Cantebury arts teacher wins Bank Street art competition

BY KAREN NESBITT

Tim desClouds, a visual arts teacher at Cantebury High School, has been selected as the finalist in the Bank Street Rehabilitation: Glebe district, public art competition. The work, “A place to rest, a place to reflect. Have a seat” consists of 26 whimsical metal chairs in various shapes, sizes and heights as a reflection of the Glebe’s history, architecture, and the diversity of individuals in the area. The chairs, like the Glebe neighborhood, will symbolize a place to nest and reflect within the larger urban landscape.

Colorful steel welded chairs created with a unifying and consistent basic design will each be given a unique personality with additions of bronze, brass, copper, as well as other found objects. The 26 chairs will be broken into different groupings at distinct locations, that traverse the street from Central Park to Lansdowne. Each grouping will contain 3 to 10 chairs imbued with visual imagery and symbols that desClouds will select in consultation with the community.

These aesthetic jewels will reflect both the historic and contemporary Glebe community. Tim desClouds believes that “a strong community is an environment that allows its citizens to grow, to learn, and to develop a sense of place.” The installations will be thought-provoking, humorous, and magical punctuations to the Glebe environment — “tributes to the journeys we all take in our everyday lives and to the landscapes found along the way, which form the backdrop of our existence.”

The selection committee was confident that this artwork would stand the test of time and engage the Glebe community and visitors to this area for generations. The work’s strong aesthetic and timeless nature made it a clear winner in this art competition.

The public art program commissions local artists’ works for display in public spaces. One per cent of the funds for municipal development projects is set aside for public art in order to beautify the space and make art accessible to everyone.

In keeping with its percentage for art policy, the city’s public art program initiated a two-stage competition for a site-specific work of art to be integrated into the Bank Street Rehabilitation project. The project’s selection criteria included such things as artistic excellence, experience of the artist, site integration, reflection of the community and sustainability.

The Glebe community was given a preview of the submissions from the finalists in this competition: Stephen Brathwaite, Elaine DeCoursey, Don McVeigh and Cairn Cunnane, Tim desClouds, Maskall Lasserre, Jennifer Mackelm and Kip Jones, Chandler Swain and Carolyn Pynn-Truead. At this viewing, the public was asked to record their comments about the six proposals. The art selection committee, who deliberated long and hard on the proposals, took these comments into consideration prior to the selection of the winning artist’s proposal. The art is scheduled to be installed at the end of the Bank Street reconstruction period.

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NEXT DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 2008 FOR THE JANUARY 18 ISSUE
Calling all emerging
Glebe poets over 18

Glebe Report Poetry Contest
Theme: “Life in the Glebe”
Deadline: Feb. 15, 2008

How to enter

Guidelines
• The contest is open to all Glebe residents 18 and older who have never been published.
• All entries must be original and the poet must not be published in any form.
• Poems must be in English and may be in any style.
• Poems should not exceed 25 lines or 250 words
• One entry per person.
• Do give your poem a title, but not “Life in the Glebe” please.
• Entries should be typed on 8.5” x 11” white paper.
• The entrant’s name must not appear on the manuscript.
• Please include a separate sheet with your name, address, phone number, e-mail address (if applicable), word or line count and title.
• The final deadline for entries has been extended to Fri., Feb. 15, 2008.
• The Glebe Report accepts no responsibility for lost, relayed or incomplete entries.

Prizes
Each of our three judges (Judy Peacocke, David Rampton and JC Sulzenko) will select the best quality poem that addresses the theme “Life in the Glebe.” Winners will be notified by phone or e-mail by March 1, 2008. The selected entries will be included in the “Winners Triangle” published in the March 14 or April 18 issue. In event of a tie, a coin toss will determine which of the two judges voting for the same poem can select another one.

By e-mail
Send your entry as text (.txt), formatted text (.rtf), Word (.doc) or Pages (.pages) attachment to: glebe.report@mac.com with the subject line “Poetry Contest Entry”.

Regular mail or drop off
Send or drop off three copies of your entry to: Glebe Report, 175 Third Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario K1S 2K2. Poems must be typewritten on 8.5”x11” white paper. Entries will not be returned.
The Glebe Centre's Evening at the Races

BY SUE WALKER

On Thurs., Nov. 8, friends, sponsors, staff and volunteers gathered at the Rideau Carleton Race Track in support of The Glebe Centre's first annual Evening at the Races. This event was a great success and raised over $5,000 in support of programs and services for local area seniors and residents of the facility. The Glebe Centre is one of the largest non-profit long term care facilities in Ottawa. It also provides outreach services to seniors living in their own homes throughout the area. Each year The Glebe Centre raises over $300,000 to support the ongoing needs of its programs and services.

A big thank you goes out to the sponsors of this event: Colonel By Retirement Residence, JPL Construction, Scotiabank, TD Waterhouse, Futuremed, Family Physiotherapy Centre, Commercial Printers, BFI Canada, Medigas Ottawa and Nutri-Lawn.

Light up the Glebe!

BY MOE HARB

"Light the Glebe" will light the hearts of many people this holiday season. Businesses within the Glebe area will donate a fully decorated Christmas tree which will be displayed at the Palisades. During "Light the Glebe," residents of the Palisades and guests will be able to judge the donated Christmas trees for creativity and originality. Not only will the residents of the Palisades be able to enjoy the splendor of having many different Christmas trees to decorate their residence but the local community will enjoy the dazzling and brilliant lights with the money raised through ticket sales. Finally when all of our hearts are warmed, the fully decorated Christmas trees will be donated to families who are in need of a Christmas tree to make their holiday season even more warm and wonderful one.

Join us on Dec. 18 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, contact Aylene McKeown or Bryce Billy at 613-565-5212, ext. 6728.

WINTER OVERNIGHT PARKING REGULATIONS

November 15 to April 1

Winter overnight parking regulations are in effect throughout the City from November 15 until April 1. This means that you cannot park on City streets between 1 a.m. and 7 a.m. when a snowfall of 7 cm or more is forecast by Environment Canada in the Ottawa area. This includes any forecast of a range of snow of more than 7 cm, for example 5 to 10 cm. On-street parking permit holders are exempt from winter overnight parking restrictions.

To be in the know about snow and find out if an overnight parking restriction is in effect:

- Sign up for Winter Parking e-Alerts at ottawa.ca/winterparking to receive e-mail notification of overnight parking restrictions.
- Visit ottawa.ca/newsroom for special advisories about on-street parking restrictions.
- Call 3-1-1 (TTY: 613-580-2401).
- Listen to local media for special advisories about on-street parking.

Planned Snow Removal

Look for temporary "no parking" snow removal signs posted ahead of time alerting motorists when daytime or nighttime snow removal is planned and when on-street parking is not permitted. Do not park where you see temporary "no parking" snow removal signs posted or your vehicle will be ticketed and towed to a nearby street. This restriction applies to all vehicles, including those with on-street parking permits.

ottawa.ca/winterparking

SNOWFLAKES

There is something immensely comforting in snowflakes which fall in slow and silent parade. They remind us the universe is unfolding, but do it with a shrug as if in other places, there are also snowflakes; or if not snowflakes then an unfolding with the usual origins, thrills, and departures.

(from Canal Season)

Clive Doucet

GEOGRAPHY REPORT 2008 DEADLINES

MONTH AD & EDITORIAL PAPER OUT

January January 4 January 18
February February 1 February 15
March March 29 May 14
April April 6 April 18
May May 2 May 16
June June 30 June 13

NO JULY PAPER

August August 1 August 15
September September 29 September 12
October October 26 October 17
November November 31 November 14
December December 28 December 12

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Advertising rates are based on electronic material supplied in PDF format with fonts embedded in file. Layout services are extra at a minimum of $26.50 (GST included). Scans for photos are additional at $10.60 each (GST included).

Payment by cheque or cash is required with material for all first-time advertisers for the first three insertions or with each insertion for infrequent advertisers.

We are required to charge the federal Goods and Services Tax (GST). The total price (including GST) is listed below. The Glebe Report GST number is R104180472.

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Here's to you!

2008 is just around the corner. I'd like to take this opportunity to acknowledge some of the people behind the scenes who helped with the production of the Glebe Report this past year.

To our volunteer columnists, Bob Brocklebank, president of the Glebe Community Association; Lesley Caltcalf, Business Buzz columnist; Clive Doucet, our city councillor; Sherry Johnson, our neighbourhood expert; Steve Reid, Alex Richards, Carley Richmond-Ward, the Rogers family, Paul Wernick, Chantal West, Margot's, Francesco's, the Diegel family, Mitchell and Jackson Elborn, the Ferguson family, Matthew & Emersdale Fernandes, Judy Field, Brigid & Kevin Finnerty, Harper's, and Joseph Fraser, Emma, Keltie, Lauchlan & Duncan Gable, Samuel Getachew, Gabrielle Giguere, Elizabeth Gordon, Stuart & Andrew Gordon, Gary Greenwood, Nazanine Griffith, Roxanne Griffith, Marjolein Groeneweld, Daniel Guarnier, David Guzman, Maximilian Highghat, Rebecca, Madeline & Bridget Hall, Sarah Hamid, Lois Hardy, the Hamer-Wilson family, the Hawkins family, Ellis & Calla Heyman, Sebastien Hoffman-McMullin, Matthew Hofler, Christian Hormuth, Gillian Irish, the Johnston family, Patrick & Jessica Kelly, Carly & Reilly Kinney, Liam Kirkpatrick, Mary & Imre Kovacs, Bonnie Kruspe, Magdalena & Fredrik Kucinska-Abrahamson, the Kuffner family, the Lambert family, Dawson Lyon, Sam Lyon, and Maria Macintosh, Emily and Oliver Maddox, Pat Marshall, Loretta Martignago, Madeline & Tara Martin, Philip & Fiona Mason, Heather May, Gordon McCaffrey, Fiona and Timothy McCarthy-Kennedy, Ellen & John McLeod, Katie Millington, Julia Monaghan, Diane Munier, Sana Nesrallah, Ian Nunn, Jim Ouellette, Angie Ovel, Maria Parnell, the Stephenson family, the corner.

To our board of directors and to our office staff, Gwendolyn Best, assistant editor, who did the layout and illustrations; Micheline Boyle, our production assistant; Judy Field, advertising manager; copy editors, Annie Alton, M.C. Gabrelth, Deidre Nishimura, Suzanne Nussey and Catherine Shepherd who made sure we got our i’s and crossed our t’s; Sheila Pocock, business manager; and to the over two dozen proofreaders and technical experts who contributed long hours every month to help pull all the pieces together and send the paper to Winchester Print, our printer for the past nine years.

To Zita Taylor, our circulation manager and her team of sub-delivers and carriers, young and old, who brave cold winds and downpours to make sure the paper arrives promptly at your doorstep every month. A big thank you to such a wonderful group of people. I wish you and your families peace and happiness throughout the holidays and I look forward to working with you all again in 2008.

If you are interested in volunteering with the Glebe Report, please e-mail me at glebe.report@mac.com.

Views expressed in the Glebe Report are those of our contributors. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Articles selected for publication will be published in both a hard-copy monthly version and an electronic version to be included on the Glebe Report website — www.gleberesport.ca.

Welcome to: Sandra Webster

Thanks to: Hannah Weins

Routes available:
Lyons Street — Fifth to Second

OUR VOLUNTEER CARRIERS

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Our next deadline is January 4, 2009, for both advertising and article submissions.

The next Glebe Report will be out on Friday, January 18, 2008.

CALL: Zita Taylor at 235-1214, e-mail: zitaylor@webruler.ca, if you are willing to deliver a route for us.
Sign taken from building site

Editor, Glebe Report
On or around the first week of November, we had a very large sign stolen from our building site on the corner of Wilton and Bank. The sign was a canvas banner, 40 ft long and cost quite a bit of money to produce. I hate to think that much material is going to end up being thrown out when it could easily have another life after this construction project.

We would like to notify the person that stole it that we would like the banner returned. We will accept its return, no questions asked. Please just throw it back over the fence.

Cheryl Gladu
EcoCitie Developments

Noise creates stress for our neighborhood

Editor, Glebe Report

Bravo to John Smart for his very reasonable request for effective regulation of the ever-escalating noise pollution in Ottawa. There is no need for motors to be as loud as that of the heating-cooling system at the Lord Lansdowne, nor for loudspeakers to be anywhere near the volume used by Lansdowne Park, Bluesfest, or many other public events. It’s hard to believe that anyone attending these events actually needs the volume so high. Probably only the organizers, hungry for attention, and the sound engineers and a few dished fans who have deamed themselves through prolonged exposure, really want things so noisy. Children and many adults who approach within a block of such speakers experience pain, and the stress is felt by many more of us within a larger radius. In August, the World Health Organization reported that hundreds of thousands of deaths worldwide are caused by stress generated by noise pollution.

Ottawa’s current by-law should be enough to restrict the worst excesses, but the law is only enforced if someone living near enough phones to complain, and even then for some reason there is often no relief. I do not know whether this is because there are not enough by-law officers to visit the sites, or whether the rules are ignored or not enforced.

Thanks to John Smart for writing, and to the GCA and PCA for your efforts so far. No one benefits from noise pollution, and too many people suffer. I’d be happy to help the GCA and PCA in your efforts to get city hall to pay attention.

Ceci Cranston

We remember

GERALD LEAVER, MBE (1918-2007)

Gerry was an active member and organizer of the St. James Tennis Club for many years. In recognition of his contributions, he was made a life-time member in the nineties – the only time this has been done. Awarded the MBE in 1944 for bravery in the war and “great devotion to duty at all times,” Gerry was a Glebeite we can all be proud of having had as a neighbour and committed member of our community.

submitted by friends at St James Tennis Club

One house, two famous folk

Editor, Glebe Report

Thank you for the lovely Glebe Report article (“Match the Celebrities with their old homes in the Glebe”). It is great fun and I am honoured. What is really funny is that, as well as 156 Glebe, we also lived at 137 Third from 1989-92! I bought the house on return from Sri Lanka.

Carolyn McAskie
United Nations

Editor’s Note: When Ms. McAskie came back from being Canadian High Commissioner in Sri Lanka, she must have bought the house from William and Mari Corbett, who were named as the former owners in the celebrity quiz. Due to an editorial slip, Senator Eugene Forsey and Shelagh Rogers were said to have lived in houses on Lakeview Road, rather than Lakeview Terrace. There is no Lakeview Road anywhere in Ottawa.

Have your say

Send a letter to the editor to glebe.report@mac.com

DID YOU HAVE A BABY IN 2007?

The Glebe Report will be publishing BABIES OF THE GLEBE 2007

There will be a special feature included in the January 18 issue of the Glebe Report highlighting the babies born in our community in 2007.

DEADLINE

The deadline for including your baby in this feature is December 21, 2007. For babies born after the deadline, info can be submitted until January 1, 2008.

Remember to include:

Baby’s name and colour photo, date of birth, both parents names, address and phone number

mail to:
Glebe Report, 175 Third Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario K1S 2K2
or e-mail to:
glebe.report@mac.com

Community WebLinks

City of Ottawa
Glebe Community Association (GCA)
Glebe History
Glebe Report
Glebe Neighbourhood Activities Group
Ottawa Public Library
The Glebe Centre
Corpus Christi Catholic School
Glashan Intermediate School
Glebe Collegiate Institute
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Hopewell Avenue Public School
Immaculata Catholic High School
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DID YOU HAVE A BABY IN 2007?
Suggestions for our Lansdowne Park

Editor, Glebe Report

While it is important to consult the public on possible redevelopment of Lansdowne Park, that consultation will only be valuable if the ideas presented are good ones and the city acts on the best of them. In this light, I would like to offer a few arguments about possible uses for the land.

The future of Frank Clare stadium

It makes no sense to have a massive eyesore of a football stadium if the city does not have a professional football team. While I myself like football, it does not seem that there is enough support to the city to merit repeated tries at planting a CFL franchise. Given this situation, and especially given the recently discovered structural problems with the stadium, the strongest case seems to be for demolishing it.

Public, private, or mixed-use

This has been public space since 1868. At this point, its designation as a public good should be unchallengeable, and it should be unthinkable to sell part of it for private use as it would be to sell part of the Public Gardens or the Commons in Halifax, or to put condos in Hyde Park in London. If Ottawa is to grow into a world-class city, it must have the courage to say “no” to developers who want to eat up public spaces. Without open public green spaces, and public-use facilities, large metropolitan areas become simply mile after mile of urban hell. Lansdowne Park is one of the most significant open public spaces in the downtown core, and it must remain that way.

Redevelopment ideas

I think something like the Halifax Public Gardens and Commons would be the best way to redevelop the area. Get rid of the stadium and huge parking lots, plant an English garden or arboretum, and leave some space for children to play soccer. Leave the Cattle Castle and hockey rink, both of which are pleasing to the eye. It would be the perfect combination of public facilities with public green space. What more could you want?

