



The Rockcliffe News

This issue of The Rockcliffe News is generously sponsored by Montgomery Asset Management of RBC Dominion Securities**

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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.

DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL

- 3-8** Tuesday to Sunday.....The Vanier Museopark Maple Sugar Festival, Richelieu Park, 300 Pères-Blancs Avenue*
- 18** Wednesday 7:00 pm.....Heritage Ottawa Lecture Series: Elder Ron Bernard on "The Algonquins of Pikwakanagan," Ottawa Public Library Auditorium, 120 Metcalfe Street*
- 18** Wednesday 7:15 pm.....RPRA Board Meeting, Community Hall
- 21** Saturday 10 am to 5 pm...Rockcliffe Park Spring Book Sale, Community Hall*
- 22** Sunday 11 am to 5 pm....Rockcliffe Park Spring Book Sale, Community Hall*
- 25** Wednesday 8:00 pm.....Speakers Program: Stephen Bleeker and Kristine McGinn on "Aging at Home: Issues and Options," Community Hall*
- 26** Thursday 7:30 pm.....Rockcliffe Park Garden Club: Hattie Klotz of Pashley Manor Gardens on "Building a Garden," Community Hall*

MAY

- 5-6** Saturday / SundayJane's Walk, an annual festival of free community-led walking tours (various locations)*
- 9** Wednesday 8:00 pm.....Speakers Program: Helen Antoniou on "The Story of Eric Molson: Back to Beer and Hockey," Community Hall*
- 11** Friday (to Tuesday).....Ottawa Children's Festival, LeBreton Flats*
- 12** SaturdayIODE Laurentian Chapter's 57th Annual House and Garden Tour, various locations*
- 12** SaturdayRockcliffe Lawn Tennis Club Open House, 465 Lansdowne Rd N*
- 14** Monday.....Start of Rockcliffe Lawn Tennis Club Junior After-School Program, 465 Lansdowne Rd N*
- 16** Wednesday 7:15 pm.....RPRA Board Meeting, Community Hall
- 24** Thursday 6:30 pm.....Rockcliffe Park Garden Club: Create a Painting with Renowned Artist Katerina Mertika, Community Hall*
- 26** Saturday 2:00 pm.....ELTOC (English Language Tutoring for the Ottawa Community) Fundraiser Tea, Church of St. Bartholomew's Hall, 125 MacKay Street*
- 31** Thursday 11:30 amRideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre Third Annual Lunch Fundraiser, Gil-O-Julien Park, 201 Donald Street*

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

**See back page for additional information on Montgomery Asset Management.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



With the March school breaks all done and memories committed to Facebook pages (and rapidly deleted!), the proceedings of our AGM held on February 28 seem like distant news. In addition to a review of the past year – a retelling of which you shall be spared – the AGM usually marks a point of transition with the retiring of some directors and the welcoming of the new. This year was no different. In one of the largest transitions, we welcomed seven new Board members and said farewell to seven of our colleagues, including three past presidents, **Jane Dobell**, **Brian Dickson** and **Alex Macklin**. Both Jane and Brian have been with the RPR since it was created after amalgamation. Jane even served on the pre-amalgamation Village Council! To these, as well as other retiring directors, **Aly Abdulla**, **Joan Kellett**, **Claire Ouseley** and **Claire Schofield**, thank you for your contribution to our community. It has been my sincere pleasure to work with you over the past years and it is my hope that you will continue to be involved with Rockcliffe as your time allows. I am delighted to welcome incoming Board directors **Michael Crystal**, **Caroline Gingras**, **Daniel Goldberg**, **Bea Hampson**, **Kay James**, **Louise Malhotra** and **Darrin Reesal**. We are going to have a full agenda going forward and I am looking forward to getting down to business with you.

I would like to thank **Tobi Nussbaum** for coming out and briefing the combined Village Foundation and RPR groups on current and upcoming City matters that are relevant to our community. As in past years, the size of the attending crowd was comfortably accommodated by our Community Hall. Thank you all for coming and electing your Board and generally participating in the process of keeping the Residents Association on track.

Immediately prior to this year's AGM, we held, for the first time, a volunteer appreciation reception. The efforts of so many in the community often go unrecognized and it was time to do something about that. Our volunteers pack and deliver newsletters, rake leaves, clean up garbage, attend meetings, review development applications, organize and run social events and countless other tasks so I would like to thank the 50 or so volunteers who turned up to be feted. Many thanks to the volunteers who put the whole thing together and to **Catherine Strevins-Bourke** of **Chartwell New Edinburgh Square Retirement Residence** for the beautiful cheese plates, and a big thank you for the giant chocolate cake graciously provided by **Tracey Black** of **Epicuria Fine Foods**. While on the subject of volunteers, we have established a number of committees and are looking for folks to participate. If you are interested in helping with any of our regular functions or have an idea about something that should be done (Welcome Committee, anyone?), please email **Marilyn Venner** at secretary@rockcliffepark.ca. We need your help.

