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Your environmentally friendly community newspaper

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Visitors to 'A Cultural Christmas' at the Cumberland Heritage Village Museum this month can enjoy a ride on a horse drawn wagon among other attractions. Fred Sherwin/Photo

Fallingbrook miss takes on ambitious fundraising effort

By Fred Sherwin
The Eastender

By her own admission, 12-year-old Taylor Hines from Fallingbrook is a very lucky girl. She has a wonderful family, she has her health and she was recently crowned Miss Pre-Teen Ottawa.

So when it came time to pick a cause to champion during her reign as Miss Pre-Teen Ottawa, she chose a rare form of childhood cancer called neuroblastoma, which mainly effects children under the age of two.

Until recently, Taylor could barely pronounce neuroblastoma. It was only recently, after

she began babysitting her eight-year-old friend Katie Fuller, that she learned about the disease.

Katie was diagnosed with Stage IVs neuroblastoma when she was two. Stage IVs is the most advanced form of the disease with a survival rate of less than 20 per cent.

After Katie underwent surgery to remove the tumour as well as an aggressive treatment protocol, the cancer went into remission and has been in remission ever since which led the head of the CHEO oncology unit to refer to her as their "miracle" patient.

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Orléans-Cumberland school accommodation meeting tonight

By Fred Sherwin
The Eastender

The debate over whether or not the Ottawa Carleton District School Board will close either Dunning-Foubert Elementary School or Queenswood Public School will begin in earnest tonight with a public information meeting at Cairine Wilson Secondary School.

While the East Urban Centre - Cumberland School Accommodation Study was established to look at accommodation issues among public board schools in Fallingbrook and Queenswood Heights and the impact the new school being built in Avalon will have on the area – the primary purpose of the study is to decide which of the two Queenswood Heights will be closed.

Dunning Foubert is currently operating at 70 per cent capacity with 242 students from JK to Grade 8 while Queenswood Public, which is a JK to Grade 6 facility, is

operating at 56 per cent capacity with 189 students.

Looking long range, Dunning Foubert's enrollment will continue to decline, dropping to 57 per cent by 2012, while the enrollment at Queenswood is projected to remain steady at 56 per cent.

The study was born out of an effort made last fall to eliminate triple split classes at both schools.

Among the solutions put forward by staff was to transfer enough students from one school to the other to eliminate the need for the triple split classes. When the recommendation was met by stiff opposition from both school communities, the board decided to conduct an accommodation study to address long term concerns over declining enrollment at both schools.

Besides trying to decide which school to close and when, the study will also determine the catchment area for the new Avalon

school which is slated to open next year, and how the other school communities in Fallingbrook will be effected.

According to information provided by the board, the lion's share of the enrollment at the new school will come from the immediate area south of Innes Road most of which is currently going to Maple Ridge Elementary School which is bursting at the seams with close to 900 students and 12 portable classrooms.

Once the new Avalon school opens, the enrollment at Maple Ridge is expected to drop from 886 students to 482 which is well under the school's capacity of 595.

One issue that must also be addressed is the possible grandfathering of students who wish to keep going to Maple Ridge and at what grade level will the option be made available.

Tonight's meeting will get under way at 7 p.m. tonight in the school cafeteria.

Community briefs

Sir Wil students pitch in to help less fortunate

ORLÉANS — Students and staff at Sir Wilfrid Laurier Secondary School on Tenth Line Road are continuing a pair of Christmas traditions started 12 years ago to help families who are struggling to make ends meet at this demanding time of the year. The Toy Mountain campaign is run in conjunction with TD Canada Trust. During the campaign, students at the school are encouraged to bring in toys and drop them into the Toy Mountain located in the school lobby. Members of the general public can also make a contribution by dropping toys off at the main office. Last year, over 500 toys were collected. The deadline to drop off toys is Friday, Dec. 14. The students are also in the middle of their Christmas hamper initiative which is once again being organized by the school's multicultural club. During the campaign, each class puts together one or two Christmas hampers which are then distributed to financially strapped families in the National Capital region.

'A Cultural Christmas' continues at museum

CUMBERLAND VILLAGE – 'A Cultural Christmas' continues at the Cumberland Heritage Village Museum this Sunday with displays, wagon rides and crafts from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Discover the traditions and celebrations during the 1920s and 30s. This Sunday only, hear the Chorum Chamber Choir in the museum church at 1 p.m. On Sunday Dec. 16, the Village Voices choir will perform at 2:30 p.m. followed by the 6th Annual Cumberland Community Carol Sing at 3:30 p.m.

Local food banks in need of holiday donations

ORLÉANS — The Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard on Arrowsmith Drive in Beacon Hill and the Orleans-Cumberland Emergency Food Program in the Taylor Creek Business Park are both accepting donations to help provide holiday food items to local families in need. While donations of non-perishable food items as well as frozen turkeys will be gratefully accepted, cash donations give the centres more latitude in purchasing the necessary items. The Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard can be reached at 749-4728 to inquire about their location and hours of operation while the Cumberland Emergency Food Program can be reached at 613-837-6492.

