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Bulletin FALLINGBROOK Newsletter

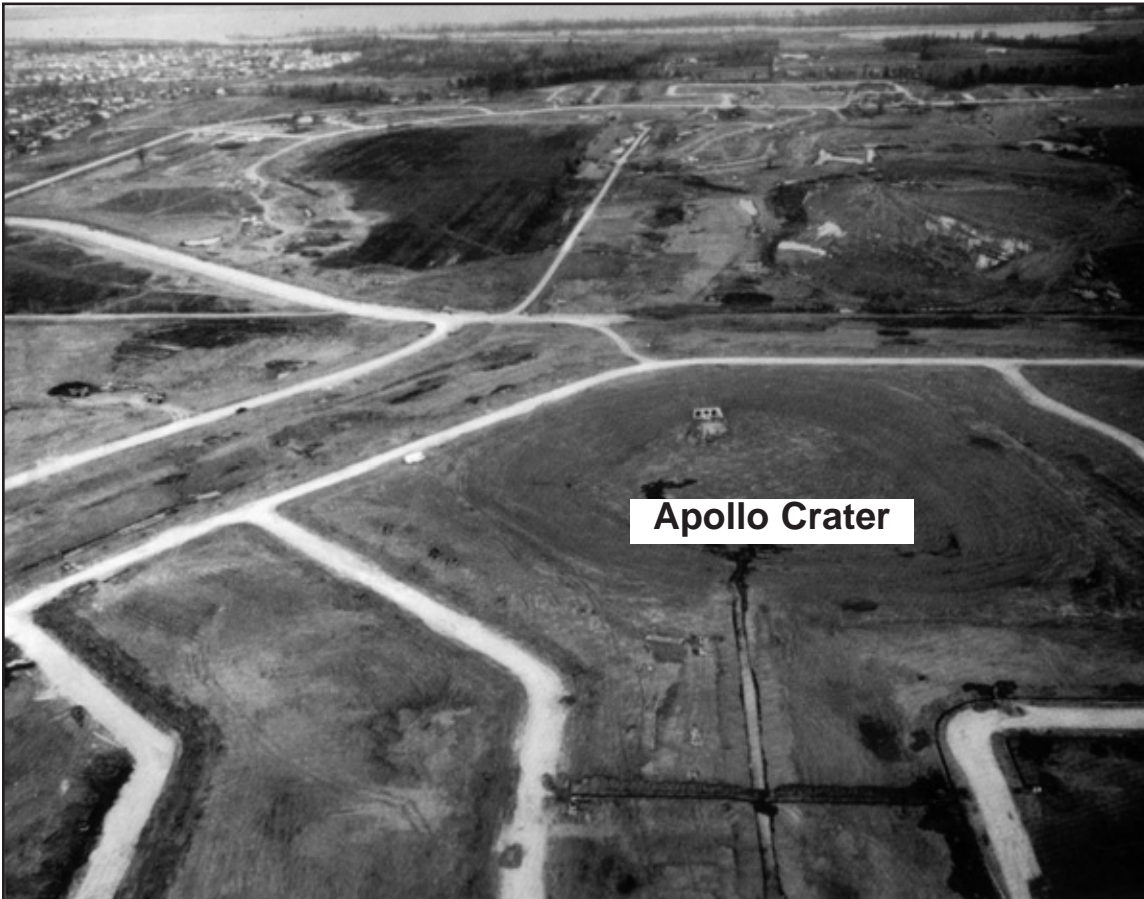
Fallingbrook Community Association communautaire de Fallingbrook ~ www.fallingbrook.com

Bonne année



Happy New Year

Twentieth Anniversary 1985 ~ 2005 *Vingtième anniversaire*



Apollo Crater

An aerial view of what today is known as Fallingbrook. The water management crater on Apollo Way marks the middle of the photo. In the early days of the community the area south of Charlemagne Boulevard was known as PineRidge, while the development to the north was Fallingbrook. After a community vote the entire neighborhood came to be known as Fallingbrook, with the boundaries being defined as Tenth Line to the west; Trim to the east; Innes to the south; and St. Joseph to the north.

President's Message

Zybina Richards



Two decades ago a group of wonderful residents got together and formed the Fallingbrook Community Association. This year, the 20th anniversary, we celebrated this significant achievement by participating in the Santa Claus Parade of Lights and hosting a memorable 20th Anniversary

Reunion which was attended by past and present members and volunteers. It was an evening filled with memories, history, trivia and shared stories. I feel honoured to be President of an Association consisting of such a strong, dedicated and diverse group of people. It is with great pleasure that I express profound gratitude to everyone for their continued support to a very dynamic community association.

Our community spirit has shone through whether it be assembling a much-needed play structure over a weekend, celebrating Canada Day - rain or shine, or helping those in need during the treacherous Ice Storm. Together, we have achieved 20 years of success!

As families, friends and communities approach this festive season, I would like to take this opportunity to warmly extend to the residents of Fallingbrook sincerest wishes for a safe and happy holiday season, and best wishes for the New Year!

20th Anniversary Reunion

The Fallingbrook Community Association sponsored a 20th anniversary reunion on December 10th, 2005. It was an opportunity for FCA executive members and community leaders from the past twenty years to meet and reminisce about the growth of our wonderful neighborhood. This truly memorable event attended by over 60 people was hosted by FCA founding member George Blake and his wife Monique.



FCA Founding Members. (l to r) Front row: JoAnn Mehr, George Blake, Joyce Mohns, Dick Mohns; Back: Linda Nesbitt, Peter McNamara, Keith Nesbitt; Missing: Rob Jellett, Tom Maybee

**L'exécutif de l'Association communautaire
Fallingbrook pour l'année 2005-06**

**Fallingbrook Community Association
2005-06 Executive List**

L'Association communautaire Fallingbrook aimerait vous souhaiter la bienvenue dans notre communauté. Nous invitons toute personne intéressée à une de nos réunions. Les réunions ont habituellement lieu le troisième lundi du mois (septembre à avril).

