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Your environmentally friendly community newspaper

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Cumberland Panther running back Javontae Nelson tries to shed a tackle against the Orleans Bengals during minor football action last Saturday. Fred Sherwin/Photo

## Arts centre receives \$1M endowment

By Fred Sherwin  
The Eastender

The Orléans Arts Centre has a new name and with it a \$1 million endowment from the Shenkman Foundation that will be used to support innovative arts initiatives by local artists and arts organizations that will call the newly-named Shenkman Arts Centre home.

The new name and generous donation were announced at in conjunction with the kick-off of the ARTicipate! fundraising campaign on Monday.

The \$1 million donation from the Shenkman Foundation

will be added to a \$2.5 million grant announced by the province last year to form the basis of the endowment fund.

Arts Ottawa East is hoping to grow the fund to \$5 million over the next two years.

The endowment fund will generate tax free interest that will in turn be used to support arts programming at the centre.

The \$3.2-million in annual operating costs will be funded by the city.

Construction of the arts centre is slated to begin this fall and be completed by the spring of 2009.

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## Arts centre endowment fund a godsend for arts groups

By Fred Sherwin  
The Eastender

Just call it the gift that keeps giving. The newly-created Shenkman Arts Centre endowment fund will provided local artists and arts groups with much needed funding in perpetuity, which is a fancy word for forever.

If Arts Ottawa East manages to raise the \$5 million they're hoping for, the endowment fund could conservatively produce upwards of \$250,000 in interest revenue a year.

According to Arts Ottawa East executive director Christine Tremblay, the money will be used to support arts initiatives specifically intended for the arts centre.

For instance, a theatre com-

pany could apply for funds to help purchase scripts or props, or groups could ask for money to fund a workshop or series of workshops.

While the exact criteria has yet to be worked out, Tremblay says the intent is clear.

"The idea is to provide funds to supplement things that groups don't have operating funds for. It's all about supporting artists and supporting creativity within the arts centre," says Tremblay.

With the \$1 million donation from the Shenkman Foundation and the \$2.5 million grant from the province, the endowment fund is already well on its way toward the \$5 million target.

Former Team Ottawa-Orléans executive director Sandra MacInnes has been assigned the

task of raising the additional \$1.5 million.

Besides reaching out to other potential philanthropists in the community, MacInnes is busy developing several other fundraising ideas such as a seat sale which allows members of the community to have their name placed on the back of one of the seats in the main theatre in exchange for a donation of between \$200 and \$750.

Plans are also in the works for at least two fundraising events involving many of the stakeholder groups that will be using the arts centre.

The main idea behind the ARTicipation fundraising campaign is to raise awareness and interest within the community during the construction period

and leading up to the opening of the arts centre in the spring of 2009.

"We want to do whatever we can to let the community be a part of the arts centre in an accessible way," says MacInnes. "We want to get people mobilized and excited about it."

When it's completed, the \$36 million facility will become the epicenter of artistic endeavour in the east end. It will also be a major economic catalyst for the nearby Orléans Town Centre and surrounding businesses and restaurants.

The endowment fund and the dollars it produces will provide the necessary fuel to allow the local artistic community to build and grow well into the foreseeable future.

## Community briefs

### Oktoberfest celebration set to go this weekend

**ORLÉANS** — Organizers of the 2nd Annual Orléans Oktoberfest celebration are putting the finishing touches on preparations for this year's event which will be held this weekend in the Orleans Town Centre beside East Side Mario's. Participant's are being asked to wear red during Friday's opening in support of Canada's service men and women and their families who will be honoured during the opening ceremonies which get underway at 6:30 p.m. Besides a beer tent, there promises to be plenty of entertainment. Saturday is family day with plenty of activities for the kids including face painting and mini-putt. Admission is one or more non-perishable food items that will be donated to the Orléans-Cumberland Community Resource Centre, the Gloucester Emergency Food Cupboard and the Joseph Storehouse organization.

### Outstanding Youth Awards now accepting nominees

**ORLÉANS** — Nominations are now being accepted for the 2006 Orléans Online Outstanding Youth Awards. The awards are open to anyone residing east of St. Laurent Blvd. Nominees must be 17 years of age or younger as of Sept. 1, 2007. Each nominee will be judged on their accomplishments between Sept. 1, 2006 and Aug. 31, 2007. Entries are welcome in both French and English and should include the name, address and phone number of both the nominee and the nominator as well as a short résumé explaining why the person is being nominated. Nominations can be sent by e-mail to [OYA@orleansonline.ca](mailto:OYA@orleansonline.ca) or mailed to Box 230, 5929L Jeanne d'Arc Blvd., Orléans K1C 7K2. The deadline for nominations is Thursday, Oct. 31. For more information visit [www.orleansonline.ca/OYA.htm](http://www.orleansonline.ca/OYA.htm).

### Area residents invited to vote for favourite business

**ORLÉANS** — Area residents are being invited to vote for their favourite businesses in the 5th Annual Orléans People's Choice Business Awards being presented by the Orléans Chamber of Commerce. Residents can vote online by visiting the Orléans Chamber website at [www.orleanschamber.ca](http://www.orleanschamber.ca) and vote for their favourite business in any one of 11 categories including Restaurant of the Year, New Business of the Year, Trade Business of the Year and Professional Adviser of the Year. Visitors will can either vote for one of the businesses that appears in the nomination field or nominate a business on their own. The deadline for voting is Oct. 30.



Construction of the newly-named Shenkmen Arts Centre will begin this fall next to the Orléans Client Service Centre. If all goes well it should be completed by the spring of 2009. File photo

## Endowment fund will benefit local arts groups

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Shenkman Foundation chairman William Shenkman says the foundation decided to make the rather generous contribution to the endowment fund because of the the family's long association with the east end as developers.

The Shenkman Corp. had a hand in building or developing a number of projects in the east end including the Gloucester Shopping Centre, the Gloucester Centre Business Park and Queenswood Heights.

Shenkman also liked the idea that the money will be used in perpetuity.

"I thought this was absolutely perfect," says Shenkman. "You're not just throwing money at a building, it's sustainable."

Arts Ottawa East executive director Christine Tremblay says the endowment fund will be a huge boost for the local arts community and especially the five groups who will call the Shenkman Arts Centre home – the Orléans Young Players, the Visual Arts Centre Orléans, MIFO, the Gloucester Pottery School and Arts Ottawa East which has over 53 members.

"Municipalities aren't able to raise funds. But as a community arts council, soliciting funds for an endowment fund is doable," says Tremblay who believes the Shenkmans' donation will entice others to give. "He's setting an example for other philanthropists in the city of Ottawa to become our champions."

At the head of the fundraising effort is former Team Ottawa-Orléans executive director Sandra MacInnes.

When it's completed the 86,000 sq. ft. arts centre will include a 500 seat performing arts theatre, as well as a 100-seat studio theatre, an art gallery, rehearsal space, instruction studios and office space.

The main theatre will be named after William Shenkman's father Harold Shenkman who inherited the company from his father Wolf Shenkman who immigrated to Canada from Russia in 1904.

While Wolf Shenkman started the company, Harold Shenkman built it into the huge residential and commercial developer it was to become, buying up thousands of hectares of land outside of the Greenbelt in the 1950s and 60s.

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# Local hopefuls square off at all-candidates meeting

By Fred Sherwin  
The Eastender

Voters in Ottawa-Orléans had their one and only opportunity to listen to the platforms of the various candidates contending for a seat in the upcoming provincial election Wednesday night during an all-candidates meeting organized by the Orléans and East Ottawa Chambers of Commerce.

During the meeting Liberal incumbent Phil McNeely and Progressive Conservative candidate Graham Fox squared off over education, health care and McNeely's record as the local MPP for the past four years.

Fox fired the first salvo during his opening remarks when he criticized McNeely for failing to secure a fair share of provincial expenditures for local transportation needs.

"I'm running to give the community the strong voice it so desperately needs at Queen's Park," said Fox. "While the west end was getting all the money we sat parked in gridlock waiting. For three years and 11 months we waited. It was only after John Tory made fixing the split a priority that the Liberals finally decided to act."

