

Hunt Club: My Community



Annual General Meeting Hunt Club Community Organization [HCCO] Christine Johnson, President

Please come to our 7 pm HCCO meeting on Monday, September 11, at the Hunt Club-Riverside Park Community Centre (3320 Paul Anka Drive). Our community association has the ear of our councillor to raise any community issues or to share concerns. All of our meetings are held at the above location on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 pm, unless it's a Public Holiday; then the meeting is held the following Monday.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday, November 6 to elect a new Board of Directors. Any resident of the community can present themselves for any open position, provided that they have paid the \$10 annual membership fee. A variety of experience is welcomed: public school, environmental issues, fundraising, planning, website development, social media, etc. Every year, each position's mandate ends so there is an opportunity for renewal on the Board of Directors: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and up to 10 Directors.

Looking forward to seeing many new faces this year at our HCCO meetings. See you on September 11!

Harmony in Cultures Festival Sue McCarthy

The Harmony in Cultures festival celebrating Canada's 150th birthday, originally scheduled on May 13th, will now take place on Saturday, September 9th from 10am to 3pm at McCarthy Park next to the Hunt Club Riverside Park Community Centre. This festival is combined with our annual fall festival with collaborators South East Ottawa Community Health Center (SEOCHC) and the City of Ottawa for a bigger and better celebration. In the event of bad weather, festival activities will be moved into the Community Centre.

Activities include an opening ceremony by an Aboriginal Elder, greetings from dignitaries, musical performances, stilt walking, a live art installation and children's activities. There will be information kiosks, a bouncy castle, face painting, a free corn roast and BBQ halal hot dogs, popcorn, cotton candy and much much more.

Help us celebrate Canada's 150th birthday. The SEOCHC Annual General Meeting will be held in the Seniors Room at 3 pm, following the close of the festival.

Join City Councillor Riley Brockington for the OLDER ADULT SUMMIT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27
8:30AM – 1:00PM
Hunt Club –Riverside Park
Community Centre

DRAFT TOPICS INCLUDE:

Protect Yourself: Fraud, Tax Scams and More!

Keynote Speaker: Ottawa Police Service

If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. All too often, vulnerable or isolated people, including those without a lot of money to spare, fall victim to scam artists and fraudsters. Learn how to protect yourself from an expert!

Building an Age-Friendly Ottawa: Breakout Discussion Sessions

The Council on Aging of Ottawa will facilitate a discussion about issues that are important to you! Key areas for review include: community support and health services, transportation, housing, and recreational services.

CPP and OAS (Old Age Security): What Do You Need To Know?

Keynote Speaker: Service Canada

This presentation will provide an overview of the Canada Pension Retirement Pension and different benefits available through it, as well as an overview of OAS with specific focus on supplement benefits for seniors with low income and life events that may impact your benefits.



Please RSVP:
Alix.Duncan@Ottawa.ca
or 613-580-2486

Continental Breakfast and Catered Lunch will be provided

Celebrating our Urban Natural Feature with Paul Landry

Christine Johnson

On Friday, June 30th, residents, dignitaries, press and members of the deaf community gathered in Paul Landry Park for a ceremonial sod turning for a new playground and a tree planting in honour of Paul Landry, after whom the Park is named.

Paul Landry was an Ottawa resident, first deaf Canada Post mail carrier and a nationally successful deaf long-distance runner. Mr. Landry holds all the Canadian Deaf records in distance ranging from 800 to 10,000 meters. In 1985 he won a gold medal in the 1500 metre race in Los Angeles at the 15th World Games for the Deaf, a first for Canada. After retiring from the track, he remained involved as a coach at the international level and is active in the deaf community. In 2006 he moved to Kelowna, B.C.

Councillor Riley Brockington welcomed Paul back to the park named in his honour, then spoke about the successful partnership between the community and the City to restore Paul Landry Park. As part of his commitment, he has secured funds to have a new play structure installed at the north end of the park sometime later this year, to coincide with Canada's 150th anniversary. Riley was supported by sign language interpreter Karen Hennig (Sign Language Interpreting Associates of Ottawa).