The Fallingbrook Community Association would like to welcome you to the neighborhood. If you would like to attend one of our executive meetings, they are normally held the third Monday of the month (Sep to Apr).

President/Président	Zybina Richards	837-7623
Vice President/Vice-Président	Brenda Nutting	841-5916
Treasurer/Trésorier	Don Pottier	834-9650
Secretary/Secrétaire	David Villeneuve	837-0336
Recreation/Loisirs	George Blake	837-1695
Rinks/Patinoires	Paul Pelletier	824-9992
Members at Large/ Membres général	Debbie Parent	830-5433
	Eric Tousignant	830-8234
	Marc Cappelli	834-6636
Newsletter/Bulletin	Don Pottier	834-9650

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Le bulletin de Fallingbrook est publié par l'Association communautaire de Fallingbrook. Ce bulletin est distribué à chaque résidence de Fallingbrook. Les articles et lettres soumis ne reflètent nécessairement pas les opinions des rédacteurs ou de l'Association, mais plutôt l'opinion de l'auteur. Le rédacteur se réserve le droit de corriger ou rejeter les articles et lettres soumis pour publication.

In The Beginning...

The following article was written by Mary Payne of *The Express* in February 1986. The Pinebrook Community Association that is referenced in the article was the interim name for what was to become the Fallingbrook Community Association.

Six neighbourhoods planned for area east of Tenth Line

by Mary Payne

Plans to establish six residential neighbourhoods in the area east of Tenth Line Road were outlined by Cumberland Township's Planning Director Pamela Sweet at last Thursday's meeting of the Pinebrook Community Association.

Each neighbourhood is to include a park and school site as well as local shopping facilities. In addition, there will be a community core located on Tenth Line Road that will eventually include major shopping facilities, a public high school and a recreational complex.

Ms. Sweet told the 50 or so residents who attended the meeting that the first phase of the community core shopping facility, a strip mall, has already been approved by the Township and construction should start this spring. The second phase, which she hopes will also include a small medical building, will involve enclosing the strip mall.

Each of the six neighbourhoods planned for the area will accommodate between 4,000 and 5,000 people and although three of the neighbourhoods are already being developed the remaining three will be put on hold until the necessary services (water, sewer and transportation) are in place.

Ms. Sweet said the Township has a mixed housing policy and high density housing, such as the Club Citadelle project already being developed, will be located adjacent to the community core.

In addition to the Taylor Creek Business Park already under development at the junction of Highway 17 and Regional Road 57, Ms. Sweet said three other business parks will be established in the area east of Tenth Line. "Cumberland is promoting a vibrant community" she said, "and one of our goals is to attract industry."

The Township wants to preserve the natural features of the area including the escarpment with the Princess Louise Falls. It is also planning a network of open spaces with walkways and bicycle paths and is looking into the possibility of putting the craters cre-



Message from the Mayor

December 2005

On behalf of my colleagues on City Council and the citizens of Ottawa, it is my distinct pleasure to extend my sincerest congratulations to the residents of Fallingbrook on the occasion of the community's 20th anniversary.

Over the course of two short decades, the neighbourhoods comprising Fallingbrook have evolved from a rural landscape to a thriving and modern suburban community, boasting a population of more than 25,000 residents and growing, ten schools, a public library, the Ray Friel Centre recreation complex, as well as a host of municipal parks in addition to other green spaces and trails for leisure activities.

While Fallingbrook possesses many urban conveniences, including a shopping district, its residents are also able to enjoy the unspoiled beauty of the area's outstanding natural landmarks, among them the Princess Louise Falls, Taylor Creek, the Escarpment, Apollo Crater and amphitheatre along with nearby Petrie Island and the commanding view of the Ottawa River.

I want to take this opportunity to recognize the important contributions of the pioneers of the Fallingbrook Community Association, who worked tirelessly to have the first park, Des Pionniers, developed, a school constructed, as well as Neighbourhood Watch and Block Parent programs initiated to meet the growing needs of young families moving into the neighbourhoods. The Association's membership is also to be commended for creating popular annual community events like Winterfest, a garage sale and the local Canada Day festivities, which draw bigger crowds every year.

Allow me to convey my best wishes to Fallingbrook residents as well as to all the readers and staff of the Fallingbrook Newsletter for a most enjoyable and very memorable Twentieth Anniversary celebration.

Sincerely,

Bob Chiarelli
Mayor, City of Ottawa

ated by its storm water management plan to recreational use. Ms. Sweet said the Township would also like to see Petrie Island, presently owned by the Regional Municipality, developed as a recreational area. "My dream is to make the Ottawa River fit for swimming as well as boating" she told the meeting. "You can take a boat as far as Montreal so there's lots of scope for the area."

Ms. Sweet also touched briefly on plans for the Town Centre site adjacent to Place d'Orleans. "The Township wants to build a downtown core which people will identify with" she said. The site will include shops, offices, a city hall "and perhaps even a farmer's market" she added. Ms. Sweet said her Department envisaged a boulevard with trees and seats. "Somewhere with a real downtown feeling which would get away from the suburban shopping centre idea. The Town Centre site could also include a senior citizen's building and high-density housing.

During the question period which followed Ms. Sweet's presentation one resident asked whether the Township had given any thought to naming the area east of the Tenth Line. Ms. Sweet said no name had been given to the area but the Council would certainly be open to suggestions.