In his defence, McNeely told Fox that he had managed to secure \$8 million to start fixing the split over a year ago.

In the area of health care, McNeely warned that the Tories plan to eliminate the health care tax would result in a return to longer wait times, fewer doctors and nurses and reduced services that existed before the Liberals were elected.

"Do we really want to go back to the days when you had to wait a year for an MRI, or go to the United States or Montreal or Gatineau and pay \$3,000 for the procedure. Today we have an MRI machine at Portobello and you only have to wait a couple of weeks," said McNeely.

But Fox dismissed his opponent's doomsday prediction, saying that a Conservative government under John Tory would increase health care spending by \$8.5 billion over the next four years and attract more family doctors to the province, something the Liberals have failed to do.

"In 2003 there were one million residents without a family doctor in the province. In 2007 there are still a million residents without a family doctor. That's not progress,"

said Fox. "We will retain and attract more family doctors to Ontario."

When the debate turned to the sorry state of property tax assessments, McNeely blamed the current situation on the former Conservative government which created the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation and downloaded social services to local municipalities.

"It has created a lot of difficulties for a lot of people," he said before noting that the Liberal government placed a two year moratorium on property assessment in 2004.

After agreeing that the current system was a mess, Fox reiterated the Tories campaign promise to cap property assessments at five per cent until a solution is found.

Blaming the past Conservative government for many of the province's ills was a common theme throughout many of McNeely's answers especially when it came to education where he said the Liberal government has made a number of gains in reducing class sizes, hiring more teachers, establishing labour peace and improving school test results.

"The school system in 2003 was in tatters. It required a great deal of investment and we've done that," said McNeely while warning that the Conservative plan to extend full funding to faith based schools would drain \$500 million away from the public education system.

Obviously tired of McNeely's blame game, Fox took aim at the Liberal record since coming to power four years ago.

"Mr. McNeely, your government has had four years to address the issues and in that time you've increased spending by \$24 billion. We need to ask ourselves are we any better off?" argued Fox. "I just want to know at which time will you stop looking back to Mike Harris, Ernie Eves or even Bob Rae."

Of all the issues raised during the all-candidates meeting, faith-based schooling was by far the most contentious.

While Fox defended the Conservatives promise to extend full funding to faith base schools, McNeely defended the status quo saying that it promoted harmony between different ethnic groups.

"When you look at Toronto where 52



Liberal incumbent Phil McNeely and Conservative candidate Graham Fox shake hands following Wednesday night's all-candidates meeting. Fred Sherwin/Photo

per cent of the students were born outside Canada I think it's important that you have a system where kids learn about each other's culture and each other's religion."

NDP candidate Andrée Germaine, who is a social worker and University of Ottawa researcher, supported the existing system saying that it would be difficult to place a limit on the number of different schools that would be created under the Conservative plan.

Green Party candidate Akbar Manoussi said the his party would go the other way and create one single public board system by getting rid of the Catholic school boards.

Family Coalition Party candidate Jeremy Atkinson and Freedom Party of Ontario candidate McGruer both argued that the system should be opened up so that families should be able to send their children to the school of their choice.

The candidates have two more weeks to try and convince area residents to vote for them on Oct. 10. Those people who have already made up their mind can cast their ballot at any of the advance polls.



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# Shoppers Drug Mart development causing headaches

By Fred Sherwin  
The Eastender

Troy Robinson and Shannon Labelle are living every property owner's worst nightmare – trying to exist beside a major construction project that refuses to acknowledge your property rights.

Robinson and Labelle own half of a duplex beside the new Shoppers Drug Mart store being built on St. Joseph Boulevard across from Place d'Orléans.

In early June, Robinson noticed a line spray-painted down the middle of the laneway at the side of the house and immediately went to see the person he thought was in charge of the construction.

The person he talked to said that the line had been put in the wrong spot and that they wouldn't need to come on to his property.

Several weeks later when he drove by the property again, he noticed a safety fence had been put up about six feet from the side of the house minus another eight inches that was taken up by the cinder blocks that were used to keep the fence upright.

When he approached the person in charge again, he was told that the fence would only be up for about two weeks.

Wanting to be good neighbours and thinking that two weeks wouldn't be too long Robinson and Labelle decided not to kick up a fuss, but two weeks became three weeks and three weeks soon became four weeks and that was just the start of their problems.

Around the same time Robinson noticed several survey stakes had been placed in a wooded area on a small hill at the back of his property. Again he asked what was going on and was told that they were being used as a marker for the electronic measuring to do the leveling.

When they drove by the property two weeks later, they discovered that half of



View of the side of the Robinson's duplex showing the Shoppers Drug Mart site on the right and the fence that was put up along their laneway. Fred Sherwin/Photo

their back area had been completely removed as part of the excavation as well as a large chunk of the pavement at the back of the house that was being used by the upstairs tenant to park his car.

Through August and most of September the contractor used the front of the duplex to park their heavy machinery without ever asking Robinson or Labelle. Then when their downstairs tenant tried to complain about it, she was told that Robinson and Labelle had given them permission. They even used their water to wash down the machinery and asphalt.

The situation quickly went from bad to worse. Before long the upstairs tenant gave notice that he intended to move out because he couldn't get into his apartment and the downstairs tenant was at her wit's end.

Erin Barton opened her esthetics business the same day construction started. The business has suffered so much because of the ongoing issues over the construction that the single mother of two had to let her only employee go.

"The first two weeks weren't bad and two weeks became three weeks and three weeks became four. At one point there was no place for my clients to park their cars," explains Barton.

When one of the foremen suggested her clients park on the other side of St. Joseph she lost it.

"I admit I got angry, but I couldn't believe it. I mean a lot of my clients are elderly. You can't have them walk across five lanes of traffic. It's not safe," says Barton. "I love coming to work. I love my job, but it's got to the point where I dread coming to work because I don't know what's going to happen next."

In early September, work crews started moving the temporary fence closer and closer to the side of the duplex so they could work on the side of the building. At one point the fence was only 16 inches from the side of the duplex. For two weeks access to the back of the property was non-existent.

Finally, having had enough, Robinson hired a crew to take down the fence so he could get to the back of his property. The next day it was back up again in the same place, so Robinson dismantled it again, only this time he rented a pair of vehicles and parked one in the laneway and one along the property line at the back of the house.

"We're paying \$100 a day for the cars. It's not ideal, but what else can we do," asks Robinson who rented the cars last Monday.

Since he parked the rental cars in the laneway, construction on the west side of the building has stopped completely, mainly because they don't have enough room to work and also because they don't have enough room to erect the safety fence.

During the past two months there have been a number of correspondence back and forth between the Robinson and Labelle,



Shannon Labelle and Troy Robinson have been waging a four month battle with the builders of the Shoppers Drug Mart on St. Joseph Boulevard. Fred Sherwin/Photo

their lawyer and the owner of the Shoppers Drug Mart outlet, David Tarras, who is also a lawyer.

Nearly every correspondence from the owner starts out with an apology for the inconvenience caused by the project.

"They keep promising us and reassuring us that it's going to stop, but then they just do whatever they want," says a frustrated Labelle. "We don't want to be difficult, but this is crazy. This has been going on for almost four months now. It's like we have no rights at all."

The couple tried to file a complaint with the city's bylaw office, but they passed it on to traffic enforcement which couldn't do anything about it. They went back to the bylaw office again and were redirected to the building department which assigned a building inspector to check things out.

In the meantime, Robinson and Labelle's lawyer received an e-mail from Tarras on Monday saying they would pay \$2,700 compensation as long as they were given unlimited access until the work was done, although the correspondence doesn't say how much longer the work will take.

"It's not enough," says Robinson. "We've already lost one of our tenants and what about Erin? What happens to her business while the work is going on? They're going to have to pay us some sort of per diem."

Robinson and Labelle are reluctant to sue the property owner because of the potential court costs and the likelihood that the case could end up in court for months if not years.