I wrote earlier about our intention to have a series of discussions on heritage. Recently, renowned heritage architect **Julian Smith** spoke to a packed Community Hall and headlined a workshop the following day with members of other heritage areas in Ottawa (see Heritage Matters on page 4 of this newsletter). This is just the beginning of what I hope will be a series of discussions that will also include City staff and elected officials. We are progressing slowly as we still await the OMB decision on our Heritage plan. I have officially given up speculating, based on irrational hope, when this decision might come down. That decision, when it is finally rendered, will most likely be made public to the community on our new website. Barring any unforeseen technical glitches, we are expecting to launch the new version in April. It will not be perfect and we will be looking to you for constructive suggestions on how to make it better.

Looking ahead in the coming months, there is a lot going on. Please plan to attend the Annual Library Book Sale on April 21-22. This event keeps getting bigger and better, and this year should be no different. Also coming up will be the Annual Spring Clean-up. There is a fair amount of debris that accumulates over the winter and the Village clean-up gives us a chance to put things in order – particularly around the Community Hall, the Village Green and neighbourhood streets. Our Speakers Series will be continuing with a presentation on Aging at Home (see details on page 4 of this newsletter). It's election time and in May (date TBA) we will be hosting a Candidates Debate for the upcoming provincial election. Looking a bit farther ahead, keep Friday, June 30 open as we will again be holding an open-air film night in the Jubilee Garden for kids – *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*. A more adult-themed evening is being planned for later in August (something Bogart, I think...).

Finally, readers will notice that the April newsletter is, for the first time, sponsored. The Village Foundation is encouraging us to seek sponsorships to reduce costs. We are grateful to **Montgomery Asset Management** for its support for our community. This is a pilot project and we will gauge residents' reactions before making it a general practice.

Peter Lewis, 20 March 2018

Thank You to the 2017 Community Appeal Donors

Thank you to the following individuals who generously donated to the 2017 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 \$18,100 as of March 2018.

It's not too late to donate! If you missed making your donation and would like to do so, please mail your cheque payable to "Friends of the Village of Rockcliffe Park Foundation" to **Jane Newcombe, 25 Westward Way, Rockcliffe Park, ON K1L 5A8** or donate online on our website, www.rockcliffeparkfoundation.org.

Anand and Saroj Aggarwal	Dr. Robert Forget	Sue McNee
Sharon and David Appotive	John French	Michael Mirsky
George Babbitt	Philip Garel-Jones	Paul and Mary Mirsky
Rachel and Colin Baxter	Pamela Gibb-Carsley	Sarah Murray
Cynthia Baxter	Alan F. Gill	Joanne and Rob Nelson
Roderick Bell	Christopher and Laurie Gillin	Jane Newcombe
Christina Bilyk and Michael Miller	Walter Grego and Lisa DeMontigny	Louise Ouimet
Michael Borish and Julie Vanderschot	Margot Gualtieri	Mary and Guy Pratte
Maureen Boyd	Zoya and David Halton	Maria Raletich-Rajicic
John Bull	R. Scott and Elizabeth	Bonnie and Andy Robinson
Adrian Burns	Heatherington	Susan Ross
Anthony Carty and	Carol Henderson	Margo and Gordon Roston
Valerie LaTraverse	Alice Hunt	Diana Rowley
Wilma J. Clapham	Michael and Sheila Kelen	Patrick Roy
Elly and Bill Clarke	Anthony and Joan Kellett	Greg and Tani Sanders
Ronald Cheng	Joan Matthews Khan	Inta Sipolins-Zobs
Robert and Marilyn Collette	Ryan Kilger and Lucie Martin	Anne Stanfield
John and Gloria Connelly	David and Laura Kilgour	Alexander Struthers
Brian Crane	BGen and Mrs. Victor Lanctis	Heather and Brad Sweeney
David Cuthbertson and Neva Bruce	Rosemary and Tim Lane	JH Taylor
Jane Davis	Andrew Leslie	Peter Thompson
Nick and Sue Dawes	Lejla Levy	Marilyn and Gordon Venner
Elizabeth and Edward Day	June Lindsey	Joan Waiser
Shannon Deegan	Anne Macklem	John Watson
David and Jill Dickinson	G. Alexander Macklin	John and Arlene Weekes
Brian and Kate Dickson	Denise Martel	Rem Westland
Peter and Jane Dobell	Dawn Maxwell	Roy Williams and Julianne Parfett
Philip and Linda English	Lynne McGuffin	Mrs. Ismene Wood
Dean and Rina Eyre	Beverley McLachlin	Shirley and William Yang

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 help fund community projects and programs in three areas of focus: the conservation of the environment; preservation of the heritage character of the Village; and promotion of a sense of community for all residents.

THE 2018 VILLAGE FOUNDATION BOARD

Executive: Bonnie Robinson, Chair | Ryan Kilger, Vice-Chair | Roy Williams, Treasurer | Jane Newcombe, Secretary
Board Members: Sarah Baxter, Nancy Carr, Alexandra Colt, Jean-Guy Dumoulin, Alison Green and Jane Panet

SPEAKERS PROGRAM

Rockcliffe Park Community Hall 380 Springfield Road

Join your neighbours for informal evenings with distinguished speakers. Presentations will be followed by questions, coffee and cookies. Admission is free.