Gregory MacIsaac

Fair, public consultation for Lansdowne Park

Editor, Glebe Report

As Glebe residents living on Queen Elizabeth Drive, which is steadily becoming a freeway (-heavy volume of traffic, no pedestrian crossings, no traffic controls) we think these memories will exacerbate an already untenable situation. Densification of housing, commercialization both retail and sports, and tourist accommodation will combine to turn the freeway into a nightmare. We strongly support every effort to make the decision about development at Lansdowne Park the result of “a fair, transparent and public consultation” (Glebe Report – October 12, 2007).

Yours truly,
Robert and Isabel Cameron

Stadium at Lansdowne Park full of memories

Editor, Glebe Report

Re: What should be done about Lansdowne Park?

Lansdowne Park, and its stadium were an important part of my experience growing up in the Glebe. I have many great memories, I am sure others do as well. Sadly, I think these memories have been forgotten among many of the now Globe adults debating the park’s re-development.

I saw my first ever rock concert at Lansdowne – Canadian legend, Bryan Adams as part of the Super-Ex summer lineup. I was 10 years old. Bryan Adams in the Glebe, what a great first concert experience! I was also at Lansdowne when Alanis Morrisette opened for Vanilla Ice. It was huge. We were in grade eleven at the time. Hilarious in hindsight, of course, but these are the things kid’s memories are made of...not Starbucks, boutiques and luxury condominiums.

I remember cheering on our Glebe Griffins football team playing city final games at Lansdowne stadium. This was a big deal to us, decked in yellow and blue. It was our turf! What an awesome asset to have in the neighbourhood. I remember running up and down the ramps of the south-side stands, our modified hill training with the cross-country running team. I remember being excited about the Super-Ex, the rides and games, I remember sitting on friends’ roofs trying to listen in to open-air concerts, and who could forget the Avalanche ice slide?

Just this summer, I huddled, along with other Glebies, on the Bank Street bridge trying to get a view of sold out World Cup soccer! World Cup soccer in our neighbourhood, how fortunate! Not to mention, regular Ottawa 67s games and football – it would be great to get a CFL team back!

I play soccer weekly under the dome at Lansdowne all winter long, and have done so for the last five years. This is a great facility and is packed all the time, I assure you.

The activities at Lansdowne bring people and consumers into our neighbourhood. This is a good thing. It should be welcomed! If traffic and parking are the issues, then let’s deal with those issues. Surely we can come up with some creative public transit solutions. Toronto’s SkyDome is right downtown after all.

The facilities at Lansdowne Park, and most specifically its stadium, bring diverse and rich experiences and opportunities to the kids growing up here and the adults living here. I can attest on both counts after first hand experience and would be very sad to see it go. This is a very valuable community resource. We should be fighting to keep it.

Jeannie Wynne-Edwards

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Many ideas brought forth about Lansdowne Park

BY JUNE CREEMLAN

What do you get when you bring 1,200 people together to talk about the future of Lansdowne Park? You get enthusiastic participation, lots of ideas, and a surprising amount of consensus. At least, that’s what happened when the Glebe Community Association (GCA) hosted its “Community Dialogue on the future of Lansdowne Park” on Nov. 19. The crowd (about 75 per cent from the Glebe and 25 per cent from other parts of the city) was divided into 19 dialogue groups. Each group talked about the top 3 things they wanted to see at Lansdowne Park and what should be avoided there. When the group leaders came to the microphone to report, something magical happened. Person after person said the same thing: Lansdowne Park should be a green, vibrant, multi-use, year-round, public, people’s Park should be.

The key consensus points that emerged were:

- Lansdowne Park should remain in public hands. The land should not be sold, though parts could be leased.
- The vast majority of the land should be used for public purposes and public enjoyment.
- Lansdowne Park should be revitalized as a multi-use, year-round people space that is busy 365 days a year, just like for occasional special events.
- Lansdowne Park should be green and sustainable (e.g., lots of green space and parkland, little to no surface asphalt, sustainably designed buildings, improved transit services). Lansdowne should not be a single function, but should be mixed use. The key vocation for Lansdowne is to provide amateur sports and recreation (e.g., soccer fields, tennis courts, rinks/ovals, skateboard parks, jogging tracks, swimming pools, parkland/gardens). There is also keen interest in a permanent farmers’ market and cultural facilities.
- Any new buildings should be low-rise (4 storeys); there is some interest in mixed use retail along Bank Street and openness to some residential in select locations (such as along Holmwood) – but not along the canal.
- There is a desire to connect Lansdowne to the canal and make it feel like a waterfront park.
- The vast acres of asphalt for surface parking should be eliminated and replaced by underground parking.
- There should be no big box stores or mega developments such as casinos or big hotels.
- There is a need to integrate Lansdowne’s site and services with the surrounding community (especially the community park) and to consider traffic and noise impacts of any new developments.
- Only a minority are interested in keeping professional sports or the SuperFest at Lansdowne Park. The majority felt that activities which cover only a few days each year should not drive the future design vision for Lansdowne.
- There were hundreds of ideas presented. Some people envisaged pedestrian bridges and water taxi; some saw cultural facilities, mixed in with cafes and artists studios. Many spoke of gardens and sports facilities. Models cited included Vancouver’s Granville Island, Montreal’s Mount Royal or Chicago’s Millennium Park.

What’s next for Lansdowne Park?

City council has approved the idea of a design competition for the site, the winner of which would get the right to develop Lansdowne Park. However, the competition, which will require $350,000 to organize, is still subject to the city’s budget deliberations. If the city approves the budget, we expect formal public consultations on the design guidelines in January. If not, the whole project may just die.

Lansdowne Park design competition schedule

Jan. 22: Launch of consultation with public information session at Lansdowne Park
Jan. 29: public consultation (more information to come)
Feb. 26: public workshop (more information to come)
Spring 2008: design brief goes to the Planning and Environment Committee and council for approval
Late spring 2008: formal competition launch.
*(subject to budget approval)*

Check the GCA’s website, www.glebeca.ca, for complete notes on our community dialogue, the results of our on-line survey, a link to the city staff report on the proposed design competition and any late breaking news on Lansdowne Park.

GCA engaged in Lansdowne Park, administrative reform and city planning

Nevertheless the question of administrative reform raised by the mayor is worth considering. Although the city produces reams of material and has an extensive website, the financial information available to the public does not permit an adequate understanding of the business activities of the city. For example, I asked at last year’s budget debate whether the city made a profit on its parking operations. There seemed to be no answer to the question. This leads me to conclude that we may be subsidizing parking without any discussion of whether this serves some social purpose. Other cities have established parking authorities which are required to produce reports on their operation. By contrast, Ottawa conducts operations as sub-sections of the city bureaucracy, hidden from public examination. As if the budget does not give us enough to chew on, we are also engaged in consultations about revising the official plan of the city. This is the master planning document, required by provincial legislation, which must be reconsidered every five years. Kick-off consultation events for this process have been held – one on rural issues and another more oriented to urban questions. A series of white papers has been released to stimulate debate. An online discussion forum, “Ottawa Talks,” permits everyone to voice their views on the future of the city.

Many of the questions raised in white papers are exactly what people ask me on the street. For example, one paper asks – should we have a target of increasing density in our neighbourhood? How would we measure density? How should the public be consulted on development proposals? Should building proposals be subject to design review? How can new buildings be accommodated in existing communities?

After the budget debate concludes, we should lick our wounds, break for the holidays and, in the new year, re-engage in fundamental debate about the future of our city.

Our next GCA meeting will be Tues., Jan. 22.

CHILDREN’S MUSIC. LIMITED EDITION

The Flutterbug Songbook

by maggieBLUE

1. Bob the Puppydog
2. Mr. Racoon
3. The Popsicle Club
4. Pussycat
5. Picnic in the Park
6. Mrs. Tiggy Winkle’s
7. Chickadee
8. Flutterbug

SOLD EXCLUSIVELY AT MRS. TIGGY WINKLE’S
"Taste" turns ten

BY JEFF FROGGETT

Ten years old and getting better! Thanks to you, the residents of this great neighborhood, and a very supportive local restaurant and food retail community, Taste of the Glebe has become a staple, an ‘annual’ that pulls us out of the January doldrums.

The event was born out of a desire to show city hall that we were serious about our community centre, and deserving of the financial support required to renovate the venerable structure that had become the heart and soul of our neighborhood.

Now, a decade and a beautifully rejuvenated building later, we are poised to take this event to the next level. “Taste of the Glebe” has been renamed “Taste IN the Glebe.” And for the first time, we are inviting food retailers from outside the community to participate.

We are also bringing in popular Ottawa Citizen wine columnist Rod Phillips to help you taste wines you have never experienced before. We have only forty tickets available for this special wine tasting, at $40 each. Come and wrap your tongue around vintages that are older than some of your children.

Also, new this year, a chance for you and your friends to bid on a special prize package. Bluesfest executive director and Glebe resident, Mark Monaghan, has graciously offered to put together a unique musical experience involving VIP seating, a special backstage tour and a chance to meet your favorite Bluesfest headliner.

Tickets are now on sale at the community centre. See you on Thurs., Jan. 17 for the social event of 2008!
Beat the winter blues
Sign up for a winter program

By Mary Tsai-Davies

Visit our website at www.gnag.ca. Click on registration and follow the prompts. On-line registration for preschool programs begins Wed., Dec. 12 at 11:00 p.m. All other program registration begins Thursday, Dec. 13 at 11:00 p.m. We also accept in-person registration and telephone registration on the following day (613-564-1058 or 613-233-8713). We offer something for everyone!

A very special Snowflake Special

On Dec. 8, GNAG is hosting its annual winter party, the Snowflake Special. Guests will be greeted by Alain Bard, a giant stilt walker, as they enter a festive winter wonderland in our magnificent Scotton Hall. The evening will feature a full house of talent and happy (painted) faces. I would like to extend our thanks to Christine McAllister, coordinator of this wonderful festival and her volunteer holiday helpers. The gifted performers from our GNAG programs will be showcasing some amazing talent. We have had very generous food donations from local merchants; Loblaw's, Shoppers Drug Mart, Morala and McKeen's Loeb Glebe. Weather permitting, the evening will end with an awesome performance by Jean Guy Beaudry from Mini Cirque doing some amazing fire juggling outdoors. Don’t forget to bring your gently used or new mittens to this year’s event for the Warm Hands Network. All items will be clipped to our mittens tree and later shipped to kids in Northern Labrador and Mongolia.

Many thanks for your generosity!

Holiday break camp
Jan. 2-4

GNAG has an incredible line-up of activities for this year’s holiday break camp! We are offering full-day adventure and excitement for children 5-12 years old who attend the public or Catholic school boards. Activities include workshops, outdoor winter adventures, games, swimming and much, much more! Register today while spaces are available. Call GCC for more details: 613-233-8713 or 613-564-1058.

Glamour in the Glebe

Are you a jeweller? Would you like to participate in a glamorous jewellery show? Come celebrate women at our 2nd annual jewellery show on Mother’s Day weekend (May 9-10, 2008). This two-day event will feature 30 artisans, a beautiful jewellery fashion show and an opening party on Friday night. Go to www.gnag.ca/events/gig.htm for details of this event or to download your vendor application.

Arts and crafts galore!

On Nov. 16-18, over 50 artisans displayed and sold their beautiful work at the GNAG Craft and Artisan fair.

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Thirty Years Ago in the Glebe Report:
Vol. 5 No. 11, December, 1977

By Ian McKercher

Public consultation on the Glebe Neighbourhood study was ongoing. Some recent suggestions at Interest Committee Meetings included: covered sidewalks and streeighting on Bank Street in order to provide a “village” atmosphere, a by-law amendment to allow group homes to be a permitted use within residential zones, new community uses for Lansdowne Park, non-profit co-op housing as an alternative to high cost housing in the Glebe, and creating accommodation for students in the homes of senior citizens for mutual support and benefit.

The Embassy of Israel, which had been located at 45 Powell Avenue since 1954, had just moved to Laurier Avenue. New owners of 45 Powell, Ray and Elda Thomas, were busy restoring the offices back into a home. Fourteen phones, a switchboard and a security television scanning device were the first things to go. The fortified front door had lost its security guard, and was about to lose its steel door and bars.

The McKeen-Willis IGA at 754 Bank Street was about to expand. In the supermarket area, new equipment was to be installed and the decor modernized for the first time since the IGA opened on this site in 1955. The Olympic Coin Shop at 774 Bank Street was to be converted into a Cantor Bakery, a unique new franchised bakery and delieteria. An interior passage way would join the two store fronts.

Glebe resident Dr. David Hopper had recently been appointed to the Projects Advisory Board of the Unitarian Service Committee (USC). Dr. Hopper had wide experience as a consultant and visiting professor, especially with the Food Agriculturial Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and with the World Bank. Founded in 1945, the USC is a nonpolitical, nonracial, nondenominational overseas relief and development agency with over 100 projects in 12 countries.

This retrospective is filed monthly by Ian McKercher of the Glebe Historical Society (GHS). The GHS welcomes the donation or loan (for copying) of any item that documents the past in the Glebe (photographs, maps, deeds, news articles, posters, programs, memorabilia, etc.). You can contact Ian at 613-235-4865 or ian.mckercher@opera.ncf.can.
Needle hunting in Hintonburg

By Clyde Sanger

"Rising Early after Night of Snow" – it sounds like a poem that Robert Frost might have written. Or else the start of a lyrical depiction of wintertime Yellowknife in the sparkling book Launce Night on Air that has just won Elizabeth Hay of Ottawa the Giller Prize.

In this case, it is neither of those. It is much more down to earth. Taking Moto for a morning’s walk to the dog park, I have often come across a neighbour returning from the Bank Street bus stop with a pleasant smile and an unusual bit of headgear. He carries a small bag and we greet each other. He sometimes replies, when I ask how he is: "Well, I'm old and ugly and stupid. But I'm happy."

Most of that is untrue. He was born in 1945, when I was halfway through high school. He has a great face, full of kindly character. And he's definitely not stupid. He worked as a clerk-stenographer for many years for the City of Regina and, in Vancouver, for CP transport. And he is certainly happy in his job as a needle hunter, which is what is printed on his cap, and also on the jacket provided by the Causeway Work Centre. He is part of a team (among four separate teams) that scour city parks and nearby spots for abandoned syringes and other residue that drug takers have dropped in public places.

I accompanied Richard Himbeault one morning recently, to learn about his job – and his own life. Four times a week he's been getting up at 5:15 a.m. to catch a couple of buses to his rendez-vous at Parkdale and Wellington at 7 a.m. We left a bit later, as I had the car. While we waited in the Cozemos Café for his colleague Pat Saumier to arrive from the west end, he bought me a coffee and talked.

He had been born in Assiniboine, a primarily francophone town in Saskatchewan, but his father, a master carpenter, moved the family out to British Columbia when he was two. Richard was third of six children (three brothers, two sisters) and Mission, BC is still the family base. His training in typing and shorthand gave him extra mobility. We compared notes about Pitman’s shorthand as Tony poured the coffee.

When Pat arrived, we set off on the needle hunt. I had brought along the 36-inch gripper acquired after hip replacements, while Richard had his "tweaker" of similar length, for picking up whatever we might find to remove. Pat checked in a nearby park, while we walked around the stalls of the Parkdale market. Only the vegetable stall run by Denis and Nicole Lemieux was still open with a notice, "Open to end of November or snowstorm." Which will be first? I asked. "Chicken and egg," said Denis enigmatically. "I like Brussels sprouts," added Richard.

We walked east along Armstrong to the little McCormick Park, with play equipment and a knoll ("No dogs"). Opposite is the Bobbypin Hair Studio, where our son Matt has sometimes been. Pat stirred the autumn leaves vigorously, as Richard said: "There are often things left by the wall behind it."

Not today, though. As we walked on, I asked him about what drugs were most common in this area of Hintonburg. His answer was vague: "I'm an innocent. I've never taken an illegal drug in my life." But he described the "cookiers, the size of beer bottle tops," used to heat the cocaine into crack, which they sometimes found.

At Hubert Heating we got talking with a stenomason in a truck, and then started chatting about grey and black squirrels, and so veered off the route the Causeway people set down for his team, and went north searching the front lawns on Pinhey to Scott. So we missed Pat when we finally reached Cozy’s Café, where Aam was serving some singular meal their regular breakfast ("Eggs Benedict Steak" was advertised) and it was my turn to buy coffee.

Richard clearly felt he hadn't produced much, and was put on his mettle. So on our walk back along Wellington, he pointed out where he’d once picked up a condom wrapper on the steps of L’Eglise Saint-François-d’Assise, and we stumbled along a grassy ditch beside the Salvation Army centre. In the gutter on Wellington, his tweaker hooked a paper-clip – "they're used on cookers" – and, our big find that day, a transparent envelope, which he calls "a nickel bag." They are used to hold $10 worth of dope, he said.

