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September 2017



Glabar Gazette

A message from the GPCA President

The Glabar Park Community Alliance is in jeopardy of closing. Some members have left or reduced their time this year with plans to leave, and it is not surprising. As I read through old documents handed to me last fall, I saw that the GPCA has been led this past decade by a core group of dedicated neighbours. We have all benefited and are grateful for their service to our community, and their service has been essential in making this neighbourhood such a friendly and welcoming place to live.

At the 2016 AGM, we said goodbye to our long-standing Treasurer, Bill Meyer, one of the last members of this core group and Trent Gray-Donald, who as President for 2 years had been a member of the Alliance for years prior as a Director. A new generation of Glabarites needs to lead this amazing community and regrow our GPCA.

I am proud every day of this neighbourhood and who we are as a community; yet I am also stepping down as President this year. The work in building and maintaining the rink, running the GPCA, writing the Gazette, maintaining new communication methods, and planning and running of the Fun Days is being carried predominantly by the President and the Vice-President for the whole community. For years, this work had been distributed among a dozen people.

The Vice-President plans on staying, but we need at least six GPCA members to maintain quorum at our meetings let alone carry out the functions of the GPCA. Without quorum, there will be no Fun Days next year. We have been working on documenting business continuity and I will stay on as Past-President, so new members will have guidance in rebuilding our association.

Last year's AGM was also poorly attended, which forced a Special General Meeting last February to ratify the election. As a community, it is vital we attend our one AGM in the Fall to place our combined approval on the dedicated work of this community association.

There are four Executive and ten Director positions. We have been lucky to have past Executive members return as Directors to keep this association functioning, but we need to find a dozen leaders in our neighbourhood now! The next AGM is scheduled for Tuesday, September 19th at the Seventh Day Adventist church, so please attend and volunteer your time. It takes little time if we have many shoulders to carry the weight.

Please use glabarkparkca@gmail.com to communicate with your executive board and to ask us questions about joining the GPCA.

Sean Kirkwood

Mark your calendars for these events:

Annual General Meeting
Tues. Sept. 19 at 7pm
Seventh Day Adventist Church
2200 Benjamin

Winter Fun Day
Sat. in January (TBD)
Kingsmere Park

Info:
www.GlabarPark.ca



Glabar Park Summer Fun Day 2017

Summer Fun Day was held this year on July 29th and finally summer showed up for the occasion, bringing warmth and sunshine. The bike parade signaled the start of the activities at 11:30 and some lucky participants received hand painted rock trophies boasting Canadian symbols.

St Paul's Presbyterian Church once again generously sponsored the Big Tent where we supplied some delicious treats to our senior community members. Our barbeque masters, Sean and Steve, served up lunch while the various activities were under way including: face painting, a large bouncy gym, water balloon frenzy and a visit from the Fire Department. A nail biting game of Tug of War saw the children victoriously conquer the red faced adults proving small can be mighty!! We ended in the evening with a film in the park.

We were very grateful for this year's donations of refreshments: Tim Hortons for Timbits, Starbucks for passion fruit iced tea, Bridgehead for coffee and Colonnade Pizza for several large pizzas. What a privilege to live in such a dynamic and committed community. We also thank Shoppers Drug Mart at Fairlawn for their gift basket, which we raffled off. Thank you to Mayor Watson for coming by for a visit.

We extend a very special thank you to Natalie Caron for organizing and ensuring the success of this day and Sara Lytle who organized the movie in the park!! A huge thank you as well to our community volunteers as events like these would never come about without their generous contribution of time, energy and commitment to this great neighbourhood!



Community Garage Sale

It was a beautiful June 10th morning and great treasures were found around our neighbourhood. Many homes participated in the Great Glabar Garage Sale, which generated a lot of interest as seen by the amount of traffic around our streets. It was also a pleasure to walk about to talk with neighbours that I had not seen since last Fall.



Upcoming Events

The Glabar Park Community Alliance (GPCA) have fall and winter fun and activities planned with:

Glabar Park Annual General Meeting – Sept 19th, 2017

This year's Annual General Meeting will be held in the basement of the Seventh Day Adventist Church located at 2200 Benjamin Avenue between 7 pm and 9 pm. All residents over 18 years of age are automatically members of the GPCA and are both invited and encouraged to attend.