The Speakers Program is an initiative of the Rockcliffe Park Residents Association. It is supported by the Rockcliffe Park Foundation. Information on the Speakers Program is posted at www.rockcliffepark.ca.



Stephen Bleeker and Kristine McGinn “Aging at Home: Issues and Options”

Stephen Bleeker, founder and CEO of Ottawa-based Assurance Home Care, and Kristine McGinn, Director, will provide the latest facts about aging, how to know when a family member needs help, new technology designed for those who want to age at home, and how to find the best solutions.

Wednesday, April 25 at 8:00 pm



Helen Antoniou “The Story of Eric Molson: Back to Beer and Hockey”

Based on her new book, author Antoniou will reveal a fascinating portrait of a man, a time, and a company that has been part of Canada's history since John Molson founded his first brewery in Montreal in 1786.

The story of Eric Molson is the story of how, in recent years, he saved the family enterprise.

Wednesday, May 9 at 8:00 pm

THE ROCKCLIFFE NEWS • VOLUME 18 • NUMBER 2

The Rockcliffe News, the newsletter of the Rockcliffe Park Residents Association (RPR), 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 RPR website, www.rockcliffepark.ca. Editor: Cynthia Hamady, editor.rockcliffenews@rockcliffepark.ca.

HERITAGE MATTERS

The RPR and its Heritage Committee have started a series of events to engage Rockcliffe Park residents and other Heritage Conservation Districts in Ottawa in a dialogue on heritage issues. This started with a talk by **Julian Smith** – internationally recognized expert in heritage architecture, planning, and conservation – at our Community Hall on March 14. If heritage communities are to survive, he calls for a paradigm shift in the way cities think about heritage conservation, and stated that cities on the west coast in both Canada and the United States are a generation ahead of us.

He noted the importance of the fact that Ontario prescribes the conservation of not only significant heritage buildings, but also significant “cultural heritage landscapes.” However, Ottawa, and others, have failed to understand or embrace what this means – namely that the natural environment, the built environment, and the cultural practices that connect them, must be dealt with as a whole. To succeed in this, he said that it is critical that the community – usually dismissed as ‘non-experts’ in contrast to salaried staff, paid consultants and the OMB – be given priority in decision-making. Only the communities themselves carry the direct experience and accumulated knowledge of these cultural heritage landscapes. Without them, it is not possible to sustain the core principles that have shaped these communities over time.

The next evening, we invited representatives of other Heritage Conservation Districts in Ottawa – New Edinburgh, The Glebe, Lowertown, Centretown, Sandy Hill, and Briarcliffe – and Heritage Ottawa to join us for a workshop with Julian Smith to explore issues we share in common, and how we can work together to better protect Ottawa's heritage. We are planning further initiatives to follow up on this and to engage City councillors and City staff.



Heritage Outreach Workshop with Julian Smith (centre front) on March 15, 2018 at Rockcliffe Park Community Hall. **Rockcliffe Park:** Participants (P) Susan d'Aquino, John Cook, Linda Dicaire, Anthony Keith, Michael Kelen, Gouhar Shemdin; Observers (O) Thomas d'Aquino, Martha Edmond, Kay James, Iola Price (not in photo), Marilyn Venner; **Sandy Hill:** (P) Trina Cooper-Bolam, Chad Rollins; (O) François Brega; **Centretown:** (P) Jack Hanna; **New Edinburgh:** (P) Gail McEachern; **Lowertown:** (P) Liz MacKenzie, Nancy Miller Chénier; **Briarcliffe:** (P) Danielle Jones; **The Glebe:** (P) Bill Price, Johanna Persohn; **Heritage Ottawa:** (P) David Jeanes, President; Heather McArthur; (O) David Flemming, Past President.

RP GARDEN CLUB

Building a Garden



Thursday, April 26, 7:30 pm
Speaker: Hattie Klotz

Hattie Klotz grew up in a Tudor home that her parents purchased when it was in ruins. They lovingly restored it, room by room, and then began tending to the neglected landscape of the surrounding grounds.

Now, more than thirty years later, her ancestral UK home, Pashley Manor Gardens, hosts the largest tulip festival and was awarded Christie's Garden of the Year award. The 14-acre garden is set in the rolling hills of East Sussex and hosts a Sculpture Festival, a Rose and Lily week, Dahlia Days and a Kitchen Garden Festival. The kitchen garden was the inspiration for her recently-published cookbook, *From the Garden*, which features recipes from the produce of the Pashley Manor Gardens as well as her own farm garden near Wakefield, Quebec. Hattie is also the author of *Vertical Gardens*, in partnership with garden photographer **Leigh Clapp**. Her discussion will show us how to build a garden and how her family home's magical landscape came to be. This will truly be an enchanting evening.

Create a Painting with Renowned Artist Katerina Mertika



Thursday, May 24
Special Time: 6:30 pm

Come paint with renowned artist Katerina Mertikas. Katerina is creating a special painting for the Rockcliffe Park Garden Club for that evening. We will learn painting techniques to create our very own

masterpiece under her guidance. Katerina's talent and gracious personality will definitely make this a truly unique evening. The total cost is \$75 to participate; this pays for all the supplies you will need. Contact **Vera Cody** at jcody1@rogers.com to pre-register as payment will be required to hold your spot.