Alain Turpin, Executive Director of the Canadian Deaf Sports Association, introduced Paul. He was supported by Leslie Walters, French sign language interpreter from the 'Service régional d'interprétation visuelle de l'Outaouais' and Karen Hennig who translated the French sign language to English for Paul's understanding. We were all awe-struck hearing about Paul's many amazing accomplishments as a deaf athlete.

For a list of Paul's Deaflympics accomplishments, refer to: <https://www.deaflympics.com/athletes.asp?4479>
To learn more about the Canadian Deaf Sports Association: <http://www.assc-cdsa.com/home.html>

In his address, Paul gave much credit to his wife Pauline, who often was the one to get him out of the house to practice his running. His success was very much a team effort. With ceremonial spade shovels, we then proceeded to dig into the sod, symbolically preparing for the play structure's arrival.

John Sankey then described how fractured limestone bedrock comes to the surface throughout the park, which is why the farmers from days past always left it as a waste patch. Subsequently, house builders in the 1970s used it as a waste dump. Many of the trees now in the park grew from seeds blown in over the years. The City clearcut half of the park to remove diseased ash trees in April 2015. They replanted a healthy variety of tree seedlings a year later: bur oak, maples, beech, basswood and conifers. Community members planted native wildflowers throughout the park that will attract pollinating insects; insect-eating birds will

follow them. The hackberry tree that we planted in honour of Paul, with our councillor, key park volunteers and our guests of honour, is a native tree that provides berries in quantity when mature, and can live up to 200 years. These berries will provide food for thrushes and small mammals, especially during the winter when there are no insects to eat.

Paul Landry Park has become a beacon of tranquility in our neighbourhood. The power of nature as a sanctuary away from the high tech, fast-paced, information overload driven society within which we live, is a welcome reprieve, a gift for our mental health and well-being. There are plenty of spaces in the park where you can now sit and simply contemplate, listen to the birds' different songs, maybe even try to spot them, delight in the never ending scurrying sounds of squirrels' movements, bask on your favourite sunning rock, admire the many species of wildflowers, observe nature's changes throughout the seasons.

Now that we have met the exceptional role model after whom it was named, Paul's soul and spirit will forever permeate this park, and we will continue to be dedicated stewards of it. Our vision to create a safe and desirable urban natural feature for our neighbourhood is coming to fruition. Happy 150th Canada from we the citizens of the Hunt Club community.

To see photos of this event, go to our HCCO Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/HuntClubCommunityAssociation/>

You are all invited to our annual fall clean up of the park at 10 am on Saturday, October 14 (rain date, October 15). Come with your outdoor gloves and meet at the Uplands Drive end of the park.

Harmony in Cultures Mural



From left to right: Artist Claudia Salguero, Amr Guy, Lucie Bruck, Dina, Dianne Nahal, Dinan Kakesde, Aliaa AbdelGhany, Councillor Riley Brockington, Simmy Ahluwalia, Rose Najmi, some of the many volunteers painting the new mural for our community center that's to be installed the end of September.

Park Angels

Dianne Nahal

Paul Landry Park is alive and thriving and has a new tree that Paul Landry planted last month.

Plant and tree growth has exploded with this year's rain. The park looks healthier than ever, and the birds are constantly singing.

I am sure many of you have noticed the change and beauty in the area. Some is natural and some has been helped along with the many park angels tending to the park.

Park Angels are the people who pick up garbage as they walk through, plant flowers or water plants that look thirsty. Others may trim trees, over-bearing Virginia Creeper, buckthorn or burdock, make sitting areas or open paths, or place curious pieces of wood or stone in places to show their beauty. Some Park Angels make whimsical fairy houses like those along the main path from Uplands to the back of the Metro.

Many people in the community have complimented the changes in the park; please take a walk through and see what people are talking about. The park is becoming a beautiful, calm and energy lifting place. Every now and then I see people sitting, sketching, reading, and enjoying the space to a symphony of bird song; so beautiful and right in our own neighbourhood.

Thanks to all of the Park Angels and to all of the people respecting and loving the park.

