

# GLENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Newsletter – Fall 2014

## Community Happenings

**Grenfell Glen** continues to struggle with traffic issues. Some drivers still make illegal right turns between 7 and 9 a.m. Vehicles speeding along Grenfell are a challenge, especially for pedestrians and cyclists. Inconsiderate drivers not only speed but honk at those who obey the speed limit. Speeding intensified during the summer months, usually before games at the park when players or coaches were running late. Traffic volume along Grenfell, East Adams, Avonlea and newly repaved Burnbank was highest around 3:30-6:00 p.m. Cars were observed rolling through the stop signs. Police were notified on several occasions. Through the City Recreation Department, the Community reached out to the leagues that use Grenfell Park. Staff members reminded park users (baseball, soccer, tennis) that Grenfell is a quiet residential neighbourhood with narrow streets and no sidewalks, where children play close to the street and residents cycle or walk on the streets. Park users were advised to abide by all traffic regulations.



When the athletic fields were in use, parking issues intensified along Burnbank and Pratt. Park users were asked not to park on the field and to avoid driveways. The City is proposing to place large boulders along the baseball field to prevent cars from driving onto the soccer field. It was also observed that

the barrier will need to extend along the soccer field, as well, since the same problem is happening there. A Glens Community Association (CGA) request for parking lot improvements may have to wait. There is no funding in the current capital budget to add parking to existing parks. It was not the standard practice to include designated parking areas in older parks, especially in the former City of Nepean. In order to create a parking lot with enough spots to impact on the issue, part of the park play area would need to be taken out. Other solutions are being discussed.

**Clearview** - The re-zoning of 2175 Prince of Wales is again an issue. The application is currently on hold pending submission of the transportation study addressing access from Prince of Wales and a serviceability study to confirm that the site can be serviced. The amended planning rationale and the list of permitted uses has not yet been agreed to; however, some of the uses were already discussed and rejected (gas bar, kindergarten and car dealership, among them). Residents will support development on the site provided it offers compatibility of form and function with the surrounding residential neighbourhood. The feedback from the residents indicates a resounding "NO" to car dealerships, retail malls, bars, restaurants, fast food/coffee outlets or manufacturing facilities. Community ideas for future development include elder accommodation, a 50-plus community, a combination of professional offices (e.g. lawyers, architects) and/or condos and high-end residential homes. Concerns include the close proximity to the existing residential area and the

heritage class river. The limitations put on access to the property will make it difficult to divide the two land uses.

Clearview residents have recently raised the issue of safety at the POW/Deakin crossing and access to public transit at MacFarlane. OCTranspo was contacted regarding the possibility of improved access to transit buses on MacFarlane. The construction fence will be removed in late Fall.



**Pineglenn Annex** - The long awaited repaving of Mayo took place in July, 2014. This event was most welcomed by residents living along the street. New grass was added along the shoulders.

The **Glens Community Association constitution** was created over 50 years ago and needed a few amendments. Brian Kelly reviewed the original document and suggested some changes to better reflect the community's current reality. The new document was updated and approved at the 2014 AGM. See: <http://glenscommunity.ca>

The **Glens website** has been revamped. Martin O'Connor (Pineglenn Annex) was instrumental in introducing content management and switching the site to the WordPress publishing platform. It will allow for more responsive reporting and usability. Community members will be able to provide comments and follow the GCA board via blog. Tamarack recently performed **routine line clearance** and "trimmed" trees in our area on behalf of Hydro Ottawa. Branches were dropped down (not lowered), cuts were uneven, evergreens that should never be trimmed had their entire sides shaved, and huge branches were removed from the middle of some trees. Surely these do not reflect "best forestry" practices! The work started in August/September, contrary to pruning recommendations and the company CEO stressing "the importance of pruning and cutting trees with the cosmetic view in mind and resident's sensitivity to the aesthetic impact upon their front or back garden". Hydro responded that "Hydro Ottawa's Vegetation Management program is a robust, complex and intricate aspect of their core business" and that they place a high degree of importance on all aspects of proper tree care, including safety, proper clearances, proper tree care as well as esthetics". Dialogue with Hydro Ottawa continues.