Friend provides inspiration for ambitious fundraising initiative

> CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

But Katie is one of the lucky few, for many other children diagnosed with neuroblastoma the results are often tragic.

However, there is hope. Researchers at the CHEO Research Institute have been making major clinical advances in finding ways to enhance the effect of chemotherapy treatment.

The Research Institute is currently exploring the possibility of launching limited clinical trials for a new medication used to treat neuroblastoma. They are also want to join in the development of a non-virulent strain of the polio virus which has been found to destroy neuroblastoma cells in lab rats.

Both endeavours require funding, but unfortunately the lion's share of research dollars is more readily available for more common adult cancers. Which is where Taylor has decided to step in. The 12-year-old Trillium Elementary School student has taken on two fundraising initiatives with the goal of raising \$50,000.

Last month, she approached a number of schools in the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board and invited them take part in a gold ribbon campaign which is traditionally held during Childhood Cancer Awareness month in September.

Five schools took Taylor up on her offer including Fallingbrook Community Elementary School which raised more than \$600.

Two other east end schools – Maple Ridge Elementary School and Trillium – plan to hold fundraising campaigns after the winter break.

But the gold ribbon campaign is just the tip of the iceberg. Back in August, Taylor came up with the idea to organize a fashion show to help raise even more money.

Over time, her idea has evolved into the first annual Ottawa Neuroblastoma Research Fund Fashion Gala to be held on Jan. 14 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

"I just got the idea and then I talked to my mom about it and she



Taylor Hines (left) is organizing a Fashion Gala to help raise \$50,000 to fund clinical trials for children diagnosed with neuroblastoma like her friend Katie Fuller (right). Fred Sherwin/Photo

thought it was a good idea too, so I decided to do it," says Taylor who ultimately wants to help her friend Katie and other kids like her. "It's a pretty scary thing and it just doesn't effect the kids, it effects the whole family. If we can find a cure they don't have to be scared any more."

The gala will include two fashion shows and a gourmet four course meal. The first show will include children currently undergoing treatment as well as some who are in remission. The second show will feature top models and top designers and some very special guest speakers.

Taylor will be hosting the gala which will take place less than two weeks before she leaves for the Miss Pre-Teen Canada Pageant in Niagara Falls where she plans to further promote her cause.

Taylor has already begun to reach out to local businesses to help sponsor the fashion show. One of the first corporations to jump on board was the RBC. She's also soliciting private donations which can be made at any RBC branch. Tickets to the Fashion Gala can be purchased at any RBC branch in the city for \$80 per ticket.

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Lions' Magical Village enchants all who enter

By Fred Sherwin
The Eastender

During the past 10 years, the Gloucester Lions' Magical Village has become a time honoured holiday tradition, attracting thousands of visitors and raising more than \$90,000 for local charities, most notably the Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard.

This year the village is located on the main floor of Place d'Orléans across from La Maison d'Or.

All who enter the display are immediately enchanted by the impressive collection of miniature houses, lilliputian figurines and flickering lights.

Kids are fascinated by all the lights and the many animated buildings such as the fire station, the garage, and the Nutcracker Theatre, which is one of the oldest buildings in the display. The newest addition to the display is a McDonald's restaurant complete with a drive thru and a voice asking to take your order.

Older visitors often find the exhibit a peaceful respite from the hustle and bustle of the mall. Some have even commented that the display reminds them of Christmases past.

The very first Magical Village was set up in the Gloucester Centre Shopping Mall in 1997 by former Gloucester Mayor Claudette Cain who wanted to establish a pet project to help raise money for the Gloucester Emer-

gency Food Cupboard.

After amalgamation in 2000, responsibility for the Magical Village was left in the hands of the food cupboard itself.

Overburdened by the demands of the season, the food cupboard eventually decided to turn over the collection of more than 300 miniature buildings and 100 plus figurines to the Gloucester North Lions Club which has looked after it ever since.

The Club provides the lion's share of volunteers, solicits donations and sponsors, and collects and manages the thousands of dollars in freewill donations that are left in the donation boxes by appreciative visitors.

Lion Mark Kelz spent the better part of two weeks setting up this year's village. The first step was to build the frame. Next he had a friend lay down the more than 100 feet of model railway track which twists and turns through the display.

The third step was to staple sheets of cotton batten to the wooden base to look like snow. The final step, which is also the most time consuming, was to set up all the miniature buildings and figurines and make sure the lights all worked. The result is truly well... "magical".

On Friday, Darcy Leclerc was already paying here second visit to the display with her three-year-old son Sean.

"He was here last night with my husband and he totally loved it. It's all he's talked



The Magical Village will be open during regular mall hours at Place d'Orléans until Dec. 30. File photo

about," said Leclerc as her son ran from one side of the display to the other. "He was supposed to go to gymnastics this afternoon but he didn't want to go. He wanted to come here and see the train instead. We'll probably be back here a few more times before it's over."