Meetings are held at the Rockcliffe Park Community Hall, 380 Springfield Road. Free for members; \$5 for guests, unless otherwise specified. For more information, contact **Vera Cody**, jcody1@rogers.com.

Photo: www.artworldfineart.com

FESTIVALS

The Vanier Museopark's Maple Sugar Festival, April 3 to 8



Each year, the Musée de Vanier Museopark runs a unique sugar shack experience for the whole family to enjoy. The present sugar shack is on the site of the original shack built by the White Fathers in 1938. This is the only urban sugar bush in North America, and just minutes from Rockcliffe Park! From late March to early April, many well-known artists perform at the Sugar Festival, in addition to a variety of activities available for the whole family to enjoy including meals, contests, animals, a variety of shows and French-Canadian folk performances.

Located in Richelieu Park, 300 Pères-Blancs Avenue. For the complete program, go to www.museoparc.ca/en or phone 613 580-2424.

* * *

The Ottawa Children's Festival Returns to LeBreton Flats from May 11 to 15



Since 1985, the Ottawa Children's Festival (OCF) has hosted an annual celebration of the best in live performing arts, creating programs for children aged two to 15. Be inspired by this year's featured international presentations – enjoy crazy acrobatic stunts, playful theatre, foot tapping/hand clapping music and more! Find a variety of fun and interactive activities on the grounds before and after performances: roving entertainers, hands-on explorations, activity zones and crafts will let you unleash your creative side! See ottawachildrensfestival.ca for more information.

Reminder: Ottawa Race Weekend 2018 is May 26-27 and, once again, Rockcliffe Park will be cordoned off for runners on Sunday, May 27. Rockcliffe is encircled by the race, but police will allow controlled access and egress at certain points. RPR members will be notified by email as additional info becomes available.

OUTREACH



Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre Fundraiser Lunch, May 31

The RRCRC would like to thank all Rockcliffe residents for responding so generously to the recent campaign.

If you would like to meet some of the staff and hear more about the Centre, please consider joining us for a Fundraising Lunch on Thursday, May 31 from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm. It will be held outside at Gil-O-Julien Park, 201 Donald Street in Ottawa. In case of rain the lunch will be held inside at the Centre at 225 Donald Street. Tickets are \$25 if purchased before May 1, or \$30 after that date.

Please come and support your Ward's Community Resource Centre, which looks after all people in need. Services include a food bank and poverty reduction programme; resources for children, youth and families; assistance with income tax completion; legal aid and many other needs.

For further information or to purchase tickets for the lunch, please contact **Esméralda Alabré**, Resource Development Officer, Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre, at **613 745-0073, ext. 142**.

* * *

Fundraising Tea for ELTOC (English Language Tutoring for the Ottawa Community), May 26



Please join us on Saturday, May 26 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm at the Church of St. Bartholomew's Hall, 125 MacKay Street, for a fundraising tea to support English Language Tutoring in your community

and the newcomers we serve. Enjoy tea, sandwiches, sweets and a Silent Auction, along with live Celtic harp music by Rockcliffe resident **Susan Sweeney Hermon**. Tickets are just \$20 and available by calling **613 232-8566** or online at esl@eltoc.ca. Donations are always welcome and tax receipts will be given for gifts over \$20.

ELTOC is a registered charity and all proceeds from the event will go directly for teaching materials. Please come and hear more about this organization, which offers tutoring at home for newcomers to Canada who are unable to attend school classes due to their responsibilities at home (young babies, no daycare, elderly relatives or handicapped family members). We hope to see you!

QUEEN'S PARK



*From the desk of Nathalie Des Rosiers
MPP, Ottawa-Vanier*

Initiatives for Women in Ontario

On March 8, we celebrated International Women's Day. At my office, we recognized the contributions of five Ottawa-Vanier women and girls. They have each volunteered many hours and played an important role in the community. Once again, I congratulate **Sabreen Aby-Zeyada, Hildana Adan, Menal Aman, Ruweida Shire and Lauren Touchant**.

On March 6, 2018, **Premier Kathleen Wynne** unveiled *Then Now Next: Ontario's Strategy for Women's Economic Empowerment*. The strategy will help remove long-standing barriers that have kept women from benefiting equally in Ontario's rapidly changing economy. It includes the introduction of legislation to increase transparency in hiring processes and give women more information when negotiating fairer compensation that is equal to their male peers.

Also in March, our government took a major step in its commitment to create a province free from domestic and sexual violence by launching *It's Never Okay: Ontario's Gender-Based Violence Strategy*. It will help survivors and families get timely support, as well as help prevent violence by intervening early, focussing on four key areas:

- **Improving services and supports** for survivors, families and communities.
- **Intervening early and effectively** to help youth who have seen or experienced violence by providing consistent and flexible support for children who find themselves in shelters, and greatly reducing the wait list for the Child Witness program.
- **Changing attitudes and norms** through public education, along with training for service providers, communities and bystanders so they can recognize and respond to gender-based violence.
- **Improving the justice system response** by providing free legal advice to survivors of sexual assault. In addition, alternate justice options for survivors of gender-based violence that are trauma-informed and survivor-centred will be explored in partnership with the violence against women sector.