The business of this Annual General Meeting will include:

- Approval of Minutes
- Treasurer Report (including auditor report)
- Reports on Zoning, Traffic and Recreation
- Elections to the Board
- Auditor Appointment
- Bay Ward/City report from Deputy Mayor Mark Taylor
- Any new business arising from the floor

As stated in the President's message, we need to rebuild and revitalize our Board. Looking forward, our Association encourages those interested, excited, or even curious about civic engagement to stand up for nomination and election to one of the four Officer positions this September.

Do you have a project or initiative that you would like to have our Association tackle? Consider becoming one of our ten Directors and spearhead your idea!

Kingsmere Rink

Volunteers are needed to help build the rink. We need seven people, one per night, to be responsible for flooding. You can also volunteer to sit in the rink house to maintain our hours.

Winter Fun Day - Kingsmere Park – January 2018

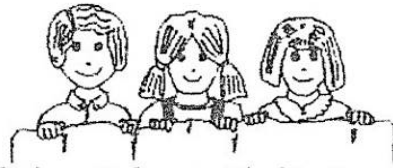
This date is not official, but it is expected to be the third or fourth Saturday of January 2018. Stay tuned to our website and Facebook page for more information as the date approaches.

Keeping up on the Latest

Don't forget that we still have our website at www.glabarpark.ca where we keep our community up-to-date on what is happening. The last few postings on the home page have covered the Summer Fun Day, Fools in the Park, Community Garage Sale, and the Kingsmere Skating Rink.

On Facebook, we have our GPCA page that mirrors much of the information posted on the website. Don't forget to Like us to get the latest updates www.facebook.com/Glabar-Park-Community-Alliance-96543664194/

Community members also have their own Facebook page, **The Glabarhood**, with even more information (sales, events, foxes, crime, school info) posted by your neighbours.



Whitehaven Kindergarten School Age Centre Inc.

**Located at D. Roy Kennedy Public School
919 Woodroffe Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario**

Whitehaven Kindergarten School Age Centre is excited to announce that in addition to their Kindergarten and School Age Programs, it now offers two NEW programs:

- **Preschool Program (2.5 yrs. – 4 yrs.)**
- **Preschool – Kindergarten – Readiness Program (2.5 yrs. – 4yrs.)
(Monday to Friday – 9:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.)**

In recognition that a child's early years affect the quality of his/her life, the Whitehaven Kindergarten School Age Centre cares for and educates young children physically, socially, emotionally and intellectually, promoting healthy growth.

Whitehaven Kindergarten School Age Centre provides an early learning environment with stimulating play materials and age appropriate activities. Children are offered a wide variety of activities and experiences by Registered Early Childhood Educators.

**For more information, to arrange a visit or to register your child/children.
Please contact the Centre's Director – Jayne Gauthier – 613-759-8364**



Winter 2017 Kingsmere Rink

Each year I am amazed at the weather challenges we face in building and maintaining our rink. I am starting to worry that we are beginning to see the end of outdoor rinks in this city over the next decade.

The season started with such promise! Adam and I managed to build the rink with help from Andy Wood, Chris Wanczycki, Jeff Faulds, Tim Carroll, and Greg Soprovich. Jeff and his family, new members to our community, helped me paint the hockey boards as well. We started building the rink before Christmas, and had it opened on New Year's Ev.

We were fortunate to have Guy St-Amour donate his time and snow blowing equipment. Guy is a local handyman who also does driveway clearing in the winter. In return for his efforts, we advertised his services on the Glabarhood and Glabar Park Facebook pages. His services were essential on getting the rink built as early as we did this year.

I also wish to thank our rink house volunteers. We are obliged to provide 30 hours per week access to the rink house and our volunteers gave steady access to the rink house. More high school students joined our volunteer group too, looking to gain community service hours for graduation. Thank you Michelle, Paul, Heather, Christian, Philip, Gavin, Joe, Quinton, Simone, Adam, Mike, Harrison, Janice, Steve and Brent!

Even with a great start and our strong volunteer commitments, the closures started due to freezing rain and warm spells. I counted 10 closures in January alone with the final day of skating falling a week before the end of February. Despite the challenges, we still saw an increase in the number of skaters on the rink! When we did have great days, we had great ice.

Thank you everyone for your efforts. Your volunteer work contributes to the GPCA's ability to run exciting Fun Day activities. To the rest of our neighbours, please consider joining our group!