The Magical Village is open during regular mall hours until Dec. 31.

Cumberland museum celebrates Christmases past

By Fred Sherwin
The Eastender

In an age when the Christmas season has become dominated by excessive commercialism and conspicuous consumption, it's hard to believe there was a time, not long ago, when Christmas was a much simpler occasion.

A time before Toys R' Us stores; online shopping and high tech toys. A time even before the Christmas Wish Book and the Sears Catalogue. A time when presents were made out of leftover household items and sugar cookies were considered a luxury.

During the first three Sundays in December, the Cumberland Heritage Village Museum in Cumberland Village will celebrate Christmases past with a focus on how the different cultural groups that first settled the township marked the holiday season.

During the 1920s and 30s the four major cultural groups that made up the local population were French, English, Scottish and Dutch.

In the French households the focus was on family, food and religion. After attending mass on Christmas day, families would gather together and enjoy a meal of turkey, tortierre, soup and an assortment of whatever happened to be stored in the root cellar.

Dutch children would decorate their letters to Father Christmas with icing sugar mixed with food colouring and leave them

in the window. They would also stuff their wooden shoes with hay and carrots for Sinterclaus' horses to nibble on.

In the Dutch custom Santa Claus sleigh was pulled by horses instead of reindeer.

In English homes where the focus was on revelry, the day was filled with music, singing and dancing. The gay mood stood in stark contrast to most Scottish homes where Christmas was a more austere occasion.

In fact, very few Scottish families celebrated Christmas until the early 1950s - especially where the predominant religion was Presbyterian. Instead, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day was the major holiday when gifts were exchanged and people were able to let their hair down.

Visitors to the Cumberland museum can experience the early Christmas traditions of all four cultures as they tour several of the houses on the museum grounds.

More than 50 volunteers add to the experience by portraying characters in period costume. There's also horse drawn wagon rides which leave the museum train station every 15 minutes.

On Sunday, Dec. 9 visitors will also be able to enjoy baroque classics as sung by the Chorum Chamber Choir in the museum church at 1 p.m. The following Sunday the Village Voices choir and the Cross Town Youth Chorus will perform at 2:30 p.m.



Visitors to 'A Cultural Christmas' at the Cumberland Heritage Village Museum this month can enjoy a ride on a horse drawn wagon among other attractions. Fred Sherwin/Photo

followed by the sixth annual Cumberland Community Carol Sing at 3:30 p.m.

Admission to museum is \$6 for adults and \$4 for students and seniors. A special family rate for two adults and two children is also available for \$15. Museum hours both Sundays are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Eastender

Fred Sherwin
Editor & Publisher

Letters should be limited to 250 words.

To submit a letter to the editor to *The Eastender* e-mail the-eastender@orleansonline.ca.

The Eastender reserves the right to edit correspondence for length with a commitment to maintaining the integrity and spirit of the content.

School closures

One of the nastiest pieces of businesses of any school board trustee is having to preside over the closing of a school in their district.

Fortunately the need for school closures in the far east end has been almost non-existent. The last public board school to be closed was Riverview Public School in Cumberland Village, although anger over its demise was tempered by the construction of a brand new school in Navan which replaced the former Meadowview Public School.

Prior to Riverview, the last public board school to have its doors bolted shut was Blackburn Public School back in the early 90s

The anger and upheaval that resulted from that process, led the old Carleton Board of Education to modify its school closure policy so that stakeholders would be given every opportunity possible to voice their objections.

I only mention that because this week signals the start of a process that will ultimately result in the closing of either Queenswood Public School or Dunning Foubert Elementary School in Queenswood Heights.

Both schools are operating well under capacity and their enrollments are projected to continue to decline. In order to save money and redirect the savings back into the classroom, one of them has to be closed. The question is which one?

The respective school communities will likely fight tooth and nail to keep their school open. Queenswood Public School is the smaller of the two schools and has been around the longest, while Dunning-Foubert was one of the first French Immersion education centres in the public board.

The fight over which of the two schools will remain open and which will be closed will likely get messy, but not nearly as messy as the battle over which of either Colonel By Secondary School, Gloucester High School or Rideau High School will be closed.

That process will get under way next spring, with all three schools likely to mount a major public relations campaign as to why their school should remain open.

The early odds would favour Colonel By and Gloucester, but the Rideau supporters aren't likely to give up without a fight.

As they say in the television business – stay tuned.

– Fred Sherwin, editor

Liar, liar pants on fire

Poor Brian Mulroney. Just when he thought his legacy had been restored thanks to the distance in time, the shenanigans of Jean Chretien and Adscam, and the vindictive RCMP Airbus investigation, along comes Karlheinz Schreiber.

By the time he had released his memoirs last month, many Canadians seemed willing to forgive and forget that he was not only responsible for the creation of the Bloc Quebecois and the Reform Party, but that he was also indirectly responsible for three straight Chretien majority governments thanks to the mess he left the Conservative movement in.