We keep working hard to reach gender equality because everyone deserves to feel safe, and everyone deserves to have access to opportunities for success and well-being.



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

Investing in our Roads, Sidewalks and Paths

One of the most important aspects of our City that sets it apart from others is its particularly large geographical scale. Its total land surface of 2,758 km² is great enough to encompass the cities of Calgary, Edmonton, Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver, and we are still larger by 100 km². Ottawa's size means that we have an extensive network of over 5,460 km of paved roads to continuously develop, improve and maintain.

Road maintenance is particularly challenging in Ottawa because of our fluctuating climate. As winter turns into spring, temperatures vary daily from cold to warmer. This rapid change in warmth is called a freeze-thaw cycle, and it deteriorates our road surfaces. During these freeze-thaw cycles, water seeps into the crevices of the road. Fluctuations in temperature, vibrations and traffic volumes all create stress on the asphalt road surface, resulting in potholes.

Over the years, the abundance of rain and spring flooding, the extraordinary amount of snow, and the number of freeze-thaw cycles have significantly impacted the quality of our roadways, shoulders, sidewalks and road beds. Last year alone, City crews filled 259,153 potholes. Each year, the City fills more potholes than the last, but with the increase of freeze-thaw cycles and our ever-expanding road network, our roads are still in rough shape come the spring. Even with this level of activity, I have heard consistently from residents that we need to do more and better.

I share your concerns and frustration about the state of our roads and I recognize the need to fix them. This is why I insisted that Council invest more dollars in our basic infrastructure needs by increasing the City's 2018 road resurfacing budget. The 2018 road resurfacing budget has increased \$11.6 million from 2017, for a total budget of \$45.2 million. We have also added an additional \$10 million in the overall road, facilities and sidewalks budget, and made permanent the \$400,000 one-time increase in the pothole and minor asphalt repair program introduced in 2017.

Well-paved and resurfaced roads mean that we can travel and move through our City more efficiently and safely. These investments will ensure that the roads we pave today will also be enjoyed by the generations of tomorrow.



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

Rockcliffe Park News

Pond Update

City staff has shared the results of the monitoring report for the Pond and its decreasing water levels. Despite having pumped approximately 31,800 litres per day of groundwater into the Pond from June 1 to September 8, 2017, water levels still steadily declined to an overall decrease of 1.26 metres. The exact reason for this decrease is still unknown. In order to allow for some more data collection, I have asked City staff to prolong this trial for the 2018 season, to extend the pumping period (May to end of September) and to increase the daily water amount to roughly 50,000 litres per day.

Additionally, City staff and representatives of the RPRA are working together on improved signage and on physical delimitation of the accessible areas in order to minimize erosion and to preserve this wonderful jewel in our community.

NCC Capital Pathways Consultation

The National Capital Commission is embarking on a renewal of its 2006 plan, entitled *Pathway Network for Canada's Capital Region*. The purpose of the revised plan will be to provide a framework for future planning and day-to-day management of the Capital pathway network, including pathways along the Rideau and Ottawa Rivers in our ward.

Consultations began this winter in theme areas including: integrated network, multi-use and user-friendly paths, public safety, resilient facilities, pathway network expansion and seasonal use. Visit ncc-ccn.gc.ca to stay connected with this process, which is expected to produce a draft report for public comment as early as this summer.

Carbon Monoxide Alarm – Free!

Through the Ottawa Fire Services and via funding of the Older Adult Plan, my office has free carbon monoxide alarms to offer to interested residents. The Ontario Fire Code requires that a working carbon monoxide alarm be installed in the hallway of each sleeping area in dwellings that have an attached garage, a fuel-fired appliance and/or a fireplace. Residents over age 55 can contact me at tobi.nussbaum@ottawa.ca to receive a free carbon monoxide alarm!

SCHOOL REPORTS



ROCKCLIFFE PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL

Rockcliffe Park Public

School Scores in 2018 Kids Lit Competition

The Kids' Lit quiz has been running for 27 years and was started by a man named **Wayne Mills**, the Quizmaster. Rockcliffe Park Public School had three teams entered into this amazing competition.

Eighteen other teams from schools in the Ottawa area also competed. Something amazing happened for the first time in 27 years of the competition: three teams in a single city tied in first place: RPPS, Turnbull Private and Fisher Park PS. To find out who won, Mr. Mills asked a tie-breaking question related to which book talked about the first place of residence for an adopted red-haired girl (hint: Anne of

Green Gables). If one team got it right, they would be the winner. The next questions would be asked to the two teams that were left to determine the second and third place winners. One of the RPPS girls, **Sylvia** (Grade 6) answered this question correctly, which meant that her team won the competition in Ottawa and went to Toronto for the Canadian Nationals on February 8! The four girls – **Amélie**, **Olivia**, **Sylvia** and **Anna** (all Grade 6) – won third place at the national competition in Toronto. They competed against eight teams, which were either in Grade 7 or Grade 8!