"We just want to resolve this once and for all and get back to normal," says Robinson. "There's a limit to how much you're willing to be taken advantage of. Unfortunately, we learned the hard way that it doesn't pay to be nice."

# Convent Glen Catholic School on the right track

By Fred Sherwin  
The Eastender

The staff and students at Convent Glen Catholic School are grinning from ear to ear this week after receiving the latest standardized test results from Ontario's Education Quality and Accountability Office.

Not only did they receive the highest Grade 3 scores among all 24 public and Catholic board schools in the east end, but they also showed the most improvement in their Grade 6 scores.

Eighty-four per cent of the school's Grade 3 students scored at or above the provincial standard in both reading and math while 87 per cent of the students either met or exceeded the provincial standard in writing.

But more impressive than the Grade 3 scores is the improvement shown by the students who wrote the Grade 6 test.

The number of Grade 6 students who either met or exceeded the provincial standard in reading was nine points higher than their scores when they wrote the Grade 3 test in 2004, going from 62 per cent to 71 per cent. It was seven points higher in writing, going from 59 per cent to 66 per cent and it was 23 points higher in math, going from 59 per cent to 81 per cent.

And if you're thinking it's just a blip, think again. In 2006, the number of Grade 6 students who either met or exceeded the provincial standard improved by 22 per cent in reading, one per cent in writing and 19 per cent in math.

In other words, the students at Convent Glen Catholic aren't only retaining what they learn as they progress from year to year, but their understanding and knowledge of the curriculum is improving as well.

Principal Patricia Morden-Kelly says the scores are the result of a concerted effort by staff to explore and implement different strategies aimed at improving literacy and numeracy.

"Our teachers are working together from a shared understanding around a framework for literacy and numeracy development. It starts with discussing what we want the kids to do, what we need to do to get them there and how do we apply it," says Morden-Kelly.

At the core of the school's strategy for better learning is the philosophy that the education of every child in the school is the responsibility of every person in the school.

"The key is to make sure people understand that the teachers are not alone in the classroom. It's a culture of support and learning that's paying off," says Morden-Kelly.

One thing the school does particularly well is ensuring a continuum from year to year. Each child has a profile that is fluid and follows them as they progress from grade to grade.

Prior to the beginning of each new school year, the teachers review the profiles of each student coming into their class and if they have any questions they sit down with the student's previous teacher and discuss them.

There's also an ongoing follow up with the students themselves to help them understand why they received the score they did and how they can go about improving it. For instance, examples are posted in each class that show the difference between getting a three or a four on assignments. In most cases it's a matter of



Convent Glen Catholic School principal Patricia Morden-Kelly is understandably proud of the job her teachers and students are doing. Fred Sherwin/photo

spending a few extra minutes work doing the work.

And the school is not about to rest on its laurels. Morden-Kelly says the first thing they did as a staff was sit down and try and analyze why they received the scores they did, reaffirm what it is they are doing right and figure out what they could be doing better.

"It's a constant process," says Morden-Kelly. "There are always things we could be doing better and each year brings different challenges, but I feel confident that if we continue to support the kids in learning, they'll continue to do well and the kids are doing it."

## Area Catholic schools rate A+ in province-wide test results

By Fred Sherwin  
The Eastender

Catholic board schools in the far east end are doing a better than average job at teaching their students the three Rs.

According to the latest province-wide test results issued by Ontario's Education Quality and Accountability Office, the nine Ottawa-Carleton Catholic School Board schools in Orléans and Blackburn Hamlet are outpacing the rest of the board and the entire province in reading, writing and math at the Grade 3 level as well as Grade 6 math.

Of the nine Catholic board schools in the area, all nine had a higher percentage of Grade 3 students either meet or exceed the provincial standard on the EQAO reading test than the rest of the board or the province, while eight of the nine schools exceeded the board average in writing and math.

Leading the way in all three subject areas at the Grade 3 level was Convent Glen Catholic School. Eighty-four per cent of the students who took the reading test either met or exceeded the provincial standard, compared to the board average of 66 per cent, 87 per cent accomplished the same feat

on the writing test and 84 per cent scored at or better than the provincial average on the math test.

When averaged together, 72 per cent of the Grade 3 students in the nine Catholic board schools scored at or above the provincial standard in reading, 74 per cent scored at above the provincial standard in writing and 78 per cent either met or exceeded the provincial standard in math.

The board average in all three areas was 66, 69 and 73 per cent, while the provincial average was 62, 64 and 69 per cent.

When compared to the local public board schools, the Catholic schools also did much better.

Taken as a group, the 12 Ottawa District School Board schools in Orléans and Blackburn Hamlet were on par with the board and province wide stats for both Grade 3 and Grade 6, but the Grade 3 results were well below the local Catholic board schools. For instance, 61 per cent of the students in Grade 3 either met or exceeded the provincial standard in reading compared to 72 per cent of the students at the nine area Catholic board schools.

In writing, 62 per cent of the local public board students scored at or above the provincial average compared to 74 per cent of the Catholic board students and 65 per cent scored at or above the provincial standard in math compared to 78 per cent.

The two groups of schools were a lot closer when it came to the Grade 6 results, however, and, in fact, the area public board schools outpaced the east end Catholic board schools in reading.

According to the numbers, 74 per cent of the Grade 6 public board students scored at or above the provincial standard in reading compared to 69 per cent for the Catholic board schools.

In writing, the results were dead even. Sixty-five per cent of the students enrolled in both boards in the far east end either met or exceeded the provincial standard of 61 per cent.

The Catholic board schools, however, did much better in Grade 6 math with 72 per cent of their students scoring at or above the provincial standard compared to 58 per cent of the public board students who were able to meet or exceed the provincial standard.

# Local EQAO results contain a number of positives

By Fred Sherwin  
The Eastender

In the myriad of statistics and numbers that accompanied last week's release of the Education Quality and Accountability Office test results, a number of positives stood out concerning area schools.

When comparing this year's results to the 2006 test scores, Robert Hopkins Public School in Beacon Hill improved their Grade 3 results by more than 20 per cent in all three categories.

Seventy-two per cent of the students who took the test scored at or above the provincial standard in reading compared to 51 per cent in 2006, 76 per cent of the students either met or exceeded the provincial standard in writing compared to only 42 per cent last year and 74 per cent of the students scored at or above the provincial standard in math compared to 58 per cent.

To put the school's results in even greater perspective, the percentage of students who met or exceeded the provincial standard in reading, writing and math in 2002 was 36, 42 and 33 per cent respectively. The provincial standard is a minimum Level 3.

As impressive as the improvement has been at Robert Hopkins, Henry Munro Middle School in Beacon Hill has improved their Grade 6 test results by leaps and bounds as well. In fact, they are the only school in the east end to show improvement in all three areas over the last two years.

In 2005 the percentage of students who either met or exceeded the provincial standard in reading, writing and math was 37, 36 and 39 per cent respectively. In 2006, they had improved to 48, 43 and 49 per cent, and according to the most recent test results, the percentage of students who scored at or above the provincial standard improved yet again to 66, 54 and 56 per cent.

Henry Munro's principal Hanif Jamal credits a number of factors for the school's improvement starting with the school board which created a school success team which goes out and helps schools establish a road map to success.

Henry Munro is unique from other schools in the east end in that it has a high number of ESL students who are new to Canada and who come from financially challenged households.

To combat the situation, the school has enlisted the help of various liaison officers who help them reach out to the various ethnic groups. For instance, they have a liaison officer who works with the Somali families.

The teachers also sit down with each student and explain to them how their assignments and tests will be marked and what is expected of them in terms of the difference between getting a two or a three.