Not much of a haul, but a pleasant walk. Maybe Hintonburg has changed somewhat since the days described in John Leaning's 2003 narrative history of Hintonburg and Mechanicsville. Or maybe the approach of snow was shutting down more than the Lemieux stall.

Happy Holidays

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Thanks

to all of you we're celebrating 28 years in the Glebe during the holiday season. We look forward to seeing you over the holidays and wish you and your family a happy New Year!

Glebe Report December 7, 2007

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COUNCILLOR’S REPORT

Budget delusions and budget solutions

By Councillor Clive Doucet

Eternity is composed of wishes. Society is made of stories.

When the 2008 draft budget was presented to council, the mayor began the questions and debate with his observation that the budget was really about two different philosophies: one where reducing management costs could solve the city’s problems, and the other where city managers think city management could just keep growing.

I took exception to these comments because they don’t reflect reality. The reality is that amongst Ontario’s cities, the City of Ottawa has levied the smallest tax increase since amalgamation in 2000. Three years in a row there were 0 per cent increases – no other amalgamated city administration has done that. Kent Kirkpatrick, our city manager, was the principal author of those budgets. But we cannot go on doing this without fundamentally damming the quality of life for all residents. It’s very clear that these 0 per cent budgets have created an atmosphere of panic, anger and decline in city services. The Pembina Institute notes that Ottawa is already in the bottom third of 27 Canadian cities for the funding of all neighbourhood services like parks, recreation and community.

Cities that prosper are cities like Vancouver, Seattle and Boulder, Colorado, where the councils continue to invest in city services. Selling off Ottawa Hydro or Lansdowne Park isn’t a long-term solution for anything but increased public sector poverty.

The 2008 draft budget is reminiscent of the 2004 “universal program review” with cuts to community centres and libraries once again proposed. The libraries and community centres facing the axe are not in our ward this time but that’s no comfort. This budget is not about building community, or about making Ottawa more sustainable, or about making Ottawa a better place to live. It is hard not to immediately adopt a defensive mindset – how can we minimize the harm? It is a necessary mindset but it is not sufficient. City council should be looking to improve the city as whole and this budget isn’t even trying.

I want to be engaged in a constructive budget process where the debate is how and when to fund things like Bank Street reconstruction (something which is conspicuously absent from the 3 year forecast in this draft budget). Instead, I’ll be looking to avoid reductions in skating rinks and swimming pools while building the concert hall, refurbishing the Old Ottawa South Firehall and getting a design for Lansdowne Park. Nor does it make any financial sense to be putting off this work for years. Construction costs are rising three times as fast as the consumer price index – so pay as you go really means pay and wait. We should be city building not city dismantling.

The answer to our financial woes is and has always been getting a fair share of the tax dollar. Toronto Mayor Miller’s campaign for 1 per cent of the GST for cities is the answer – that will deliver Ottawa about 70 million dollars annually and just about cover our deficit. Property tax hikes can’t and shouldn’t achieve this.

The upper levels of government are swimming in surpluses but aren’t using this wealth to re-invest where it is critically needed: cities. Cities are more than mere corporate side-cars of the province. Most Canadians live in cities. Prime Minister Harper and Finance Minister Flaherty can’t get away with saying that municipal problems aren’t any of their business. Cities are the largest constituency in the country and the largest economic generators.

Most cities are serving notice to the upper levels of government: share the wealth or be responsible for the decline of Canadian cities. It is high time Ottawa joined other municipalities in Canada. We need to stand firm with the likes of Toronto and Montreal.

Ottawa did the quick and easy stuff to hold our property taxes to the lowest increases in the years right after amalgamation. We are overdue to get some long-term measures to address our budget shortfalls and our infrastructure needs.

That’s why I will be continuing to lead the battle in Ottawa for a municipal share of the GST or PST. Cities can no longer continue to deliver 60 per cent of your services with an 8 per cent share of the taxes you pay – no matter how many managers they fire.

Coffee with Clive

Coffee with Clive continues at the Wild Oat on Bank in the Glebe on the third Thursday of the month from 9-10 a.m.

Clive Doucet
City of Ottawa
110 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa, ON K1P 1J1
Tel.: 613-580-2487
Fax: 613-580-2527
Clive.Doucet@ottawa.ca
www.clivedoucet.com
Gifts that make a difference

Fair trade is an internationally recognized system of doing business that focuses on better trading conditions for producers and workers in developing countries. For over 60 years, Ten Thousand Villages stores in North America have been working directly with artisans in over 35 developing countries, to provide a market for them to sell their handicrafts. With 50 stores in Canada, Ten Thousand Villages has opened their second Ottawa store in Ottawa South at 1174 Bank Street.

There is a wide variety of products available, including fair trade coffee, chocolate, tea, and hand-made crafts such as limes, jewellery, toys, ceramics, musical instruments, and home decor. “All the products are of very high quality, the toys are tested for small parts and lead paint, and organic dyes are used” explains assistant store manager Judy Lincoln. Most items in the store also have an artisan story that staff can share with customers, including where they are from, the materials used, perhaps a personal story of the artisans, and other products the group produced. The level of detail leaves customers feeling confident that their purchase does make a difference.

If you are looking for a truly unique (or even a last minute) gift, Ten Thousand Villages sells “Living Gifts,” a special holiday program designed to inspire alternative gift giving. Available at the store (or online until Dec. 31) “Living Gifts” start at $19.00 for a donation that provides meals for a month to an orphaned child. $350.00 provides a family with a cow, a goat, a pig, a sheep and 18 rabbits! Ten Thousand Villages is a non-profit organization that depends on volunteers at all store locations. The store often hosts artisans speaking events, has a quarterly e-newsletter and has an excellent website for more information. Store hours are Mon. to Thurs., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Fri., 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sat., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (closed Sunday).

Ten Thousand Villages
1174 Bank Street
613-736-0441
www.tenthousandvillages.ca

Hip holiday wear

You don’t need to travel to Montreal to find the latest fashions or go south of the border for great prices – it’s all right here in the Glebe at Pom Pom Boutique. The store is packed with the latest trends at very reasonable prices. The wide selection of fashion tops, pants, skirts, jackets, bags, boots, shoes, hats, and accessories – many for under $100 – are great for women of any age looking for the latest trends.

Open since 2004, Pom Pom Boutique (732 Bank St.) owners Natalie Szabo and Greg Best also own The Sassy Bead Co and Bank St. Framing in the Glebe. “Our goal is to have small stores with the human touch,” says Natalie. “We want them to feel like stores in small towns where everybody knows everybody.” Pom Pom certainly achieves this goal with friendly staff, unique finds and fun decor.

November was a busy month for Pom Pom, starting with the annual customer appreciation night on Nov. 7. Over 200 people turned out for an evening of sushi, wine, cheese and a fashion show of the latest in casual, business and evening wear. Pom Pom participated in fashion shows at Heaven nightclub on Nov. 10, in support of Child Haven International and at Helsinki Lounge on Nov. 15 to support the Snowsuit Fund of Ottawa. The team also worked with the Bank Street Framing shop to decorate a home as part of the Homes for the Holiday house tour in support of The Hospice at May Court.

Pom Pom is a fun store and, with new merchandise arriving weekly, it always has a fresh, up-to-date selection of everything for the young and young-at-heart. Sizes range from 0 to 18, with some items available online. The store is open Mon.-Fri., 9-30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sat., 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sun., 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Pom Pom Boutique
732 Bank St.
613-298-0655
www.pompomboutique.ca

continued on page 14
continued from page 13

Treat yourself to wellness

Walking by Planet Botanix (911 Bank St.) one can't help but think this is a gardening shop with a twist. Yes, they do sell garden tools, pots, herbs, and growing kits, but there is also a wide range of organic soaps, all-natural household products, books, specialty items made by local artisans and most importantly, a staff of massage therapists who provide a variety of therapies, wellness and healing classes and spiritual consulting.

An aromatherapist and natural healing expert, Heather Garrod, opened Planet Botanix in 2005 to provide registered massage therapies, give interactive do-it-yourself workshops and promote high quality organic body care products. As the store grew to include additional therapists and complementary products, so did Heather's awareness of how Ottawa's holistic healing community could better connect. Wanting to bring the community together to make it easy for clients to find specific services, Heather teamed up with former Alpha Video owner and website designer Dan Franke to launch www.healingtree.community.com. The website includes a directory of local holistic practitioners, events, workshops and courses, healthy recipes, wellness articles and an on-line store.

To All Our Loyal Clients and Friends,

At this festive time of year when we gather with Family and Friends, Tracy and her Team at Tracy Arnett Realty Ltd. would like to thank you for all of your support and contributions to our community throughout the past year.

We wish you and your families a very Happy Holiday Season and prosperity in the coming year.

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If the holiday season has you stressed, you come down with a cold or are looking for a great gift, Planet Botanix and the website are both great places to visit for ideas. A soothing hot stone massage, Chi Nei Tsang (healing Tao massage), Reflexology, Reiki and Intuitive Angel Readings are all available right here in the Glebe. For more information visit the store or www.healingtree.communitytree.com.

Planet Botanix
911 Bank St.
613-230-0222
www.planetbotanix.com

Guilty pleasures
What is it that makes us nuts of old fashioned hot chocolate so magical or the truffle the most decadent of all confections? According to Truffle Treasures owner, Lara Vaarre, it’s all in the chocolate. A clothing designer by training, Lara fell into the chocolate making business in 2001 when she purchased a used chocolate-maker from legendary Ottawa pastry chef, Russell Bloomfield. In his 92nd year and retiring, Mr. Bloomfield also shared his secret recipes with Lara, who turned the chance opportunity into one of Ottawa’s most successful small businesses.

After working as a pastry chef at the House of Commons and attending the École Lenôtre Culinary and Pastry School in Paris, Lara opened the first Truffle Treasures in Toronto in 2003 and a second location in Westboro in 2004. A Glebeite herself, Lara always wanted to have a store in the Glebe and jumped on the opportunity to open her second Ottawa location at 769 Bank St. (old Innis pharmacy location).

The truffles are handmade with the highest quality chocolate from Europe, and Lara is also making her own chocolate – a job that takes lots of time and skill. Using organic, solar roasted, fair trade cocoa from Mexico, Lara is dedicated to putting Ottawa on the gourmet chocolate making map. All her hard work has been recognized by awards such as the 2005 Ottawa Small Business of the Year award and the Ottawa Business Journal naming Lara as one of the “Top Forty Under 40” in 2006.

“There is nothing like gourmet chocolate,” says Lara with a big smile, “except perhaps freshly made gelato!” The truffles are truly amaz- ing, the hot chocolate in a league of it’s own and anyone who has tasted the fresh daily gelato (available in the summer) at the Westboro location will tell you how delicious it is as well. Truffle Treasures opened its doors on Dec. 1, but everyone is welcome to stop in to meet Lara and taste the sweets at the Grand Opening celebration on Jan. 1, 2008.

A list of chocolate making courses, store events, and the “chocolate” menu can be found on her website. The store hours are Mon. – Fri., 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sun., 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Truffle Treasures
769 Bank St.
www.truffletreasures.com

Wag owners (l to r) Joan Garvey and Lyne Burton

It’s a dog’s life
For many pet owners, the furry friend really is a member of the family. Open since 2005, Wag is a pet friendly café in Ottawa South that embraces the way many people feel about pets today. It is a coffee shop and specialty pet supply store, and a welcoming place to join friends for a cup of freshly roasted coffee without having to leave your dog at home.

Joan Garvey and Lyne Burton opened Wag knowing it was unique to Ottawa, if not the rest of Canada. A popular coffee shop during the day, Wag also hosts a number of evening social events each month, such as an “Oodles of Poodles” evening for poodles and an “Ask The Trainer” evening with a professional dog trainer. The store is full of great gifts for the pampered pet: bowls, beds, collars, toys, gourmet snacks and fuzzy winter doggie-coats are a few of the many items available. Keep an eye on the website for fun and informative events throughout the year or just pop in for a coffee, snack and kibble break, where it really is a dog’s life.

Wag...a posh shop for spoiled pets
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613-730-4647
www.wagpetshop.ca

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Wag owners (l to r) Joan Garvey and Lyne Burton

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Thorne in bloom

By Joseline Sulzenko

Just as scrapers, shovels and boots come out, it may seem odd to write about blooms, but, after this warm autumn, it's hard to let go of the garden. What better way to hang on to the knowledge that spring is only five months away than to chat with Linda Thorne? Linda, who left her government job to run Thorne and Company, a gardener’s dream emporium on Bank Street for 15 years, and who decided in 2005 to close up shop and move to that year-round, green paradise, Vancouver Island. Her decision left many of us bereft.

But guess what? She couldn’t bear to leave! She still lives happily in the Glebe, enjoying her garden, her Golden Retriever/Yellow Lab (a former ‘trainee’ guide dog for the blind), and the unexpected turn in her life when she was asked to judge the 2007 national Communities In Bloom competition.

“I’d been recommended to Communities in Bloom as a potential judge even while I still had my business. When the organization next approached me, it was seeking a judge who practiced as a landscape architect. I admitted I didn’t have that qualification, of course. Then I told them about the store, my horticultural know-how, the garden tours I’ve been leading abroad since 1999, and the Masters of Arts in Public Administration I hold. They offered me the job. My MPA finally paid off!” Linda chuckles.

Communities in Bloom is not just about floral displays and landscapes in urban settings. It is open to many categories of entrants, from small towns to mega cities, and assesses a range of qualities, including environmental awareness, urban forestry management, community involvement, heritage, and turf management.

“I learned a lot from being a judge, particularly since I jumped right into the toughest category, major cities, with its five finalists: Halifax, Mississauga, London, Toronto and Edmonton. I volunteered my time and feel it was a privilege to see different aspects of our country and to meet people with such pride in and passion for where they work and live.”

Although a bout of sciatica stopped Linda from visiting Edmonton, she and her experienced co-judge, Matt Rosen, teamed up in July for dawn-to-dusk tours of the other four contestant cities. Each municipality offered the judges a unique approach to Communities in Bloom. London, which took part in the national competition for the first time, highlighted the effectiveness of the city’s alliances with the private sector. Halifax, where the regional municipality covers a huge geographical area, apologized for fog during the tour, but the power of its creative solutions shone through. In oh-so-urban Mississauga, the judges dined with Mayor Hazel McCallion and learned how partnerships with the private sector and end-users of urban spaces could create beautiful and practical urban places and even address the challenge of graffiti in the community.

“At the awards ceremony in Moncton in September, Toronto won. Even in the context of real budget woes, all city projects there have to align with the mayor’s vision for Toronto as a clean and beautiful place. During our visit, it was clear how much recreation, park and forestry staff love their city and their jobs and how their dedication translates into ‘WOW’ gardens, the adoption of ‘orphan spaces’ by people in the community and recycling initiatives. Toronto is really big on trees,” Linda adds.

It’s obvious that Linda Thorne loved the experience and would gladly judge again. What’s next? She’ll wait out the winter and then dig deep into the soil of her garden. “Then, I’m leading garden tours to Tuscany in late May and to the south of France during the first two weeks of September. Apart from these travel plans, I’m not going anywhere.” And that’s a good thing! For information on Linda Thorne’s tours, write her at thorneandco@artscape.ca.

---

*Didi Bahini*

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www.bloomfieldsflowers.com
Neighbourhood businesses sell toques to help the homeless

BY STEPHANIE SMALL

Glebe businesses are selling a selection of colourful toques this winter to support Raising the Roof – the national charity that works to help end homelessness – and a neighbourhood drop-in centre, Centre 507.

Raising the Roof has raised over $2.5 million across Canada since 1996. This year, Centre 507 is the local beneficiary of the toques sold in Ottawa. Centre 507 will earn $8 for every $10 toque sold. The other $2 goes to national homelessness initiatives. The toques are donated by corporate sponsors. You can pick up one of these great-looking toques at Glebe Fitness, Loeb Glebe or Octopus Books.

Centre 507, at 507 Bank Street just north of the Queensway, is a drop-in centre for people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, as well as people who are socially isolated. Besides offering a bowl of soup and a safe place out of the cold, Centre 507 offers a wide range of practical services and programs aimed at helping people turn their lives around.

People often first come to Centre 507 because they are hungry. But the Centre offers much more. A life management skills worker helps people build résumés and put their best foot forward in interviews, so they can find paid employment. Volunteer and paid cooking and cleaning positions are also available at the Centre itself. Several people have graduated from these positions to long-term employment in the community.

The Centre also offers workshops on budgeting and on dealing with emotions such as anger and sadness, as well as cooking classes, fitness classes and a regular book club meeting. Volunteers come in regularly to help in tangible ways, such as mending clothes, and in more subtle ways, like sharing a conversation or a game of chess. In addition, two outreach workers hit the streets every day to help folks who can’t or won’t come into the Centre.