In answer to a question about increasing fire and police services in the area Ms. Sweet said the fire department was planning an expansion during the next five years but that a decision to provide extra police department services in the area was a provincial matter.

Answering questions about the widening of the Queensway and solving transportation problems in the area Ms. Sweet agreed that "in the next two years we're going to have to come up with alternative ways of getting downtown". She said the Township is looking at such alternatives as car pools, park and ride, and buses only lanes.

Following the meeting the Association's interim president, Peter McNamara, told the EXPRESS that the recreational needs of the area are his main concern. "We don't have any facilities" he said "and there's nowhere for our youngsters play." He also saw an urgent need for meeting facilities in the area. "We can't wait five years for the recreation complex to be built. We don't want the brownies and cubs meeting all over the place."

Mr. McNamara says he is hoping the open spaces created by the Township's storm water management program can at least be used to keep the kids from playing in the streets. "The craters were dry last summer" he said, "and if they stay dry in the spring they could be used for tot lots." He said his Association is preparing a proposal on the community's recreational needs which will be presented at the township's budget meeting on February 25th.

A Demographic Profile of Fallingbrook

by Lori Nash

In the 1980's when Fallingbrook was in the development stages, the planners at Cumberland Township and the Regional Municipality of Ottawa Carleton began to make population estimates. It could be said that Fallingbrook was the most planned community in Ottawa-Carleton. They predicted the population would be 27,343 according to the Cumberland Population study in 1984, based on 7390 units in five neighbourhoods. Almost all of the subdivision agreements were negotiated and signed by former Mayor Peter Clark during his term of office from 1980 to 1989.

The Census of Populations (a.k.a. Census) gives us an accurate account of the population characteristics, and pro-

“Fallingbrook shows itself distinct from Queenswood Heights...”

vides the population and dwelling counts for Canada, for each province and territory and also for smaller geographic areas and cities and districts within a city. The Census also provides information about the demographic, social and economic characteristics of a community. The Census is taken every five years in Canada and the last Census was conducted in 2001. It usually takes two to four years after the Census has been taken for the data to be released to the public in a useable form.

The information in a Census is reported in geographic units as small as a Census tract. A Census tract is a small, relatively stable geographic area with a population of between 2,500 and 8,000 people, usual-

ly in a city. In Fallingbrook there are five Census tracts.

The 2001 Census recorded 7,245 dwelling units and a population of 22,932 in Fallingbrook. Today's planners project that by the time development is completed there will be another 1,000 units, thus 3,030 people or a total population of 25,975. This confirms the planners' predictions.

Every second house in Fallingbrook was built from 1985 to 1990 (51.7%), and every fourth house, in 1991-1995 (25.5%). The population remained the same or declined from 1996 to 2001, in four Census tracts, but the population increased in one, due to new houses being built.

Fallingbrook is a residential neighbourhood with a variety of housing styles. In the five Census tracts in the community, home ownership is very high, varying from 89 to 97 percent. Single-family homes dominate the neighbourhood, but row housing varies from 12% to 46%. There are only a few apartments available in Fallingbrook and a few semi-detached homes. In one neighbourhood, single-family homes represent 87% of the housing units.

Fallingbrook is made up of young Baby Boomers with children in school who are homeowners, well educated, married and bilingual. They have a tendency to move, both into resale homes and into new housing.

The population of Fallingbrook is largely young people. Fallingbrook's population data in the 2001 Census shows a higher representation of elementary school age children aged 5 to 14 years old compared to Ottawa as a whole (19% versus 13%), and a greater portion of high school students aged 15-19 (8.4%) compared to Ottawa (6.4%). The college and young career group seems to have moved to the city, since the 20 to 29 year old age group represents 11% of the population in comparison to 14% in Ottawa. According to studies done in Ottawa's planning department, there is a high concentration of this age group in the inner city.

The Baby Boomers, who were born between 1947 and 1966, represent the largest population demographic in Canada and make up 38.4% of the Fallingbrook community. Fallingbrook shows itself distinct from Queenswood Heights in the age demographics in that it has fewer



A 1990's view of Fallingbrook looking towards the south-east from Tenth Line Road. This photo pre-dates the Tenth Line expansion and construction of the Highway 174 Interchange.

“pre retirement” and “retirement age” residents. In Fallingbrook the “pre retirement age” group (55 to 64) was 5.7% of the population compared to Queenswood (9.9%) and Ottawa (8.9%). In the over 65 year old group, there were only 3.8% in Fallingbrook compared to 5.1 % in Queenswood and double that at 11.5% in Ottawa. This further supports the concept of a young population.

Most Fallingbrook residents are Roman

“There is a significant turnover of residents in the Fallingbrook community...”

Catholic (60.1. %), 7.5% are United Church, 6.9% are Anglican, 2.6% (600) are Muslim and few Jewish (40 people). They are married (80.5%), and most often have children. Only 25.7% don't have children and there are few single parents (11.0%). Seventy nine per cent of single-parent families are headed by females, but there are still many fathers who are taking care of their children compared to other communities.

Fallingbrook residents are bilingual. They mirror the linguistic characteristic of Orleans with 30.4% of the population reporting French as a mother tongue, 58.2% English and 11.5% as a neither Official Language. Francophones make up 29.6% in Orleans, whereas Kanata has 5.0%, and Ottawa as a whole has 13%. However, some neighbourhoods in Orleans have a percentage of mother tongue francophones closer to 40%.

People who are not Caucasian are referred to by the Census as a Visible Minority and this is measured as part of the Census. The visible minority population was more apparent in Fallingbrook than Queenswood Heights or the rest of Orleans, varying from 11 % to 19 %

in the five Census Tracts. In Queenswood Heights, the number of visible minorities was between 6 and 9 % by comparison.