"All lot of our focus the last two years has

Ottawa-Carleton Catholic School Board		Ottawa District School Board	
<b>Grade 3 Reading</b>		<b>Grade 3 Reading</b>	
Convent Glen	84	Forest Valley	88
Good Shepherd	82	Convent Glen	75
Blessed Kateri	74	Robert Hopkins	72
<b>Grade 3 Writing</b>		<b>Grade 3 Writing</b>	
Convent Glen	87	Forest Valley	84
Good Shepherd	80	Robert Hopkins	76
St. Teresa	79	Henry Larsen	74
Divine Infant	79		
<b>Grade 3 Math</b>		<b>Grade 3 Math</b>	
Convent Glen	84	Forest Valley	86
Chapel Hill	84	Terry Fox	84
Divine Infant	83	Robert Hopkins	74
<b>Grade 6 Reading</b>		<b>Grade 6 Reading</b>	
Chapel Hill	87	Orleans Wood	87
St. Teresa	80	Henry Larsen	78
St. Francis Assisi	74	Emily Carr	77
<b>Grade 6 Writing</b>		<b>Grade 6 Writing</b>	
Chapel Hill	83	Maple Ridge	75
St. Clare	68	Fallingbrook	72
St. Francis Assisi	67	Orleans Wood	70
<b>Grade 6 Math</b>		<b>Grade 6 Math</b>	
Convent Glen	81	Orleans Wood	77
Chapel Hill	80	Trillium	69
St. Francis Assisi	78	Henry Larsen	64

The number represents the percentage of students who either met or exceeded the provincial standard on the EQAO test which is a Level 3 or 4.

been in literacy," says Jamal. "Studies have show that once a students literacy improves all the other areas will improve as well."

The school is also involved in the Ontario Focus Intervention Partnership which identifies schools that need help and then provides the resources for in-school workshops and other initiatives. For instance, if a student is identified as needing extra help they are encouraged to stay after school and then issued bus tickets so they can get home. The cost of the bus tickets is built into the program.

Among the other success stories in the east end is Queenswood Public School where the number of students who either met or exceeded the provincial standard in Grade 6 reading went from 41 per cent in 2006 to 68 per cent this past year.

But the most dramatic improvement in test results when comparing this year to last year occurred at Good Shepherd Catholic School in Blackburn Hamlet where the number of Grade 3 students who scored at or above the provincial standard went from 57, 49 and 51 per cent in reading, writing and math to 82, 80 and 78 per cent.

That's an increase of 25, 31 and 27 per cent respectively in one year.

And finally, when comparing the Grade 6 results to how the same students did when they took the Grade 3 EQAO test in 2003 a number of positives also arise. In fact, of the 10 Catholic board schools in the east end, four showed an improvement in all three areas and four showed an improvement in at least two of them.

A number of public board schools have also done well in improving the abilities of their students to understand and retain the curriculum as they pass from Grade 3 to Grade 6 including Orleans Wood, Trillium and Queenswood.

But the school that led the way when comparing the Grade 3 test results from three years ago to last year's Grade 6 results, was Henry Larsen Elementary School where the percentage of students who either met or exceeded the provincial standard increased by 34, 14 and 29 per cent in reading, writing and math respectively.

To find out all the test results go to [www.EQAO.com](http://www.EQAO.com).

# 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](mailto: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.

## Vindication

The other day I saw a report showing the number of days the city's beaches were closed this past summer due to poor water quality and lo' and behold Petrie Island had the best rating.

The reason given by the east end's recreation manager was a general lack of precipitation during July and August.

Well as much as I hate to tell all those Chicken Littles and nattering nabobs of negativism out there I told you so – I told you so.

What a difference a year makes. It was just 12 short months ago that the anti-Petrie Island beach folks were questioning why the city would continue to spend money developing the island as a major recreation destination in the aftermath of a particularly brutal summer in which the beach was closed 45 out of 71 days.

The sentiment was bordering on hysteria. At the time I was one of the lone voices who told everyone to take a pill. The reason why the beach was closed for so many days was because of the inordinant amount of rain we got last summer.

"Just wait," I tried to explain. "Next year we're hardly going to get any rain and the beach will be open all summer."

In truth it was open for all but six days between June 16 and Aug. 26. I rest my case.

The simple fact of the matter is that rainfall impacts water quality. The more rain you get the higher the level of bacteria that's likely going to result and it doesn't matter whether you live on the Big Rideau, the upper Ottawa River or the Madawaska.

So now that Mother Nature has finally shut up the naysayers, let's focus on making Petrie Island even better. I took my kids there three or four times over the past couple of weeks and each time we went I was awestruck at the beauty and serenity of the place which is literally on our doorstep.

The city is currently going through the process of trying to find a private sector partner willing to build and operate a pavilion with proper wash-room and change room facilities as well as a canteen. Hopefully they will be successful, but if they are not the city should still go ahead with providing the necessary services in keeping with the current and future demand which will only increase with time as more and more residents discover this hidden gem.

– Fred Sherwin, editor

## EQAO tests provide valuable resource

It's been five years now since the former Harris government created the Education Quality and Accountability Office and along with it, standardized testing for students in Grades 3, 6 and 9.

At the time, school boards, principals and teachers stumbled over themselves trying to downplay the test results. Some went so far as to dismiss them altogether.

In 2005, a poll indicated that 71 per cent of the province's teachers were "dead set" against standardized testing.

The fear then – and to some degree it still exists today – is that the EQAO results will be used by parents as the lone barometer by which they measure a school's success or failure in delivering the provincial curriculum.

Which may be the case in some instances, but it is up to the administration and in particular the school principals to properly educate their parents.

In hindsight, the EQAO tests have provided the impetus for a measurable increase in the quality of education in the province of Ontario.

After the initial backlash in 2002, every stakeholder within the public education system has been striving to do better, although some schools have had greater success than others.

The EQAO scores have provided schools and school principals with a banner to rally around. They help in building a team approach to learning.

Show me a school with a high EQAO score or one that has greatly improved their EQAO results and I'll show you a school where the staff are involved and empowered, where the principal is willing to admit he or she doesn't have all the answers and are willing to look outside the box to find ways to do things better, and where there is an enhanced level of communi-

cation between the staff and students and the staff and parents.

We're fortunate here in the east end of Ottawa to have some of the best principals not only in the city, but in the entire province. I know this because over the past couple of days I've sat down with a number of them to discuss the EQAO tests and how they've used them as a catalyst to improve the delivery of education in their schools.

Even more impressive than the results they've managed to attain thus far, is the common desire not to rest on their laurels.

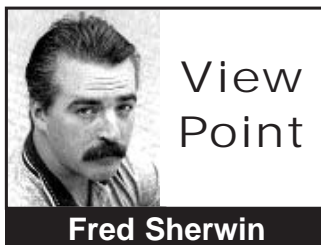
Everyone of them said that although they were pleased with the number of students who either met or exceeded the provincial standard in the schools, their main concern was with the students who failed to meet the provincial standard and their focus would be to explore ways to reduce their number.

That is what the EQAO tests are all about. They provide a snapshot as to the degree to which Grade 3 and Grade 6 students understand and have retained the curriculum they have been taught.

Taken as a whole, they act as a measuring stick by which a school can determine whether or not they're on the right track. At the very least they make it impossible for schools to operate in a vacuum.

Good, effective educators shouldn't fear the EQAO tests. On the contrary, they should welcome them just as they welcome the challenge to do a better job each and every September.

Personally, I would be leery of any principal who downplays the tests. Those that do are likely to spend more time making excuses than they are in trying to come up with solutions. Thankfully they are getting fewer and fewer as the years go by.



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# Name change won't slow down women's organization

By Fred Sherwin  
The Eastender

The locally-based women's organization Women Moving Forward plans to do just that after having to change their name to Successful Women International.

The new moniker was made necessary after the organization's founder and president Pierrette Raymond started hearing from people interested in creating chapters south of the border.

When she did a trademark search she found out that the name Women Moving Forward had already been registered in the United States.

Rather than get into a battle over the name, Raymond decided to come up with a new name that reflected how the organization has evolved.

"Over the past three years there have been some amazing success stories and the new name reflects that. It's a reflection of how far we've come and the potential that all of us have

to be successful each in our own way," says Raymond.

"Success does not necessarily mean owning a big car or a big house. Success is different for everyone."

Although the name has changed, the services and resources the organization provides its members remains the same.