Centre 507 also helps to solve practical problems. Staff might give advice on conflicts with a friend or neighbour. They might provide a couple of bus tickets to get someone to an appointment on time. It’s amazing what a big difference these small things can make.

Centre 507 cannot do this work without a great deal of help. It relies on the ongoing support of the community.

When you buy a Raising the Roof toque, you’ll warm up on the outside and feel good on the inside, because you will be helping Centre 507 meet a fundraising target of $15,000. Across the country, the goal is to sell 75,000 toques. Canadians are asked to wear the toques proudly on Toque Tuesday, Feb. 5.
Menopause
What are my options?

BY AMANDA BLAZIEVC

There has been a lot of buzz regarding women's health over recent years, especially since the Women's Health Initiative (WHI) study was published. This study alerted us to the possible increased risks of breast cancer and cardiovascular issues with our "classic" hormone replacement therapy (HRT).

...but that's just it...."possible." It all depended how one looked at the data. If you log onto www.whi.org, you may browse the study's findings in digestible language. In the group that received both estrogen and progesterone therapies, there were eight additional cases of breast cancer for every 10,000 women over one year. Eight per ten thousand doesn't seem like a big deal. However, as demonstrated to me during a conference two years ago, if you consider how many prescriptions were written that year for HRT (let's say, 10 million), the numbers per population suddenly look more staggering.

It seems that since then, women and health care professionals alike were left balancing the possible risks and benefits of such therapy for each woman. It also meant that all of a sudden, there was an influx of women demanding something safer to help their menopause symptoms...and who can blame us?

Women became interested in "natural" estrogen replacers. Herbal products such as soy, black cohosh, or other herbs came into popularity, and also under scrutiny. These plants contain molecules called "iso-flavones" that resemble estrogen and are supposed to exert the same effect as estrogen in our bodies.

There are several issues with that. Studies for effectiveness of these products do exist; however, these are small in participant number and have design flaws. Plus, even if the results are good, you can only attribute the benefit to the specific brand they tested, as each herbal product differs from the next. Herbas may not be any safer than HRT, as indicated by lower toxicity cases in Australia from black cohosh.

Bio-identical hormone therapy (BHRT) has also gained a huge amount of interest lately. BHRT involves using naturally-sourced hormones (namely estrogen, progesterone and testosterone). These hormones are then converted in a lab to look biologically identical to what we have in our bodies.

Be warned that products labelled as "natural" may be far from bi-identical! A prefect example is the over the counter wild yam cream. Wild yam creams do contain the precursor to progesterone, but we cannot convert that into actual progesterone in our bodies!

The hormones are then made into individual preparations at a compounding pharmacy by prescription only. Ideally your doctor will have a keen insight into how to prescribe and monitor this therapy, as it should be highly specialized for each woman. Pharmacists at compounding pharmacies can play a key role here, guiding physicians new to this therapy.

For women reading up on BHRT, it seems like the holy grail. It is natural and individual for each woman, and testimonies are glowing. Keep in mind however, that you are still using hormones, and hormones must be used appropriately! There are not large long-term safety trails for BHRT, so I'm not sure what can say it is completely safe. Data from smaller trials are good. Anecdotes from personal experience of women starting BHRT, it seems that although effects are very minimal, which is very promising.

At the very least, this therapy gives women another option to consider, and I feel it is pushing us in the right direction: individual regimens for each woman, hormone level testing to promote "test and treat" versus "guess and treat;" and therapies that aim to balance hormones, rather than super-dosing.

Last but NOT least, are the non-drug options for menopause symptoms. You just cannot ignore them! Our lifestyles affect our health.

Take a look at your diet and activity level. Decrease trans fats and "boxed" foods. Reduce sugar. Add extra vegetables. Take the aspects of the new Canada Food Guide, and better yet, talk to a dietician if you aren't sure where to start.

Another option is to try to reduce the impact of hot flashes, and is great for heart health.

The key to a smooth transition through menopause is staying informed of your options. Don't forget lifestyle changes, and seek out a dietician or physical trainer if you need a kick-start. Talk to your pharmacist and doctor about that's right for you!

Amanda Blazievic is a pharmacist at Glebe Pharmasave Apothecary.
HOMEWOOD CHRISTMAS TREES

Types of trees grown in Ontario

Scots pine
An exotic species, often referred to as Scotch pine. A popular Christmas tree with medium length needles, green to blue-green in colour. Excellent needle retention is characteristic. Requires annual shearing and pruning to produce a dense, shapely 8 foot tree, 7-10 years from planting.

White spruce
The only Christmas tree native to Ontario, and the traditional Christmas tree to many. Foliage is short, pointed needles, green to blue-green. Slower growing than the pines, spruce require 8-12 years from planting, with annual trimming, to produce an 8 foot tree.

Balsam fir
A native Canadian tree, and long time favourite. Needles are short, flat and blunt, green to blue-green in colour, and have a pleasing, distinctive aroma. Fir trees hold their needles well and are a good choice if the decorated tree is to be left standing for a longer period of time. Annual trimming for 8-12 years is required for good quality trees over 8 feet in height.

Douglas fir
A native of the Pacific coast forests and of the Rocky Mountain regions. Needles are singed, flattened, soft and relatively short. Colour is dark green above and pale green below. Easily identified by its cylindrical, pointed red-brown bud. An excellent Christmas tree but somewhat difficult to grow in eastern Canada because of its susceptibility to spring frosts. Some plantations have been established in southern Ontario. Requires annual trimming for 8-12 years to produce quality 6-7 foot Christmas trees.

Fraser fir
An introduced species native to southeastern United States, foliage is similar to balsam fir except needles are darker green and waxy above with silvery lines beneath. Has a very pleasing appearance as a Christmas tree with excellent needle retention. Some plantations have recently been established in southern Ontario. Grows relatively slowly and requires 12-16 years to become a quality Christmas tree.

Colorado spruce
The Colorado Blue spruce is a truly beautiful tree which is now in greater demand for Christmas. It has adapted well to Ontario’s climate, but grows more slowly than the White Spruce. Needle colour ranges from dark green to powdery blue with needles that are 1 inch long.

White pine
The White pine is an excellent Christmas tree that is a favourite of pine buyers. The long soft needles, in bundles of five, are blue-green in colour with just a hint of white. Moderately strong boughs weep gracefully with the weight of ornaments. Years of meticulous shearing create a dense conical tree that stands straight and retains its needles throughout the Christmas season. It prefers sandy soil and tolerates cold winters.

O real Christmas tree
Facts about real Christmas trees

Each year about three million Canadian families enjoy a natural Christmas tree. About one million of those families are in Ontario. The major Christmas tree producing provinces are Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia. Growing time for a Christmas tree is 7 to 15 years and even longer now that more exotic species are being introduced. Each year, new Christmas tree seedlings are planted to replace the harvested trees. To ensure a crop each year, there are ten more trees, at different stages of growth, for each tree harvested.

In eastern Canada, the most popular Christmas trees are Scotch pine, White spruce and Balsam fir, although Fraser fir and White pine are also gaining in popularity. In western Canada, Douglas fir and Scotch pine are traditionally most popular.

Thousands of people are employed by the Canadian natural Christmas tree industry. And Canadian grown Christmas trees are an important export commodity. Exporting provinces are: Quebec (46 per cent), Nova Scotia (33 per cent), New Brunswick (19 per cent) (as a share of total exports, based on phytosanitary export certificates issued by Agriculture Canada).

The Christmas Tree Harvest Festival held each December brings families from towns and cities across Ontario “back to the farm” in a North American-wide tradition of bringing home a fragrant real Christmas tree.
CHRISTMAS TREES

The beauty of a real tree

Am I harming the forest by choosing a real tree?

Definitely not! Christmas trees do not come from the forest! Almost everywhere in North America and certainly in Ontario, Christmas trees are grown as a crop on tree farms. For every tree harvested, there are ten more coming along, otherwise the farmer could not harvest each year.

Is tree farming harmful to our environment?

No! Christmas trees are, except for cultivated forests, the most environmentally friendly crop around. This is because a tree is harvested only after ten years. To ensure future harvests, 90 per cent of the farm must remain in trees all the time.

How are real Christmas trees beneficial to our environment?

Just one acre of Christmas trees produces enough oxygen to support 18 people. In the process, CO₂ is taken out of the atmosphere, countering the production of CO₂ resulting from human use of fossil fuels. Trees also act as air pollution filters and can remove up to 13 tons of airborne pollutants per acre per year. Christmas tree farms are havens for a wide variety of bird and mammal species, including grosbeaks, sparrows, chickadees, foxes, coyotes, mice, voles, and squirrels. The "edge effect" created by a stand of Christmas trees next to a woodlot or an open field is known to increase wildlife species diversity.

Will my Christmas tree cause problems at the landfill site after Christmas?

No. Most municipalities collect discarded natural Christmas trees and chip them for use as mulching materials. Real Christmas trees are completely biodegradable and will, on their own, break down and return their stored nutrients to the soil from which they came. There are also other ways in which real Christmas trees go right on giving long after the Christmas season is over. They can be used as bird feeders, wood products can be made from their stumps or they can be used as wildlife cover in fish ponds and woodlots alike.

Caring for cut Christmas trees

Remember, a Christmas tree is a living thing. Look after it as carefully as you would a cut flower. Once you select a Christmas tree, follow these suggestions to keep it fresh and safe:

- If you buy your tree several days before you plan to set it up, store the tree outdoors or on a cool porch or patio until you are ready to decorate. An area that provides protection from the wind and sun will help the tree retain its moisture.
- If you plan to store the tree for several days, make a straight cut across the butt end of the tree about one inch from the end. This opens the tree stem so it can take up water. Store the tree upright and place the butt end in a container of water.
- When you bring the tree into the house for decorating, make another fresh cut across the trunk about an inch from the original cut. Use a tree stand that holds plenty of water.
- Trees are thirsty. They may drink up to four litres of water per day, so be sure to check daily and supply fresh water as needed. A stand which holds at least four litres of water is recommended. If you allow the water level to drop below the bottom of the tree, a seal will form just as it does on a cut flower, and a new cut will be necessary.
- Place your tree away from fireplaces, radiators, television sets and other sources of heat. Turn off the tree lights when you leave and before you retire at night.
- Avoid the use of combustible decorations. Check all electric lights and connections. Do not use lights with worn or frayed cords and never use lighted candles on a Christmas tree.

Following these care and protection measures should ensure an attractive tree that stays fresh indoors for two to three weeks.

All information on these pages provided by the Christmas Tree Farmers of Ontario.

List of tree farms in the greater Ottawa area

Briggs cut-your-own Christmas Trees
Phone: 613-835-2955
Navan – 10 min. east of Orleans. From Ottawa take Hwy 417 east to Exit 88, Rockdale Road. Travel north on Rockdale Rd. and follow the directions below. From Orleans take Trim Rd. south to Navan, left on Colonial Road. 3 km, right on Rockdale Road 2 km to #4075, watch for signs. Spruce and Scotch pine trees and pick up one of our natural Christmas wreaths. Tree prices – $3.50 per foot. Open every day, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Nov. 24 to Dec. 24.

C&C Tree Farm
Phone: 613-925-5028
Prescott – 7113 Brown Road, 1 km west of Matilda, Merrickville Road, between Algonquin and North Augusta. Scotch pine, Blue and White spruce and Balsam. Open Fri., Sat. and Sun. in December until Christmas, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Cedar Hill Berry Farm...
and Christmas Trees too
Phone: 613-256-2014
Cedar Hill/Pakenham – From Ottawa: Hwy 417 west to exit #135 – Hwy 17 to Almonte. Then Hwy 29 to Cedar Hill Rd. Go left, follow signs. White spruce, Scotch pine, Fraser and Balsam fir. Wagon rides, 30m covered bridge, bonfire. Fresh evergreen wreaths, homemade jam, sliding hills.

Fallowfield Tree Farm
Phone: 613-831-0968
Ottawa – 6130 Fallowfield Road., right in the city, at Barrhaven and Kanata. Exit Hwy 416 at Fallowfield, go 8 km west, farm just past Eagleson Rd. Lots of signs. Complete selection of Christmas trees, cut your own or freshly pre-cut. Open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Nov. 25. Night lighting, Free hayrides, hot chocolate, bonfires, shaking, bailing. Scouts sell hot dogs the three weekends before Christmas. Santa has been spied in the fields from time to time.

Hillcrest Tree Farm
Phone: 613-489-2094; fax: 613-489-0522
North Gower – From Ottawa, go south on Hwy 416. Take Exit #42 (Dilworth Rd), turn right and go 1 km to stop sign and turn right again. Farm is 1/2 km on right. Scotch pine and spruce available. Complimentary tree shaking and bailing. Horse drawn sleigh rides on weekends.

Laird’s U-Cut Tree Farm
Osgoode – 10 min. from Rideau Carleton slots on Manotick Station Rd. From Ottawa west on #416 S., exit 49. Turn left on Roger Stevens Dr., follow signs.

Thomas Tree Farm
Phone: 613-489-2314
North Gower – 20km south of Ottawa on Hwy 416; w on Roger Stevens Drive, north on McCordick Rd. Pine, balsam and spruce. Free hayrides, hot chocolate, cookies, boughs, cleaning, baling. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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151B Second Avenue (Just steps from Bank Street)
613-233-7277

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Glebe Report December 7, 2007 21
Giving the gift of wine

BY DAVE ISACS

This year I think I will finally be fulfilling a dream of mine: being able to complete all of my Christmas shopping without leaving the Glebe! My secret weapon in this quest is the LCBO. Even the person who already has everything can appreciate a bottle of good wine.

The LCBO is well aware that wine makes the perfect gift for many people. Their holiday catalogue landed in my mailbox a few weeks ago, and simultaneously appeared in stores, to entice me to buy, perhaps, Cognac in a bottle shaped like a bicycle or a pair of wines in a leather-upholstered gift box. It appears that not even wine is so sacred that it can’t be turned into a novelty item.

If you are going to make a gift of wine, however, it’s better to focus on the wine and not the packaging. Like other types of gifts, it helps to know the likes and dislikes of the recipient. Does he or she love red wine and hate white wine? What about dessert wine or sparkling wine? Armed with this information, you can enter the Glebe LCBO and turn left into the Vintages section. Here you will find wines that are usually a cut above those found in the rest of the store, in quality as well as price. Most of the selection in the Vintages section turns over quickly, with new selections being released every two weeks. If you have no ideas beyond “he wants something that can go in the cellar” or “she likes Spanish reds,” then talk to the LCBO product consultant. He will be able to guide you to good suggestions to fit your budget.

There is no need, however, to ignore the rest of the store. The wines from the “general list” (as it is known) have the advantage of always being available, so if your gift of wine is a hit, the lucky recipient will be able to buy it. Although most of the wines from the general list are less expensive than those in the Vintages section, there are still a lot of great quality wines to be found. To help guide you to the best wine to buy for that special someone, check out The 500 Best-value Wines in the LCBO, authored by Rod Phillips of WineAlign. Rod (who is the wine columnist for the Ottawa Citizen) and Vic tasted the approximately 1,500 wines that are regularly available in the LCBO, and chose the 500 that give the best value for the money (all this, by the way, happened around Rod’s dining room table right here in the Glebe). Not all the wines listed in the book are inexpensive, but they all deliver a great wine experience that is well worth the money paid. The book itself makes a great stocking stuffer. Buy it online from Chapters if, like me, you want to avoid leaving the neighbourhood this December.

If you really want to give a bottle of wine that stands – literally – out of the crowd, consider buying a magnum. Magnums, or 1500 ml bottles, of wine look impressive on the dinner table, and are great for large parties. Magnums are more than just big fancy packaging, however, since they are also excellent for cellaring. The larger the bottle, the lower the air-to-wine ratio in the bottle, resulting in longer and more graceful aging. Bottles larger than a magnum are awkward to handle, making the magnum the optimum size for the wine cellar. You can also go the opposite direction and give a selection of half-bottles. Half-bottles, 375 ml in size, are great gifts for couples since they contain the perfect amount of wine for two people to drink with dinner. And, since they are cheaper than full-sized bottles, you can buy a whole bunch and make a variety pack. Half-bottles are really rather cute too.

So this year if you really want to simplify your Christmas shopping, think wine. You might be able to cross all the adults off your shopping list at once. All I have to do is to think of their vocation – my clergyman and turn them into the opposite direction and give a selection of half-bottles. Half-bottles, 375 ml in size, are great gifts for couples since they contain the perfect amount of wine for two people to drink with dinner. And, since they are cheaper than full-sized bottles, you can buy a whole bunch and make a variety pack. Half-bottles are really rather cute too.

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- fieldhouse, fitness studio, open skating.
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special casual rates. 10% off for new members.

613-520-4480

Catherine St. Mini Storage
399 Catherine St.

We at Catherine St. Mini Storage would like to thank our customers for their patronage over the last year. We look forward to serving you with storage and packing supplies for years to come. Best wishes to everyone and have a happy New Year.

