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The



# Herald

ERINDALE VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

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Spring  
2003

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## Springbank: at the Crossroads

### Part One

By Simona Laiu, Historian  
Mississauga Heritage Foundation

Many Erindale students first learned the "3R's" in this building. The original school was built in 1872 to provide a central school location. Prior to this, children had either journeyed to Frogmore, on Winston Churchill Blvd., or to the old school on Adamson Street in Erindale. In 1885, the students planted a grove of Maple Trees in an Arbour Day celebration and one of these trees still stands today.

A new brick schoolhouse, the present structure, was built in 1922 slightly south of the original school. It is a particularly fine example of early 20th century Neo Classical and Colonial revival architecture. This two-room building, complete with the bell from the 1872 school, remained unchanged until 1952 when the two side wings were added. With the steady influx of new residents to the Erindale area, the little schoolhouse was

soon unable to accommodate the increasing number of students and, in 1957, Springfield Public School was built in the Credit Woodlands and this building became the Springbank Community Centre. In 1981 Visual Arts Mississauga, a nonprofit association, which brings local artists and artisans together, moved into the building and converted it into workshops and offices.

In 1993, Springbank was declared a historic building. Today the old Erindale Public School (S.S.#4) introduces people of all ages to the artistic and cultural diversity of Mississauga. However, the future of this landmark is uncertain as rumours persist that the property (and building) are in the process of being sold by the City of Mississauga to the University of Toronto. In the next issue we will examine the future of this beautiful landmark.



By Paul Stafford



*Erindale Village Association  
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## A Message from the President

Spring is in the air and I look forward to seeing familiar faces around the Village, busily preparing for and enjoying another few months of warmer weather.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of last year's Board of Directors for their endeavors. Two of our past directors deserve special mention, Cathy Prosia and Paul Stafford. Both had been on the Board for many years and their wisdom and expertise will be missed. As well, a huge thank you to all those residents who volunteered their time in helping with the various social functions. At this time, I

would also like to welcome the new members to the Board. It's people like them—and you—who help to keep the community spirit alive.

We look forward to a new year filled with lots of activities and, as always, invite everyone to participate (check out the calendar in this issue for a list of upcoming functions). As we, the Board, are here to serve the community, we welcome your input. Please contact any of us. See you around the Village.

Linda Black

## Editorial

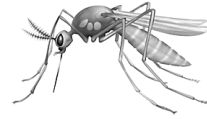
*By Matthew Wilkinson*

As your new newsletter editor, I feel that I should, perhaps, introduce myself a bit: I am a 7<sup>th</sup> generation Erindaler. I am descended, on my mother's side, from the Adamsons and Barkers of Erindale. This past summer I enjoyed a complete change of vocation by volunteering and working in association with Heritage Mississauga. I have also returned to university intending to finish my history degree, and you can often find me walking our two dogs, Jody and Mindy, around the village. I have to admit that, until recently, I had always taken the history of Erindale a little for granted. I was brought up on stories of Erindale. My mother and my great uncle, the late Tommy Adamson, filled me with tales of my home; stories ranging from the gun in the wall, the great fire, a horse in the well, the lake, the murder, and the General, all filled me with a sense of place and of family origins. Not until recently has that sense of place become coupled with a sense of time and the desire to promote the heritage of our small village. Through my annual forays into northern Ontario, I feel more aware of how precious

the heritage and history of Erindale is. I believe that it is vital to continue to remember and preserve the vestiges of our past and to try and connect them with our present to help ensure their survival in our rapidly urbanizing world. I hope my love of history will translate into some enjoyable reading. I would also like to thank Paul Stafford, the previous newsletter editor, for his suggestions and direction; he has helped make my job much easier. It is my hope that this newsletter will play a role in connecting Erindale residents with upcoming events in our village, with the various arts, heritage and cultural events in our community and with the directors of the Erindale Village Association: The E.V.A. is the voice of our village to the City. This newsletter is yours; I will make every effort to include all submissions from the village. Personally, I also welcome any feedback, submissions or suggestions for the newsletter. This newsletter is a community forum, so feel free to share a story, a poem, a concern, or to just reach out to your fellow Erindalers. Enjoy.



