



## **COUNCIL COMMUNIQUE – SEPTEMBER 2006**

On August 1 we had a huge thunderstorm which knocked out power to most of Baie d'Urfé, and many other areas, and some residents were without power for several days. I would like to thank our Public Works crew, the Rescue Squad and the SIM (Montreal Fire Dept) for all their efforts over those days to pump out basements, clean up fallen trees and power lines, etc.

The excessive rainfall which occurred throughout that week led to many flooded basements, and drainage problems in other areas also. Council is aware that the storm drainage system in the Town as a whole needs to be improved. This is something that we plan to deal with over the next couple of years.

Here are some reminders which may be useful to you in the event of a similar storm in the future:

- Please call Hydro-Quebec at 1-800-790-2424 to find out when your power will be restored. They will be able to give you more accurate information than the Town Hall staff.
- If your basement is susceptible to flooding, we recommend that you have a back-up for your sump pump in the event of power failure.
- Sump pumps need maintenance and should be tested regularly.
- Gas-powered generators need ventilation. Do not attempt to run a generator in your home or in your garage.
- The Town will clear away fallen trees on Town property, including trees which have fallen only partially onto Town property. A phone call to Town Hall at 514-457-5324 to notify us of fallen trees will help us get to them faster.
- The Town cannot recommend contractors for tree felling or for any other purpose. Try your Yellow Pages!

You may have noticed the new crosswalk on Lakeshore Road, linking the Whiteside Taylor parking lot to the lakefront park. This crosswalk was added at the recommendation of the Traffic Committee, to increase the safety of pedestrians crossing the road at this spot. A new stop sign is soon to go up on Normandy, at the south side of the intersection with Oakridge. If you have any concerns with traffic issues, speeding, or other intersections in the Town, feel free to write to the Traffic Committee at Town Hall.

The eastern section of Lakeshore Road, from Normandy to Magnolia, as well as the sidewalk, is in need of repair. The repair contract has now gone out to tender. The work should start between mid-September and mid-October and will take approximately 2 – 3 weeks.

Don't miss Susan Hawker's article in this issue on the subject of bicycle paths through the Town, and be sure to let her know of your ideas. Many thanks to Susan for all her hard work.



As I write this, the installation of new equipment in Gray Park is almost complete, and work has started in Picardy Park. Picardy Park will have a hippo, a dragon, and a state-of-the-art Infinity climbing structure. By the time you read this, you should be seeing new equipment in other parks also. Morgan Park will have a fire truck which the kids can climb around on. We also have 15 new benches which will be installed in the parks throughout the Town. It has been one of Council's priorities this year to improve the parks and make them safer and more fun for our kids to use.

Janet Ryan, Councillor