Daron” Foundation. The money was raised through the RPPS Dance-A-Thon held earlier this year.



## Ashbury Celebrates Springfest

Current and past students gathered on the Ashbury campus on May 14 for Springfest, a day of fun to commemorate the season. Activities included yoga, plant sales, the ever-popular Colour Run and various rugby games. An alumni reception capped off the day in true Ashbury style.

## Last Chance to Register for Summer Camps

Ashbury’s campus will once again be busy with summer activities for children ages 5 to 17. Students from across Ottawa are invited to explore new areas of study with academic prep classes, build skills with for-credit course offerings, or have fun with camp sessions featuring every-

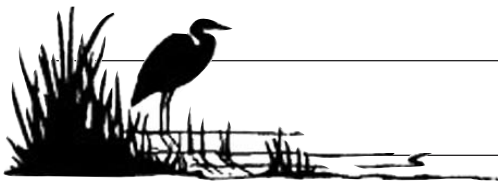
thing from drama and Claymation to sports and debate. Programs run June and July. For more information and to register, please visit [summer.ashbury.ca](http://summer.ashbury.ca).

## Doors Open June 4

To celebrate its 125th year, Ashbury will participate in Doors Open Ottawa on Saturday, June 4 from 10 am to 4 pm. Rockcliffe residents are invited to tour the chapel, our high-tech classrooms and newly-opened Creative Learning Centre.

## Come Home to Ashbury, September 24

Plans are underway for a memorable Homecoming weekend in September. Saturday, September 24 will feature two events open to the Rockcliffe community, including an alumni art show beginning at 9 am. At 11 am, author **Stephen Woollcombe '57** will launch his book about his grandfather, Ashbury founder **G.P. Woollcombe**. He’ll speak in the chapel about the history of the school.



## WILDLIFE NOTES

After a winter of only a few resident Cardinals and Chickadees at our sunflower seed bird feeder, bright Purple Finches came in on March 26, and a Pine Siskin flock the following day. The twenty five or so Siskins were around until April 18, feeding especially intensely after an eight-inch snowfall. On April 13, a Redpoll flock visited the pedestrian part of Lansdowne Road and I had a chance to watch one from a distance of a few metres on a young Douglas fir. It was pecking at the smallest twigs, ones that looked dead. Whatever it was eating was tiny, the size of scale insects. It interrupted feeding occasionally to drop down to the snow and eat a few grains.

The first Robin, as always a male, appeared in our garden on March 30 when there were just a few patches of ground free of snow to feed on. This seems to be the Robin schedule, males moving north following the front of melting snow and staking territories, the females some days behind. That same day I heard the first Mourning Dove calling in our street trees. On April 1, the first Phoebe sang, over the Fairview extension. I'm always puzzled to understand what this earliest-arriving flycatcher finds to eat when most of the ground is snow covered – there must be flying insects that I can't see. Also on the 1st, a White-tailed Deer went through the snowy garden of 245 Sylvan, down to the lake and then north on the ice of the lake edge.

The first indication of returning Merlins was from **Frances Pick** on Ellesmere on April 11: "This morning I was admiring the flocks of finches at our feeders, more numerous than usual including goldfinches, lots of redpolls and likely some pine siskins, plus purple finches. A few juncos, song sparrows and two robins off to the side. I turned my head to make coffee and they were suddenly all gone. The reason was clear: a merlin siting on the fence, most likely a male. They are back if they ever left! I note one sat on logs in our backyard last year at around the same time." The following afternoon **Iola Price** noticed a Merlin pair calling in spruces north of the Community Hall.

On April 18 the lake became free of ice, save for a few landfast remnants. At dawn, a pair of Wood Ducks swam off the western shore, a Mallard pair further north, and several Canada Geese conversed on the eastern side. Two mornings later, the same actors were present, except only the male Wood Duck – that could mean the female was prospecting a nesting box or hole. Many more Red-winged Blackbirds

were singing in the trees above the east marsh, and now a few went briefly to the cattails below. I've not had any reports this winter of the River Otter that fished and denned the year before. While the lake was still ice covered on April 5, **Rick Simison** had his first sighting of a Great Blue Heron flying over. Each time I've been around the lake since, I haven't seen one.