## Councillor's Report: West Nile Virus



The Region of Peel's 2003 West Nile Virus Program is the most pro-active prevention and control program in the Province of Ontario. When presented to Regional Council in February, the Program Report will detail the initiatives for surveillance, public education, reducing mosquito breeding areas, larvaciding and a contingency plan for mosquito adulticiding. It will also address specific geographic areas including Erindale Village.

As part of the program, Peel Health will continue to carry out surveillance in crows, mosquitos and humans, and will work cooperatively with other health units, the provincial and federal governments, and academic institutions. Public education will emphasize personal mosquito protection, including the use of repellents containing DEET. Homeowners are encouraged to check the screens on doors and windows around their homes. The reduction of mosquito breeding areas is the most effective way of controlling the mosquito population. Private homeowners are urged to eliminate temporary standing water on their property.

The most significant change in the West Nile Virus Prevention and Control program is the introduction of selective larvaciding. The application of biological

pesticides to standing water in roadside catch-basins and other breeding sites early in the season can reduce mosquito numbers with minimal environmental impact. Key decisions in implementing larvaciding include the choice of a pesticide product, the selection of geographic areas and types of standing water to treat, and monitoring the effectiveness of mosquito control. Effective communication with the public will be essential for a successful program.

A contingency plan for adulticiding will be implemented only in the event of a West Nile Virus health emergency. For your convenience please check the Region of Peel's West Nile Virus webpage on my website located at <http://mississauga.ca/ward7/> or call Health Line Peel at 905-799-7700 between 8 am and 5 pm, Monday to Friday.

Best personal regards,

Councillor Nando Iannicca, Ward 7

### Upcoming Erindale Village Events

**Village Garage & Bake Sale**  
Saturday, May 31

**Membership Drive**  
Begins May 1

**Canada Day Celebration**  
Tuesday, July 1

**Village Corn Roast**  
Sunday, Sept. 21

**E.V.A. Annual General Meeting**  
Thursday, Oct. 2

**Children's Hallow'en Party**  
Friday, Oct. 24



## Update ... Street Lights

By Linda Black

By the time this newsletter is distributed we anticipate that you will all have noticed the new street lighting along parts of Jarvis and Adamson Streets. Many thanks go to Marc Ferguson, our past Erindale Village Association City Liaison, who spent months researching and coordinating our options. Also to Michele and Allen Hallis, who helped me in

canvassing those residents affected by the change. As our neighbour Herb Saunders so aptly said, "Our investment in the light programme was a very small price to pay to preserve something that is so special". I would also like to thank those residents who generously donated the additional funds needed to bring this project to a successful conclusion.



## Village Garage & Bake Sale

By Linda Amos



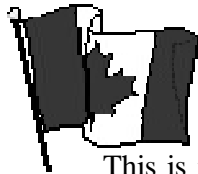
Our Garage & Bake Sale is scheduled for May 31<sup>st</sup> – so start thinking about what you may want to “weed out” during your spring-cleaning! Watch for your flyer with more details.

### Special Thanks:

On behalf of the E.V.A. Members, the Board of Directors would like to sincerely thank Larry and Lisa Kendall for their great generosity and community spirit in printing The Herald newsletter. Kendall Printing has printed the newsletter free of charge for you, its readers! Enjoy!

## Upcoming E.V.A. Membership Drive

May 1<sup>st</sup> marks the beginning for the Erindale Village Association Membership Drive. One of your directors will be dropping by to collect this year’s Association fee. The annual fee is \$10 per family. We ask for your continuing support during this important membership drive and to also voice any suggestions or concerns that may help the E.V.A. improve the quality of life in the Village. The annual membership fee goes to support the various community events and activities delivered by the E.V.A. for you, the residents of Erindale.



## Canada Day Celebrations

By Deryck Fox



This is just a reminder to keep Tuesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> open! This year we will again have our annual Canada Day celebrations in the Village. Last year’s celebrations were a great success thanks to all the people who volunteered and made it the success it was. We will again go with the same general format for this year. There will be refreshments and goodies for the kids and some coffee and cake for the adults. Any donations of baked goods would be fantastic and very much appreciated.