613-234-6888

Bank Street Framing
728 Bank St.

Come and visit us! Best of Ottawa’s Christmas decor section this season. Choose seasonal gifts from our eclectic gallery that are sure to make a lasting impression. We have extended shopping hours until 9 pm. Have a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

613-563-4110

Bloomfield Flowers
101 Fourth Ave.

Bloomfield's is open seven days a week this season to enchant and delight. Visit the shop to admire the gorgeous floral pieces and holiday decorations, or call today to order the perfect gift for yourself, a friend, or a family member.

613-230-6434

Bryson Farms

We grow 2,000 varieties of fresh, local, certified organic, heirloom vegetables and home deliver fresh vegetables to your door year round. We are at the Parkdale Market on weekends from August through October. Register for our home delivery at www.brysonfarms.com. Thank you for your support in 2007 and wishing you all the best in 2008.

613-236-2512

Denys Builds Designs

Paul Denys

In your renovation "Lost in Translation"? I am an Ottawa based renovator that specializes in everything from modern renovations to historic restorations. As a creative designer who also builds with the environment in mind, I have a passion for combining historical elements with new technology. Please take a moment and explore some of our exceptional spaces at www.Denys.ca.

613-236-6516

Donna Edwards

House Portraits - Perfect as a gift or as a keepsake. Let me produce a black-and-white drawing or a watercolour of your home, in a format that can be framed and/or reproduced to use in note cards, invitations, etc. Commisions under $150. Call soon if needed by Christmas!

613-233-4775

Edwards Painting

Residential interior and exterior painting. Thank you and Merry Christmas to all the Glebe customers that have used me to paint their living spaces! I am available for small and large projects, and come with multiple references and an eye for detail. Cheri Rob

613-233-4775

Escape

Women's Classic Casual Clothing Store
703 Bank St.

For 18 years we have had the pleasure of meeting and helping so many wonderful people at Escape. Thank you. Love, laughter, gratitude, peace and kindness fill this holiday season. Store gift wrapping $2.00 a box - proceeds to May Court.

613-567-3989

Faulkner Real Estate Ltd.

Faulkner Real Estate Ltd. is a niche brokerage that sets itself apart through its commitment to public education, empowering buyers and sellers to make informed decisions. Globe resident and company founder, Judy Faulkner extends her holiday wish: "Fill your home with friends, neighbours, laughter and love. Together, we build our community. www.HomesInOttawa.com.

613-231-4663
Glebe G & Gift

Thank you for your business during the past year. The Glebe G & Gift team wants to wish you and your families a very safe and blessed Christmas New Year. Happy holidays to you all. For you of the festivities. www.glebegift.com
613-234-8574

Glebe Spa
Imagine... a holistic spa retreat in the city. A unique experience for all-round relaxation, and the benefits of our unique treatments. Holiday cheer is the gathering of friends and family. We will be happy to accommodate your group and needs. www.glebeoga.com
613-567-7720

Humphreys on Bank
From management and staff at Humphreys we wish you and your family all the best this holiday season. We are very happy to introduce you to our new Christmas gift specials. Handcrafted, individually designed, some are collectible, some are rare. Order soon for Christmas. Happy holidays to everyone in the new year.
613-232-1888

Grace in the Kitchen
Come into the Kitchen in your neighbouring ledum and parent shop. We are proud to offer you a great variety of goods, including kitchen appliances, wine, food, and kitchen gadgets. Plenty and knowledge of customer service. www.graceinthekitchen.com
613-551-4818

Helen Budge
Real Estate Sales Representative
Coldwell Banker Cohum REALTY
1415 Wayne Dr.
As your neighbourhood Realtor, I am happy to offer you this recipe. I would like to wish you a very healthy and happy holiday season, and thank you all for your support over the past year. I look forward to serving you in the future. I am happy to have you as a client.
613-226-8790

Joe Mama Bike & Board Co.
218 Prince Dr.
Joe Mama Bike & Board Co. is proud to offer you a variety of high-quality products. We carry a wide range of bikes and products. We are looking forward to serving you.
613-893-3001

Kaleidoscope Kids' Books
99 Fifth Ave., Unit 7
Enjoy a 20% discount on all book purchases. We have a wide selection of books for kids of all ages. Our collection is constantly growing, so be sure to check back. We look forward to serving you!
613-232-7406

Home Hardware
336 Bank St.
The holidays are here! It is time to deck out and as always, we ensure to stock a wide selection of items. We are happy to see you, and we appreciate the use of Home Hardware gift cards.
613-234-6353

Lord Lansdowne Retirement Residence
225 Bank St.
Lord Lansdowne staff and management would like to wish you and your family all the best this holiday season. We appreciate your continued support to the neighbourhood. Thank you and we invite you to visit any time over the holidays. It has been an honour to serve you.
613-230-9900

Maggie Jewellery
790 Bank St. 
Join us at Maggie Jewellery, where we have a great selection of gifts, from jewelry to fashion accessories. We are located in the heart of the Glebe. We wish you all a happy and healthy New Year.
613-237-3065

Moden Hair Styling & Esthetics
176 Bank St.
When you walk through the door, you instantly become part of our family. We have a great selection of products and services for all needs. Please come in and explore our collection. We are here to help you.
613-730-0105

Mr. Foundation Inc.
240 Carling Rd. C/O 30
Health, happiness and good fortune to you and your family for the holiday season, and for the new year. Our sincerest thanks for the confidence you have shown us in our work.
613-746-7301

Twiggy Winks
638 Bank St.
Mega Books Annual Roma Centre Canadian Toy Testing Centre "Best Toy" 2004 Award Winner! 2005. Look for this and other CTTC Award winners at Mrs. Twiggy Winks. A special thank you to all our customers for this continuing support of local independent stores. Happy holidays and wish you a very happy and healthy New Year! wwwtwiggywinks.com
613-234-8383

OFMC, The Ottawa folklore Centre
For over 25 years, we've offered community music programs to children and adults. We are currently offering programming for children, youth, and adults. Happy holidays and wish you a very happy and healthy New Year!
613-230-0222

SimpleRaw
A very warm thanks to everyone who continues to enjoy SimpleRaw and choose to include our healthy, seasonal, plant-based meals in their diet. For the new year, we are offering a special dish each week from the beginning of January until March 31st. Our menu will include dishes such as soups, stews, and salads. We look forward to seeing you this year.
613-234-0806
...the Glebe Report's way of saying thank you to our advertisers for their support during 2007.

Slick & Sassy
AUG Bank St.

It has been a real pleasure to serve our clients and customers in 2007. As we approach the end of the year we would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and happy holidays. If you need a hair service, cutting, dry cleaning or sewing, please drop in anytime. www.slickandsassy.com

613-236-2662

St. James Tennis Club
Behind the Glebe Community Centre

Play tennis next summer! At St. James Tennis Club, we have five courts for kids, round robin, tournaments and professional instruction for all levels. Tennis is a great way to stay in shape and meet people. Look for our flyers and membership application in the Glebe Report in the spring. www.stjamesstennis.ca

613-237-5469

Surround Circle Yoga
15 Aylmer Ave.

Thanks to everyone who makes Surround Circle Yoga a community of seekers on a path. Share your love of yoga with a friend. Stocking Stuffer Special - purchase a gift certificate for a series or a workshop in 2008 and receive a complimentary class. www.surroundcircleyoga.com

613-730-6649

Susan Wyatt Sales
Promotional Clothing & Products

Thank you to all businesses, schools, groups and individuals who used Susan Wyatt Sales during 2007. And for those of you who did not - please call us for all your promotional needs in 2008! We provide clothing and numerous other products for screenprinting, embroidery, etching, etc. We can do it all.

613-233-7993

The Hooper Group
610 Bronson Ave.

We would like to thank you for your support, trust, and business over the past 20 years. From our family to you, we wish you a very happy holiday season, and health, happiness and prosperity in the New Year. www.HooperGroup.com

613-788-2588

The Pantry
175 Third Ave.

The Pantry, a cozy vegetarian restaurant and terroir nestled in the Glebe Community Centre, is celebrating 32 years; a timeless return to great grandmother's kitchen. Enter an old world of wholesome soups, sandwiches, salads, daily entrees and desserts (90 - 100% organic). Join us from 11:30 am to 3 pm Monday - Friday.

613-233-2784

The Sassy Bead Co.
757 Bank St.

Looking to give something personal and memorable this year? Create a one-of-a-kind gift for a loved one under our staff's caring guidance. Running out of time? Gift certificates are a perfect option. Open 7 days a week with extended hours Monday to Friday 10 am - 9 pm. www.thesassybeadco.com

613-567-7886

The UPS Store in the Glebe
99 Fifth Ave., Unit 5

Claude, Andrea, Chris and Pat would like to wish all our customers a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. In order to help you celebrate this season, we offer you a 20% discount on posters and any kind of invitation until December 24th. Come experience our personalized customer service! www.thepsystore.ca/store125

613-230-5593

The White Box
1167 Bank St.

The White Box is a unique retailer due to its selection of merchandise. Our products let your distinct sense of style flourish. Whether it's the perfect gift for that someone special, a new baby, or the latest in home décor, you're certain to discover it when shopping at The White Box. www.thewhitebox.ca

613-733-8231

Tracy Arnott Realty Ltd., Brokerage
159 Gilmour St.

Tracy Arnott Realty Ltd. invites you and your family to a free holiday viewing of The Polar Express on December 15, 2007 at the Mayfair Theatre, 1074 Bank St. Doors open at 10:30 am and showings start at 11:00. Donations of non-perishable food items will be accepted at the door. www.tracyarnott.com

663-233-4488

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613-238-1881
Footprints by Rachel Cameron

Dec. 2 – Jan. 6

Rachel Cameron was born in Whitehorse, Yukon but grew up in the Glebe. She has been interested in photography from a very early age after taking a photography course at the Ottawa School of Art. She is rarely without her camera and enjoys capturing the seemingly mundane of everyday life, finding beauty as well as humour in unusual places. She has backpacked extensively through 28 countries around the world and her photographs reflect her travels and her passion for diversity and culture.

The Glebe Community Centre
175 Third Avenue
If you are interested in showing your work at the Glebe Community Centre, please e-mail GCCArtShows@gmail.com

“Christmas in the Glebe” art & craft sale
Sat., Dec. 8 and Sun., Dec. 9
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Participants in this year’s “Christmas in the Glebe” include Marilynne Gowan (mixed media), Marim Moreland (fused glass art), Carolynne Fynn Trudeau (pottery), Rachel Cameron (photography), JC Sulzenko (children’s author), Doug MacDonald (garden sculpture), Dawn Burnham (potter), Barbara Rabatin (jewellery), Marylee Laing (glass mosaics) and Alice Hinther (painted furniture).

Drop by to meet the artists and enjoy complimentary hot cider and homebaked goodies while you warm your toes by the fire.

Also for sale will be homebaked goods, homemade preserves, chocolate treats, gift baskets, stocking stuffers and much more.

The annual Christmas art and craft sale will be held at 219 Glebe Avenue (between Percy and Bronson). For more information, contact Alice Hinther at 613-233-3758 or ahinther@hotmail.com.

Do you have a story to tell?
e-mail the editor at: glebe.report@mac.com

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Sunday, December 23, 11 a.m.
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Monday, December 24, 7 p.m.
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FOR INFORMATION, CALL 613-236-1804

ART

Gavin Murphy
Jan. 2 – 31, 2008
Vernissage Sun., Jan. 6, 2008
Gavin Murphy is from Ottawa and has been a photographer for over 30 years. His photography is shot with a traditional 35 mm film camera (Canon EOS) and there is virtually no correction to any of the images. He often refers to his photographs as ‘untouched, uncropped and unplugged.’ He shoots with both colour and black and white film, and has taken pictures around the world from Australia to Colombia to Ukraine to Bangladesh. His style can best be described as a cross between photo-journalism and semi-portraiture – always striving to capture the ‘decisive moment.’
His pictures have been published in numerous newspapers, magazines and on-line in Canada, United States and England. His first photograph was published in 1977 in the old Ottawa Revue entertainment weekly newspaper.
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Dr. Andrew Page of the Ottawa Heart Institute is the consulting physician. Research, recipes, exercises, and a daily workbook make this a great gift for the health-conscious.
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During this holiday season, we extend a sincere “thank you” to customers for making us feel so welcome during our first year on Main St. It has been a pleasure to get to know you. We wish you and your loved ones happy holidays and a healthy New Year!

Mention this ad and receive 15% off these products until 12/31/07 (while supplies last).
Who is maggieBLUE?
And what is Flutterbug?

This is a question that some people in Ottawa may be asking, as signs of a CD of children's music, entitled Flutterbug, appear around the city.

Maureen Gaudet, aka maggieBLUE, is a singer and composer who lives on Howick Place, right here in the Glebe. Flutterbug is a Monarch butterfly that flies from Canada to Mexico and back again, taking children with her on her adventures. Flutterbug is also the title of an eight-song CD of children's music, all by maggieBLUE.

By way of background, maggieBLUE lived next door to Rolland and Louise Aubrey and their five children. Four of the five children (who range in age from 3 to 11) attend First Avenue School and study music with the Suzuki Foundation.

With the kids in mind, maggieBLUE decided to write a song about a puppy adopted by Pamela, who also lived next door. The kids loved Bob, the puppy dog and wanted to sing along. After that, there was a song about the children's Popsicle Club, where they would eat popsicles of various flavours in the basement of Pamela's place. There were songs about a raccoon who visited maggie's balcony at night, and a family of chickadees who built a nest in the tree outside. "Posycat" was about a cat the kids all knew, and "Mrs. Tiggy Winkle's" was about the toy store just up the street.

Maggie decided to record the music and have the Aubrey children - Lauren, Ben, Regan and Hilaire - record with her. The result is Flutterbug.

All of the songs on Flutterbug are locally grown, like lettuce and broccoli! They're about the neighborhood - the pets, parks, birds, creatures, clubs and stores in the Glebe.

Flutterbug is a "limited edition" CD, sold exclusively at Mrs. Tiggy Winkle's toy store. It is fun and joyful music that is appealing to adults as well as kids.

Folka Voca performs Christmas concert at Trinity Anglican Church

Folka Voca, the Ottawa Folklore Centre (OFC) community choir, is giving their third annual Christmas concert on Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. at the Trinity Anglican Church, corner of Bank and Cameron in Old Ottawa South. Led by choir mistress extraordinare Lee Hayes, Folka Voca sings primarily Canadian content in three to seven part harmony, with original vocal arrangements of songs by Gordon Lightfoot, Joni Mitchell, Neil Young and Jane Siberry, to name a few. In the past three years, Folka Voca has performed for City Hall, the Canadian Folk Music Awards, and recently for a crowd of 30,000 to sing their four-language version of O'Canada for the opening of the Ottawa Race Weekend Marathon event.

Last year Folka Voca created their signature CD, Circus of Friends, to raise money for a beloved institution, the Ottawa Humane Society (OHS). This year, all profits from both CD sales and concert tickets will go to the OHS.

Opening for Folka Voca are the Redemption Choir Xtreme and Tango on Tuesdays (Hayes' Sunday advanced and newcomer vocal harmony classes at the OFC), plus a bonus song from a weeklong workshop group just back from Cuba.

Tickets are $15, $17 at the door, and can be purchased at the Ottawa Folklore Centre. For more information, call 613-730-2887.

Musicians required

Divertimento Orchestra is in need of a percussionist for their "Pops" concerts in February. They also require a trumpet player for a permanent position. Rehearsals will start in January.

To audition, please send an e-mail to personnel@divertimento.ca.
A Medieval Christmas

A Medieval Christmas will feature Heather Dale, a Canadian singer-songwriter with Celtic roots. She will sing a selection of lively Medieval and Renaissance Christmas music using modern themes and traditional material. The show with fellow multi-instrumentalist Ben Deschamps will also feature a variety of folk instruments.

A Medieval Christmas is presented by Glebe St. James Sunday concert series. It takes place at Glebe St. James United Church, 650 Lyon St on Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. A reception will follow. Tickets are $15 for adults, $9 for students, available at the door. For further information, call 613-236-0617.

NAC Orchestra musicians put on free Christmas concert!

Bring the whole family to this FREE one hour concert on Sun., Dec. 16 at 12:30 p.m. in the main foyer of the NAC. Sing-along to Christmas carols with the musicians of the National Arts Centre Orchestra, conducted by Winston Webley, and the Ottawa Regional Youth Choir, directed by Kevin Reeves.

Featured this year is the brilliant young flutist Amelia Lyon, winner of the Harold Crabtree Foundation Award at the 2007 NACO bursary competition. Santa Claus himself will be there! The festivities will be hosted by very special guests Max Keeping and Sofianné Wade. Free parking at the NAC for FanFair patrons.