But now we have Mr. Schreiber and admissions by people close to Mulroney confirming that he received \$300,000 in cash payments from the German businessman despite Mulroney's steadfast denial of the payments for the past 10 years.

Before I go any further, I don't believe Mulroney had any idea the money was paid out of Airbus commissions or that he had any involvement in the Air Canada-Airbus contract. I also don't think he should pay back any of the \$2.1 million he was given as compensation for his legal and public relations costs stemming from the RCMP investigation. But that said, there's enough evidence out there to suggest Mulroney not only lied about his involvement with Schreiber and the cash payments, but that he actively tried to cover it up.

During a pre-trial hearing in 1999, Mulroney testified under oath that he had only met Schreiber for a cup of coffee "once or twice" after leaving office and that he "never had any dealings with him".

As we now know, Mulroney met Schreiber more than once or twice for a cup of coffee after leaving office and he definitely had "dealings" with him.

As for Mulroney's other alleged transgressions revolving around the acceptance of three payments of \$100,000 in cash for work he never did – they may have been shady, they may even have stunk to high even but they were not illegal.

You can't even go after him for tax evasion thanks to the "voluntary tax disclosure" rules which allows people to declare previously undisclosed income without fear of sanction, even though it's beginning to look more and more like he didn't file the disclosure until after he realized the payments were going to be made public.

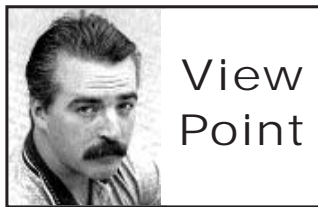
Then there are the attempts by Mulroney to get Schreiber to sign an affidavit stating that he never gave him any money. When Schreiber's lawyers informed him that he would be committing perjury if he signed the statement, he declined Mulroney's request.

The key fact that's missing is the exact time frame between Mulroney's request to Schreiber and the filing of the voluntary disclosure. If Mulroney filed the voluntary disclosure after he tried to get Schreiber to swear out the affidavit then it could be argued that the request, which Mulroney made knowing it wasn't true, somehow broke the law.

It makes no sense whatsoever that Mulroney would ask Schreiber to lie about the payments if he had already disclosed them to Revenue Canada.

As for whether or not Mulroney will ever end up in court, I somehow doubt it and I'm not sure it even matters. Mulroney's legacy has been damaged beyond the abilities of any spin doctor or PR firm to repair it.

If nothing else, the revelations of the past three weeks have only served to remind people why they so despised the man in the first place and have further cemented his stature as the most reviled Prime Minister in Canadian history.



View Point

Fred Sherwin



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Local businesses have plenty to offer Xmas shoppers

By Fred Sherwin
The Eastender

While thousands of people flock to the local mall to do the lion's share of their Christmas shopping, they do so at the risk of missing out on that unique gift which can only be found in one of the many local specialty shops in the east end.

One such store is Laura's Corner in Navan. The home furnishings and accessories store has already become a favourite destination for people looking for unique furnishings that exude comfort and warmth.

But besides big comfy couches and oversized arm chairs, Laura's Corners also sells unique home decor items that make the perfect gift for that hard-to-buy-for someone on your list.

Owners Glen Harris and Bob Desjardins take immense pride in being able to find that one of a kind gift item that makes travelling to Laura's Corner well worth the trip.



For instance they have an assortment of unique, handmade festive items that make an instant conversation piece.

Sticking with the spirit of the season, Laura's Corner has a large selection of festive candles, wreaths and Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer tableware, stockings and napkins.

One of the store's most popular items are their fire burners which use a flammable gel to create a warm glowing flame. The burners are available in a variety of different styles, shapes and colours.



The men out there will no doubt appreciate Laura's Corners excellent selection of stocking stuffers for the special lady in their lives including a wide selection of bath products, mists and sprays and yummy edibles like gourmet chocolate pancake mix and smoked salmon.

Speaking of edibles, Navan is also home to Chilly Chiles, located beside J.T. Bradley's Country Convenience Store on

Colonial Road. The popular specialty store carries hundreds of hot sauces, marinades and other unique gift items for those people on your Christmas list who appreciate the spicier things in life.

Among the many stocking stuffers they have are chile flavoured caramels, Chile Mango Gumballs, hot sauce on a key chain, BBQ popcorn, habanero flavoured jelly beans and hot sauce gift packs.

They also have a number of specialty cookbooks and decorative chile-ware such as chile-themed aprons, pot holders and oven mitts.



After a visit to Chile Chiles pop into J.T. Bradley's where the discerning Christmas shopper will be able to find a bottle of single malt scotch, a fine wine or a bottle of aptly named Navan cognac.

They also sell locally made Desjardins tortieres which are available in small and large sizes, as well as 20 and 25-inch natural Christmas wreaths made from pine boughs. Starting Dec. 5 they will also be selling Christmas tree.