We will again have our Arts and Literature contest. Further details will be sent to each home in June. I am also thinking of adding an adult section to this as I am absolutely sure there are many adults who have some fantastic thoughts they would like to share about what Canada means to them.

Other points of interest would include coming early to chat with the neighbours, read the winning entries, see the art work and get a good spot with a comfy chair to watch the activities. Don’t forget donations to the fireworks will be accepted the week of the celebrations at 1580 Adamson or on the day of the event at the hall.

I will send out reminders of the contests, baked goods and donations as we come closer to June so we can prepare. We are all looking forward to seeing everybody there.

## Hallowe’en: Thanks for getting into the “spirit” of things!

The community hall was filled with little ghosts and goblins at the Hallowe’en Party last October 25<sup>th</sup>. They were entertained with a variety of activities, including Miss Fun the clown, and dined on a feast of ghoulishly great treats.

Our thanks goes to all the volunteers who helped decorate, bake, prepare loot bags, count jellybeans, and assist in the cleanup. Also thanks to Colleen & Mike Hall who came forth and offered their assistance in hosting the party. Great work everybody!

E.V.A. Board of Directors.





# Remembering ... Erindale Public School

By Mary (Barker) Wilkinson

Although it will be almost Spring when you receive this newsletter, I am writing this when our Village is firmly embraced by the icy grip of Winter. Gazing out of my window at the wonderful world of whiteness, I am reminded of my childhood.

The snow brings back fond memories of Erindale Public School, which provided the children of this area, including yours truly, with an excellent elementary education. On days such as this going to school was not a chore but rather an absolute delight. The generosity of a local farmer, Grafton Belford, meant that we didn't have to trudge through the snow along the 'pretend' sidewalks, dangerously slipping and sliding our way along Dundas Highway and the Streetsville (now Mississauga) Road. No indeed, we traveled in style! Mr. Belford would come along on his tractor, pulling a long, flat wagon or sleigh covered with a deep layer of straw. He would pick up all of the school children from the village and beyond, and chauffeur us to school. How pleasant it was to sit on the straw singing our favourite songs, chatting, joking, and teasing.

Once at school we had lots of extra time to play "Fox and Geese" in the pristine

field on the hill behind the school, build snow forts and snowmen, make snow angels, play 'frozen tag', and have snowball fights! I don't recall any teachers being "on duty" in the schoolyard, any injuries from snowballs, or being told that we must not release our pent-up energy with snowball fights.

Childhood was Childhood in those days, virtually free from adult interference and artificial rules. We were encouraged to work out our own problems and have fun! The only time the schoolyard was quiet was when there was a funeral at St. Peter's Church, which stood as a sentinel on the hill above the schoolyard. Then we would cease our boisterous games, milling about quietly as a mark of respect for the deceased.

The school was small, and represented the whole community in those days before there were Separate Schools. We played and worked together in harmony, accepted responsibility for our own actions, and were good neighbours, a credit to our teachers and our parents. Our childhood days were in many ways idyllic, innocent, carefree and happy. Remembering this, I feel for the children of today who live in a much more complicated world.

## Erindale Public School Reunion:

Some former students of the Erindale Public School (S.S.#4) are beginning to plan a reunion for former students and teachers, or for anyone else who has fond memories to share.

If you or anyone you know would like more information or would like to volunteer to help plan this event, please contact Mary (Barker) Wilkinson at 905-279-5295 or email: [delamaryw@rogers.com](mailto:delamaryw@rogers.com)

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Mississauga, Ontario  
[www.heritagemississauga.com](http://www.heritagemississauga.com)  
905-615-4415

The Mississauga Heritage Foundation, Inc., established in 1960, is a not-for-profit organization which identifies, researches, interprets and promotes the diverse heritage resources of the City of Mississauga. We offer a variety of educational programs, publications and tours. Heritage Mississauga is committed to making Mississauga the most heritage friendly city in Canada.