Way to go, Rockcliffe! And good luck to the Canadian team that will be going to New Zealand in June!!

Emilia Wesolkowski, Grade 6

*Editor in Chief of the school newsletter
Rockcliffe Park Public School*

ASHBURY COLLEGE



Ashbury Travels

Ashbury students have been actively living the school's 'international engagement' value as they participate in various school trips around the world. Grade 6 and 7 students recently participated in a cultural and linguistic exchange in Cuernavaca, Mexico, while other Grade 8, 9, and 10 girls attended an engineering workshop at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. Over the March Break, students travelled to New Zealand for a girls' rugby trip, to Peru for environmental science studies, to France on an "échange linguistique," and to Spain for an FC Barcelona soccer camp. The world certainly does start at Ashbury.

OFSSA Success

Congratulations to Ashbury's swim team, whose junior boys medley relay team made the podium at OFSAA in February. **Nic Gauthier** (backstroke), **Alex Bui** (breaststroke), **Aprateem Chatterjee** (butterfly) and **Dom Salas** (freestyle) inched out the competitors by just 0.17 seconds to win the bronze medal. Our senior girls 4×100 freestyle relay team of **Kat Auster** (in her last OFSAA) race, **Mirella Deng**, **Hilary Sinclair**, and **Laila El Danasoury** clocked in at a time of 4:03.33 to earn the OFSAA silver medal. Brothers **Luke** and **Tyler Allan** (pictured) both captured OFSAA gold at the Nordic ski championships. In a 5 km race, Luke tied for first with a time of 12 minutes, 38.5 seconds.

Tyler had a race time of 15 minutes, 0.7 seconds in his 7.5 km race. Congratulations to all our students and teams on their outstanding achievements!



Senator Speaks at Black History Month Assembly

Senator Wanda Thomas Bernard visited Ashbury recently to speak to students about her role as Canada's first African Nova Scotian woman to serve in the Senate. She recounted her childhood love of books and told students that she



has retained her love of reading to this day. The Senator spoke about the importance Canada's new \$10 bill, featuring another Nova Scotian trailblazer, **Viola Desmond**, and she encouraged students to keep one of these new bills as a reminder of our country's past and what is possible for our future.

SCHOOL REPORTS

Elmwood School

Magnificent Musicians!

Elmwood was well represented at the Capital Region Musicfest and our musicians came away with outstanding commendations. Our 7 and 8 Concert Bands each earned silver awards and the Senior Concert Band was unanimously awarded gold for their musical and mature performance by the panel of judges. In addition, a number of Elmwood musicians have been named to the Eastern Ontario Elementary Honour Band for 2018: **Naila Moloo, Madighan Ryan, Sophia Moloo, Serena Chen, Bianca Ruta, Ariana Kubelik, Zahra Robertson and Sonja Swettenham**. Congratulations to our musicians and their conductor, Elmwood Director of Music **Cristien Lyons**.



Head of School Cheryl Boughton with our International Women's Day guests.

International Women's Day

International Women's Day in Elmwood's Senior School was marked with a careers conference featuring a wide range of inspiring female speakers, including **Catherine**

Clark, Stacey Bafi-Yebo, Victoria Lennox, Jessika-Kina Ouimet, Cathy Imbriglio, Vicky Iverson, Jennifer Francis and Audrey Grandmaison.



Emelyn and Nicole with the Elmwood "Dragons."

Melissa Smith, Krista Norris, Susy Imbriglio, Charlotte Burke and Kate Karn. Thanks also to StartUp Canada for helping us make this a day to remember!

In the Middle School, we held our first-ever Elmwood Dragons' Den! After much deliberation, the pitch by **Nicole Watt and Emelyn Lantos** was deemed victorious! And thanks to our esteemed "Dragons": **Melissa Smith, Krista Norris, Susy Imbriglio, Charlotte Burke and Kate Karn.** Thanks also to StartUp Canada for helping us make this a day to remember!



Elmwood Summer Camp Registration Now Open

We are thrilled to be offering a full slate of camps again this summer, including our popular Discovery Camps and our Elmwood Skills Academy!

Discovery Camps

With exciting new weekly themes such as Robot Academy, music camp, "Lab Rats" chemistry camp and Sleuth Academy, girls from Kindergarten to Grade Six will discover new challenges, develop lasting friendships and enjoy a dynamic range of hands-on, interactive activities. Led by skilled and experienced educators, our camps have the perfect blend of learning, active play and creative exploration, all within Elmwood's beautiful and safe campus, located here in Rockcliffe Park.

Elmwood Skills Academy

Our Skills Academy offers an outstanding range of academic and special interest programs. Taught either by Elmwood's talented faculty or by other experts in their field, these camps combine superb instruction with dynamic activities, sure to appeal to girls of all ages and skill levels.

Visit camp.elmwood.ca or call **613 749-6761** for details and registration.