Two of the areas Raymond continues to take advantage of is teleconferencing and the Internet. For instance, members can register for teleclasses where they can listen in on seminars and workshops over the phone moderated by women who are successful in their field.

Last year, Raymond began hosting weekly webcasts during which she interviews guests on such topics as health and fitness, money and finances, and family relationships, called "Successful Women Talk!"

Locally, the organization has two chapters – one in Kanata and one in Orléans with plans to start a third chapter in the

south end of the city.

Other chapters exist in Burlington and Georgetown and Raymond is talking to at least three women who are interested in starting chapters in the States.

All told the organization has more than 1200 members.

The driving concept behind Successful Women International is to provide women with an outlet to share their stories and experiences and learn from one another.

"It's very empowering to just hear stories about how other people have been able to overcome obstacles," says Raymond. "They figure, 'If she can do it, I can do it'. The whole idea is to find ways to be better at being ourselves."

Raymond is already planning to organize another Pay It Forward campaign this fall which encourages members to donate money and articles to a chosen charity while encouraging others to do the same. Last year's campaign raised hun-



**Pierrette Raymond**

dreds of toys and other items for the St. Joe's Women's Centre.

Plans are also in the works for a retreat in April and possibly a summer camp next fall.

"It's exciting to think of how much it's grown and how many women have been effected in a positive way," says Raymond who promises even bigger things to come.

For more information on Successful Women International visit [www.successful-womeninternational.com](http://www.successful-womeninternational.com).

# MacCulloch Dancers return from Russia with love

By Fred Sherwin  
The Eastender

The Orléans-based highland dance troupe recently returned from Russia where they performed at the Moscow International Folklore Festival.

After arriving in Moscow, the group were whisked to a hostel south of the city which was actually a large estate with landscaped grounds surrounded by large white boarding houses.

The dance troupe performed on the Red Square Festival Stage as part of the opening ceremonies which also marked Moscow's 860th birthday.

Following their enthusiastic performance, they handed out Canadian flags to members of the audience including the Russian guards who could not resist the young Canadian ambassadors.

The next day they visited the Central Museum of Great Patriotic War 1941-1945 before performing on an outdoor stage set up on Poklonnaya Hill. Backstage, they mingled with some of the other performers and posed for pictures.

On the fourth day they toured a number of cathedrals and palaces as well as the Kremlin Wall and towers. At

one point they stopped just as Russian president Vladimir Putin's motorcade passed by.

During the evening the dancers shared their music and dance with the other dance and music troupes who came from places like Austria, Germany, Greece, India and Italy. Three of the members – Darrel MacLeod, Dave McCormick and Elizabeth Muggleton – endeared themselves to their fellow performers by acting out Monte Python skits.

On day five the dance troupe visited a nearby village where they were entertained by a group of young school children who performed several local folk dances. They were also presented with traditional Russian crafts and chocolate and Rae MacCulloch was honoured with an official certificate from the village.

Later the same day they joined with a group of local dancers for a performance in the town square.

The following day they presented a master class in Canadian Step Dancing for their hosts and in turn were taught some Russian dance techniques.

The week ended with a visit



Among the MacCulloch Dancers who made the trip to Russia were Victoria Ellam, Chris Bergeron, Charlotte Bradley, Amelia Brooker, Rhianon Cowley-Owen, Heather Godsoe, Kristen Hooker, Angelia Hughes, Brenna MacNaughton-Seguin, Meaghan MacDougall, Sophie Jeurond, Amelia Johnston, Dana MacDonald, Elizabeth Muggleton, Chanel McCartney, Darlene McLeod, and Kristina Thompson as well as musicians James Forbes, Darrel MacLeod and Dave McCormick.

to a Russian high school where they engaged in a friendly game of Red Rover with some of the students.

For their final performance they had the privilege of entertaining President Putin's Secret Service detail, after which they were given a guided tour of the

military base before sitting down for lunch with some of the soldiers.

All it all it was a tremendous experience for the dancers and musicians, many of whom have been on international trips to places like Scotland and Holland in the past.

## Local sports

# Colonel By golfer wins 2nd Annual Mayor's Cup

By Fred Sherwin  
The Eastender

Brian Neill can still remember the first time he beat his father on the golf course.

"I was 12 years old and I took him on the second last hole," says Neill who beat 127 other high school golfers to win the 2nd Annual Ottawa Telecom Mayor's Cup last Tuesday at the Pine View Golf Club.

The Grade 10, Colonel By Secondary School student shot a 74 on the par-71 Championship Course, which was one stroke better than David Blais from l'école secondaire Louis Riel and Jeff Dagg from St. Michael High School who each shot a 75, and two shots better than Peter Cook from St. Peter High School who carded a 76.

Neill, who comes from a golfing family, first picked up the clubs when he was just eight years old. He started golfing competitively while a member at the Royal Ottawa three years ago and is now a three handicap.

He's hoping to repeat his performance at the National Capital high school championship at the Meadows Golf and Country Club on Oct. 4 and earn an invitation to the provincial high school championships in Brampton the following week, but first he has to qualify at the East Conference tournament next Thursday which is also being played at the Meadows – a course Neill is very familiar with.

"The intersectionals were there and I did pretty good. Hopefully, I'll break par," says Neill.

As for the Mayor's Cup, the 15-year-old says the tournament already has a huge reputation among high school golfers.

"During the summer people kept telling me how great it is and how great the prizes are. During our first practice I asked my coach if I could play here," says Neill whose ultimate goal is to earn a golf scholarship south of the board.

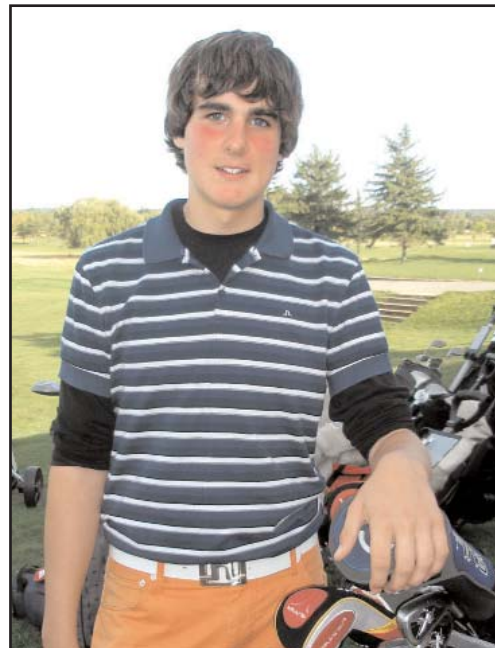
"It would great to play golf while going to school and get paid for it. That would be amazing."

Although Neill won the Mayor's Cup, he and his Colonel By Cougar teammates could do no better than fourth in the team standings.

The St. Peter threesome of Cook along with brothers Max and Marc Rochette won the team event by three shots over South Carleton and Louis Riel, putting the rest of the field on notice that they are the ones to beat heading into the city championships.

Besides Cook's 76, Marc Rochette shot a 77 and Max Rochette shot an 87 for a team score of 235.

David Blais (75), Martin Dufault (81) and Patrick Boudreau (82) from Louis Riel combined for a 238 to tie South Carleton who are the defending city champions.



Brian Neill from Colonel By Secondary School shot a 74 to win the Mayor's Cup high school golf tournament last Tuesday. Fred Sherwin/Photo

On the girl's side, Sarah Ellis from Sir Wilfrid Laurier Secondary School finished a distant second to Alison Timlin from St. Joseph High School. Timlin shot a 79 on the par 68 Executive Course, while finished 14 strokes back with a 93.

# Grads keep pace with Robinson Division leaders

By Fred Sherwin  
The Eastender

After starting out the season 2-0, the Cumberland Grads have run hot and cold in their last three games, sandwiching an impressive win over the Cornwall Colts in between a pair of disappointing losses to the Smiths Falls Bears and the Brockville Braves.

In last Friday's game against Smiths Falls, they were blown out 9-4 thanks to five unanswered goals in the second period.

On Sunday, they handed the Colts a 7-2 loss by playing disciplined hockey and refusing to get drawn into a fightfest.