There is a significant turnover of residents in the Fallingbrook community. Results from the Census show Fallingbrook residents from all neighbourhoods moved at high rates both for the five-year and one-year residency study. Queenswood Heights showed very little movement of people in the same periods.

Fallingbrook's population is educated, with 26 % of the population over 15 holding a university bachelor's degree or higher and 20% being college graduates. In an analysis of all east end neighbourhoods, Beacon Hill had the highest (33.5%) proportion of university graduates with bachelor or higher diplomas.

In summary, residents in Fallingbrook are young, bilingual, and mostly Catholics who are married with children. There is a significant visible minority population and the community is made up of people who have recently moved to the area. The population is stabilizing throughout the community as most of the area has become fully developed.

Lori Nash researched and wrote this article, using data supplied by the Planning Department at the City of Ottawa. Judi Lian edited the text.



The Ray Friel Sports Complex has developed into a first-class facility serving Fallingbrook and the east-Orléans residents. This is an early picture of the wave pool.

FCA Executive List / L'exécutif de l'ACF 1985-2005

	1985/86	1986/87	1987/88	1988/89	1989/90	1990/91	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95
President	Peter McNamara	Peter McNamara	George Blake	George Blake	David Villeneuve	Sidney Marinoff	David Villeneuve	Herb Kreling	Herb Kreling	David Villeneuve
Vice President	Dick Mohns	George Blake	Garth MacDonald	David Villeneuve	Sidney Marinoff	Valerie Rose	Herb Kreling	Frank Dugal	Frank Dugal	Frank Dugal/ Sean Crossan
Treasurer	Jean Luc Desgroseilliers	Jean Luc Desgroseilliers	Jo Ann Mehr	Peter McNamara	Garth MacDonald	David Villeneuve	Barry Bowden	Barry Bowden	Barry Bowden	Barry Bowden
Secretary	Linda Nesbitt	Linda Nesbitt	Debbie Parent	Debbie Parent	Debbie Parent	Debbie Parent	Debbie Parent	Debbie Parent	Debbie Parent	Debbie Parent
Recreation	Keith Nesbitt	Dick Mohns	John Davies	Paul Pelletier	Paul Pelletier	Paul Pelletier	Paul Pelletier	Paul Pelletier	Paul Pelletier	Paul Pelletier
Newsletter	George Blake	George Blake	Pat Pender	George Blake	George Blake	George Blake	George Blake	George Blake	George Blake	George Blake
Planning	Robert Jellett	Robert Jellett	Iris Phillips/ David Villeneuve	David Villeneuve	Sidney Marinoff					Sean Crossan
Canada Day Chair				George Blake/ Susan Grace	Garth MacDonald	Gordon Rose	David Villeneuve	Dave Berry	Dave Berry	Paul Pelletier
Neighborhood Watch	Jean Luc Desgroseilliers	Jean Luc Desgroseilliers	Bob Martinell/ Dave Berry	Dave Berry	Dave Berry	Dave Berry	Dave Berry	Dave Berry	Dave Berry	Mary Lynn Weightman
Membership	Joyce Mohns	Joyce Mohns	Valerie Rose	Valerie Rose	Sidney Marinoff	Sidney Marinoff	Sidney Marinoff			
Scouting		Tom Maybee	Tom Maybee	Tom Maybee	Tom Maybee	Tom Maybee	Tom Maybee	Don Findlay	Carl McDiarmid	Jim Elders
Education		Keith Nesbitt	Arjen Kouwenberg	Vacant	Dick Lewis	Dick Lewis	Vacant	Jim Elders	Jim Elders	Jim Elders
Members at Large		Rachel Lecours	Steve Assaly	Steve Assaly	Pat Pender	Garth MacDonald	Garth MacDonald	David Villeneuve	David Villeneuve	Jim Shaw
		Garth MacDonald	Bruce Dunmoll	Garth MacDonald	Frank Dugal	Frank Dugal	Frank Dugal	Garth MacDonald	Garth MacDonald	Jocelyne Holmes
			Rachel Lecours	Rachel Lecours	Valerie Rose	Andrew Marchand	Andrew Marchand	Susan Kissner		Lorna Simard
			Keith Nesbitt	Jo Ann Mehr	Peter McNamara		Henry Kobylinski	Tom Kissner		
			Peter McNamara	Keith Nesbitt			Samia Ibrahim-Griffith	James Cosgrove		
				Winara Motsumoto				Samia Ibrahim-Griffith		
				Carole Circé				Henry Kobylinski		
	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
President	Sean Crossan	David Villeneuve	Ron Hamelin	Ron Hamelin	Ron Hamelin	Zybina Richards	Zybina Richards	Zybina Richards	Zybina Richards	Zybina Richards
Vice President	Paul Pelletier	Ron Hamelin	Marc Cappelli	Marc Cappelli	Marc Cappelli	Vacant	Ted Macias	Ted Macias	Ted Macias	Ted Macias
Treasurer	Barry Bowden	Don Pottier	Don Pottier	Don Pottier	Don Pottier	Don Pottier	Don Pottier	Don Pottier	Don Pottier	Don Pottier
Secretary	Debbie Parent	Pierrette Pinna	Zybina Richards	Zybina Richards	Zybina Richards	Brenda Spearman	Brenda Spearman	Brenda Spearman	Brenda Spearman	Brenda Spearman
Recreation	Paul Pelletier	George Blake	George Blake	George Blake	George Blake	George Blake	George Blake	George Blake	George Blake	George Blake
Newsletter	George Blake	George Blake	Don Pottier/ Jocelyne Holmes	Don Pottier/ Jocelyne Holmes	Don Pottier / Jocelyne Holmes	Don Pottier/ Jocelyne Holmes	Don Pottier/ Jocelyne Holmes	Don Pottier	Don Pottier	Don Pottier
Canada Day Chair	Paul Pelletier	Paul Pelletier	Paul Pelletier	David Villeneuve	David Villeneuve	David Villeneuve	David Villeneuve	David Villeneuve	David Villeneuve	
Neighborhood Watch	Ron Hamelin	Ron Hamelin	Roger Lapointe							
Scouting	Jim Elders	Jim Elders								Patrick Wall
Members at Large	Jim Shaw	Jim Shaw	Debbie Parent	Lynn Hamelin	Lynn Hamelin	Marc Cappelli	Marc Cappelli	Marc Cappelli	Marc Cappelli	Eric Tousignant
	Jocelyne Holmes	Jocelyne Holmes	Lynn Hamelin	Jim Shaw	Paul Pelletier	Paul Pelletier	Paul Pelletier	Paul Pelletier	Paul Pelletier	Marc Cappelli
		Barry Bowden	Sean Crossan	Debbie Parent	Debbie Parent	Debbie Parent	Debbie Parent	Debbie Parent	Debbie Parent	Paul Pelletier
		Debbie Parent	Jim Shaw			Lynn Hamelin	Lynn Hamelin			Debbie Parent
						Ron Hamelin	Ron Hamelin			David Villeneuve