If you enjoyed the **Grenfell ice skating rink** last winter please consider helping operate the rink this season. Brian Donnelly is willing to coordinate the rink operation if he has strong, fit assistants to clean and flood the ice on a regular basis, as well as to provide some oversight of the shack. Last year, we received praise for the quality of the ice on the rink. If we do not have support to operate the rink, the Community Association will not be able to negotiate the contract with the City.

Giveaway Weekend October 25-26, 2014!!!!

CLEARVIEW ♦ GRENFELL GLEN ♦ PINEGLEN

We will have the 2014 **membership drive** during October. Please support our community association – a strong voice advocating for and protecting the interests of the Glens. The fee remains unchanged at \$5.00. Your street rep will be calling on you to update the information on our membership list (email addresses, if possible), find out if you have any concerns or ideas, and collect your fee.

**Drainage:** MacFarlane–North side had substantial standing water due to a blocked culvert. The culvert was repaired and both culvert and adjoining pipe were flushed. Merivale–Eastside had been cut with a roadside mower. Larger equipment is needed to do the brushing as the trees had grown too much. Grenfell–North side was ditched from Woodroffe to Pratt and the south side to near the first house at Grenfell. Ditch west of 180 Grenfell is directed towards Woodroffe for drainage. To add more depth to the ditch east of #288, 4-5 culverts need to be reset and a front lawn reshaped from a gentle slope to a V shape grade. Since the drainage is working along this section it was decided to stop ditching and monitor drainage before scheduling more excavation. Ottawa Public Health collected samples to assess whether there were any mosquito larvae in these ditches. The sample results indicated no larvae were present at the time of sampling. The sites will be monitored and treated, if needed.

### Social News

Some concrete underpasses in Ottawa are being transformed into colorful murals by the hands of local artists with support from the city. The mural located at Metcalfe Street was created by Ottawa Urban Arts, a group of artists that empower youth in our community and provide spaces for their voice to be heard in positive and creative ways. The artists included Cassandra Dickie, Mike Davis, Dominic Laporte and Phil Laporte. Cassandra's parents, Nardin & Paul (Pineglen West), are understandably proud of her accomplishment.

Paul Dickie had dared the community to the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge while asking everyone to support the cause. See the video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9SSmFlctuj4&feature=youtu.be>

Four GCA board members received the Ontario Service Volunteer Award 2014: Betty Anne Wilks for over 30 years of dedicated work, Dick de Jong and Mary O'Donohue for ten years of service and Elizabeth O'Connor for 5. They were chosen for their dedication and outstanding contributions to the community.

The Merivale pedestrian crossing opened on July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30 a.m. Councillor Egli led the inaugural crossing of many happy residents from The Glens and Country Place. Glens long-time resident Betty Anne Wilks was chosen to push the button operating the light to stop the traffic.

Grenfell Glen residents registered for a Fall Clean-up on October 4<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) 9:00-11:00am. Thank you all!!!

**The Glens Tennis Club** has had a very active season this summer culminating in the Club Championships Tournament at the end of August. The tournament (generously sponsored by Kunstadt Sports), ended with a family BBQ while watching the finals matches throughout the day. Congratulations to all players, champions and finalists!!!! **Men's Singles** Champion - Matt Derkach; Finalist - Jeff de Jong; **Ladies' Singles** Champion - Shannon Friesz-Lapierre; Finalist - Stephanie Bonnell; **Men's Singles Consolation** Round Champion - James Chang; Finalist ---Fengjie Yuan; **Men's Doubles** Champions - Rob Fontaine and Marc Zucker; Finalists - Arthur Cuenco and Jiang Su; **Ladies' Doubles** Champions - Izabella Dygut and Gudron Hickson; Finalists - Stephanie Bonnell and Danielle

Legault; **Mixed Doubles** Champions - Izabella Dygut and Rob Fontaine; Finalists - Shannon-Friesz-Lapierre and Peter Friesz Jr.