Light lunch and refreshments will be available for purchase in the foyer. The famous annual bake sale sponsored by the Friends of the NAC Orchestra starts at 11:00 a.m. Donations to the charities gratefully received during the concert. All proceeds to benefit the Food Bank and the Snowsuit Fund.

Carol the neighbourhood on Dec. 13

BY MAURA VOLANTE

My mother never sang. I got my singing voice from my father, and my mother always said she couldn’t sing. But she sang at Christmas. I treasure that memory, making this repertoire very special to me as a performer and teacher.

Many people are like my mother, and will only sing when the familiar carols start to be heard. For folks like me who sing all the time, this is a wonderful opportunity to sing with all kinds of people.

Many Glebeites will be enjoying group carol singing in worship and educational settings around the neighbourhood this season. Choirs are starting to present the big, seasonal repertoire to their communities. Down at Patty’s Pub in old Ottawa South, watch for the pub carolling series put on by Ottawa Folklore Centre, with four-part harmony on obscure Yorkshire carols. Great fun!

But for those who want to sing the familiar carols in a relaxed setting, I have been offering a new opportunity. On Nov. 15, I hosted the first of five free Thursday evening carolling sessions, 7-9 p.m. at my home on First Avenue (call for details). Next week, Dec. 13, is the last session (still open to all and sundry), and we are planning to carol the neighbourhood in the old-fashioned way (get out your figgy pudding!) Carol booklets are provided and songs from memory are welcome too.

A changing, growing and overlapping group of people has arrived each week at the doorstep and enjoyed singing the familiar melodies, learning new ones and exploring harmonies. Some of the participants have been young international students, who find it very helpful with their English studies. Others are there for different reasons, mostly because they love the traditional seasonal carols. We have had toddlers and retired people and everyone in between. Call or write for the address, and come make the finale fabulous.

Maura Volante also leads carolling at other people’s parties, whether at work, home or recreational setting. It is not too late to book this service! Call or write for more information: 613-277-9208 or maura@mauravolante.ca

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BY JUDITH HANEY

Let's be frank, this will be a biased discussion of GNAG's latest musical production. A Christmas Carol, which opened on Nov. 30 and was followed by four more shows throughout the weekend. I am too close to the GNAG theatre productions, too admiring of the talents and energies that go into making community theatre to deliver a dispassionate commentary.

With such disclosure dispatched, allow me to share some of what I loved about GNAG's musical adaptation of the Charles Dickens classic. First, the tale itself is a feel-good story, I enjoyed the spirit, the dance and the music. I delighted in feeling part of the community of the stage, thanks to the theatre-in-the-round staging and use of "crossroads" that meet at the centre of the hall and are traversed by the performers. Sound and action come from all around. This draws us into the hubbub of the street scenes and is downright thrilling when Scrooge confronts his tombstone.

But wait, a good reporter should introduce the who of the event first. director, Eleanor Crowder, music director, Rachel Engel and production choreographer Mary Tsai-Davies teamed up once more to present a fine musical adaptation of the Charles Dickens classic. They were aided by the dabling of pre-school programming, Jennie Alliman, as stage manager and Patrick Gallagher as production manager. Gallagher, a performer in his own right, returns to the Glebe Community Centre where he worked in early 2000 as a dance instructor and member of the Q4 staff. The production team was assisted by volunteers donating their time to sew, paint, construct or acquire props, set up and run lighting, and perform a myriad of other essential tasks. Together with thirty-five children and adult actors, they worked through the process of putting together a show in a mere ten weeks.

This production is a blend of familiar talents and until now, unseen faces in the Glebe Community Centre's hall. Audience members were treated by the return of Dan Smythe as the enchaigned Marley, Anthony Scheeren all grown up in the role of Bob Cratchit, Lindsey Huebner as Mrs. Cratchit, Ben Shipley as the angelic Tiny Tim, Karen McCarthy as the sprightly Spirit of Christmas Past, Jonah Allingham and Nicholas Grabstas playing younger Scrooges, Wendy Hagglund, a formidable Nancy in Oliver!, graced the stage as the Spirit of Christmas Present bedecked in a sumptuous robe and glittering wreath. Ms. Hagglund convinced her father, Rodney Hagglund, to audition and he nimbly took on the role of the crusty old-miser himself, Ebenezer Scrooge.

Along with Mr. Hagglund, other new talents to GNAG's theatre space include Carol Burnup in her first theatrical performance ever, Gabriel Schultz as nephew Fred and narrator of the show, Paul O'Donnell as "supporting" actor to Mary Tsai-Davies' spooky specter, the Spirit of Christmas Yet to Come. Of stage, Lauren McGee tickled the ivories for her fourth GNAG production and she was accompanied by Lisanne Hendelman on clarinet and Sonya Schrum on flute and piccolo. Merike Olo and Gwendolyn Best took on set design yet again, Devon Jones returned to watch his sister perform and work as lighting technician, and Roz Crump stayed out of the spotlight for a chance to be the assistant to the director. I say "God Bless you, everyone."

Sing for the Holidays

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• Traditional Caroling, Sunday, Dec. 23,
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WE BUY RECORD COLLECTIONS!
By Ted Landis

That's not a sentence. It appears to be a paragraph that is not formatted properly.

The Wizard of Oz (1939)
Directed by Victor Fleming
Rated F

We have all seen this movie on TV many times, but have you ever seen the complete film all the way through without all those annoying commercials? Watch it again with the family and discover why this film is considered a classic.

Willow (1988)
Directed by Ron Howard

This is one of those movies you get for the kids and then end up watching more yourself. Definitely worth owning.

The Secret Life of the Brain
Directed by David Grubin
3-DVD set, PBS

The Secret Life of the Brain covers the development of the brain through its many lives, from babyhood to old age.

American Photography: A Century of Images
Produced and directed by Muffie Meyer and Ellen Novde
DVD or VHS, PBS

American Photography traces the effect photographs have had on American life from 1900-1999.

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The pop/jazz band was formed by Donald Fagen and Walter Becker in the early 70s. This album was a year in the making. The DVD includes interviews with the musicians.

The Art of the Violin: The Devil's Instrument
Directed by Stephon Elliott, DVD

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The Best of Saturday Night Live: The first five years
Will Ferrell, DVD

Two of the best of... The first five years were when things were really happening with SNL: Coneheads, Roseanne Roseannadanna... Saturday Night Live changed late-night television and transformed comedians into stars.

Will Ferrell features his characters, Craig the Cheerleader and President George W. Bush, and includes one of the classics with guest host Christopher Walken as a music producer, and Ferrell as a cowbell player.

Madame Tutti-Putti (animation)
Directed by Chris Lavas and Maciek Szczerbowski

D.V.D, The National Film Board of Canada

American Photography traces the effect photographs have had on American life from 1900-1999.

Chinese Restaurants
Directed by Cheuk Kwan
5-DVD set

Cheuk Kwan explores Chinese restaurants around the world, telling personal stories about people and their food.

New mission statement focuses on student learning and building citizens

The Christmas season is almost upon us. We've had a packed autumn of much learning and many activities in the schools and now we will wind gently to this happy lull, already now one third of the way through the school year. It is a good time to rest, to take stock and to prepare oneself for the rest of the school year.

The policy on assessment and evaluation was finally passed by the board. It went through the board twice and committee twice, and attracted some notable media attention. Several trustees were concerned that discipline for fraudulent or late work would be disentwined from the assessment and evaluation of what a student knows in staff implementation of the policy document, which was otherwise silent on the matter. I fought to support our staff direction, acting in this case on ministry policy guidance as well as their own pedagogical expertise. Portions of work deemed fraudulent will be assigned a zero, not for discipline purposes but because in no way demonstrates the student's own understanding or skills. Students will be invited to resubmit their own work which will be fairly graded so that teachers and parents, and students themselves, will know where they really stand.

Students will be disciplined and regarded in other ways just as any other anti-social or offensive behaviour might be handled. I'm proud that we are, as a district, managing to correct an unfortunate muddling of student discipline with focused student assessment and evaluation.

I have received some enquiries with respect to my note last column about a new $0.5 million in a central fund put in place for high and emergent needs in schools for this year as school budgets were importantly reduced. Yes, to confirm, it is only $300,000 and less than I had sought but all that I could get. It is simply a fact that there are some important disparities across our public schools, the general water level has gone down and communities are differentially able to respond. Wish us luck in the budget debates later this year.

Who is my neighbour?

Corpus Christi School playground
Teamwork under the leadership of Missy Fraser excelled as always. This new playground transformation is a credit to students, parents and staff for their input, hard work and patience. Father Joe was on hand to bless this achievement and all who will use it. The neighbourhood leaf blower thankfully stopped so that all in attendance could hear Father Joe's good words!

Remembrance Day
If you read the Ottawa Citizen on Nov. 10, you may have noticed the poems written by some students from Corpus Christi School. These were written in honour of Remembrance Day veterans – granddads and great-granddads. The budding talent that our students demonstrate never ceases to amaze me. Congratula-

Immaculata High School
Immaculata High School has been busy in sports. Congratulations to the senior co-ed tennis team who won the city championships. Also, in the second year of the football program, the Immaculata team advanced to the city finals. Well done!

Fourteen Social Justice students volunteered at a fundraising event called "Operation Congo" and the proceeds are going to build a school in the Congo. This exemplifies the Board's theme this year, "Who Is My Neighbour?"

On Nov. 20, 20 students attended the annual National Child Day at the

Calling all Grandmothers, Mothers and Aunts!

BY OCDSB TRUSTEE ROB CAMPBELL

We have a brand new mission statement now and it focuses on student learning, and on the building of citizens. This double focus should be important to us all whether or not we have children in the system. I invite you to consider your thoughts and energy to board policy development and its implementation. I encourage you to consider yourselves in your local school one way or another. Please ask the city to continue the crossing guard program undiminished. School councils need parent volunteers and schools need donations from all. Ottawa Carleton Research Institute (OCRI) supports the high tech industry in Ottawa but it also runs a program to support volunteers in the schools, including citizen volunteer readers. The Education Foundation of Ottawa is our charitable arm and donations to it go to needy students. The schools belong to us all, the enterprise is far too important to be left to succeed or fail on its own and I encourage your involvement at every level.

Finally, my greatest wish is to you and yours this holiday season.

If you have a suggestion or a concern, or would like to be added to my electronic newsletter list, then please don't hesitate to contact me. I can be reached via any of 613-730-8128, rob@ocdsbzone9.ca or by mail at Rob Campbell, 133 Greenbank Road, Ottawa ON, K2H 6L3. Board meeting schedules, budget documents, delegation lists and other info is available at www.ocdsb.ca

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WISHING YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Dr. K.E. Hashem

OCCSB Trustee

Kathy Ablett

Senate and on Nov. 21, three students: Victor Bernard (flute), Florian Hopfmuller (violin) and Sebastian Alcy (cello), under the name of the St. Cecilia Trio, provided musical presentations to the Speaker of the House and members of Parliament. What an honour!

Lastly, a spirit day called "School Rocks Canada" was held this week with Immaculata being chosen as one of four local high schools to host. School Rocks Canada is a concert series that tours major high schools across Canada. It is a principal-sanctioned event that takes place during the school day with the support and participation of the student council. This group donated $1,000 to Immaculata and the students had a great time. The money will be used to defray yearbook costs - a win-win situation.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a truly wonderful, fun-filled Merry Christmas. Best wishes to each family for a successful new year. If at any time I can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to call me at 613-526-9512.

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SCHOOLS

Glebe Report December 7, 2007 33
GCNS wishes everyone the best for the holidays!

BY KARRI MUNN-VENN

November was a busy month at the Glebe Cooperative Nursery School, with the start of creative movement, pajama day, picture day, and show and sell — as well as many other creative activities! We’re now gearing up for the holidays with special crafts, learning about celebrations around the world, and our very own Christmas parties. The staff, board, and children of GCNS wish everyone all the best for the holidays!

Come join the fun! A few spaces are still available in our afternoon preschool class for children ages 3½ to 4½ years, Mondays to Thursdays from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. Come and be a part of this fantastic co-operative and give your child a wonderful preschool experience.

For more information, or to get your registration package, call 613-233-9708, visit us online at www.glebepreschool.com or come by the school at 175 Third Avenue (inside the GCC).

Frank’n Walk update

The numbers are now in! The GCNS Frank’n Walk raised over $1,500, a portion of which was donated to the Headstart Program at the Queensway Preschool.

Erratum: Unfortunately, Orestia Organics was omitted from the list of contributors to the GCNS Frank’n Walk in the November article. Sincere thanks and apologies to Orestia.

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New website for Good Morning Creative Arts and Preschool

Children in the three-year-old program learn about construction during a theme week about community helpers.

BY STEPHANIE SMALL

Good Morning Creative Arts and Preschool has a new website. Check out www.goodmorning.name. Thanks to the new website, it will be easier for parents of prospective students to find out more about all the different programs at Good Morning Creative Arts and Preschool. Interested parents can also print off pre-registration forms.

The website will also keep parents up-to-date on special events and all the volunteer opportunities that are key to the smooth operation and success of the cooperative school.

Indeed, it was volunteers Mari Teitelbaum, Heather Irwin, Michael Plusnakas, John Sekerka and Sharon Nitsche-Gillis, together with director Liane Gallop, who designed and created the new website.

“I enjoyed working with the committee to pull together all the relevant information, define the objectives of the site and find a fun design that represents the school,” said Mari, who is also president of the board of directors at Good Morning Creative Arts and Preschool.

“I am very excited that the school has a new website,” Mari said. “In today’s world, a website is another face for the preschool. It’s a great way to communicate with prospective and existing families about what the goals and policies of the school are, about who is involved with the school and about upcoming events.

During the website design, the volunteers were sensitive to concerns surrounding privacy and made sure that images of the children at the school were not used on the pages of the site.

Upcoming event

Mark your calendars for the afternoon of Jan. 20, when Good Morning Creative Arts and Preschool will host its annual professional play for children at the Glebe Community Centre.

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WARM HOLIDAY Greetings FROM ALL OF US

Owner Name, would like to thank all of his customers for their patronage and invite you into his store for a holiday visit and eat. Fattiss is busy creating brilliant meals for any special holiday party, and looks forward to wishing you your holiday cheer. Lee, the latest asset to Modern, just back from New York, would like to welcome newcomers and regulars to Modern where he will share his talents and create a fresh new look full of texture and vibrant colour. He would like to wish all a happy and safe Christmas season.

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Mutchmor students

BY KYLE, CASSIE, BRAD, SOPHIE, MATTHEW AND ROBYNN

On Fri., Nov. 9, Mutchmor had an assembly where they honoured veterans and created symbols to reflect on the past. The ceremony was serious and important. The assembly helped us to remember the people who sacrificed their lives for us. There were six outstanding Remembrance poems at the Mutchmor assembly. There was a magnificent poem by Danielle about war and peace. There were two great versions of "Flanders Fields," one in French and one in English. The grade 1 students from Mrs. Harper/Mrs. Lali-

cepte's class performed an excellent poem about why we wear our pop-

pies. They spoke loud and clear. The students of Mrs. Birenbaum's class gave an outstanding performance of the poem, "Last Night I Had the Strangest Dream." A great job was done by Liam in reading the tradi-

tional poem, "They Shall Not Grow Old." As a way of remembering, the classes at Mutchmor chose two kids per class to bring up a wreath or other symbol. One class had a terrific idea, they took the flags of all the countries and made a peace sign. Another great symbol was a poster in which the hands made poppies. All these symbols helped us remember what Remembrance Day is really about. The Junior Choir sang the song "Sing a Tapestry" with Mrs. Hodges conducting. There were lots of people singing the song which reminded us about friendship and helping others. At the Remembrance Day ceremony, there was also a French song presented by Mme Joanne and Mme Chloe's classes. The song was about the two minutes of silence to remember. Miss Hagglund's junior class made a slide show. Students made posters that said things like "We remember the veterans," "We remember the sacri-

fices people made for us" and "We remember that peace is a celebra-

tion." The students took pictures of the posters and statues, the war memorial, and peace symbols. They used these photos in the slide show.

Remembrance Day is an important day for all the veterans and all Canadians. We should remember the peace, the soldiers, the poppy, the freedom and the hope. The people had confidence that they were going to return to home. Sadly, some sol-

diers did not get to come home. All the songs, poems, slideshows and symbols at our assembly helped us to remember people who fought and died in the war and the importance of working for peace.
Holiday cheer at First Avenue

Principal Julie Morris cuts the ribbon on the habitat garden.

BY LYNN MAINLAND

December’s theme at First Avenue is caring and generosity, and once again, families are being asked to get on board the holiday food train. Non-perishable food gifts can be brought to the school, and from there will go to bring comfort and joy to those families dependent on the Centretown Emergency Food Centre. The food drive lasts until Dec. 18.

That day, students will attend a special holiday assembly to mark another community support effort – the Holiday Gift Giving program, which is operated in conjunction with the Children’s Aid Society. Over 80 families have said they will pick up a special gift for a child in Ottawa who might need a little extra cheer this holiday season – and more families are expected to follow suit.