## Grandma's Stories:

### "Maggie"

By Renate Kellhammer

Does anyone still remember Old Maggie? She lived in that tiny house right on the highway in Erindale beside the old store. Maggie lived to be over 100 years old and her mind was as "clear as a bell" as they say. She was related to most of the original "Erindalers" in one way or another. And the stories she could tell! Some of the Old Timers joked that she had a vivid imagination and that her stories got more fanciful as Maggie got older. But a good story is a good story! We loved to listen to her stories in her cozy little house, with all the afghan wraps and crocheted doilies.

She was the youngest child and only girl in a family of many boys. Maggie had to work hard ... like most children of that time. She told us that she had to put a chair up to the sink and wash all the dishes for a big family when she was only five years old. From the time Maggie was eight she was sent every summer to pick berries on a nearby farm. She got a 'shin plaster' for her labour, which apparently was a piece of paper money worth 25 cents. Maggie was very proud when she brought her wages home.

During the Depression she baked pies and sold them in front of her house to the people who came out from the city on weekends for a picnic or to swim in the lake.

For many years Maggie was a school crossing guard at the intersection of Dundas Highway and Mississauga Road. The kids loved her and brought her gifts at Christmas. One day a gravel truck came down the hill, couldn't stop fast enough and dumped a pile of gravel right on tiny Maggie! "Only my head looked out," she told us. "But there was not a thing wrong with me!" she declared proudly, with her piercing blue eyes flashing behind her thick glasses.

Maggie also had the best collection of teapots we had ever seen. I forgot how many, but there must have been well over a hundred. She had special shelves built for them along the walls of her back porch to display them all. Each one had a special history.

When Maggie 'moved up north' at one hundred and two years old to live with her daughter a piece of old Erindale went too. We miss her stories.

## Thank You:

On behalf of all the residents of Erindale Village, the E.V.A. would like to thank Sandra and Brad Schneller for creating and maintaining a skating rink for all to use, and for once again hosting a Village Skating Party. For those of you new to the Village, the Schneller's have very generously opened their yard every winter (for over 20 years!) for our enjoyment. Thank you.

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## The Erindale Ravine

By Ryan Owtrrin (age 10)



Hi my name is Ryan, I'm 10 years old and I moved to Erindale Village with my family last May. Our house backs onto the Credit River ravine and from my bedroom window I can see the river valley. When we first moved in my family became friends with Greg and Linda Black. They have been very nice neighbors and gave us permission to visit the ravine.

Last summer I had a fun time riding my bike around the neighborhood and exploring the ravine with my friends. Down in the ravine there are tall trees, long grass, rolling hills, the river and lots of animals. These things make it perfect for me because I like to climb and hike, go fishing and look for

animals. Here are just some of the things I have fun doing down in the ravine: looking for the deer that live in the underbrush, watching the birds that nest in the treetops, catching the snakes that slither under the river stones and finding the frogs that live along the riverbank. I also like to watch the raccoons climb out of the river valley to knock over our garbage cans on Sunday nights.

These are just some of the things that I like to do but I'm sure that you can find something about Erindale ravine that is as much fun for you. Just remember to ask permission before going down to the river and that all kids should be with an adult if they want to explore the ravine.

### Community Tidbits:

#### Mississauga Earth Days

April 22 – May 4.

Mississauga Garden Council  
905-279-5878.

Carassauga  
www.carassauga.com  
May 23 – 25.

#### Mississauga Arts Council

Call 905-615-4278 or log on to www.mississaugaartscouncil.com for a list of events for the visual and performing arts.

“The Merchant of Venice” at the Meadowvale Theatre, May 7 & 8.

#### What's On In Heritage?

Contact Heritage Mississauga for a list of upcoming heritage & history related events at 905-615-4415.

#### Museums of Mississauga

905-822-1569  
“Old Fashioned Strawberry Social”  
June 22.

“Shakespeare Under The Stars”  
July 18 & 19.



## Wildlife – Birds of Prey

By Linda Black

There are many birds of prey that inhabit our little Village. The most commonly seen are the Red-tailed Hawk and the Turkey Vulture.

Other raptor's that have been spotted are the Cooper's Hawk, Osprey, Great Horned Owl and the American Kestrel.