**Fallingbrook's First Park**

In late 1986, Mayor Peter Clark phoned up Peter McNamara, the first president of the Fallingbrook Community Association, to discuss the plans for Fallingbrook's first park, Des Pionniers. The school board decided they needed more room for their school and had offered the Township \$200,000 to buy a few acres of parkland. Mayor Clark said with that money, we could start the park much sooner than otherwise, and did the residents agree with the decision? In those days there was a lot of informal consultation from the Township about planning matters. The recreation committee then began meeting at Dick Mohn's house to lay out the plans for the park. Keith Nesbitt wanted to build a large climbing tower in one corner, and hence it was unofficially named Tower Park. The tower never made it any farther, but the name still appeared on some municipal maps.



Recollections of One of the First Homeowners

(Ed and Susan Merkley were two of Fallingbrook's first new residents. They moved into their Sandbury house on Brookridge Crescent on April 1, 1985.)

In October of 1984 I happened to be driving up the old Tenth Line Road when a sales trailer for one of the builders in Queenswood Heights was being put in place on the crest of the hill on the east side of the road. It did not look like a promising place to buy a house. At the time Fallingbrook consisted of a flat plateau of clay, a few hundred yards of asphalt, the sales trailer and a deserted stone bungalow which sat on an area of land now occupied by homes at the northwest corner of the Princess Louise storm management pond.

Within a very short time myself and my soon-to-be two immediate neighbours would be the first to have purchased homes in this new community.

At first glance back then the flat acreage of mud and clay didn't look too appealing, but with further exploration one could see the potential for the evolution of a suburban community in a lovely setting with all amenities needed to live comfortably and raise a family. The view from the ridge overlooking the Ottawa River and the Quebec side was beautiful with the fall colors at their peak. There was a nice mix of mature pine and deciduous forest all along the ridge, and the presence of a winding creek and waterfalls was an enticing and spectacular site for anyone wishing to experience city living and yet be close to nature.

The first builders in the area quickly put up model homes along the partially completed streets, Princess Louise, Brookridge and Cezanne Crescents. By March and April of

1985 the first residents had moved in.

At the time there were only two access roads to my house, neither of which is now open. Since Princess Louise did not yet connect to what is now Charlemagne, Marjolaine was used to get from Tenth Line Road to Princess Louise. The second access road was the driveway for the original owners of this property, coming up the escarpment from St. Joseph Blvd just east of Princess Louise Falls and leading to the stone bungalow mentioned earlier. The stone house was soon demolished and continuous construction, growth and change has taken place ever since. The fields that surrounded our new home were soon filled with the houses of other new Fallingbrook residents.



How Fallingbrook Got its Mud

by David Villeneuve (1991)

Your memories of seeing your new house being built in Fallingbrook probably also include the memory of that incredibly sticky clay which never came off your boots. But why is it that Fallingbrook has clay beneath, but other places like Kanata have rock? And what is underneath the clay?

We start our history one billion years ago, when the most advanced life forms on earth were single-celled creatures living in the water, when the air held little oxygen. In a series of violent upheavals, the mountains which today are the Gatineau hills were thrust up as high as the Andes. Over the next 400 million years, they were slowly eroded till they resembled the rolling hills of today.

Meanwhile the lower lands, which included most of eastern Ontario, were submerged under a sea which came and went over the millennia. The seas were filled with strange shelled creatures whose shells make up the limestone deep under us today. This limestone can be almost a kilometer deep in places, and can be seen along the escarpment north of Princess Louise Drive. If you're taking notes, it's of the Bobcaygeon formation, formed during the Middle Ordovician Period (480 million years ago).

Nothing much happened over the next 400 million years, except minor things like the continents splitting apart, the coming and going of dinosaurs, and the arrival of mammals. Then, about one million years ago, the glaciers came and covered northern Canada as far south as here. The land was buried under kilometers of ice. Only about 15,000 years ago did the ice begin to melt. The land which had been compressed under the ice found itself under water once again, the Champlain Sea. The Great Lakes drained through the Ottawa River from Petawawa.

The Ottawa River's path was different then, flowing through Mer Bleu and joining the present-day Ottawa River near Alfred. Aerial photos of Mer Bleu show clearly the remains of a 7000 year old river bed, and it is still damp.

As the meltwater flowed toward the St Lawrence River, erosion cut into the underlying rocks and formed the Ottawa River valley. The runoff contained sand and silt which deposited on the bottom of the river. When the Ottawa River finally shrunk to its present size, the surrounding land was covered with a deep layer of mud, which makes up the clay which our houses are built on. Sand from ancient river banks can be found just this side of Navan.