The trouble started midway through the second period after the Grads had taken a 4-1 lead on goals from Eric O'Dell, Sebastien Tremblay, Brock Ouellet and David Pacan.

Things came to a head when

the Cornwall Colts Matt Pinder blew a gasket with just over five minutes left to go in the second period. He ended up receiving a 10 minute misconduct for trying to incite an opponent and a game misconduct for fighting.

On the next shift, Cornwall's Dan Frawley chased down Grad's rookie Chris Murphy who barely threw a punch trying to defend himself. Then a minute later Brad Bussey got a match penalty for spearing and Sy Nutkevitch got called for slashing in the same melee.

Rather than try to get even, the Grads came out in the third period and scored three more goals including Ouellet's second of the game. Tyler Wilson and Dan Sauvé scored the others as Cumberland took a 7-1 lead.

Cornwall would get a pair of goals back late in the game, but by then the outcome had already been decided.

The Colts' actions were so bad, that Grads' head coach Mark Grady was left wondering out loud whether Cornwall had come to play hockey or act like a bunch of goons.

"I thought they were making spaghetti sauce out there, they had all their meatballs on the ice. It's an embarrassment to the league," said a disgusted Grady after the game.

As disgusted as Grady was with the Colts, he likely wasn't feeling much better after his team suffered a third period collapse against the Braves on Tuesday night after taking a 5-3 lead.

Mike Byrd scored early in the third period to pull the Braves to within a goal and then Cody Ayers found the back of the net on shorthanded effort just over two minutes later to tie the game at 5-5.

The contest appeared to be

heading to overtime when Byrd netted the game winner with 46 seconds left on the clock.

It was a game the Grads should have won. On a more positive note, the top line of Eric O'Dell, Jeffrey Clarke and Jason Akeson continued to light things up, scoring four of the team's five goals to give them 12 on the season in just five games.

When you factor in the goals they set up that were scored by the defencemen, the line has been on the ice for 16 of the team's 22 goals.

Grady will no doubt be looking for more production from the Grad's other three lines when they take on the Orleans Blues at the Earl Armstrong Arena on Thursday night.

The Blues are tied with the Grads after starting the season 3-3 and coming off a 3-1 loss to Kanata.

# Tumblers coach wins Ms. Fitness World crown

By Fred Sherwin  
The Eastender

Three years after taking up competitive fitness, Vanda Hadarean has reached the summit of the sport after beating out 25 other girls to win the Ms. Fitness World competition in Las Vegas earlier this month.

The Gloucester Tumblers gymnastics coach and former Olympian first took up the sport in 2005 at the suggestion of a friend. Six months later she won her first Ms. Fitness Canada event and then placed fourth at the Ms. Fitness World competition that same year.

Last year, she successfully defended her Ms. Fitness Canada title and placed second at Ms. Fitness World. This year she was going for it all.

"I just wanted it more this year. After two years I understood the competition better and what the judges were looking for. I was a lot more relaxed," says Hadarean.

The Ms. Fitness World competition consists of three events – the evening gown event, the swim suit or physique event and the fitness routine.

During the evening gown portion of the competition each contestant must give a short speech on a subject determined by the organizers. This year the contestants had to speak about their philosophy on fitness.

For Hadarean fitness is a lifestyle choice which is why she doesn't really have a training regime. She stays in shape by visiting the gym every day and she eats healthy foods.

Hadarean started out in gymnastics when she was just six-years-old in her hometown of Cluj, Romania.

She was picked to be on the Romanian national team in 1989 and competed internationally from 1990 to 1993. In 1991 she won the individual all round gold medal at the

European Junior Championships and a bronze medal in the team event at the World Championships.

The next year she came third in the individual all round competition at the European Championships and won a silver medal in the team event at the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona.

The span of time has done little to dampen Hadarean's competitive spirit. After finishing fourth in 2005 and second last year, Hadarean was determined to step things up this year.

The way the competition works, none of the girls know the results of the morning pre-judging as they prepare to deliver their fitness routines in the evening.

Hadarean did her routine in the middle of the pack. Although she felt good about her performance she had to wait until all 26 girls finished before finding out whether or not she was good enough to win the crown.

After the last contestant finished, all the girls were brought on to the stage together to hear the results starting with the sixth runner-up. By the time they got to the second runner-up, Hadarean was still in contention for one of the top two spots. When her main competition was named as the first runner-up, she knew she had finally won it all.

"I thought, 'Oh my God. It's me,'" says Hadarean who plans to defend her title next year.

In the meantime she's hoping to use her success to further her budding career as a fitness model. More importantly she wants to be a role model to other young women who are thinking about getting into competitive fitness or are already in the sport and want to raise their game to the next level.

"Oh, absolutely. That's what I'd love to do and not just young people, but anyone who is serious about the sport and wants to



Vanda Hadarean from Orléans was recently crowned Ms. Fitness World at a competition in Las Vegas. Photo supplied

get better," says Hadarean. "Fitness for me, is not only about myself. Is about inspiring and motivating other people to find better choices in their lives with balanced workouts and of course healthy eating habits."

Hadarean has already introduced the sport to several of her students at Tumblers.

Three of her girls recently reached the podium in the junior and teen events at the Ms. Fitness Canada competition. Emily MacDougall and Alexa Charett came first and second in the teen event and Emily Tippins placed second in the junior category.

"They are amazing girls. I love them so much. They're so positive and even if they don't come in first place they are so happy just to be competing," says Hadarean.

# Canadian Olympian visits local gymnastics club

By Fred Sherwin  
The Eastender

Members of the Tumblers Gymnastics Centre in Orléans got a visit from a very special guest on Saturday, when Canadian Olympian David Kikuchi dropped by to speak about his experience at the recent World Championships, run through a few demonstrations and sign some autographs.

Kikuchi has been a mainstay on the national men's gymnastics team since 2001. After winning the men's all round competition at this year's Canadian Championships, he placed 20th in the all round event at the World Championships held earlier this month in Osaka, Japan.

His message to the young gymnasts was twofold – gymnastics is the most fun sport in the world so have fun doing it, and if you want to take the sport as far as you can you have to be willing to work hard.

"My parents are gymnastic coaches so I started when I was three years old. I was always in the gym," said Kikuchi after signing a ton of autographs.

During Kikuchi's 45 minute warm-up and demonstration, eight-year-old Brogan Engbers hardly took his eyes off the man he credits for introducing him to the sport.

"I watched him on TV a couple of times and thought this might be the sport for me for my own life," said Engbers who would love nothing more than to one day follow in Kikuchi's footsteps and compete in the Olympics. "That would be awesome."

Tumblers coach Brenda Roy said Kikuchi's visit was a huge coup for the club.

"We have an arrangement with the local RBC branch to bring an Olympian to the club, but to get a gymnast is a definite bonus," says Roy, adding that Kikuchi's visit was immensely inspirational for the club's young gymnasts members. "A lot of our kids work a lot of hours, so to see where all the hard work and training can get them in the future is huge."

The Tumblers Gymnastics Centre has over 800 members and more than 40 coaches and staff members.



Olympic gymnast David Kikuchi dropped by the Tumblers Gymnastics Centre on Sunday for brief visit. Fred Sherwin/Photo

# Local sports

## Lancers open season with win over Knights

By Fred Sherwin  
The Eastender

It's been three years since the Sir Wilfrid Laurier Lancers and the St. Peter Knights senior football teams last met on the football field.

At the time, the two east end rivals were both undefeated and the game had all the makings of a classic. In the end, the Knights eeked out a hard fought 13-9 win and would go on to win their second of three straight city championships.

On Friday, the two programs clashed again with all the hype and anticipation of their last meeting.

Although the two senior teams had not clashed in three years, many of the players had faced each other in the 2005 junior championship game which the underdog Lancers won 21-18.

Three of the players who had a big day for the Lancers in that title game would play a prominent role in Friday's battle, namely Aaron Colbon, Brendan Gillanders and Andrew Mullings.

The first half was extremely close as the two evenly matched teams both manufactured long scoring drives.