J.T. Bradley's carries a wide variety of NASCAR hats, key chains and fridge magnets which make excellent stocking stuffers for the racing fan on your list.



Last but not least, you can pop into Jay's Embroidery, located on the east side of Navan Road as you drive into Navan, and buy a decorative Navan "hoody", which are available in a variety of colours, or some Cumberland Grads wear.

The best part about shopping at any of the stores in Navan is that they are close (about a 10 minute drive from Orléans, down Trim Road) and they have plenty of parking.

Closer to Orléans, the Dollar Store Plus on the corner of Trim Road and Watters has a wealth of affordable stocking stuffers for any age group including a complete line of scrap booking accessories.

For the hard-to-buy-for wine lover on your list, make a bee line to Wine Kitz located in the Orléans Town Centre Plaza near the Centrum Odeon Theatre and place an order for any number of delicious wine kits or simply buy a gift certificate.

If you already know someone who makes their own wine then you'll want to buy them a Wine Cellar Express which is a wine bottle coaster containing a powerful magnet that can age homemade wine in a matter of minutes.



Wine openers also make a wonderful gift and Wine Kitz carries a complete line of Trudeau openers, from a stainless steel foldable cork screw starting at \$19.99 to the Trulever bottle opener priced at \$99.99 which is as beautiful to look as it is to use.

For wine lovers working on building up their collection, Wine Kitz has a selection of wine racks made out of a variety of materials in an assortment of different sizes. Wooden racks can be purchased either finished or unfinished.

The Wine Kitz store also has a wide variety of decorative ceramic wine holders. There's bakers, sailors, cows, Santas... you name it.

Finally, if you have a hockey fan on your list why not pay a visit to Lacroix Source for Sports on St. Joseph Blvd. and pick up a vintage NHL hockey jersey. Simply find out your husband or boyfriend's favourite childhood team and drop by the store. The jerseys start at \$109.99 apiece.



When all else fails and you've simply run out of ideas, scoot over to Place d'Orléans and purchase a gift certificate, redeemable at any of the shopping mall's stores.

A gift certificate for a dinner for two at the new Heritage Restaurant in Cumberland Village can also make a nice present. The fine Italian eatery has been getting rave reviews since opening last spring.

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Vanna White, sore feet and bruised knees

Hello everyone this column is a little late so I'm sorry that you all had to wait. The past month was pretty busy with a lot of different things going on.

A couple of weeks ago I helped my dad out at the Orleans Online Outstanding Youth Awards where I got to be Vanna White again.

Vanna White is the name they call the person who stands on the stage for two hours and hands the awards to the person who presents them to the winner.

I had soooo much fun standing in heels for two hours you have no idea. Just kidding. Well, not really. My feet actually started to really hurt after awhile. But other than having sore feet, the rest of the awards were a lot of fun and a couple of kids who got awards go to



my school at St. Pete's, although I only recognized Kira Isabella.

Speaking of Kira her performance was amazing. She sang so well. I can't remember the names of the songs but they were really good.

Also Thrillusions, who are a couple of magicians from Beatrice-Desloges were really good too, even though one of them was missing.

Mimi Lam, who did a piano recital was amazing as well, and so were Emma and Mary Kathryn Bohn who did a beautiful ballet duet.

Last week my friends and I went to a coffee house thingy at St. Pete's. It was kind of like a talent show and a concert mixed together. It was really cool and I got separated from my friends because I went to buy some cupcakes and got stuck on the outside of the mat where everyone was sitting.

All of the acts were really good. My favorite was a girl named Courtney who sang "I Can Hear the Bells" from the musical Hairspray and she sounded just like the girl in the movie. Also Kira sang a couple of rock songs and she was really good too. My favorite was "Hotel California".

I'm not sure if I told you this before, but I signed up to learn how to curl at the Navan Curling Club a little while ago and it's really fun, even though I keep slipping on the ice and

hurting my knee.

For the first three weeks I was getting large bruises on my knee, but now I have a knee pad and I have no more bruises. Yeah!

We've even started playing real games now and I'm pretty good except for when I go too heavy then it just zooms past the house. For people who don't know what a "house" is, it's the thing with the circles.

I'm getting better at it, but I'm still really nervous walking on the ice so sweeping is really hard. My granddad says I'll get better as I go along, so hopefully it won't take me too long to get used to it.

Well that's pretty much all that happened this month so caio for now!

(Maggie Sherwin is 12-years-old and in Grade 7 at St. Peter High School in Orleans.)

Local business

New manager, chef signal big changes at Navan eatery

By Fred Sherwin
The Eastender

The Old Navan Mill Restaurant in Navan is undergoing a renaissance of late under the guidance of its new manager Cheryl Tingman and recently hired head chef George Issa whose made a number of changes to the menu with more to come.

The restaurant's new signature dish is the beer battered fish and chips, which is made using beer brewed right next door at the Draft Horse Brewery. Served with a freshly poured glass of Belgian Cream Ale or 50 Horse Lager, the ample portion of fish and chips is sure to satisfy even the biggest appetite.