The Cooper's Hawk is relatively large (Crow size) and can often be seen perched in trees or fences actively looking for its next meal. Many times I have watched the flurry of activity as the Cooper's Hawk (picture: young Cooper's Hawk) swoops in like a flash of lightning (up to 3 times per day). Since the majority of their diet consists of birds, this Village seems to be an ideal spot for the family that moved in 2 years ago. Also, they do not seem to be intimidated by human presence, one can walk up to about 10 feet or so of them and they will just ignore you, intent upon some sign of rustling from a nearby

emergency hideout. Unlike other predator's of smaller birds, when a Cooper's Hawk is around, the area—for several back yards—quickly clears of birds and squirrels and becomes eerily quiet.

On the flip side of the coin, this past January a Red-tailed Hawk started making regular appearances at my bird feeders. A crew of Crows who dislike the Red-tails and generally try to make life difficult for them usually accompanies their presence. Birds and squirrels also ignore their presence and move only when the Red-tail (who isn't as graceful swooping in, especially at short distances, as a Cooper's Hawk) is almost upon them only to resume their activities seconds later. Red-tail's are normally not a threat to smaller birds or squirrels unless their regular food supply is scarce. Some resources will tell you to stop feeding birds for a few days to discourage predators from hanging around, but with the vast amount of deciduous and coniferous trees in the Village, the smaller birds who live here will seek other natural sources of food in the area.



## Share your stories:

I ask everyone, of any age, to share your stories with us. Remember what was, enjoy what is, and ask what the future will bring to our small Village, in the midst of the 6<sup>th</sup> largest city in Canada. Even little snippets of what makes Erindale important to you. Share your stories of what it means to you to be living in Canada, in Ontario, in Mississauga, in Erindale. Think of the stories your house, your street or your Village could tell if only they could talk. I urge you to look about your Village and question and remember. Please, share your stories, poems, ideas or concerns with us.

Email submissions:  
**[mwilkinson@rogers.com](mailto:mwilkinson@rogers.com)**

or drop off: 2537  
Mindemoya Rd.

# Seaching for Old Erindale: Street Names

By Matthew Wilkinson

What's in a name? If you drive around small-town Ontario, you will invariably notice similarities in street names. Almost every hamlet or village has some variation of the following street names: Main, Queen, King, Centre or Mill – names that are usually self-explanatory. Even our sister villages within Mississauga follow a little of this pattern. Erindale is a bit different. Have you ever wondered for whom the streets in Erindale were named?

Erindale does have a 'main street' running through the 'centre' of the village: Dundas Street. Dundas was surveyed as a military road in 1798 under the order of the Lt. Governor of Upper Canada, John Graves Simcoe. The road connected two important commercial centres in Upper Canada – York and Dundas – and had to be of sufficient distance from the shore of Lake Ontario as to offer protection from American attack. The road was named "Dundas" simply because it led from the provincial capital of York (now Toronto) to the town of Dundas. The town was named after British Home Secretary Henry Dundas. The road took the path of least resistance through Erindale and wound its way into the valley, taking a sharp 'S' turn at the eastern edge of the village and navigating the easiest slope of the steep valley. The original 'S' turn of Dundas is still evident today with the North and south sections of Dundas Crescent.

The main intersection of Erindale was much the same as it is today – Dundas and Mississauga Road (then known as the Streetsville Road to the north and Cedar Swamp or Springbank Road to the south). Cedar Swamp Road traced an old Native trail that followed the Credit River past the Native village (the Mississauga Golf Club), to the harbour that would become Port Credit. The name Mississauga means "River of the North of many mouths" and is in reference to the Mississauga Natives who once inhabited this area.