Spring is Here, So It's Clean-up Time! The Rockcliffe Park Spring Village Clean-up is an annual event you won't want to miss. You choose a street or area to clean, and then head out for a couple hours of soul-satisfying neighbourhood beautification. Gloves, rakes, bags and refreshments are supplied. We will sign student forms for volunteer hours. Date TBA; we will provide details as they become available.





WILDLIFE NOTES



Following my note in January about focussing on Tree Swallow nesting boxes around the lake, **Iola** and I have just installed two new boxes on poles in the east marsh. We were most kindly helped in installing a new pole by ice-fishers **Michael** and his son **Lucas**. A box in the marsh has always been a swallow favourite. Swallow nest box location and construction have to be done with consideration for nest predators and competitors.

The predators in our area are Red Squirrels and Raccoons. The competitors are Chickadees that will start nesting activities, establishing box ownership, before the swallows return. Boxes on poles in the marsh are too far from trees for Chickadees and squirrels, and have not attracted Raccoons. Swallow boxes near the lake edge on the west side require special counter measures.



The first really strong and repeated Cardinal songs that I noticed were on February 20, and some singers have continued sporadically on sunny days. Stepping out of the door on February 28, a Robin's distinctive chuckle call came from the garden. There were a few patches of snow-free ground that day, the usual harbinger of Robin migrants. Yet I suspect this was an over-wintering bird because I've not heard or seen one since. The Crows don't appear to be arguing about territories yet, though there are always a few about, perhaps prospecting tall conifers for nest sites. A Downy Woodpecker has been

drumming near Mariposa/Fairview the past week, responding to lengthening days. This is still a quiet period for birds. On a half-hour walk on the morning of March 10, the only sounds were one drum roll from the Downy near Fairview and one Chickadee call near Hillsdale at Sandridge.

On the morning of March 9, after light snow, the first Chipmunk I've seen this season came up out of the snow between hemlocks and a butternut. Hopping across the surface proved challenging. Its body, unlike a tree squirrel's, isn't designed for leaping; at each short hop its body sank well in to the snow. So it gave that up and dived down to tunnel under the snow, reappearing some eight metres away where it could access a fence and a tree. Early this morning there are three Chipmunks in the same area – dashing about on the wooden fence tops in the falling snow, trying to drive each other away from the woodshed below. There are tree seeds amongst the logs there, and no snow.

Unlike our Red and Grey Squirrels, Eastern Chipmunks dig substantial underground burrows in which they store food and spend the winter in "intermittent hibernation, waking every four to six days to eat from their larder" (*Donna Naughton. The Natural History of Canadian Mammals. Canadian Museum of Nature, 2012*).

The lake is still solidly frozen, as it has been since mid-December. But there is enough open water now on the Ottawa River to encourage small parties of Canada Geese to fly along it.

Anthony Keith, 13 March 2018



Fletcher Wildlife Garden's Annual Plant Sale

Saturday, June 2, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

Prince of Wales Drive, south of the Arboretum

Fletcher Wildlife Garden's annual sale of native plants grown from harvested seeds is back! Use native plants to attract pollinators like birds, butterflies and bees – pick up a free plant list. We'll show you which native plant species are favourites with wildlife and which species do well in your growing conditions. We have milkweeds for monarchs, asters to suit any garden location, goldenrods, blue-eyed grass, bergamot, beardtongue, a few native grass species and hundreds of other species from our own demonstration garden. Volunteers will be on hand to show you where to park and answer your gardening questions.

Free admission. Please help by donating your empty 4 inch SQUARE pots.

The Fletcher Wildlife Garden (FWG) is a long-term project of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club. It is run by volunteers for the enjoyment and education of all Ottawa residents, and is open for everyone to walk the trails, enjoy the beautiful garden, our newly developed pond area, and to learn about native plants. Our Annual Native Plant Sale is an opportunity for people to buy local plants and learn which ones are suitable for their own garden.

RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES



ONEC Summer Day Camps Offer Flexibility, Variety and Value!

Yes, spring has finally arrived and now it's time to get a jump-start on planning a great summer for your child or grandchild!

The Ottawa New Edinburgh Club (ONEC) Summer Day Camps, which are unique to the Ottawa's east end, are filled with fun and adventure and will give your child the experience of a lifetime. Under the guidance of certified instructors, participants learn new sports (or hone skills, if coming for a second time), make new friends and have fun in the fresh air.

"Our keen interest is the development of skills in multiple sports," said **Mike Hardstaff**, ONEC president. "And so our aim is to provide programs with flexibility, variety and value. Participants can take tennis lessons and/or a water sport – rowing, sailing, brigade canoeing, or the all-the-rage paddleboarding! Students in the Sailing and Sculling Programs can also obtain progressive certification," he continued.



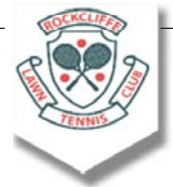
ONEC Summer Day Camps are geared to kids from age 7 to 17 years. Operating from July 3 until August 24, they offer flexible sessions of one or two weeks, either full or half days.

Mike underscored that ONEC Summer Day Camps are incredible value. "Our fees are the same as last year and we're now introducing a second sibling discount of 10%. In addition, ONEC members receive a 10% discount on their child or grandchild's registration."