First Tree Swallow sightings were on May 1, the first warm morning after many cool ones. The swallows were around the nesting box in the east marsh and the box on the shore of 400 Lansdowne. Walking the conservation area trail on the morning of May 4, Iola and I had the good fortune to have rare close-up views of a Green Heron doing a still hunt, standing in the water of the inlet. We were above it on the boardwalk, watching for many minutes. Motionless for a while, looking down into the water, the tiny heron then started to move forward. The movement was almost imperceptible, each bright red leg drawn up in very slow motion and set down ahead so carefully that there was no ripple on the surface. Despite this skill, the heron didn't strike at prey while we watched. The light was just right for us to appreciate the lovely green of the wing-coverts and the warm chestnut glow of the neck. The best view of this heron I've ever had. Walking home on Lansdowne South the night of May 6, we became aware of the trilling of American Toads in the gardens on either side – first we've heard this season.

After a week away, we walked the conservation trail beside the lake yesterday, and at the inlet encountered a Chickadee pair excavating a nest hole in a dead tree stem a few metres from us. First one bird was inside, only its wiggling tail visible, digging away. Its mate kept within a few feet, watching closely. As soon as the digger left, the mate dived into the hole and flew out with a mass of soft chips in its beak, dropping them some five metres away. Then it returned for more. This is the Chickadee pattern. Carrying the chips some distance from the nest hole I interpret as keeping the nest site inconspicuous, reducing the chance of a predator noticing it. Back on Lansdowne South, **Alan Gill** showed us a Phoebe nest high on an inside ledge of his front door porch. The bird has been sitting tight for several days. The other Phoebe pairs I've noticed on my walks are on Sylvan and at the lake outlet.

*Anthony Keith, 15 May 2016*

**Please Note: Volunteers Needed!** Next year is Canada's Sesquicentennial. If you would like to help plan and celebrate Rockcliffe Park's history, please email [secretary@rockcliffepark.ca](mailto:secretary@rockcliffepark.ca).

# END NOTES



## Save the Date! Celebrating 90 Years: Rockcliffe Village Fête

Mark your calendars now – September 17, 2016 from 3:30 to 8 pm – as a big party is being planned to celebrate Rockcliffe Park’s 90th birthday. Organizing Committee Chair

**Dr. Aly Abdulla** has assembled a team who are planning a fabulous array of festivities for all residents, including the RCMP pipe band, a dog walk, children’s games, arts and crafts, a magician, music, international dishes from a number of our resident embassies, and much more.

Watch for updates on the Rockcliffe Village Fête on our website, [www.rockcliffepark.ca](http://www.rockcliffepark.ca), or on Facebook and Twitter, and mark the date in your calendars.

If you would like to take part or help with the event, contact Dr. Aly Abdulla, Organizing Committee Chair, at [Kingsway@doctor.com](mailto:Kingsway@doctor.com) or **Marilyn Venner** at [secretary@rockcliffepark.ca](mailto:secretary@rockcliffepark.ca). It would be great to welcome you on board!



## Rockcliffe Rink Project Fundraising Campaign Update

As winter turned to spring, the Hosers concluded the initial fundraising campaign for the Rockcliffe Rink Project. We are pleased to report that we raised \$230,000!

With the matching from the City of Ottawa we raised a total of \$460,000!

Thanks to all of you who have sent in donations and made pledges.

If you have pledged, please send along those cheques as we are eager to take the project to its next steps and we need to “show the money” to the City. Cheques should be made payable to Rockcliffe Hosers’ Corporation and mailed to Rockcliffe Hosers’ Corporation, 150 Sir Guy Carleton Street, Rockcliffe Park, ON K1M 0G7. We will update the community in the coming weeks as we roll out our plans.

Thanks again to all of you who have donated!

*Brian Montgomery, Rockcliffe Hosers’ Corporation  
Charitable Registration #807984844RR001*



## Start the Conversation with Centrepiece: an Art Auction Fundraiser for Autism, June 11

Thinking in Pictures Educational Services (TIPES) presents “Centrepiece.” The idea behind Centrepiece is to fall in love with a piece of art at this auction, purchase it to support TIPES and then display it to start a conversation. You can display the work of art in your home or office as a “centrepiece” of conversation to open up discussion about TIPES and how we support children and youth with autism and other exceptionalities to reach their fullest potential. Help us help these children succeed academically, occupationally, socially, and emotionally.

Centrepiece will take place on Wednesday, June 11, from 10 am to 4 pm at the residence of the Benin Ambassador, 488 Acacia Avenue in Rockcliffe Park. For more info, please visit [www.tipes.ca/event/centrepiece-an-art-fundraiser-for-autism](http://www.tipes.ca/event/centrepiece-an-art-fundraiser-for-autism).