Other Erindale street names include Jarvis Street – named for Fredrick Starr Jarvis, the first constable in Erindale and a staunch Tory supporter during the Rebellion of 1837. His daughter Amelia married Alexander Proudfoot, a local mill owner, United Empire Loyalist and well-to-do merchant. The Proudfoot family had

extensive holdings and business interests both here and in Trafalgar Township. Robinson Street is named in honour of the first Chief Justice of Upper Canada, Sir John Beverley Robinson; his small summer cottage stands just west of the village – "The Grange" now houses the Boy Scouts' Head-quarters. This building acted as the government office between York and Dundas. Thompson Street was named for Colonel William Thompson, a Clarkson resident, United Empire Loyalist and the first Justice of the Peace in Erindale. Adamson Street derives its name from the prominent Adamson family, namely two brothers: the Honourable General Peter Adamson and Doctor Joseph Adamson, who were among the earliest and most influential settlers in the area. The other two village roads, Mindemoya and Nanticoke, received their modern names only in the 1950's. They probably represent the oldest two streets in the village, originally leading to the mills (Nanticoke) and to a farm (Mindemoya). These roads were simply called "The First and Second Forty-foot Roads" (forty feet wide so that wagons could pass each other!). A local resident, Betty Boyd, tired of those names, looked on a map of Ontario and picked two Native names she liked: Mindemoya ("My Old Woman") and Nanticoke ("People of the Water"). And if we extend our vision of Erindale a little farther, we can find Hammond Road – named in reference to Oliver and Thomas Hammond, important members of the St. Peter's Congregation and of the Erindale Community. The historically designated Hammond house still stands – one of the hidden gems of modern Mississauga. The street names of Erindale give interesting insight to the life and times of early Upper Canada: most were named for somewhat wealthy members of the Anglican Church and of the "Family Compact", and reflect Erindale's early importance as a vital crossroads and the government seat between York and Dundas. Our village was christened "Erindale" (meaning "Ireland in the Dale") on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1900, after the estate of Reverend James Magrath of St. Peter's. Our village was previously known as Toronto, Credit, Springfield and Springfield-on-the-Credit. An interesting place!





# Winter Rabbits

By Elizabeth Amos (age 8)

Winter is here,  
 All the rabbits give cheer,  
 Their fur has turned white,  
 Keeping them out of sight,  
 We see their footprints on the ground,  
 So we know that they've been around,  
 The rabbits give cheer,  
 Now that winter is here.



## Welcome

On behalf of the residents of Erindale Village, the E.V.A. would like to extend a warm welcome to the new residents of our community. We look forward to meeting you during our annual membership drive and hope to see you at some of our activities throughout the year (see page 3).

If we have missed you, we apologize and please let us know!

Welcome to Erindale:

Al, Ashifa,  
 Alicia, Celeena &  
 Kyle Sayani

Rose Sciara &  
 Mark Leinweber

Zofia Sochacka  
 & Stan  
 Augustynowicz

## Village Word Search

Erindale Village  
 Springfield  
 Adamson  
 Jarvis  
 Robinson  
 Thompson  
 Proudfoot  
 Mindemoya  
 Dundas Crescent  
 Credit River  
 Hammond  
 Magrath  
 Mississauga  
 Dundas  
 Simcoe  
 Mill  
 Springbank





*Heritage  
Mississauga  
Awards*

Your representative attended the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Heritage Awards Dinner on February 17, 2003 at the Tower Garden Restaurant in the Civic Centre. We are very proud that among the Award Recipients was our own Matthew Wilkinson.

Matthew received the Heritage Youth Award for his many hours of work with Heritage Mississauga. With his love for the history of Mississauga and his love of research, Matthew is obviously the best candidate to follow in the footsteps of his great-uncle, the much-loved local historian Tommy Adamson. Congratulations, Matthew!

**By R.  
Kellhammer  
(E.V.A.  
Secretary)**

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## *A Neighbour's Recipe:*

*Rita's Date Squares from Rita Gilbert*

**Ingredients:**

2 cups	Rollled Oats
1 ¾ cups	All purpose flour
½ tsp	Baking soda
1 cup	Brown sugar (packed)
1 cup	Butter (or margarine)
1 ½ cups	Chopped & pitted dates
1 ¼ cups	Boiled water

**Preheat oven to 350 degrees.**

Add the dates to the boiled water, mix and let cool.

Mix all dry ingredients together. Blend the butter in with the dry ingredients (it should be a coarse mixture: if too dry, you can add more butter). Put half of this mixture into the bottom of a greased 13"x9" pan and press down evenly over bottom (this is your base).

Drain most of the water from the date mixture and spread on top of your base layer. Pour remaining dry ingredients over the top and pat down.