The Ottawa New Edinburgh Club is one of the longest-standing multi-sport clubs in Canada, dating back to 1883. Today, it offers recreational and competitive tennis, rowing and sailing in a unique environment. Its historic Boathouse is one of only four of its kind in Canada and has been a meeting place for Ottawa's sports enthusiasts since 1923.

For more information, to become a member or register for a camp (or two!), visit www.onec.ca or contact ONEC Manager **Bernard Desrosiers** at info@onec.ca.

Claire Schofield



Rockcliffe Lawn Tennis Club Gears Up for its 96th Tennis Season



What do **Matthew Perry** and **Jed Cudney** have in common? Both are Rockcliffe Lawn Tennis Club junior champs and part of a long line of dynamic young players who have learned to love the game, while making friends at our neighbourhood tennis club.



Two tennis friends, Tyler Malhotra and Jack Douglas (RLTC 2017).

An Ottawa classic and one of the treasures of our neighbourhood, the RLTC is a club for players of all levels. Players can choose from group clinics, lessons with our Club pros, round-robins and tournaments.

The spring Junior After-School Tennis program begins on May 14 and runs for six weeks, and our very popular weekly summer tennis camps start June 25.

With all this tennis on the courts, there's plenty of friendship and fun at the Club for all.

There's the annual Diplomatic Tournament – in which Club members battle the diplomats for the title, family tennis nights, barbecues, breakfast at Wimbledon, the annual tennis Social and more. Or just stay for après-tennis drinks on the clubhouse deck.

We invite you to join us at the Club and be tempted by the benefits of an RLTC membership. The annual Open House takes place this year on Saturday, May 12 (rain date May 13). Come out and enjoy an organized round robin and learn more about our adult and junior tennis programs.

In the meantime, for more information about our Club and its programs, please visit our new updated Club website at www.rltennis.ca. One of the big changes you will notice is that registration and membership can now be done online. Don't delay – take advantage of early bird pricing (until April 15).

Sarah Baxter

END NOTES

Rockcliffe Park Home on Display at the Annual IODE Tour



IODE Laurentian Chapter's 57th Annual House and Garden Tour on May 12 features six homes and gardens of varying styles across Ottawa. Proceeds will benefit the Youth Services Bureau.

Rockcliffe Park's entry is a home on Ashbury Road designed by **John Bethune Roper**, typical of the pre-war era 1930s building boom in the Village. Owned for the last 20+ years by a Foreign Service family, it features art reflecting family history and various postings. The owner's father was a collector of antiques; many pieces were brought from England. The home has undergone many upgrades and recent renovations, including the kitchen, basement and back stairs.

At Rockcliffe Retirement Residence, 100 Island Lodge Road, guests will be able to purchase baked goods, listen to speakers and enjoy the music of Barbershop Therapy.

Tickets are \$35 and are available at retailers across Ottawa and online at laurentian.iode.ca. For updated news about our tour, please visit our website or call **Jo** at **613 842-5304**.



Explore Your Community with Jane's Walk

It's that time of the year again: Jane's Walk, an annual festival of free community-led walking tours, will take place this year on May 5 and 6. Walks led by local residents offer insight into local history, planning and the environment through the simple act of walking and observing together.

Find walks in your neighbourhood and around the City at www.JanesWalkOttawa.ca. Follow us on Twitter **@JanesWalkOtt** and on Facebook **@JanesWalkOttawa**.

Heritage Ottawa Lecture Series



The Algonquins of Pikwakanagan

Wednesday, April 18 | 7:00 to 8:00 pm

Join us for a special evening presentation by Pikwakanagan **Elder Ron Bernard** on the past and present of this vibrant Algonquin community. Pikwakanagan, meaning "a hilly place," is situated on the shores of the Bonnechère River and Golden Lake in Renfrew County. The Algonquins of Pikwakanagan host us on their traditional, unceded ancestral Aboriginal territory, here in the Ottawa Valley.

Speaker: Ron Bernard is a respected Elder of the Pikwakanagan First Nation who served for many years on its Council.

Lectures are held in the auditorium of the Ottawa Public Library at 120 Metcalfe Street. They are free and there is no need to pre-register. For more info visit heritageottawa.org.

Changing of the Guard at the Rockcliffe Park Spring Book Sale

After ten years as Chair of the RPRA Library Committee, Jane Dobell (seated) hands over the reins to a new team (from left): Linda McDonald (Chair), Kevin Phillips and Jane Newcombe. The sale takes place this year on April 21 and 22 at the Rockcliffe Park branch of the Ottawa Public Library. It will feature some new elements: live harp music by local resident Susan Sweeney Hermon, and, for the first time, credit cards will be accepted for purchases of \$50 and above. Thanks to our sponsors: Chartwell New Edinburgh Square Retirement Residence, Montgomery Asset Management for RBC Dominion Securities, and Dymon Storage. See you there!
Photo: Claire Schofield



Montgomery Asset Management of RBC Dominion Securities

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A proud sponsor of the 2018 Rockcliffe Park Spring Book Sale