Sir Wil chewed up the clock in the first quarter when they used a well balanced attack to march the ball 70 yards downfield on 10 plays.

The series culminated in a 11 yard scramble by Colbon who broke three tackles on his way into the end zone.

St. Pete's matched the Lancers on their next series, marching the ball 75 yards on nine plays including a one yard touchdown plunge by Knights quarterback Reidar Vollebekk.

The next two series prior to the end of the first half were marked by a pair of stellar defensive plays. The first was a sack on second and 10 by Knights defensive end Zak Brownrigg and the second was an interception by Lancers linebacker Jesse Holt.

The Lancers went back to work on their first series in the second half. Starting from their own 10 yard line, they reeled off runs of seven and nine yards before Colbon hit Mullings downfield for a 23

yard circus catch in double coverage to give Sir Wil a first down on the Knights' 27 yard line. But after Gillanders picked up another seven yards the drive stalled and the Lancers had to settle for a 20 yard field goal to increase their lead to 10-7.

After the Knights went three and out on their next series, the Lancers came up with their first big play of the game when Colbon hooked up with Andrew Anson for a 55 yard touchdown toss on their first play from scrimmage to blow the contest wide open.

Both teams' defences then dug in until midway through the fourth quarter when the Lancers came up with another huge offensive play. This time Colbon found Mullings on the far side line for a 75 yard touchdown reception.

The Lancers would add a 12 yard field goal off the foot of Josh Desloges late in the game to make the final score 26-7.

It was an impressive win for Sir Wil who would dearly love to hang a senior championship flag next to the junior banner already hanging in the school gym.

After the game Lancers head coach Eric Kukkonen tried to put the win in its proper perspective.

"It was a great start to the season. The guys played really hard, especially in the second half when we made a couple of big plays, but we haven't done anything except win a game. We have to get better every week," said Kukkonen.

On the other sideline, Knights coach Jim Mick also tried to put the game in perspective.

"They're a very good team, but I thought we played well. Other than the two big plays it was a dogfight," said Mick. "We just made a few too many mistakes. We weren't getting off the ball and we weren't being aggressive enough, especially our veteran guys. If were going to contend our veterans have to step it up."

Statistically the Lancers had 12 first downs compared to 11 for the Knights, although the Lancers had 345 yards in total offensive thanks to their two long passing plays of 55 and 75 yards, while the Knights had 224 in offensive.

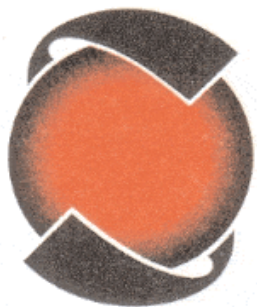


A pair of St. Peter Knight defenders try to bring down Sir Wilfrid Laurier running back Brendan Gillanders in their game on Friday. Fred Sherwin/Photo

Among the top individual performers was Aaron Colbon who was seven for 10 for 155 yards and a touchdown in the air and ran the ball 11 yards and scored a touchdown on the ground.

Mullings had a spectacular day as well, hauling in five passes for 121 yards including 55 yard touchdown catch. He also kicked a field goal, a single and a convert for a total of 11 points. The other member of the big three, Brendan Gillanders, carried the ball 15 times for 78 yards and had a 15 yard catch. Harry Short also had a pretty good day at running back for Sir Wil with four carries for 44 yards.

For the Knights, Reidar Vollebekk completed seven of 13 passes for 101 yards and ran the ball five times for another 37 yards and a touchdown, while Geoff Coventry caught four passes for 43 yards. At running back, Mike Prusakowski had four carries for 13 yards, Parker Morrison had three carries for 25 yards, Kadeem Grant carried the ball twice for 17 yards and Geoff Hughes had one carry for nine yards.



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# Panthers go 4-0 for third straight week

By Fred Sherwin  
The Eastender

The Cumberland Panthers continued to ride roughshod over their East Division opponents on the weekend, winning all four of their games against the Orleans Bengals.

Together the tyke, mosquito, peewee and bantam teams have not lost a game in over three weeks and the mosquito, peewee and bantam teams remain undefeated with perfect 5-0 records.

The mosquito team started the weekend off on the right foot by downing Orleans 40-14 on a four touchdown performance by Tyrone Pierre.

The Bengals actually led the game 14-12 at half-time thanks to an excellent second quarter in which they scored two unanswered touchdowns. The first was scored by quarterback Jacob Fox and the second was credited to Eduardo Beggs.

A Stephan Kukkonen two-point convert on the first Bengals' touchdown was the difference in the game heading into the second half.

It wasn't long, however, before the game turned into the Tyrone Pierre show as the lanky running back broke off a pair of long runs including a 30 yard scamper up the middle on the third touchdown to put the Panthers ahead 26-14 lead.

Cumberland quarterback Jacob Molinski went on a long run of his own early in the fourth quarter to put the game out of reach. A 75-yard run by Pierre in the dying minutes would make the final score 40-12.

It was Pierre's 13th touchdown in the Panthers' last three games and further established him as the top mosquito running back in the city.

After the game the two coaching staffs exchanged words with the Bengals coaches accusing the Panthers staff of running up the score and the Panthers coaches accusing the Bengals staff of being poor sports.

The Panthers need one more win to clinch first place in the East Division, while

the 3-2 Bengals still have their sights set on the A-Cup playoffs.

"I'm really proud of the kids. I thought they fought back today, especially in the second quarter. It was much better than last week where we struggled to move the ball. There's a lot of positives to build on," Bengals' head coach Denis Proulx said after the game.

"You have to realize we have 16 kids on this team who have never played football before. With a crew this young you just want to get better every game and be there at the end."

In the second game on Saturday, the Bengals tyke squad did their best to stay with the Panthers and at one point only trailed by two points when Andrew Lang scored a touchdown early in the third quarter.

The Panthers answered with their fourth touchdown of the game on a 15-yard run around the right side by Javontae Nelson.

With the outcome of the game still very much in the air, the Bengals committed a critical error when they turned the ball over on their next possession.

William Giroux recovered the fumble to give the Panthers excellent field position. Three plays later André Lamoureux ran it in to give the Panthers a 32-18 lead.

Cumberland would add another touchdown late in the game. After Connor Gunn connected with Kurt Henneberry for a 22 yard pass reception to get the ball down to the eight yard line, Lamoureux ran the ball seven yards to the one.

On the next play Williams slammed the ball up the middle for his second touchdown of the game to make the final score 38-18.

Nelson also had two touchdowns for the Panthers and Henneberry scored one as well. Marquez Pascal and Austin Hunte had the Bengals other two touchdowns.

After the game Panthers head coach Michael Earle said he was happy with his team's play after a rough start to the season. "The kids are starting to come together. They're working hard and they're starting to gel as a team," said Earle.

With the win the tyke squad improved their record to 3-2 and currently occupy the fourth and final A-Cup playoff spot one game back of the North Gloucester Giants.

The peewee team is 5-0 after downing the Bengals 21-7 in the early game on Sunday.

Special teams would play a major factor in the game, especially in the first quarter when Panthers punter Nick Panache booted the ball 50 yards down to the four yard line.

After the Bengals failed to pick up a first down, their punter mishit the ball from inside his end zone and drilled it into the line to give Cumberland possession on the five yard line. After an offside penalty moved the ball half the distance to the goal line, Panthers pivot Marcus Blais carried it over on a quarterback keeper to give Cumberland the early 7-0 lead.

The Panthers went up 14-0 in the second



Cumberland running back Javontae Nelson tries to shed a tackle during the Panthers tyke game against the Orleans Bengals. Fred Sherwin/Photo

quarter when Blais hit Jamarr King with a 45 yard pass over the middle.

Panache then scored a single when the Bengals were forced to down the ensuing kick-off inside their end zone.

With time winding down in the second quarter the Bengals managed to manufacture a 70 yard scoring drive that was highlighted by a pair of passes from Darcy Lavoie to Eric Backstrom and Stylz Beaudoin. The first was a 35 yard pass in traffic and the second was a 21 yard pass into the end zone on the final play of the half. The series also included some great running by Isaiah Harris.