Bake for about ½ hour (until top is golden brown). Allow to cool before cutting and removing from pan.

Note: For thicker squares use a smaller pan



## A Concerned Citizen

*Anonymous*

We all want a green lawn, right? But at what cost? We made a decision a few years back to stop using chemical pesticides on our lawn. We switched to organic fertilizer and aeration. Sure it could be greener (a dog doesn't help either I guess) but under no circumstances, after seeing firsthand the effects of some chemicals, would we ever change back to chemical pesticides. The benefits of such pesticides are clearly outweighed by the monumental negative impacts of long-term pesticide use. It worries us that, in the past few years, we have seen pesticide use increase visibly within the village. Unfortunately, as a concerned pet owner, we *have* to pay attention to the little warning flags when we walk our dog - newly sprayed or concentrated chemicals are particularly harmful, unhealthy and sometimes painful when they come when they come into contact with a dog's unprotected feet ... and as I'm sure we all know, dogs lick their feet, and ingestion of these chemicals can lead to long term health problems - the chemicals do not leave their systems. I worry about my dogs, but we also need to worry about the overexposure of children - children are the most vulnerable segment of our population and are the most exposed to contact with lawn pesticides simply from playing.

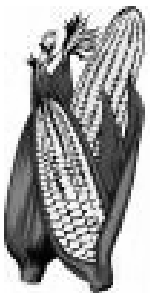
Chemical pesticides usually contain some variation of the following chemicals: phosphorus, potassium, nitrogen and aluminum. They contain no organic matter. In Erindale, we

live within one of the largest watershed areas in Ontario (the Credit River system), and contamination of surface and ground water has to be of great concern. After all, where do the chemicals ultimately go? They run downhill, either above or below ground, and as a result of this runoff, ends up in the valley bottom, in the river and ultimately in the lake. The increasing toxicity of Lake Ontario can be measured, in part, to the increased levels of pollutants entering via the watershed. This pollution also diminishes the quality of our drinking water as well as the aquatic habitats. Pesticides also threaten the long-term health of our soil by decreasing beneficial and naturally occurring organisms that help plants gather nutrients and water. Extensive pesticide use can actually reduce a lawn's natural activity level, thereby diminishing its natural ability to control pests, diseases and maintain overall health.

As a concerned citizen, I ask you to look into reducing or eliminating your pesticide use. Please explore other options such as organic lawn fertilizers, natural compost and aeration. Keeping a natural, healthy and well-watered lawn with strong roots systems remains the best way to maintain a green and healthy lawn over the long haul. I think perhaps we all need to be thinking about the long-term impacts of our chemical uses upon the environment that our children (and our dogs) enjoy.

## A Look Back At The Corn Roast

*By Linda Black*



Last September 15 was the date of our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Corn Roast. We estimated 200 people in attendance and judging by the feedback, all had a wonderful time. There were plenty of games and activities coordinated by Deryck Fox and his crew of volunteers: scarecrow building, pony rides and even a mini zoo of assorted creatures collected throughout the day by the younger set - which were all released in good health before the day's end. Of course the event wouldn't be complete without the myriad of food, yummy desserts and refreshments. This year all the leftover food was donated to our local Food Bank. Our thanks go out to all who contributed in helping to make this day the success that it was.

## The Thompson Adamson Bell Tower Museum

Within the Bell Tower of St. Peter's Anglican Church, the volunteers of St. Peter's have created a small museum and library dedicated to the late Thompson Blain (Tommy) Adamson, a local historian and descendent of Doctor Joseph Adamson. If you are curious about the history of Erindale, a visit to this small museum and archives is a good place to start.

Tours of the Church and graveyards are also available.

For further information, please contact Bob Lang, St. Peter's Church, Thompson Adamson Bell Tower Museum: 905-828-2095 Tuesday Mornings.





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## Classified Ads?

If you would like to place a classified ad (things for sale, services offered, services wanted) in the next issue of the "Erindale Herald", please contact me at 905-279-5295 or at [mwilkinson@rogers.com](mailto:mwilkinson@rogers.com). The next issue of the "Erindale Herald" is due out in early September.



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