This is the fourth year the program has been in place at First Ave, and over 500 presents have been purchased over the last three years. Thanks go out to Carriona Birnie and Catherine Pritchard for this year’s efforts.

Culture vultures will be able to get another fix on Dec. 14, when students will be putting on a display of multicultural dance, following lessons with artist Anita Rudichuk.

Of course, another traditional aspect of the holidays is the choir.

The junior student choir is gearing up for festivities which include a holiday performance for parents and special guests on Dec. 18, at 2 p.m., followed by the Bank Street sere- nade at 10 a.m. on Dec. 19. For the latter event, First Avenue’s voices will join with those from other Glebe schools, thanks to support from the Ottawa Police Service, the City of Ottawa, the Glebe Business Group, and the participating schools and their school councils.

There is certainly much going on within the walls of First Avenue, but outside big changes are happening too. On Oct. 31, the kids got a treat with the opening of the school’s habitat garden, a community effort that teaches kids about ecosystems and brings nature into their school day. A few days later, brand new school yard games were painted by parent volunteers Roland Aubrey and Richard Claus (whom we have been reliably informed is a close relative of Santa’s!). Once again, the school council chair Kelli Landers and her team are to be thanked for securing grant monies from the City of Ottawa.

Finally, phase two of the school yard improvement plan has been approved. Five new mature trees around the play structure in the primary yard will provide much-needed shade, ensuring that the only thing that will be burnt is excess energy! Thanks go in partic- ular to Samia Imbrahim and her helpers, who secured a $10,000 grant from the City of Ottawa.

2007 has been a stellar year at First Avenue, thanks to Julie Morris and her staff, the large number of volunteers who give their time and skills to make the school what it is, and, of course, the students them- selves. As we usher in a leap year, we can be confident that the school will go from strength to strength, enriching the lives of all who are touched by it.

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Boys' Spikers grade 8 volleyball team after winning the provincial cup championship in Oakville in November.

BY WEI LIN SITU
AND DREW CARRIÈRE

As you all know, sports are among the most important extracurricular activities at Glashan and at the top of the list is volleyball. There are only 3 things we talk about for volleyball and they are volleyball, fun, and gold. Glashan is an amazing school, especially in volleyball. Earlier this month, our two best teams, the grade 8 Spikers' boys and girls teams, went to the provincial tournament in Oakville. Both teams played incredibly well: the boys finished first place while the girls put up a good fight, came in ninth.

There are many volleyball teams in Glashan allowing beginners to play on teams and learn to play better. Glashan is one of the best volleyball schools in the province. Why are they so good? It’s because of the coaches. There are many teams per grade and gender and in total, there are 14 teams for 350 students. The best two teams in each category are as follows: grade 7 boys – Blue Demons, and Mighty Titans, grade 7 girls – Black Magic and Red X, grade 8 boys – Spikers and Diggers and finally grade 8 girls – Spikers and Gold Diggers.

With this many teams, there are many coaches, the people who train us and teach us how to play better, how to get rid of bad habits, improve our skill and sometimes even life lessons. One of the most popular coaches is Mr. Desclounds, a teacher at Glashan for over 30 years. He is also the coach of the Glashan Spikers’ boys which is this year’s best team in the province. During Mr. Desclounds’ practice he makes his team work hard and makes funny remarks. Another coach is Mr. Sloan who not only teaches one team but three. He coaches Spiker girls, Diggers and Black Magic. Ms. Weiler runs a volleyball league and coaches several teams herself. There are many other coaches, including Mr. Caplan, Ms. Oussoren, Ms. Hutcheson, Mr. Hunter, Ms. Ferren and Ms. Bliek.

Glashan recently held its 20th annual friendship tournament during the week of Nov. 26. Why is it called the friendship tournament? Well it’s because the whole purpose of this tournament is to have fun and to see what you will be up against. Last year’s friendship games lasted an hour longer then expected, giving students extra time to play some volleyball. All teams participating had a great time and had a chance to improve their skills as well.

So the next time you hear the word Glashan, not only will you think of a fabulous school with great academics, arts, and athletics, you’ll think of a school filled with hundreds of students developing confidence and skills playing sports, especially volleyball.

Wei Lin Situ and Drew Carrière, are grade 7 students at Glashan.
BY STEVEN MASSEY

They say that variety is the spice of life, but at Glebe Collegiate Institute (GCI), we believe that education holds that honour. Today’s Glebeans are not just learning from textbooks – they are exploring their world, getting a taste of work, gaining knowledge, and qualifications, learning from their friends in the global community, and discovering the local arts scene...what an exciting time to be a student.

Did you know that this fall, 140 geography students piled into buses and set out to discover Canadian culture and Native heritage at the Museum of Civilization? This was followed by an IMAX showing of "The Alps." Back on the bus, they were off to Mont King in the Gatineau Hills to witness and discuss the beautiful topography of the Ottawa Valley. These adventures reinforced what the students had been learning in their physical geography studies. The weather, the views, and the experience were exceptional. Congratulations to all students who took part for their wonderful behaviour. All in all, it was a great day!

In November, over three hundred grade 9 students descended upon workplaces across the city while participating in "Take Our Kids to Work Day." The idea was simple yet powerful – to accompany a parent or other significant adult to work. The students received a view of the world of work and an understanding of its demands and opportunities. Keeping with the same theme, this year’s cooperative education students are working in a wide variety of placements, learning new skills, increasing their knowledge about future careers, and acting as our school ambassadors. Stay tuned in the months to come for an in-depth look at the many success stories.

Back in classes, students enrolled in the foods and nutrition course recently took part in the Food Handler Certification program. They examined topics such as: public health legislation; food borne illnesses; safe food handling; sanitation procedures; and pest control. This course is an excellent opportunity for our students to learn the safe way to prepare foods and to become familiar with the expectations of the food industry. Students in the class are to be commended for earning a provincially recognized certificate from Ottawa Public Health.

On an international note, we recently said "good bye" to our exchange students from Spain and France. We enjoyed getting to know the students and have a better appreciation for their cultures. We wish them well, and hope they will return to Canada in the future.

Finally, we closed off the month of November with a great show. Glebe’s Music Night was a huge success! The concert bands, choirs, jazz bands and Offbeat performed a wide variety of music with terrific energy and technical skill. In other music news, 80 students had the opportunity to see Mozart’s Don Giovanni at the NAC. Also, students and staff are planning a trip for three ensembles to compete at the Chicago Music Festival in April 2008. Fundraisers are beginning with the sale of coffee and CDs. We appreciate all your support and efforts to help raise funds. Check out our website for more information: www.glebeci.ca.

Looking ahead, December is a busy month. We will release the results of a recent survey on the number of languages spoken at the school, as well as provide a wrap up of the fall sports results. Stay tuned!

GCI is really cooking!

BY LAURA CHADWICK

Immaculata continued to bustle with a variety of activities and projects during this fall season. From student council to athletics, MAC students have selected their individual focus and are balancing their academic courses with a variety of initiatives.

Academically, Immaculata students and staff were recently provided with encouraging results from last year’s EQAO, provincial math testing. The school results were significantly higher than the provincial average for students taking applied level math and for students taking academic level math. Our results indicate that 85 per cent of students in the academic program achieved a level 3 or 4. The provincial average was 71 per cent. Fifty-five per cent of students in the applied program achieved level 3 and 4, compared to a provincial average of 35 per cent.

Grade 7 and 8 students immersed themselves in a full range of sporting activities during this fall season. MAC students participated in cross country running, soccer, Gaelic football and ultimate frisbee. Wrestlers and hockey players are anxiously awaiting their respective seasons. Other intermediate students have taken on a leadership role by joining the athletic or student council. In addition, intramural play helps encourage all students to be active.

At the high school level, fall league play is wrapping up. MAC’s football team finished regular season play with only one loss and made it to the finals, losing a heartbreaker 38-15 to Holy Trinity. In other athletic news, girls basketball teams are also contenders in play-off action. The school’s swim teams are also entrenched in their season. Soccer, golf, tennis and cross-country running teams have enjoyed success during the fall sports season.

Halloween gave MAC students an opportunity to showcase their creative flare. Immaculata student council organized a variety of activities to kick off the ghoulish season. Bobbing for "eyeballs," pumpkin carving contests, costume contests and a Halloween Spirit assembly were all scheduled to help spark the Hal- loween spirit and close the month of October with great excitement!

Our talented music and drama students performed during our Remembrance Day assemblies, helping us all to reflect on the significance of November 11. In addition to our traditional Remembrance Day reflections, selected Immaculata students, who traveled last year to the re-dedication ceremony for the Vimy Monument in France, teamed up with a veteran to share their experiences with classmates and teachers.

The Terry Fox Run was followed by our school’s commitment to the Run for the Cure. Since 1996, Immaculata High School has participated in the CIBC Run for the Cure to raise money for breast cancer diagnosis, research, education and treatment. We are thrilled to announce that this year’s 47-member team raised $11,150 for the school team challenge. Our school has continued its tradition of placing in the top three schools for 10 years in a row!

With the holiday season approaching, the Immaculata community celebrated. In keeping with the spirit of the Ottawa Catholic schools theme “Who Is My Neighbor?”, students and staff take pause to recognize that many in our own community struggle during this festive season.

Coordinated by our school chaplain, Sister Shelley Lawrence, donations are accepted from homerooms, staff and other members of our school community and redistributed in the form of grocery vouchers to school families that can benefit from such support.

SCHOOLS

Immaculata’s EQAO math results on their way up

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First Avenue teacher trades school for hunting boogers

BY YASMEEN MOHIUDDIN

Coming soon to a bookstore near you: Sir Bedivere, Sir Kostaclew and a mischievous young prince tussle with ogres, monsters and princesses deep in the Kingdom of Armpit.

It’s all in a day’s work for the characters in Sir Fartsalot Hunts the Booger, the debut novel by First Avenue Public School teacher Kevin Bolger. On Oct. 26, he held his first public reading in front of his most important critics – his former students.

“Reading books with you everyday kind of inspired me to write books,” he told the sixth graders seated on the floor of the school’s library.

The book, which is published by Penguin Books’ Razorbill imprint, comes out in May. Bolger, who has been teaching English language reading and writing at the French immersion school for eight years, took a leave of absence in September to start work on his second book, a prequel to Sir Fartsalot that is planned for a spring 2009 release.

Despite the book’s title, the adamantly prudish Bolger said it’s devoid of toilet humour, relying instead on impudence, said Susan Dubois, who teaches English with ogres, monsters and princesses deep in the Kingdom of Armpit.

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Despite the book’s title, the adm...
Ernie comes back to the Glebe

BY SUE WALKER

Many years ago, Ernie the cat arrived on the doorstep of The Glebe Centre and thought he had found a home. However, those in charge were not sure that an alley cat would make such a good pet for the seniors. Ernie was nothing if not persistent and eventually found his way, not only into the building, but into the hearts of the staff, volunteers and residents of The Glebe Centre. This heart warming story is not only true but has now been made into a children’s story for all to enjoy.

June Coxon, a resident of Ottawa and former family member of The Glebe Centre, and Patricia Doyle, local artist and staff member of The Glebe Centre, have teamed up to create a wonderful story entitled “Just Call Me Ernie.” The book tells of Ernie’s life at The Glebe Centre and highlights areas and residents of the Glebe. These books are on sale at The Glebe Centre, Abbotsford House, J. Patrick McGahern Books Inc., Home Hardware and The Glebe Apothecary. All proceeds will go to assist local area seniors and programs.
The Famished Lover, by Alan Cumyn, Goose Lane Editions, 360 pages, $32.95 cloth.

Just a few weeks ago The Famished Lover by local author, Alan Cumyn, made the longlist for the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award. Cumyn is one of 11 Canadians out of 137 authors from 45 countries who may win the 100,000 Euro ($135,000 CDN) prize. Among other Canadian authors nominated is Margaret Atwood for Moral Disorder, reviewed in Sept. 14 issue of the Globe Report.

Cumyn's novel is set in 1930s Montreal and the Eastern Townships, and during World War I in London, England and Germany, before and after the main character, Ramsay Crome, a Canadian soldier is taken prisoner by the Germans in the Battle of Mont-Sorrel in early June 1916. "It was just before Somme, our big offensive that went so badly, so it has mostly been forgotten." But Cumyn's Ramsay Crome never forgets as he charts his experiences in German POW camps at Raumen and Münster. "We were starved, mostly. The food was a disgrace." Hunger serves as a recurring theme and metaphor in this engaging novel. It is not only hunger for food but an ongoing hunger for ordinary life, the simple pleasures that Ramsay tells his younger brother he has little in common, because he tries so hard to please her. When his $900 war repayments money arrives, Ramsay buys some land close to where Lillian grew up and builds a home for her and their son Michael.

Two decades after the war, just when the Crome family appears settled for life on their rugged little farm in the Eastern Townships, the first great love of Ramsay's life, Margaret, whom he had long assumed was dead, suddenly and unexpectedly shows up.

The plot thickens as Ramsay tries desperately to keep his romantic longings for Margaret in tow. In his Montreal office where he works as a commercial artist doing pin-up drawings, his boss Dorothy becomes his loyal mistress. But even this passionate affair does not satisfy Ramsay's longings for Margaret.

The Great War and its aftermath of economic depression have dictated unfortunate choices for Ramsay and Margaret. Both are prisoners within their own marriages - famished lovers.

Cumyn's splendidly written saga portrays a man and a woman's love not only for each other but for an end to all war. It would be true to say that the intensity of their yearning for universal peace for their respective children, the next generation is as passionate and sustained as their lifelong desire for each other.

Ramsay Crome’s wartime experiences owe much to Alan Cumyn’s great-uncle. In the author's acknowledgements Cumyn writes, "I am indebted to Philip Cumyn’s memoir and family history, The Sun Always Shines." Certainly, The Famished Lover is a formidable tribute to the legacy of Philip Cumyn.

Alan Cumyn has written six novels for adults, including Burridge Unbound, a finalist for the Giller Prize, and The Sojourner, in which the character Ramsay Crome first appears. Cumyn's Owen Sney novels for children have won or been nominated for ten national awards.

Note: we regret the misspelling of Frances’ name in our previous column reviewing local author Mrs. Frances Itani’s Remembering the Bones (Harper Collins). May we take this opportunity to wish Frances success for her wonderful new novel and also our best wishes following the recent birth of her second grandchild, a girl!

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OBJECTS OF ART

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Top 10 children’s books
ready for gift giving

BY KALEIDOSCOPE KIDS’ BOOKS

Picture Books

Grumpy Bird by Jeremy Tankard
When Bird wakes up too grumpy to even fly, he starts walking. Soon he has a whole parade of animal friends joining him on his walk and, with a little exercise and companionship, he shakes his grumpy mood.

The Three Snow Bears by Jan Brett
Jan Brett gives the Goldilocks story a fine twist when an endangering snow bear family and a curious Inuit girl meet center stage in Jan Brett’s stunning paintings of a land where the Inuit and the animals share the amazing Canadian Arctic landscape.

Running errands with Mom is such a bore, until a boy discovers that today, dinosaurs come with everything. Buy a dozen doughnuts, get a triceratops. Get a shot, receive a stegosaurus. With each purchase, the boy gets more ecstatic and his mother more frazzled. Eventually, the pair have quite a herd of dinosaurs heading back home with them. Mom needs to be down for awhile, but when she sees the dinos in the yard, she has a brilliant idea. All dinosaur lovers will adore this book—and ask when they’re next check-up is at the doctor in the hopes of scoring a T-Rex. This is a wonderful read-aloud book for everyone.

Olivia Helps with Christmas by Ian Falconer
Not a piglet was stirring—well, maybe just one. Christmas is coming, and Olivia is incredibly busy. She has to wait for Santa, make sure Dad sets up the tree, wait for Santa, watch Mom make the Christmas dinner, wait for Santa, oversee the tree with which the stockings are hung and, of course, OPEN HER PRESENTS! Do you see how hard it is to be so helpful during the holidays?

Ages 9 to 12

The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan
This book has flown off our shelves. When we first meet Perseus Jackson, he’s about to be kicked out of school—again. However, this becomes the least of his worries as he discovers that he’s really the son of Poseidon and a mortal woman. The gods (still very active in the 21st century world) are about to go to war over a lost thunderbolt; so Percy and sidekicks, Grover (a young satyr) and Annabeth (daughter of Athena), set out to retrieve it. With many close calls and monster attacks, this one’s a real page-turner.

Mythology

The latest in the popular-ology series (Piratology, Dragonology, Egyptology) is a perfect companion to The Lightning Thief.

Tunnels by Roderick Gordon and Brian Williams
The only bond 14 year old Will shares with his father is a passion for archaeological excavation. When his Dad vanishes, Will is compelled to dig up the truth behind his disappearance. He unearth’s the unbelievable: a subterranean society that time forgot. "The Colony" has existed unchanged for a century, but it’s to benign time capsule of a bygone era—it's ruled by a merciless overlords, the Styx. Will must free his father but is he also about to ignite a revolution?