Other newly added dishes include the Mill Burger made with 1/2 pound of freshly ground beef, piled high with the fixin's of your choice; and the new chicken wings which are bigger and meatier than the ones served on the old menu.

Another major improvement are the charbroiled steaks which are now supplied by Lavergne Western Pork & Beef located on Navan Road. Lavergne's sells only the finest AAA Alberta beef.

Own Ted Gulliver is hoping the changes, both in terms of personnel and food, will attract local residents back to the restaurant and he's promising even more changes to come.

For now the effort appears to be paying off as the old feel of the restaurant as a neighbourhood eatery where people can come and enjoy good food in a warm and friendly environment is slowly resulting in

a lot of familiar faces coming through the door.

"A lot of the old gang and starting to come back and their loving it," says Tingman.

But the Old Navan Mill Restaurant and Draft Horse Brewery is more than just a traditional sit down restaurant. The establishment can also host any size event from 20 people to more than 200 guests in their spacious banquet hall. In fact, Chef Issa's specialty is catering to large events. They even cater events off premises and have a mobile beer fridge and a large smoker that can cook an entire side of beef, or a pig if you want to have a pig roast.

The Old Navan Mill Restaurant also specializes in helping sports teams host spaghetti supper fundraisers, which have been very successful in the past, as well as team banquets. Interested teams can simply contact Tingman for details and leave the rest up to the restaurant staff.

Last but not least, it's hard not to talk about the Old Navan Mill Restaurant and Draft Horse Brewery without talking about the beer. Brewer Dom Boulet takes pride in each and every beer he produces including the 50-Horse Lager, the Clydsdale Pale Ale and the Shire Brown Ale all of which are available at the restaurant bar.

The Old Navan Mill Restaurant and Draft Horse Brewery is located less than 10 minutes from Orléans in the village of Navan. The restaurant is open Monday to Thursday from 4 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 3 p.m. to 2 a.m.



The Old Navan Mill Restaurant has undergone some recent changes including the introduction of a new signature dish – beer battered fish and chips made using beer brewed right next door at the Draft Horse Brewery. File Photo

It is closed on Sundays.

For more information about the Old Navan Mill Restaurant and the Draft Horse Brewery, including details about booking their facilities for a special occasion, visit www.drafthorsebrewery.ca.

Local sports

Knights win junior crown at Bill Wren Classic

By Fred Sherwin
The Eastender

Early every December, some of the best junior and senior boys teams from across the city and around the province gather at St. Matthew High School to take part in the Bill Wren Classic preseason basketball tournament to test their skills and get a read on where they're at in terms of preparation for the season ahead.

This year five east end teams went into the tournament with the hope of winning a medal, but only one managed to accomplish the feat.

The St. Peter Knights avoided an opening round scare against the Ashbury Colts in which they had to come back from a 22-point deficit, and then reeled off three wins in a row by double digits to capture the gold medal in the junior boys division.

After their scare against the Colts, the Knights made short work of Glebe to win their pool and earn a berth in the quarter-finals where they cruised past Woodroffe 57-21.

In their semi-final against Colonel By, point guard Darren Pagal scored 29 points to lead the Knights to a convincing 65-47 win. Omar Mohamed scored 22 for the Cougars including three, three-point shots.

The final team that stood in the way of St. Pete's quest for a gold medal were the very same Ashbury Colts who nearly pulled off the upset in the opening game.

In the final, the two teams exchanged baskets through the opening couple of minutes before the Knights kicked things up a notch and ran away with it.

With the score tied 5-5, St. Pete's started forcing the Colts to turn the ball over which fueled an 11-2 run for the Knights. By the end of the first quarter they were already up 16-7.

St. Pete's continued to pour it on in the second quarter, outscoring the Knights 24-7 including a three point bomb at the buzzer by Pagal to take a 26 point halftime lead.

In the second half the Knights simply took care of business and eventually won the game 64-33 win.

Pagal was once again the game's top scorer with 18 points including 11 in the monster second quarter, while Tyler Anderson added 13.

After the game, Knights head coach Brad McKay was pleased with his team's effort and the progress they've made so far in preparing for the opening of the high school regular season which gets underway later this week.

"We've improved by leaps and bounds and we're improving with ever single game," said McKay, which doesn't bode well for the rest of the competition.

Playing with only two Grade 10 players in their lineup last year, the Knights made it to the quarterfinals before getting knocked out by St. Matt's.