The Club offers programs for children and adults, for all levels of play. Tennis Pro, **Arthur Cuenco**, offers tennis lessons for adults, as well as lessons and day camps for juniors throughout the summer. This summer we initiated the Stroke of the Week and monthly Skills Development Clinics - all given by Arthur. There are weekly social doubles matches, a tennis ladder to test your skills against other club members, and monthly tournaments for all levels. Our NCTA (National Capital Tennis Association) team, which plays other city teams, won the Division I championships for the second year in a row. Be sure to check out the club website for more information [www.glenstennisclub.ca](http://www.glenstennisclub.ca).



**Municipal Elections 2014** to elect a Mayor, City Councillors and school board Trustees will be held on Monday, October 27, 2014. There are several candidates for mayor, two candidates for ward 9 councillor Keith Egli and Cristian Lambiri. There are 4 candidates for trustee from OCDSB, two from OCSB and none from either French Board. **An all candidate debate will be held at Tanglewood Community Centre (30 Woodfield), Hillsdale Room on October 19<sup>th</sup> 2014, at 7:00 p.m.**

### NCC Greenbelt Pathway Project

The Pathway along Country Place was being built when the NCC encountered land ownership issues. The transfer of land is going through the steps. NCC has signed the necessary documents, which have now been sent to the province. The province is in the process of consulting with the Algonquins of Ontario. Once the aboriginal consultations are completed, the request will be submitted to the Lieutenant Governor in Council of the Province of Ontario. There is an expectation that the process will be completed by late Fall. Once the land transfer is complete, the NCC will finish the pathway.

### Water Roundtable

This City-organized forum took place on June 14<sup>th</sup>. Agnes and Dick spent Saturday engaging on several topics - What does a healthy water environment mean to us? What actions should the City focus on to improve the health of our water environment? How can the community work with the City to protect its water environment and vice versa? What can residents do to improve the quality and manage the quantity of water run-off – on their own properties or public property? Participants engaged in many interesting exchanges, listened to presentations from the Ottawa Riverkeeper, Meredith Brown and Windmill Group Founding Partner, Jeff Westeinde. Findings will help to protect Ottawa's water resources. Private servicing was not specifically mentioned, although various participants (including ourselves) raised concerns. See: <http://app05.ottawa.ca/sirepub/agdocs.aspx?doctype=agenda&itemid=316377>

### Merivale Road - Future Plans

The City is finalizing the Merivale Road Study. The plan calls for densification to 120 people or jobs per hectare. To achieve this target some zoning amendments will be required - a broader range of uses, frontage provisions, buildings closer to the street, and increased maximum building heights for all properties to 30 metres (9 storeys).

The nearby businesses and communities, led by the Knoxdale Merivale Council (KMC), are highly concerned with the limited scope of the existing project and agree that the project should have a sound



foundation based on a more holistic approach and comprehensive mobility/traffic studies. In the meantime the group was instrumental in starting the traffic light coordination study and opening a discussion with the planners to determine how similar large cities deal with work crews, such as Rogers and Bell, which impede traffic flow on busy main arterial roads at peak times. The community led vision of Merivale, written by ward 9 resident Terrence Lonergan, was published in the *International Journal of Regeneration and Urban Renewal*. While expecting additional studies, KMC will concentrate on mapping various traffic concerns in the area, balancing needs of traffic, cyclists and pedestrians.

KMC has requested that Grant Carman Drive be modified/utilized to relieve traffic pressure on Merivale Road. City traffic staff do not foresee using this corridor as a relief valve for traffic pressure. Nevertheless, due to the implementation of the Nepean Trail (multi-use network of pathways intended to provide a safe, convenient and comfortable network of walking/cycling routes), Grant Carman is scheduled to be studied. The focus of the study will be on active modes of transportation, with the objectives of improving connectivity, safety, and attractiveness.