For teens

Uglies, Pretty's and Specials by Scott Westerfield
This science fiction trilogy follows Tally Youngblood as she works as an ugly, then a pretty, and finally a special, to take down a society created to function with perfect-looking people who never have a chance to think for themselves.

For all ages

The Daring Book For Girls: Inspired by the very popular The Dangerous Book for Boys, this is for every girl with an independent spirit and a nose for trouble. A no-boys-allowed guide to adventure with topics such as clubhouses and forts, how to change a tire, queens of the ancient world, finance, how to tie a sari and a guide to danger.

The Star Wars Pop-Up Guide to the Galaxy by Matthew Reinhart, paper engineer par extraordinaire, who brings us a guide to all six movies. You (and maybe your kids, if you’re feeling generous and let them have a turn) will spend hours exploring this book and making Luke Skywalker and Darth Vader, complete with light-up light sabers, duel it out.

Calling all emerging Glebe poets over 18

The Glebe Report is having a Poetry Contest

Theme: “Life in the Glebe”
Deadline: Feb. 15, 2008

(see page 2 for details)
The great ‘O Antiphons’

BY MARY BELOTTI

Time slips away like sand through the fingers in the so-called ‘countdown’ to Christmas. There’s never enough of it. And with every day that passes the tasks accumulate and the list gets longer. Such is ‘kronos’ time and the ways we fill it... general time – the time in which anything is done – like drinking a cup of coffee, walking to the bus stop, writing the list.

But there is also ‘krios’ time – without structure or measure, an ecstatic, mystic space where time as we know it ‘stands still’ so it so appears. Imagine leaving time at the door along with the snowy-covered boots.

The evening of Dec. 17 marks the final phase of preparation for Christmas – known as the ‘Octave’. It begins with the first of the great ‘O Antiphons’ of Advent – adventus meaning ‘coming’. A vestige of the ‘great Os’ can be seen in verses of the familiar Advent hymn ‘O Come, O Come Emmanuel’. But centuries before this was composed, the name of Pope Gregory the Great had become synonymous with Christianity’s most ancient way of communal worship – the Gregorian chant – which, in turn, dates back to a Carolingian synthesis of Roman and Gallican chant.

The importance of the ‘O Antiphons’ is twofold: each one highlights a title for the Messiah and each one is a sample of Isaiah’s related prophecies.

Dec. 17: O Sapientia (O wisdom) (11:2-3)

Dec. 18: O Adonai (O Lord) (11:4-5)

Dec. 19: O Radix Jesse (O Root of Jesse) (11:1)

Dec. 20: O Clavis David (O Key of David) (22:22)

Dec. 21: O Oriens (O Rising Sun) (9:1)

Dec. 22: O Rex Gentium (O King of the Nations) (9:5)

Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (O Emmanuel) (7:14)

The Benedictine monks of the abbey of Fleury – now St. Benoît-sur-Loire – arranged these antiphons with definite purpose. The first letters of the titles taken backwards form a Latin acrostic of en crux which translates to ‘tomorrow, I will come,’ mirroring the theme of the antiphons. So the ‘O Antiphons’ not only bring intensity to our Advent preparation, but bring it also to a joyful conclusion.

The ‘O Antiphons’ will be sung on Sun., Dec. 16 at 3:30 p.m. by the Men of the Choir of Christ Church Cathedral (420 Queen Street, Ottawa), directed by Matthew Larkin. Freewill offering gratefully accepted. Take a break from kronos – step out of the overshoe, leave the purchases at the door and come into the world of krios.

Christmas Concert at St. Giles Church

St. Giles Presbyterian Church, Bank St. at First Ave. presents a Christmas concert with The Pipes and Drums of the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa on Wed., Dec. 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Admission is free, a donation of non-perishable food and/or cash for the Emergency Food Centre would be appreciated. For information, call 613-235-2551.

Calling all angel and shepherds

BY SARAH MARTIN

The annual Christmas Eve pageant at St. Matthew’s Anglican Church in the Glebe has always been a fun way for children to learn the story of Christ’s birth. Staged by the church’s Sunday school group, it features the inkeeper, some sheep, a donkey, other barnyard animals, a choir of angels, some “sleepy” shepherds and of course Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus.

The pageant has become a favourite part of St. Matthew’s 5 p.m. Family Christmas Eve service for the many parishioners and children who attend. The play is narrated by the older Sunday school children so those as young as three years old can follow along and participate.

Involving the little ones makes for an especially fun time for the audience because it’s never certain just how the play will unfold. Will the donkey remember to get Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem? Will the shepherds wake up from their deep slumber? Will the head angel and chorus of angels remember their lines?

If you would like your child to participate in the pageant, rehearsals start downstairs at St. Matthew’s on Sun., Dec. 9 during the 10 a.m. service. All children are welcome.

The joy of learning is not written in textbooks, it’s written on the faces of our children.

Open House

February 5th
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Pre-school, Elementary, & After-school Programs

Glebe Montessori School

603 Lyon St. South
Ottawa, Ontario K2S 3Z7
(416) 238-1700

Please Contact Us At
(613) 237-3378

Sarah Martin is a facilitator for the St. Matthew’s Sunday school program.
Open doors at St. Matthew's

Rev. Canon Pat Johnston

BY NEVILLE NANKIVELL

St. Matthew’s Anglican Church in the Glebe is now open during lunchtime hours Mon. to Fri. to anyone who would like to drop in for a moment of quiet reflection and enjoy the restful gothic beauty of a church that has been part of the community for many decades.

"St. Matthew’s is a place of peace in the midst of a very busy neighbourhood," says the Rev. Canon Pat Johnston, the church’s rector. "For two hours over the noon period each weekday, our doors are open for any who would like a place to pause and relax."

She says the move recognizes that many people work nearby and visit shops and businesses in the Glebe in the course of a day. "Our doors are now open for visitors to enjoy a moment of solitude," she says. "No formal program is offered during this period. All are welcome to stop in for a moment or two."

This initiative is part of the Rev. Canon Johnston’s three-pronged approach for widening the church’s connections with the community. As she puts it: "open hearts (love, compassion and doing good works), open minds (interpreting the gospels in the context of present times) and open doors (seeking to draw more people into the church’s beautiful environment)."

With its tradition of fine choral music and a recent major restoration program, St. Matthew’s is one of the Glebe’s spiritual, cultural and architectural focal points. Founded in 1898, it represents the oldest Anglican parish in Ottawa and began as a wooden structure on First Avenue. This was replaced in 1930 with the present larger stone edifice whose design has been described as "gothic revival with art deco influences." Its acclaimed mens and boys choir recently held a well attended 50th anniversary reunion featuring a concert by world renowned baritone Gerald Finley, a former St. Matthew’s choir boy. The church now has a well-established women’s and girls choir too.

For those who would like to come inside the church during the weekday lunch period, enter at the front doors on 130 Glebe Ave. just west of Bank St. Volunteers will be on hand between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to welcome you and answer questions. On some days, you also might experience the additional pleasure of the organist practicing.

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www.collinsbarrowottawa.com
St. Matthews auction

The "Silver Vaults" is a popular attraction at the Treasures-for-the-Tower Auction. It included a range of silver from Georgian to contemporary as well as jewellery.
Events at Sunnyside Library

For children

**Babytime**
For babies and their parent or caregiver with stories, rhymes, and songs. Ages 0-18 months. Weekly. Tuesdays, 2:15 p.m. (30 mins.). Dec. 11

**Toddlertime**
For toddlers and a parent or caregiver with stories, rhymes, and songs. Ages 18-35 months. Weekly. Registration required. Sessions are full for winter. Next registration date: Jan. 2; see the Library Preview magazine for registration details.

**Storytime**
Stories and rhymes for young children—parents and caregivers are welcome to join. Ages 3-6 years. Weekly. Wednesday: 10:15 a.m. (30 mins.). Dec. 12

**Lamie Club**
Light up way with stories and crafts. Ages 5-9 years. Pre-registration required. Sat., Dec. 15, 2:15 p.m.

For teens

**15 minute computer tutorial**
Having problems with the library catalogue? Accessing the Web? E-mail issues? Register for your own 15 minute computer tutorial. Mondays, 10-11:30 a.m. Dec. 10, 17

"The snow crackled and snapped, the stars were keen and bright...the world was aglow with rose hope and promise. He was quite sure he could never forget this wonderful New Year.

- Christmas with Anne and other stories by L.M. Montgomery

Wishing everyone "Happy Holidays!" from the staff at the Sunnyside branch library

For a complete list of Library events, visit www.BiblioOttawaLibrary.ca.

**Community Connections**

**DDI BAHINI SALE** of fairly traded high quality Nepalese handicrafts. Sat., Dec. 15, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at St. Matthew's Anglican Church, 1171 First Ave. in the Glebe.

**OTTAWA NEWCOMERS CLUB** Women new to Ottawa are invited to the next monthly social event, a luncheon or dinner and speaker, on the first Wednesday of each month. Info: 613-560-5345.

**WRITE FOR RIGHTS AT SOUTHMINSTER UNITED CHURCH.** On Sun., Dec. 9, celebrate Human Rights Day a day early by writing letters as part of Amnesty International’s annual write-a-thon. Come out to Southminster United Church from 2-4 p.m., corner of Bank and Aylmer. The write-a-thon will be held upstairs in the Ladies' Parlour. Please use the back entrance off Galt Street.

**Wanted**

**Garage/Indoor parking** in the Glebe for one car. Call 613-230-7280.

**GLEBE MOTHERS.** A Glebe mother of 2 young children is looking for other mothers to meet on regular basis in home setting for an opportunity to play and meet socially, especially during the winter months. Weekend mornings or other times are possible. Please contact Giuliana at 613-565-5835.

**Snow Shovelling.** Someone needed to shovel snow from two driveways at Fourth Avenue and Percy during the winter. Please call Teena at 613-235-9414.

**Help Wanted**

**Babysitter needed** for occasional weekend and weeknight evenings (Holmwood and Craig). You are at least 12 years old, live locally and have a good reference. Please call 613-237-6074 for an informal interview.

**Care Provider.** Full-time, live-in care provider for two children (ages 3 and 5). Start time would be mid-Dec., with time off provided over the holidays. Must be interested in working with children with special needs. Interested people should call Emma or Wade at 613-231-6261 or e-mail emma_emogofn@hotmail.com.

**Proofreader** required to review my first novel. Honourarium provided. Contact Bryan at 613-260-7503 or juliansum@yaho.ca.

**Shipping Assistant** required for small engineering company in the Glebe, to help with packing small boxes, preparing shipments for couriers and filing paperwork. Part time work of about 15 hours per week (mainly afternoons), flexible hours, entry level position, fun environment. We are looking for someone that takes pride in their work. Pays attention to detail, is willing to ask questions, hard working and organized. Please send an e-mail to kara@brb-global.com.

**Art**

**Music**

HOME FOR CHRISTMAS: Canadian Children’s Choir presents seasonal music and popular audience carol-singing, Dec. 8, 8 p.m. at Parkdale United Church. Tickets are $18/5/15 in advance, $20/5/17 at the door. Available from choir members, Leadone, CD Warehouse and Herb & Spice.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT. St. Giles Church, Bank St. at First Ave. presents The Pipes and Drums of the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa on Wed., Dec. 12 at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free, a donation of non-perishable food and/or cash for the Emergency Food Centre would be appreciated. Info: 613-235-2551.

**Composers in their youth exploring the cello,** a program of cells and piano works, presented by the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa Thu., Dec. 19 at 4 p.m. at St. Giles St. James United Church, 650 Lyon St. at the corner of First Ave., $12 for adults, $6 for children with a pay-what-you-can option, tickets available at the door. Info: 613-236-0617.

**Divertimento Orchestra** is in need of a percussionist for their "Pops" concerts in February and a trumpet player for a permanent position. Rehearsals will start in January. To audition, contact personnel at divertimento.ca.

**An evening of christmas music** in support of the Youville Centre with Harmonia Choir of Ottawa, Sat., Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m. at Canadian Martyrs Church, 100 Main St. Tickets: $20 (children and youth free) available at the door.

**Heather Dale** performs her 4th annual "Celtic Christmas" tour, Sun., Dec. 9, 7 p.m. at Glebe St. James Church, 650 Lyon St. S. Tickets: $12.00 adults, $6.00 seniors/children. For info: 613-236-0617 or www.HeatherDale.com.

**Organ works by bach and buxtehude,** Sun., Jan. 13 at 4 p.m. at Glebe St. James United Church, 650 Lyon St. (at the corner of First Ave.), $12 for adults, $6 for children with a pay-what-you-can option; tickets available at the door. Info: 613-236-0617.

**St. Matthew’s Christmas season.** St. Matthew’s Anglican Church has its Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sun., Dec. 16 at 7 p.m.

**For sale**

**Antique Chinese Table,** 36" w x 60" l x 33" h, likely rosewood, $850. Call 613-787-6000.

**Baby Boy clothes**, 6-12 months, gently used. Snowsuits and winter wear among selection. Call 613-565-5835.

**Classical Harmonium,** solid wood 2005 model in excellent condition (with beautiful hand-carved design), with carrying case. $700. Call 613-565-5835.

**Piano,** Haines Brothers Cabinet Grand. Good condition. Dark wood, $750.00 or best offer. Call Mary at 613-235-8703.

**Pool/Snooker Table** in good condition with all accessories (balls, cues, racks, etc.). Size: 6’ x 12’. Requires minimum room size of 12’ x 18’. $200. Call Jeff at 613-237-1773.

**Teak Wall Unit,** 1970 style, in perfect condition, comes in 3 sections totalling 5’5" w x 6’6" h x 15” d. It has upper glass doors with built-in lights. $850. Call 613-233-1673.

**Velcro Cloth Diapers and Wraps,** excellent condition, full diapering supply, gently used. $65 for whole supply. Call 613-565-5835.

**Wood burning stove,** Ironsmith. Excellent condition. Ideal for basement, cottage or workshop. $275 or best offer. cash and carry. Call 613-235-0445.

**2001 LandRover Discovery 4X4** For sale, 150,000 km automatic, safety inspected/passed; always dealer serviced. New brakes, transmission and wheels. Excellent condition. Great deal! $10,000. Call 613-730-8280.
This space acts as a free community bulletin board for Glebe residents. Drop off your GRAPEVINE message or COMMUNITY NOTICE at the Glebe Report office, 175 Third Avenue, including your name, address and phone number or e-mail glebe.grapevine@mac.com. FOR SALE items must be less than $1,000.

HOME RENOS AND REPAIR - interior/exterior painting; all types of flooring; drywall repair and installation; plumbing repairs and much more. Please call Jamie Nininger @ 613-852-8511.

TUTOR High School Math and Physics Zach 613-796-9230 References

THE HELPER Organizing and assistant services. Knowledgeable, resourceful, reliable. One-time projects or ongoing support. Serving in the Glebe since 1992. Call 613-728-2310

DRUM LESSONS by experienced professional player and teacher. Current drum instructor for Algonquin College Music and Audio program.
Lorne Kelly (Metro Music) 233-9688 or 725-1119

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STEP DANCE LESSONS PAULINE BROWN'S STEP DANCE STUDIO with well known instructor and performer Pauline Brown!
Classes on going.
For further information call: 613-858-0039.
Gift Certificates are also available.

SNOW SHOVELLER WANTED Energetic, reliable snow shoveller to clear two walkways, two porches and patio after every snowfall. Must be done by 9 a.m. Usually takes one hour. Large house, Dow's Lake. Fax name and phone # to 613-234-1841 or send to creative.edge@rogers.com.
$15 per hour
Glebe Neighbourhood Activities Group
Glebe Community Centre
175 Third Avenue, Ottawa, ON K1S 2K2
Tel: (613) 233-8713 or (613) 564-1058

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Call the Glebe Community Centre
for full program details
(613) 233-8713
or visit our web site at
www.gnag.ca

Taste in the Glebe
Thursday, January 17, 2008
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Glebe Community Centre

Featuring over 30 restauranteurs,
caterers, coffee shops, wine and beer
provisioners and more!

Tickets: $35.00

Proceeds from this event will go
towards the GNAG Community Fund
Don't miss out!

Have a ball with GNAG & sign-up for a Winter program at the Glebe C.C.
We offer a wide variety of excellent and affordable recreational and cultural
programs for all ages.

Registration:
Online registration for preschool programs begins Wednesday, December 12.
Registration for all other programs begins Thursday, December 13. Go to
www.gnag.ca and click on REGISTRATION then, follow the prompts. Registration
begins at 11:00 p.m. and is ongoing 24-hours a day, every day, until classes begin or
are full. If you wish, you can telephone your registration by dialing (613) 233-8713 or
come into the Glebe Community Centre the following day.