

## Communique - The MMRA's e-letter - Vol 3.2 (September 2008)

Hi,

### NEWS ITEM

September 16, 2018

*A 10-year old boy was killed by a hit and run driver last evening. The boy was biking north along the side of County Rd 29, between Scott Street and Perth Street in Almonte. He was headed to a friend's house in the subdivision's north end when he was apparently hit by a passing truck. Like all County Roads, there are no sidewalks or bike paths constructed as part of the roadway system...*

FACT 1: This incident hasn't happened... yet.

FACT 2: The County road system presently has no provision for including sidewalks or bike paths, even in built up areas or along connector routes. This is just one issue, one example.

FACT 3: Too few residents of the County, particularly of Mississippi Mills, have taken the time to complete the County's transportation questionnaire. **Please take 15 minutes and give your input about bicycle paths, safety, truck routes, speed limits, or only the portions of interest to you.** Your input NOW is vital for future traffic planning in the County. For example, the survey doesn't include any questions on planning for public transit. Some are asking why. Here's the link: [http://www.tsh.ca/Lanark\\_TMP/tmp\\_form.html#form](http://www.tsh.ca/Lanark_TMP/tmp_form.html#form). The questionnaire **deadline date is September 24.**

### OCTOBER'S SPEAKER EVENT

Wouldn't you know it, Prime Minister Harper did not consult the MMRA prior to calling an election for October 14. As a result we have had to postpone our speaker event scheduled for that date. We're trying to re-book Ms. Sue Campbell of the Ottawa Valley Waste Recovery Centre to talk to residents about "Waste Diversion and what others are doing about it in Ontario." Check our home page at [www.mmra.ca](http://www.mmra.ca) for the new date, when available.

### SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT

The MMRA is inviting all residents to get informed about the issues around sewage treatment. This is big money – your money! Whether you are a rural resident who will need to pay to get your septage trucked away, or you are an Almonte resident on town services paying \$7 M from property taxes, or you are one of 11,734 residents (4,600 households) of MM who will be paying related debt service charges, we urge you to understand the business case, or the lack of one, behind the sewage treatment plant. It's not as simple as replacing a smelly sewage lagoon system. It's \$21 M (or more) of our taxes (federal, provincial and municipal) to support urban sprawl type development projects like Spring St, White Tail Ridge, Ann Street and Sadler Estates – about 1300 units – under the philosophy of "if you build it, they will come." MM development fees are not on par with Ottawa and do not cover the costs of development to MM taxpayers. This may not be a good time for the Province or the Federal government to consider supporting development in Almonte, considering the environmental impact of commuting, double-laning March Rd and other serious effects. We urge you to get the facts (perhaps read our 2006 Bulletin [http://www.mmra.ca/3-bulletin\\_sewage.pdf](http://www.mmra.ca/3-bulletin_sewage.pdf)) and question your Councillors about options. Councillor coordinates can be found on our website at <http://www.mmra.ca/links.htm>

### SAFETY

With the diligent effort of Lanark OPP, weekly Neighbourhood Watch statistics help residents be aware of what activities are going on in which parts of the Town. The MMRA site (Archives page) is updated continuously with this information. You can bring up the file directly at <http://www.mmra.ca/neighbourhoodwatch.pdf>. Quarterly

reports on Assaults, B&Es, Theft, Mischief and Drug Offences can be found on the Town's site at <http://www.mississippimills.ca/emergency/police.cfm>.

### **LEARNING IN MISSISSIPPI MILLS**

Mississippi Mills is uniquely graced by the presence of talented educators and facilitators of learning, following in the footsteps of R. Tait MacKenzie and James Naismith. The Almonte Lecture Series (<http://almontelectures.ncf.ca/>) has been one long-running example of this, with a new Series starting September 19. **But there's more!** The Almonte Lectures have spawned a "Learning in Almonte," two-stream series of 6 lectures each, beginning October 1. Michael Gnarowski leads the Canadian Literary Classics stream and Alan Donaldson leads the Local and World Geoheritage stream. For details see the Miller's Tale website at: [http://www.tmtbooks.ca/learning\\_in\\_almonte\\_lecture\\_se.html](http://www.tmtbooks.ca/learning_in_almonte_lecture_se.html)

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO COUNCILLOR LOWRY**

Councillor Jim Lowry receives the Long Service Award from Minister John Gerretsen for 25 years of long-standing service. The MMRA extends our sincere congratulations to Councillor Lowry.

Best wishes from

The Board of the MMRA

Mississippi Mills Residents' Association (MMRA)

*"Striving to promote a shared vision for Mississippi Mills"*

[www.mmra.ca](http://www.mmra.ca)

*Note: The "MMRA Communiqué" is a limited circulation, periodic email on matters of community interest, intended to inform, advise and sometimes amuse members, subscribers and interested individuals. Any opinions expressed are those of the contributor(s). To unsubscribe please "reply" with Unsubscribe added to the subject line. Likewise, if you know friends, family and neighbours who'd like to SUSCRIBE, ask them to send an email to [mmra@sympatico.ca](mailto:mmra@sympatico.ca).*