

ORCHARD ESTATES NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER, 2005

Published by the Orchard Estates Community Association Email: info@orchardestates.ca

New Neighbours

Welcome to new neighbours – Angus and Maria Ma, who moved in at 2 Dodder Key this September, and Catherine Kerr who moved in at 6 Staghorn Green in November!

Hallowe'en Party

The OECA Hallowe'en Party was held on Saturday October 29, 2005, and it was a howling success! Perfect sunny weather graced the Orchard that afternoon, drawing about 20 children and their parents to the annual event. The boys and girls had a great time painting pumpkins, colouring and digging for treasures in a cauldron of innards (aka cold green noodles).



The “Wrap the Mummy” contest was a blast. Thanks to “Mummies” Emily Rygus and Jill Bobula for volunteering to be wrapped up. The unanimous decision of the judges was that both teams did a wonderful job, and the contest ended in a tie. At the costume parade, the community was treated to a great variety of costumes. After a lengthy and difficult deliberation, judges selected Dylan McGuire’s cowboy and horse costume as the winner. The “pass the pumpkin” game was next, and was won by Caitlin Brown. The children organized their own game of “Duck, Duck, Goose” to close out the afternoon. Congratulations to everyone.

Thanks to all our volunteers for organizing the afternoon, including Tina Nagratha, the event organizer, and Pat Owen, Laurie Creber and Ann Dyer. A very special thank you to Joey and Mona Murphy for supplying the Tim Hortons coffee, hot chocolate and cookies, and to Ann Dyer for the baked goods.

See you next year!

Social Director

During the last Association Executive meeting Ann Dyer agreed to assume the role of the Social Director. Bob Dyer will take over as Secretary. Thank you Ann and Bob for getting involved!

Holiday Lights Competition

The annual holiday lighting competition will be judged on Wednesday to Thursday December 14-15th with the winners announced at the Cocktail Party at the Slabys. Prize categories are: Best Lighting New Neighbour; Winter Wonderland; Creative Use of Colour; and Hydro Award (most lights).

Holiday Cocktail Party – Dec 16

Maria and Paul Slaby have kindly offered to open their house again to friends and neighbours for this year’s edition of the Holiday Cocktail Party. Please mark your calendar; Friday, December 16, at 7pm, at 38 Spring Cress Drive. As usual, this is an adult only event, and we ask that you bring a bottle of wine and your favourite appetizer or dessert.

Government Relations Update

Thank you to Sue Brownrigg-Smith for representing our neighbourhood’s interests. The following is a brief summary of recent developments:

Ward Boundaries – Following the AGM, the Community Association voiced our support to move OE/Cedarhill to a rural ward (lands across 416). We felt that our interests are more in line with those of other rural communities within the City of Ottawa boundaries. This motion, however, was rejected and Orchard Estates remains in the urban Bell-South ward while maintaining its rural zoning.

Urban Transit Area – The Community Association successfully opposed OE becoming part of the Urban Transit Area sought by the City as part of expansion of the OC Transpo. We will still be paying the current UTA rural levy, plus as additional contribution to the park-and-ride facilities (contributions towards operating and capital budget). Since OE is zoned rural, the school buses will continue to serve our neighbourhood.

Rural Summit – Sue Brownrigg-Smith will be attending the rural summit on November 19 representing our community.

Fallowfield/Strandherd Gas Station – no site plan has been submitted and no other activity reported. It may be 2-3 years before anything is built.

Emerald Estates – the property owner is considering a revised subdivision plan with city water service, expanded golf course and reduced lot sizes to 1 acre. No formal application to amend the approved sub-division plan has been submitted to the City.

Official Flood Plain and Wetlands Plan – OE is not included in this controversial initiative.

Copies of the newsletter are available at the OE Bulletin Board

Mailbox Structure

Although drawings were created and application to obtain the monies from the Nepean Heritage Grant was made, many more tasks remain;

- moving mature evergreens that are in the way,
- creating a site plan,
- obtaining a permit,
- obtaining an agreement from Canada Post regarding relocating the mailboxes during construction,
- obtaining a quote, etc.

Once all plans are finalized, they will be presented to the community for review and approval.

Membership Drive

The 2005 membership drive is under way. You should have received an invoice in the mail. Thank you to all of you who already paid. If you haven't, please send in your cheque. If you misplaced the invoice, or have any questions, please email info@orchardestates.ca or contact Laurie Creber at 825-1606, or Pat Owen at 825-0782. As in the last year, 80% of the \$100 membership fee goes to maintaining common property, with the remainder used for social, communications and reserve fund.

Community Hours / Jobs for Teenagers

We are always looking for help with maintaining gardens and the common property. If your son or daughter is interested in helping, please email us or contact Tony Creber at 825-1696. They can either get community hours signed off or opt to receive \$10/hour for their work.

AGM Minutes

AGM Minutes were attached with this mailing. A copy is available upon request. Please email us or call John Tyson at 825-7579 if you have any questions.

Free Flu Shot Clinics

Here are the dates and places of the flu shot clinics in the west end of the city:

- Monday, November 21, 3:30 - 8:30 pm, Bayshore Public School, 145 Woodridge Cres. Ottawa
- Tuesday, November 22, 3:30 - 8:30 pm, Holy Trinity High School, 180 Katimavik Rd., Kanata
- Wednesday, December 7, 3:30 - 8:30 pm, All Saints High School, 5115 Kanata Ave., Kanata
- Thursday, December 8, 2:30 - 8:30 pm, Confederation High School, 1645 Woodroffe Ave., Nepean
- Thursday, January 12, 3:30 - 8:30 pm, Notre Dame High School, 710 Broadview Ave., Ottawa

For a complete list, please visit the City of Ottawa website at

http://www.ottawa.ca/city_services/yourhealth/chronicdisease/inf/luenza_c_en.shtml

OE Website

We now have a community website:

www.orchardestates.ca

Initially it contains a copy of bylaws, a document on common land usage, recent newsletters and a few useful links. If you are interested in contributing articles or have other suggestions, please email info@orchardestates.ca.