When the trunk sewer was put alongside Tenth Line

“Surveys showed that the clay was over 100 feet thick in places...”

Road in 1989, surveys showed that the clay was over 100 feet thick in places. About 50 feet down, it is largely Leda clay, a type of marine clay named after a type of clam often found in such clay deposits. Leda clay is particularly treacherous, since it can suddenly slide. The contractors who excavated for the sewer were particularly concerned that Tenth Line Road might slide into their hole. The remnants of such landslides can still be seen along the escarpment in Beacon Hill North.

The depth of the clay depends on the underlying rocks: sometimes the rocks come right to the surface, such as at the escarpment or by the Town Hall. The rock nearer the Ottawa River comes from older formations than that in Fallingbrook. The depth of the clay makes it difficult to erect tall buildings in the area. The Brewers Retail store at Fallingbrook Centre had to have a special floating basement built in order to support the weight of the beer stored upstairs.

So when you remember the clay that stuck to your boots as you watched the construction of your new home in Fallingbrook, remember how long it took for the clay to get here.

Sources of Information:

- 1 Guide to the Geology and Scenery of the National Capital Region, D. M. Baird, Geological Survey of Canada, 1968.
- 2 Surficial geology map, EMR (1975).
- 3 Geological map of Russel-Thurso Area, Ontario Geological Survey (198x).



Fallingbrook's First Traffic Light

It wasn't really the first traffic signal in Cumberland Township, however, it was the first one installed by the Township, not on a regional road. In this photo are (left to right) John Morell (CBE), Ned Lathrop (Chief Administrative Officer of Cumberland Township and the main designer of Fallingbrook), Mayor Brian Coburn, David Villeneuve (president of the Fallingbrook Community Association), Richard Alton (principal of Fallingbrook Community Elementary School), and Chris Baird (Cumberland Township Works Department and a Fallingbrook resident).

Princess Louise Falls

by David Villeneuve, Feb 2001

Princess Louise Falls is the name given to the natural waterfall north of Princess Louise Drive and just east of Brookridge. It is part of Taylor Creek that ran from the north end of what is now Fallingbrook to the Ottawa River; Taylor Creek was named after the Taylor family that owned the land between Fallingbrook and the Ottawa River starting in the mid-1800's.

There is some controversy about the name "Princess Louise Falls". The story is that Princess Louise, a daughter of Queen Victoria and wife of the Governor General the Marquis of Lorne (around 1880) came here by buggy to sketch watercolours. Mrs Marjorie Ward who lived in the house just east of the falls until her death in 1989, claimed that there was a plaque near the falls to that effect. Until about 1970, "Montreal Road" ran south of the present Queen Street, on its way to Montreal; the present Hwy 174 (Hwy 17) was a train track. The old bridge and pavement can still be seen at the bottom of the falls.

I visited the National Archives, the National Gallery of Canada, and wrote to the Governor General's staff to determine if they had any painting by Princess Louise. While I saw many paintings by her, none appeared to be of waterfalls that resembled ours. Therefore there does not appear to be any hard evidence that this story is true. But let us believe it is so.

History of the Fallingbrook Area

By Ann Gonneau, October 1988

A recent query by Fallingbrook resident David Villeneuve prompted a search through the early maps and documents held by the Cumberland Township Historical Society for a history of Fallingbrook. At this stage in the evolving history of Cumberland Township's newest community, what basically emerges from documented evidence is a history of land ownership.

The Ottawa River, which flows below Fallingbrook, was a significant waterway used by Canada's native peoples, explorers such as Samuel de Champlain and fur traders of the North-West Company. The river shore of Cumberland Township was probably used as a resting point on their journeys, although no known permanent settlement existed before the white man came. The native population of eastern Ontario was scarce; no treaties were signed with native tribes in this area prior to the granting of Crown Land, as had been the custom throughout the remainder of Upper Canada, although the land was under Indian occupation.

Cumberland Township and much of the land of what was then called Upper Canada was surveyed in the late 1700s under the direction of General Frederick Haldimand. The General was faced with the task of relo-

cating hundreds of American settlers who had remained loyal to the crown during the American War of Independence, later to be known as the United Empire Loyalists. The territory of Upper Canada was systematically divided into units called townships and further subdivided into narrow, north-south strips called concessions. Each concession was further subdivided horizontally into lots. A locational address of the west half of Lot 6, Concession 4, Cumberland Township was adequate as an address for many years and would enable a settler's family from Europe to find him with relative ease. The lot and concession system is still in everyday use in the rural area and is a legal description for the purposes of land registration.

For the purposes of this article, and for conformity with the survey mapping approach, Fallingbrook is broadly defined as bounded on the north by the Ottawa River, on the west by 10th Line Road, on the east by Trim Road and on the south by Innes Road. As such, Fallingbrook lies within the confines of part of Lots 30 and 35 and all of Lots 31, 32, 33 and 34 of the Old Survey, a strip of long lots predating the general pattern adopted by Haldimand, which follows the Ottawa River. Lots A, B and C of Concession 10 and part of Lots A, B and C of Concession 8 make up the southern-most regions of Fallingbrook. Due to their accessibility to the river, the long lots were the earliest in the Township to be settled. While the 1825 map shows sparse settlement throughout the Township, many of the lots fronting the Ottawa River had been