### Post Office Community Mailboxes

In the next few years, door to door service will be suspended. Canada Post (CP) "recognize that older neighbourhoods present different challenges for locating community mailboxes". The majority of these areas will be left until the final stage of this multi-year project. CP will take the necessary time to understand the unique needs and find solutions that work for these neighbourhoods. Safety rules dictates that: mailbox be at least nine metres (30 feet) from intersections, a safe distance from road traffic, close to existing streetlights when possible, and kept clear of snow in winter. The average distance from a home to a community mailbox should be about 10 houses or one block. Our area was never designed for community mail boxes, our corner lots are notorious for high snow piles, there are no sidewalks not to mention marker lights. Canada Post hasn't the foggiest idea how they're going to deal with mature neighbourhoods, seniors or those with mobility issues.

### City Services now available in Barrhaven

You can access many City services at the Walter Baker Sports Centre, 100 Malvern Dr., Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Services offered include: registrations; payments, information, applications, OCTranspo tickets/bus passes (excluding Presto); Property Tax Bill payment; Recreational Program information/registration; etc.

### Infill II -- Will It Protect the Community?

The Glens are taking part in the low-rise infill housing study. The purpose of the study is to ensure that infill will be done right. Discussion is centering on building scale (mass, height), lot setbacks, design/architecture, drainage, landscaping/trees/sunlight, limiting projections (balcony, staircase, bay windows), respect for neighbours' privacy, and the social impact of housing developments within communities, pushing up property taxes and changing demographics in established neighborhoods. Views varied from protecting community character to allowing for the renewal of housing that no longer meets market demand. Higher priced homes are increasing land value and property taxes. Families with average incomes cannot afford to buy infill homes, and a very different demographic group is moving into neighborhoods to purchase the much higher-priced infill homes. Retired people on fixed incomes find it difficult to pay rising property taxes. Positive change is seen as

having well-designed new or renovated homes that respect the spirit of the community, complement the streetscape, do not overwhelm other homes or affect the privacy of neighbours. For the Glens, it is important that infill homes will not negatively impact private servicing. Ottawa has outstanding world-class architects yet very few developers appear to employ their services or care about nature-oriented designs. Profit margins seem to be the primary focus.

### Advertising Community Businesses

A free service for youth seeking summer employment. Residents with home businesses: \$30. Commercial businesses: \$100. Fees are renewable annually. Includes newsletter and website ads for a year.

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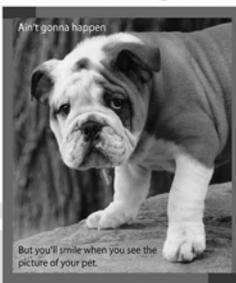
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2014/2016**

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**Vice President** Brian Kelly.....222 4205  
**Secretary** Susan Briard.....226 8790  
**Treasurer** Betty-Anne Wilks.....226 5021

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**Media/Web** Paul Dickie.....224 8014  
**Planning** Susan Briard.....226 8790  
**Servicing** Elizabeth O'Connor.....225 3187

**Events Protocol** Penny Hammell.....224 5159  
**Task Force on Clean Water** Dick de Jong.....224 5593

**Community Liaisons**  
**Grenfell** Marilyn Booth.....730 3879  
**Pineglen** Michele Lajeunesse.....225 9630

**Neighbourhood Watch** Nardin Ghahary.....224 8014

**Seniors Outreach** Dorothy Reynolds.....226 5516

**At Large** Trish Ferguson  
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**STEP to focus on distracted driving and stop signs** The Ottawa Police Service's Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) will focus on distracted driving and stop sign violations during the month of October.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REMINDER**

To report: Call

- a life-threatening emergency or crime in progress ..... 911
- other emergency or an ongoing incident (no violence or threat of violence).....230-6211
- an incident (to report a theft, missing person or stolen vehicle).....236-1222, ext.7300