The Panthers defence took over in the second half, while the offence managed to get an insurance touchdown on a screen pass from Blais to Daniel Gracia that covered 70 yards to put Cumberland up 21-7, which is how the game ended.

With the win the Panthers have clinched first place in the East Division, but they won't have much time to rest on their laurels. They take on the Kanata Knights this weekend in a possible preview of the A-Cup final. The Knights are also undefeated and should give the Panthers a run for their money.

In the final contest of the weekend, the Panthers bantam team beat their Orleans counterparts 26-0.

Harry Short had a pair of touchdowns on the ground for the Panthers while Alex Skinner connected with Dark Addison for the team's third major. Kicker Ryan Begin added all three converts and a field goal and the defence got a safety to round out the scoring.

On a down note, the Panthers' backfield was further depleted with the loss of Daneel Lavigne who had to leave the game with an injured shoulder.

All four Panther teams take on the Kanata Knights this weekend at Millennium Park while the Bengals welcome the Bell Warriors.



Orleans Bengals mosquito fullback Callum Lorie tries to avoid a tackle against the Cumberland Panthers on the weekend. Rachelle Ferron/Photo

# Artscetera

## Lamplight production tells story of grisly murders

By Fred Sherwin  
The Eastender

The Cumberland Heritage Village Museum will provide the stage for Vintage Stock Theatre's latest lamplight production "Outrage: The McGonigle Murders" during the next two weekends.

"The McGonigle Murders" is based on the 1890 murder of Mary and Eliza McGonigle and the trial and subsequent execution of Narcisse Larocque who was found guilty of killing the two Cumberland Village girls, who were 12 and 14 at the time of their deaths.

The two girls disappeared while walking home from school on a wet and dreary October evening. Their father, thinking that they had stayed over at a friend's house to avoid the storm, didn't notify the authorities until late the next day. Later that same evening, they were found lying side by side not far from the road that would have normally taken home.

Larocque was arrested and charged with the girls' murder after witnesses observed him walking along the same road and at the approximate time the crime was committed.

While he admitted to meeting the girls on their way home from school the night they were murdered, he steadfastly maintained that he wasn't the one that killed them.

The grisly crime sparked a tremendous amount of outrage in the small community and at one point a number of residents threatened to lynch Larocque who was

eventually found guilty of the murders in April, 1991 and hung in the L'Original jail in June the same year.

The play unfolds over the course of eight different scenes, all of which are illuminated solely by lamplight.

The narrator is Larocque's hang man John Radclive, who is an interesting person in his own right. Radclive was the only professional hang man in Ontario and he used to travel from town to town to carry out his rather gruesome job.

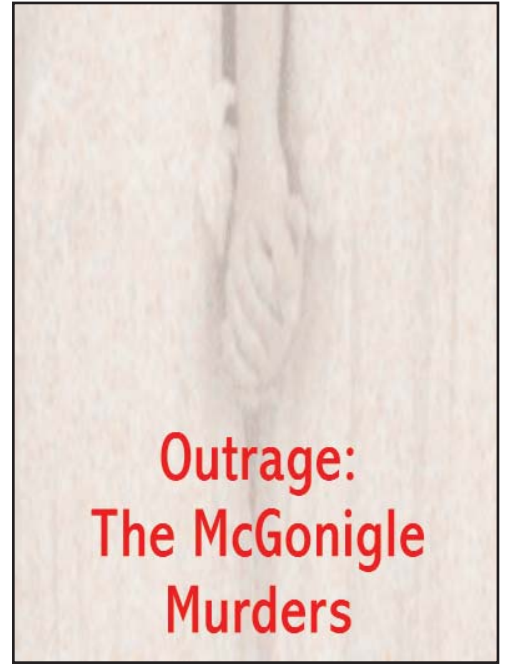
The play's author, Susan Flemming, did a tremendous amount of work researching the events that surrounded the McGonigle murders and the trial, combing through various articles of the day and other archival material.

In the end she hopes that people come away from the play thinking about their own lives and communities and the different sensibilities that existed 117 years ago compared to today.

"It was a different time, but yet we can all identify with what it must have been like when it happened. Here you have two young girls growing up in a small rural town and yet they still weren't safe," says Flemming.

"It's a very emotional subject. We all have families. We all have kids and we want to protect them so much, but yet there's evil people out there who can do some like this. I think this play should all make us question how safe we are really?"

And as hideous as the crime was, the



play doesn't assume that Larocque was guilty beyond all reasonable doubt.

The play, like the evidence, is ambiguous which may lead members of the audience to question the whole death penalty issue especially in light of Steven Truscott's recent exoneration.

"Outrage: The McGonigle Murders" can be seen Sept. 28 and 29 and Oct. 5 and 6 commencing at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person and can be reserved by calling 613-860-0603, or ordered online by visiting [www.vintagestock.on.ca](http://www.vintagestock.on.ca). Audience members are advised to wear appropriately clothing for the weather.

## Community calendar

FRIDAY, SEPT 28

**VINTAGE STOCK THEATRE** presents "The McGonigle Murders", a play by lamplight on the grounds of the Cumberland Heritage Village Museum. Showtime is 8 p.m. Tickets \$12 each are available at the Cumberland Museum, Haddad's Foodliner in Cumberland Village or at the door. This is an outdoor presentation so audience members are asked to wear suitable clothing and comfortable shoes.

**AL VISSER** will be performing at the Orléans Legion, 800 Taylor Creek Dr. from 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Buffet dinner at 5 p.m. Cost \$12 per person. Visit [www.rcl632.com](http://www.rcl632.com).

SATURDAY, SEPT. 29

**OPEN MUSICAL JAM SESSION** from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Orléans Legion, 800 Taylor Creek Rd. All entertainers welcome. For more information visit [www.rcl632.com](http://www.rcl632.com).

**VINTAGE STOCK THEATRE** presents "The McGonigle Murders", a play by lamplight on the grounds of the Cumberland Heritage Village Museum. Showtime is 8 p.m. Tickets \$12 each are available at the Cumberland Museum, Haddad's Foodliner in Cumberland Village or at the door. This is an outdoor presentation so audience members are asked to wear suitable clothing and comfortable shoes.

**ROAST BEEF DINNER** at St. Mary's Anglican Church in Navan. Two sittings at 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. For tickets call Anne-Marie Clysdale at 613-841-6118. Proceeds to benefit a number of worthy causes.

**CHRISTINE MCCANN** will be performing at Jacques' Trap Roadhouse in Carlsbad Springs from 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Free cover. For more information visit [www.jacquestrap.ca](http://www.jacquestrap.ca).

SUNDAY, SEPT. 30

**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. For more information visit [www.jacquestrap.ca](http://www.jacquestrap.ca).

**5TH ANNUAL WALK FOR THE CURE FOR BREAST CANCER** will be held at the Blackburn Hamlet Community Centre. Registration starting 8:15 a.m. Walk starts at 9 a.m. For more information call Lynn Sewell at 613-837-4792 or Bill Horne at 613-837-2166.

**CHRISTINE MCCANN** will be performing at Jacques' Trap Roadhouse in Carlsbad Springs from 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Free cover.

**DEADLINE** to purchase tickets for the You Deserve It! women's conference at École secondaire Gisèle Lalonde next to Millennium Park on Trim Road. Featuring keynote speaker

Claudette Cain, four workshops from a choice of 24 topics, catered luncheon, fashion show, entertainment, marketplace, silent auction, prizes - and much more! Something for every woman to enjoy! For more information or to order tickets visit [www.youdeserveit.ca](http://www.youdeserveit.ca).

TUESDAY, OCT. 1

**BINGO BUS** - The Orleans Lions Club is providing a free bus service to the Rockland Bingo in partnership with the Rockland Lions Club every Tuesday night. Bus leaves St. Joseph Church at 5:30 p.m. and makes stops at Place d'Orléans and the Cumberland Arena. For more information or a complimentary pass call 613-845-0039.