granted. Of the "Fallingbrook lots", only Lots 30, 31 and 32 had been claimed and were registered to Catherine Beck alias McLeod. Lot A, Concession 8 had been granted to Captain Angus McDonell and was a part of the 9 lots, representing nearly 1000 acres, granted to this individual in the Township. By 1862, the Township had experienced its first boom. The earliest settlers, a mix of French Canadians who had followed the river from their native Quebec, descendants of the Loyalists who had settled along "the Front" from Kingston to Cornwall and Scottish Highlanders from Glengarry had been joined and were rapidly being outnumbered by immigrants from the British Isles, most notably from Ireland. Census returns for 1861 and the 1862 map indicate that Lot 30 was owned by Alexander Wilson, Lot 31 by Joseph Walker, Lot 32 by Isaac Taylor, Lot 33 by M. O'Toole, Lot 34 by A. Faubert and J. Corte (or Corle) and Lot 35 by I. St. Jacques (Isidore St. Jacques) and J. Parsien (Joseph Parizeau). Both series of Lots A, B and C were as yet unclaimed. All of the long lots had at least one house; Lot 33 also held a hotel under the proprietorship of Thos. O'Toole, in the vicinity of today's "Slender You" studio.

Also by 1862, a road, closely paralleling the current location of St. Joseph Boulevard crossed through the area, eventually to link Bytown and Montreal. Trim Road was also in place, while there is no sign of either Innes or 10th Line Roads; the lands at the top of the escarpment - modern day Fallingbrook and Queenswood Heights - lay empty and waiting.

Message from Councillor Jellett

It's hard to believe that it has been twenty years since the Fallingbrook Community Association was formed. Susan and I moved to Fallingbrook in the fall of 1985. There were not many houses in place yet and it wasn't hard to get to know the few people who beat us out to this part of Orleans. George and Monique Blake, Keith and Linda Nesbit, Peter and Carol McNamara, Fern Casey, Tom and Barb Maybe, Dick and Joyce Mohs just to name a few. I remember the first meeting of the group of us thinking about starting a community association very well. Our goal was to change the name of Tenth Line Road to Fallingbrook Boulevard. As you drive along Tenth Line you can see just how successful we weren't. I certainly remember what former Mayor Peter Clark thought of our idea and it's still not printable today. Looking back over the years and looking back from my current perspective I can say that the lack of the name change did not in any way affect Fallingbrook's success and that Mayor Clark was right.

Residents in Avalon south of Innes have some idea of what it was like to move to Fallingbrook in those days. We lost two tires on the car to nails from construction in the first week. There were few services in place. The school up the road wasn't built, our developer had told us when we were looking at buying a house that it would be a public school. We bought and then watched as a French Catholic School was built. C'est la vie and no regrets. The Fallingbrook mall didn't exist in fact the only business east of Tenth Line Road was the Queenswood Garage at Tenth and Charlemagne. It was a big deal when the first grocery store was built (Loeb) and Rolly Laberge who was the owner became an integral part of our community and was always willing to help out especially with donations to community association and charitable events.

It was even more exciting when the Ray Friel centre opened. It was named after a Cumberland Councillor who passed away suddenly and at far too early an age. Both of my children learned to swim there, as have thousands of other children from our community over the years. I remember the first ever Canada Day event held in the crater off Apollo. Far more people showed up than any of us expected. We didn't have portable washrooms on site and everyone lined up at Fern Casey's house. She too was a Cumberland councillor but that was going above and beyond and it wasn't even an election year.

Fallingbrook has been a wonderful place to live and raise a family and I'm looking forward to the next twenty years just as much as I enjoy looking back over the last twenty.

Rob Jellett
Councillor, Cumberland Ward



Special Guest Co-Editor

I would like to express my thanks to George Blake, FCA Founding Member, for his assistance as co-editor of this 20th anniversary edition of the *Fallingbrook Newsletter*. George worked hard gathering the articles and information that has been presented.

Don Pottier, Editor



Canada Day festivities at the Ray Friel Centre was an annual ritual for many Fallingbrook residents. The broad range of activities and entertainment available throughout the day, culminating in the fireworks display, made Fallingbrook Canada Day a popular alternative to downtown celebrations.





From Crater Bash to Canada Day

In September of 1986, Dick and Joyce Mohns organized the first Fallingbrook community get together in the crater off Apollo way. It was Fallingbrook's first "Crater Bash" which would later evolve into Fallingbrook's tremendously popular Canada day. They had children's races, games and some refreshments. The turnout was excellent, considering the small number of residents back then. There was a stronger feeling of belonging to the community at the time, since we all felt like pioneers in the mud.

In early 1988 Sue Grace, a resident of Fallingbrook, suggested that we move the Crater Bash to July 1st and add some fireworks. Sue said that she could raise donations from local merchants to get the funds required. And so was born the first Canada Day in Fallingbrook on July 1st 1988.

The first Canada Day event in the crater had its share of problems however. Organizers never expected the several thousand people who showed up that first year. Residents came from all around to enjoy the activities. Local streets were jammed with parked cars. People sat around the slopes of the crater to listen to the band located on the bottom and to watch the fireworks. Even though the fireworks were much smaller than they are today, one firework misfired almost horizontally and hit a spectator in the chest; luckily it did not explode. Then at the end, the trucks which removed the equipment from the bottom of the crater got stuck in the mud and couldn't get out.

Although the Apollo Crater was a natural amphitheater,

it was realized that the site was too small for fireworks.

In 1989 the Canada Day festivities moved to the just-completed Fallingbrook Park/school. The audience sat at the ball diamond and the fireworks were released over Brome Crescent, then still undeveloped. In 1990 and 1991 the site was still Fallingbrook Park, but the fireworks were released on the other side of Princess Louise, near Clearcrest Crescent.