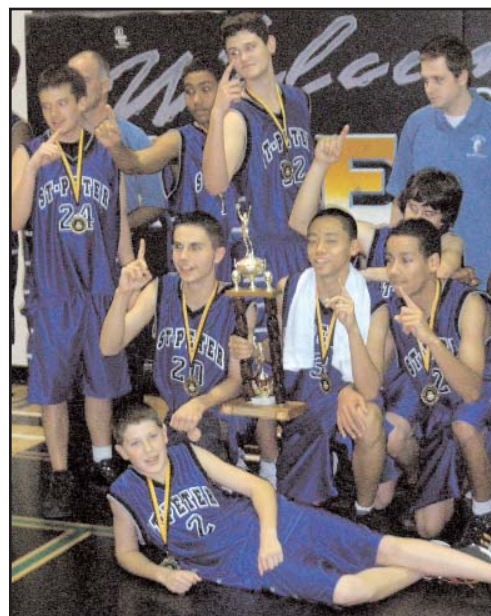
Although they didn't get as far as they would have liked to, the Knights did gain in that the Grade 9 players on the team played a ton of minutes and gained some valuable experience.

This year they're one of the most experienced teams in the junior ranks, if not the most experienced.

The depth of the team is evident by the fact that no fewer than nine players made it on to the score sheet in the gold medal game against Ashbury.

"We have nine Grade 10s on this year's team and they all can play," said McKay who has reason to be optimistic about the season ahead.

In other action at the Bill Wren Classic, the host St. Matt's Tigers failed to make it



The St. Peter Knights team won the gold medal in the junior division at the Bill Wren Classic held over the weekend. Fred Sherwin/Photo

to the semi-finals in the senior division thanks to a tough 59-56 loss to Our Lady Mount Carmel from Mississauga in the final game of the round robin portion of the tournament in which they misfired on a three point shot in the dying seconds that would have sent the game to overtime.

Earlier in the tournament, the Tigers demolished Thousand Islands Secondary School 71-47 and barely got past Ridgemont 52-51.

Another team that went into the tournament with high expectations was the Louis Riel Rebelles, who downed the St. Joseph Jaguars 47-37 and the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Lancers 64-14 before getting tripped up 73-59 by the St. Patrick Fighting Irish who eventually won the gold medal.

Grads look to rebound from pair of one goal losses

By Fred Sherwin
The Eastender

It's a funny thing about streaks – they can often be, well... streaky.

After winning seven games in a row last month, the Cumberland Grads have lost three of their last four including both ends of a home and home series against the Hawkesbury Hawks on the weekend.

The Grads were hoping to start a new winning streak against the Hawks having bounced back from a 5-0 loss to the Pembroke Lumber Kings last Sunday to down the Nepean Raiders 3-2 on Tuesday – and for the first seven minutes and 11 seconds in Hawkesbury last Friday night things looked to be going the Grads' way.

Goals by Brock Ouellet and Jason Akeson would give Cumberland an early 2-0 lead. It took a pair of penalties less than a minute apart against the Grads to get the Hawks back in the game.

Barely 20 seconds had elapsed off the first penalty when Mathieu Ouellette beat Grads' starting netminder Matt Fiander to get Hawkesbury on the board.

Adam Donovan would score an even strength goal 42 seconds later to tie the game and then Jacob Laliberte would make the Grads pay for a high sticking call a minute after that to give the Hawks a 3-2 lead and chase Fiander from the net.

Cumberland would benefit from a pair of penalties against the Hawks – one at the end of the first period and the other at the beginning of the second – to tie the game at 3-3 on power play goal by Eric O'Dell.

After the Hawks stormed back to take a 5-3 lead on a pair of goals by Hugo Pouliot and Andrew Calof, the Grads tied the score yet again on a pair of goals by Eric O'Dell and Patrick Roger just 44 seconds apart.

For the remainder of the second period Hawks goaltender Bryan Bessette was a

very busy man as the Grads outshoot the Hawks 22-6.

Try as they might, however, the Grads could not score the go ahead goal until the 8:03 mark of the third period.

Calof second goal of the game with 6:07 left on the clock would tie the score yet again and force overtime in which Stefan Lachapelle beat Adam Laderoute to salvage the win for Hawkesbury.

The two teams would do it all over again in Navan in Sunday. In the rematch the Hawks would overcome a 2-1 deficit with a pair of goals in the second period and then hold on for the 3-2 road win.

The Grads will be looking to get back on track when they take on the Nepean Raiders at the Sportsplex this Sunday. Game time is 2 p.m.

The Grads are currently 18-7-1-1 and tied for fourth in the overall standings with the Smiths Falls Bears.

Artscetera

Latest ENCORE! production a definite must see

By Fred Sherwin
The Eastender

Over the years the ENCORE! Theatre Company has taken on a wide variety of productions from Federico Lorca's brooding "Blood Wedding" to the Agatha Christie whodunit "The Mouse Trap".

Last spring, their production of James Reaney's "The Kildeer" was among their very best.

This season with a new director at the helm in Teri Loretto, the troupe of mostly OYP grads and university students, decided to try their hands at a comedy.

"7 Stories", which was written by Canadian playwright Morris Panych, is a thinking man's comedy with a wonderfully dry wit about it and a marvelous Mary Poppinesque ending.

At the centre of the play is a person simply referred to in both the script and the program as the man. In the opening scene the dapperly dressed gentleman is standing on a ledge holding an umbrella.