## The Spring Village Clean Up Really Cleaned Up!

On a beautiful morning in April, 31 residents and two dogs gathered to clean up the Village. After two hours, the teams had raked and gathered enough sticks and leaves to fill more than 30 leaf bags, tied up many bundles of large sticks and branches, and filled 15 large garbage bags with litter. The Village is certainly more beautiful and cared-for, thanks to the efforts of the following residents:

**Rachel and Colin Baxter, Susan and Tom d’Aquino, Brian Dickson, Jane Dobell, Bill and Linda Dunn, Robert and Suzanne Gougeon, Robert Graham, Margot and Inger Gualtieri, Tim, Michele and Sebastian Hayman, Scott and Liz Heatherington, Peter Lewis, Ricarda McFalls, Zander and Nicola Lewis, Lynne McGuffin, Louise Meyer, Claire, Roger and Jeremy Ouseley, David Petrsek and Christina Bloch, and Gordon and Marilyn Venner.**

## Ottawa New Edinburgh Club



Tennis | Rowing | Sailing  
Youth and Adult Programs

Visit [www.ONEC.ca](http://www.ONEC.ca) to learn more.

# END NOTES



## Rockcliffe Lawn Tennis Club's Summer Program is in Full Swing!

The Junior Tennis program at the Rockcliffe Lawn Tennis Club is up and running! Under the energetic direction of our second-year Junior Pro, **Jack Warren**, we run a spring after-school program from May 16 to June 24, which can be customized to fit each child's schedule. We follow this with ten separate weeks of summer camps up to Labour Day. In addition to plenty of tennis, there is soccer in the park and some water fun as well. Last year at this time, many of the weeks were fully booked so don't delay signing up!

Of course, we also have a very active club for tennis players of all abilities. We have the four finest clay courts in Ottawa as well as four hard courts that were resurfaced in 2015. We also have an exceptionally fine young Teaching Pro, **Liz Fournier**, who spent two years on the WTA circuit. She is available to give lessons in any desired configuration. In addition, we offer a full slate of roundrobins each week, club tournaments, weekly BBQs and an Annual Social, to be held this year on June 25. Our adult member rates are very reasonable and we offer significant price breaks for spouses, children 18 and under, and intermediates (ages 19 to 29). You can try our club for one week at no charge – just ask for a 7-day pass at the club desk.

Come experience our very comfortable and congenial "cottage-in-the-city" chalet and grounds. The club is located at 465 Lansdowne Road North in Rockcliffe Park. If you have any questions, please contact the Membership Director, **Bill Turner**, at 613 695-1790 or [btturner18@gmail.com](mailto:btturner18@gmail.com).

## Elmwood Theatre Presents "Miss Bruce's War" at the Ottawa Fringe, June 18 and 25



Elmwood Theatre is pleased to present the world premiere of "Miss Bruce's War" by New Edinburgh resident Jean Duce Palmer, a playful narrative that is suitable for the whole family! Directed by teacher and Instructional Leader of the Arts, **Angela Boychuk**, the show features nine Elmwood School drama students from Grades 4 to 11, two fiddle players from Fiddleheads Musical Theatre, and an Ottawa-based actor, **Adrian Manicom**, who is currently studying theatre at Concordia University.

Miss Bruce's War will run for two performances in Academic Hall at the University of Ottawa, 135 Séraphin-Marion Private, Saturday, June 18 at 12:30 pm and Saturday, June 25 at 12:00 noon. Tickets are \$12 and available through the Ottawa Fringe Festival, [www.ottawafringe.com](http://www.ottawafringe.com), or by telephone at 613 232-6162.

For more information about Elmwood Theatre – both here in Ottawa and at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in Scotland (2013 and 2015) – visit Elmwood Theatre at [www.facebook.com/elmwoodschooltheatre](http://www.facebook.com/elmwoodschooltheatre).

## Take Me Out... RPR Night at the Ball Park Friday June 17, 7:00 pm | Ottawa Champions vs. the Cuban National Team

Come and join your neighbours for an early Father's Day celebration at Ottawa's beautiful baseball park. See the Ottawa Champions vs. the Cuban National Team for the special group price of \$10 per adult, \$5 for children and \$8 for seniors. Kids will get a visit from Champ the mascot. Note: This is the first in a historic three-game series against the Cuban National team, taking place in Ottawa June 17-19.



**When:** Friday June 17 at 7:00 pm | **Where:** RCGT Baseball Park, 300 Coventry Road (just off Vanier Parkway)

**Tickets:** Email [mmassel@ottawachampions.com](mailto:mmassel@ottawachampions.com) to order your tickets early and put "RPR tickets" in the subject line. You can then pay on game night when you pick up your reserved tickets. Or you can pay by phone with a credit card to **Mike Massel**, 613-745-BALL (2255) and tell Mike you are with the RPR group. Get your tickets soon – this will be a very popular game!