When all the land surrounding Fallingbrook Park became developed in 1992, the event was moved again, this time to the new Ray Friel site. Over the years the event grew with the addition of a midway, large tents, beer garden etc. The crowds also grew to the point where some 24,000

people a year enjoyed the festivities. With the imminent expansion of the Ray Friel centre in 2004, the festivities had to be cancelled. In 2005 the event was revived by a group of individuals (including some members of the association) and moved to Petrie Island.



The Great Fallingbrook Trivia Challenge

Do you think you're a Fallingbrook trivia buff? Then test your knowledge by taking the Great Fallingbrook trivia challenge. The answers will be published in the next newsletter.

- 1) When did the first new Fallingbrook resident move in? (Month and year)
- 2) What was the original name of the Fallingbrook Community Association?
- 3) Who started the Fallingbrook Community Association (name the Individual)
- 4) When did Fallingbrook's mailing address change from Navan to Orleans? (Year, bonus point for the month)
- 5) Where was the first Fallingbrook Canada Day held?
- 6) What was the predecessor of Canada Day called?
- 7) When did the Hoskins Court disaster occur? (Year, bonus point for the month).
- 8) When were the Forgie quintuplets born? (Year, bonus point for the month).
- 9) What street was named to commemorate the Forgie quints birth?
- 10) Which play structure in Fallingbrook was the first to be constructed by volunteers?
- 11) Where were the first two outdoor rinks in Fallingbrook located?
- 12) Name the first school built in Fallingbrook.
- 13) In what year was the first phase of the Fallingbrook mall completed?
- 13) How many of the original Fallingbrook mall stores are still open today?
- 15) In what year did the new Sir Wilfred Laurier High School open?
- 16) In what year was the first annual Fallingbrook Community Garage Sale held?
- 17) In what year did the association start awarding "best lit street" for Christmas lights? (Bonus points for naming the winning streets)
- 18) In the beginning, what street was used as a short cut into Fallingbrook? (Bonus point for the year it was closed off).
- 19) In what year was Princess Louise Drive completed?
- 20) In what year did the first phase of the Ray Friel centre open?
- 21) Name the first park built in Fallingbrook?
- 22) According to the Fallingbrook newsletter, what was the population of Fallingbrook in December 1986?
- 23) Who was the first President of the Fallingbrook Community Association?
- 24) What was the name of the first restaurant that closed in the Fallingbrook mall?
- 25) Who was the editor of the Fallingbrook newsletter from 1986 to 1996?
- 26) What year did the Tenth Line Road interchange onto Hwy 17/174 open?
- 27) Who was Cumberland's Mayor between 1985 and 1990?
- 27) Who was Cumberland's Mayor between 1991 and 2000?
- 28) True or false, can you see Princess Louise Falls from the bottom of Tenth Line Road?
- 29) Name the location of the three outdoor rinks that are currently operated in Fallingbrook
- 30) Name the coach of the Canadian Olympic swim team who lived in Fallingbrook
- 31) Name the head of the Assembly of First Nations who lived in Fallingbrook.
- 32) Which Fallingbrook resident was president of the Public Service Alliance of Canada?
- 33) What are the three locations at which Canada Day in Fallingbrook was held?
- 34) Which founding association executive member is still on the associations' board today?
- 35) Name the Fallingbrook Community associations existing President?
- 36) Who designed the Fallingbrook logo?
- 37) In what year was the first Fallingbrook Canada Day held?
- 38) How many primary schools are in Fallingbrook?
- 39) According to the Community Association, what are the boundaries of Fallingbrook?
- 40) Not counting the traffic lights on Innis Trim and Tenth line roads, how many traffic lights exist in Fallingbrook? (Bonus point for naming the first one installed)
- 41) What is the name of the first English school built in Fallingbrook?
- 42) Who is our present Federal member of parliament? (Bonus point if you can name who was our federal representative in 1985)
- 43) Who is our present Provincial member of parliament? (Bonus point if you can name who was our provincial representative in 1985)
- 44) Who was 'Fallingbrook wards' (back in the Cumberland days) first municipal representative?
- 45) How many churches (i.e. church buildings) are in Fallingbrook?
- 46) In the beginning, Fallingbrook consisted of two neighborhoods; one was called Fallingbrook, what was the other called?
- 47) Name three of the first builders in what is known today as Fallingbrook?
- 48) How many Fallingbrook residents have held political office (municipal, provincial or Federal)? (Bonus point if you can name more than 5)
- 49) Where was the first Tim Horton's built? (Bonus point for the year)
- 50) Last but not least, according to our newsletter, what is the present population of Fallingbrook?

Orléans Ward 1 Municipal Election All Candidates' Debate

Hosted by:

Fallingbrook Community Association & Queenswood Heights Community Association

Cafeteria, Sir Wilfrid Laurier Secondary School
1515 Tenth Line Road

Thursday, January 5, 2006 7 pm

Nominated candidates (as of 9 Dec 05)

Elena HARDER
Debbie JODOIN
Sheryl MacDONALD
Pierre MAHEU
Louise MALLOY
Bob MONETTE
Gino L. NICOLINI
Michel TARDIF



Election Day: Monday, 9 January 2006

Voter information: www.ottawa.ca/city_hall/elections/index_en.html

Urgently Needed !!!

Outdoor Rink Managers for:

MapleRidge and Garden Way
(Jeanne Sauvé school) rinks.



The FCA, with a grant from the city, has been running the outdoor rinks for 18 years. This year we unfortunately have two rink managers retiring and urgently need to find a replacement before the outdoor ice season starts.

The role requires an adult who can supervise and schedule 4 to 6 rink attendants and knows, or is keen to learn, proper ice making and maintenance skills. The FCA will pay an honorarium to each rink manager and provide training. Between 15 to 25 hours are required per week, for between 10 to 12 weeks of outdoor ice time.

If you are interested, please contact us at rinks@fallingbrook.com