The set resembles a building facade with five shuttered windows running along the front and two balconies with doors leading to them at either end.

As the play unfolds, our protagonist meets a steady stream of maniacally eccentric characters who live on the seventh floor of the building. There's a husband and wife who spend their waking hours taking turns trying to kill each other; a bug-eyed, sleep deprived psychiatrist who suffers from paranoia; a young man who has 291 friends and doesn't like any of them; a former actor who's decided to live the rest of his life as a character complete with a fake mustache and fake accent; a party host who tries to end her own party prematurely because she can't stand the guests; two friends who are

have self identity issues; an old woman who hasn't left her apartment in 50 years and her nurse who can hardly wait for the old lady to keel over.

Besides the fact that they are all a tad eccentric, they all share another common trait in that they are so wrapped up in their own lives they don't even bother to ask the man what he's doing on the ledge, except for the old woman and the nurse who both think he should jump and get it over with.

"7 Stories" is very much a character study, in fact, it's all about the characters, which puts a real onus on the actors. For the play to come alive, the characters must come alive, which takes energy, commitment and enthusiasm on the part of the cast.

The ENCORE! crew comes through on all three counts. Hayden Smyth is does a superb job as the man contemplating suicide. His deadpan delivery and ability to control the subtle changes in emotion are brilliant.

Nick Dubus delivers a solid performance as well, doing double duty as the sociopathic husband and the confused groom to be. Equally outstanding are Maryse Darch as the sociopathic wife; Michael Yuill as the man with 291 friends; Sarah Benfield and Stephanie Haggarty as Al and Michelle, Samantha Meyer as Rachel; Martha Reeve as Joan; Karine Longpré as the nurse and Kathleen Shore as Jennifer and the old lady.

But my favourite performance of the evening was turned in by Jenn Jarvis who makes her return to the stage after directing a long line of ENCORE! productions.

Jarvis is absolutely hilarious as the wild-haired, wild-eyed, sleep deprived psycho psychiatrist. She barely opened her mouth and I was already in stitches.

Suffice it to say, I loved the entire pro-



Hayden Smith plays a man who is about to commit suicide when he encounters a series of eccentric residents who give him pause for thought in the ENCORE! Theatre production of '7 Stories'. Fred Sherwin/Photo

duction from beginning to end and I would highly recommend it to anyone who is looking for a little escapism this weekend.

The next performance is tonight (Friday, Nov. 30) at 7 p.m. at the Orleans Theatre in the Orleans Client Service Centre on Centrum Blvd. followed by two performances tomorrow (Saturday, Dec. 1) at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for OYP members and seniors. It should be noted that the play is recommended for audience members over the age of 14.

Community calendar

FRIDAY, DEC. 7

JEANETTE HAMILTON will be performing at the Orléans Legion from 7:30 p.m to 11:30 p.m. The Legion is located at 800 Taylor Creek Rd. For more information visit www.rcl632.com.

CORO VIVO (formerly the Blackburn Chorus) presents "A Dickens Christmas" tonight and tomorrow night at 7:30 p.m. with songs and carols Charles Dickens would have listened to when he penned his famous story. Where: Orléans

United Church, 1111 Orléans Blvd. Tickets \$15 available at the door. Children 12 and under admitted for free. To order your tickets in advance call Kirsten at 613-841-3902. For more information visit www.corovivoottawa.ca.

SATURDAY, DEC. 8

COUNTRY STYLE BREAKFAST served from 8:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. at the Orléans Legion, 800 Taylor Creek Rd. Homestyle cooking served by friendly volunteers. This is a fundraising event for the Legion.

JUMBO JAMBOREE

from 1 p.m to 5 p.m. at the Orléans Legion, 800 Taylor Creek Rd. Special guest performer John Henry; also featuring Country Caper, Terry McCann and more.

THE GLOUCESTER COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND

presents their annual Christmas concert at 2 p.m. in the auditorium at Gloucester High School, 2060 Ogilvie Rd. Tickets \$8 for adults, \$4 for children and \$20 for a family. To order in advance call Jolene at 613-295-2641.

SUNDAY, DEC. 9

BUFFET BRUNCH at Jacques' Trap Roadhouse in Carlsbad Springs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$13.95 for adults and \$6.95 for children.

A CULTURAL CHRISTMAS IN CUMBERLAND – Watch as different cultural groups prepare for Christmas in the 1920s and 30s. Ride a horse-drawn wagon, make traditional crafts and visit with Santa. Hear the Chorum Chamber Choir in the museum church at 1 p.m. Admission: \$6 for

adults, \$4 for students and seniors and \$15 for a family of four.

FRIDAY, DEC. 14

VINTAGE STOCK THEATRE presents "A Cumberland Christmas", a bilingual family story to warm your heart this holiday season, at the Cumberland Heritage Village Museum. Showtimes tonight and tomorrow night at 7 p.m. Special matinee performance Sunday at 1 p.m. Tickets \$10 for adults, \$6 for children 12 and under and \$30 for a family of five.