Newsletter Survey

HCCO produces a newsletter every March, June, September and December. We print 2,700 copies at an approximate cost of \$625 (\$600 of which is paid by our advertisers) for delivery to Hunt Club area homes and businesses by a corps of volunteers.

You can read the current and all previous issues by going to our HCCO website: <http://hunt-club.ncf.ca/>, then clicking on Hunt Club: My Community. Before going there, you can also hit the SUBSCRIBE button to let us know that you are happy to read this bulletin on line and NOT receive a hard copy. Help us save trees in doing so.

We want to know whether you read the paper version or the online version of the newsletter on our website. Please let us know by simply typing "I read the hard copy of HCMC." OR "I read HCMC online on the HCCO website". then sending it to this e-mail address: contact.hcco@bell.net

Your responses will largely determine whether or not we continue to print hard copies of this newsletter, so please take a moment to respond.

Uncovered Track

Matthew Page

Paul and Tyrese watched, faces proudly beaming, as Janie slapped the last shovelful of mud into place with the underside of her spade. To make sure the curve was perfectly rounded Janie knelt in the dirt and smoothed it gently with her stained hands. This had been her greatest idea; both Paul and Tyrese had told her so. In fact, they thought it may be the greatest idea of all time.

Once every speck of dirt was in its proper place, Janie stepped back and joined her team. The three architects stood silently in the middle of the McCarthy Woods and admired the fruits of their labour. It was even better than they had imagined. Then, as if on the cue of some imaginary starter's pistol, the three scrambled for their helmets.

Two months earlier, on the final day of school, during the final recess of the year, Janie had unveiled her plans to Paul and Tyrese. She had been walking through the McCarthy Woods a few weeks prior with her parents when they happened upon a section of the forest that had caught her eye. It was covered in leaves and fallen branches but was mostly vacant of trees. It was far enough away from the train tracks that her parents wouldn't worry but it was also well enough into the woods that most people would never find it. It was perfect.

So Janie began the planning. She dragged her father back out into the woods and, with his help, meticulously measured out the area. She took those measurements and mapped them out in the back of one of her math notebooks. She then began to plot the course. The visions of banked corners, S-turns, double jumps, and Whoops-De-Dos raced from her imagination onto the page. There was at times furious erasing but it was not long before the track's outline was cemented.

During that final recess she recruited Paul and Tyrese to help her make the squiggly lines in her notebook become reality. Every spare moment each of the three had from that point forward was pledged to the track. Between soccer practices, birthday parties, chores, and cottage vacations there was only the track. They poured their hearts and souls and sweat into the realization of Janie's dream, and now it was carved amongst the trees, a monument to their hard work and dedication.

With helmets snugly strapped in place, the three hoisted their bikes, which had spent most of the summer resting in the dirt patiently waiting to be set free, and climbed aboard. And then they were off.

Janie smiled as she whipped around the first corner into a straightaway of moguls, which she navigated expertly. Her smile stretched into a grin when she slashed through the S-turn, her tires kicking up dirt in all directions. Her grin spread into a look of pure joy as she aimed her bike at the biggest jump on the track. There were only three weeks left before school started again but when she hit that jump and felt her tires lift from the dirt for the first time, she knew it was going to be the best three weeks of her life.

Buy Nothing and Being Neighbourly

Kate Dalonzo

These are two great Facebook initiatives specifically for residents in our neighbourhoods. The Buy Nothing site (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1643284685981367/>) allows you to join a local network to give, lend or borrow products. You just need to be 19 years of age or older and live in the neighbourhood (Uplands/Mooney's Bay). As a 'Buy Nothing' member, you can also join the 'Alta Vista/Hunt Club Being Neighbourly Network' (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1572058296377112/>) Here you can post all kinds of information such as free community events, tips/ideas, sales alerts, services to recommend, etc.

These two instances of social media can make our communities feel more connected.

We thank our councillor and local businesses who make **Hunt Club: My Community** possible and ask that you support them.

Hunt Club: My Community

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If you have an article that you would like to submit for our next issue, e-mail it to suemccarthy1952@gmail.com. We welcome your ideas for future issues; please submit them to us or come to our monthly meetings to discuss them.

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