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THE Orléans Star

December 7, 2023 • Volume 38, No. 11

Next edition December 21

L'Orléanais
L'édition de
cette semaine
à l'intérieur...



Members of the Busy Fingers knitting club playfully dump balls of wool donated by area residents on president Eileen McCaughey. See story on page 3. FRED SHERWIN PHOTO

Salt Water Santas ready to raise more money for charities

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

Retired posties Tony Sullivan and Bob Presland have been friends for more than 35 years. They first met at a Canada Post hockey tournament in Sullivan's native Newfoundland over 30 years ago. Presland was the league organizer of the tournament, which was held in a different city every year and involved over 100 teams from across the country.

The pair's friendship flourished after Sullivan played in the tournament in Ottawa in 1988 and was so impressed with the city that he decided to move here.

Sullivan and his wife Jocelyne originally bought a house on Avignon Court in Convent Glen North which they would decorate every Christmas.

In 2002, they moved to Sugar Creek Way which is right around the corner from Taffy Lane, known far and wide for the number and

scope of Christmas light displays on the street.

The Sullivans got caught up in the spirit and added to their own display every year.

Two years ago, Sullivan's five-year-old granddaughter Olivia wanted to get in on the action by handing out candy canes to the people dropping by who in turn wanted to give a donation to Sullivan for all his trouble.

At first he didn't accept anything, but then he thought he could turn the people's willingness to give into a fundraising effort for local charities. He immediately called Presland, who has a wealth of fundraising experience.

Initially, they thought they might raise a few hundred dollars. They ended up collecting over \$1,600 on the first night alone.

After running out of candy canes that night, Sullivan went to Costco to buy a few more bags of canes and a couple of bags of the small Swiss Delice chocolates.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11 ►



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Taproom260 to host Christmas Angels fundraiser this Saturday

ORLÉANS – Every December for nine of the past 10 years, a group of regulars at Taproom260 (formally D'Arcy McGee's) have organized a night of live music to raise money for families with children undergoing treatment for cancer and other severe illnesses with a full evening of live entertainment, a silent auction and a raffle. Raffle tickets can be purchased online at taproom260.com/christmas or in person at the restaurant, which is located in the Orléans Town Centre on Centrum Blvd. Tickets are \$10 each or three for \$20. The draw for the 30+ prizes will be held on the night of the event. Proceeds from the raffle will be used to purchase gift cards for the families who will be chosen in collaboration with the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario.

Still time to donate to Orléans-Cumberland Christmas program

ORLÉANS – The Orléans-Cumberland Community Centre is still taking donations for its Christmas program in support of local families struggling to make ends meet. Individuals, businesses and community organizations can sponsor a family or donate by visiting croc.ca and clicking on the 2023 Christmas Program banner or scanning the QR code. The link will take you to a page where you can download a fillable registration form or make a direct donation. More than 950 individuals benefited from the program last year, which included 267 families and 470 children. Registration has been even higher this year which is reflective of the increased cost of food and utilities over the past year. Funds are also being collected by the food bank to help stock the shelves for the busy holiday season.

Supporting a great cause



A beaming Busy Fingers president Eileen McCaughey, accepts some of the hundreds of balls of wool presented to her by Willowbend Retirement Community general manager Dan Duthie. FRED SHERWIN PHOTO



Symphony Senior Living Orléans CEO Jodi Davidson, left, presents just a small portion of the hundreds of balls of wool and yarn they have received to Eileen McCaughey. FRED SHERWIN PHOTO

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Knitting club overwhelmed by community's response

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

"It's been unbelievable. Absolutely, unbelievable," That's the response from Busy Fingers Knitting Club founder and driving force Eileen McCaughey when asked about the response to a call for donations of wool and yarn in the Nov. 23 edition of the *The Orléans Star*.

"Honestly, you wouldn't believe it. I can hardly believe," says McCaughey standing in a room filled with just some of the donated material.

Since the *Orléans Star* put out a call for wool and yarn donations in the November 23rd edition of the newspaper, the club has received more than 1,000 balls of wool and yarn members of the public have dropped off at Symphony Senior Living Orléans, Fire Station 31 on Charlemagne Blvd., and the Willowbend Retirement Community. They have even received several garbage bags of wool from the Aspira Bearbrook Retirement Community in Blackburn Hamlet which precipitated the call for donations after they told McCaughey they couldn't collect any

wool for her this year. Besides the wool and yarn that has been dropped off at Symphony Senior Living Orléans and Willowbend, residents at both retirement communities have also joined in the campaign by donating wool of their own. Plus there has been a steady stream of donations dropped off on McCaughey's doorstep in Fallingbrook.

Most of the donated wool and yarn will be turned into mittens, toques, scarves and slippers made by the club's 200-plus members over the coming year.

In 2023, they made and donated more than 3,100 items to 31 different organizations. They shipped another 1,000 items to Catholic missions operating in Guatemala which handed them out to local residents who live in the mountainous region of the country that often gets extremely cold in the winter months. Many of the items sent to Guatemala were made by a group of nuns at a monastery in the Beauce, Québec who started a Busy Fingers chapter during the pandemic.

Among the many local organizations which receive items from Busy Fingers are



The Busy Fingers knitting club has over 200 members including the core group of about 30 women who meet the first and third Monday every month at Eileen McCaughey's house. FRED SHERWIN PHOTO

the Perley and Rideau Veterans Health Centre, the Clothesline Project which supports survivors of violence against women and the Orléans-Cumberland Resource Centre.

None of the aforementioned would be

possible without the donations by local residents and the participation of Symphony and Willowbend, for which the 89-year-old McCaughey is eternally grateful. "There's no way I can thank everyone enough."

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Traditions lost

This holiday season I find myself lamenting the loss of a number of holiday traditions that used to make Christmas in Orléans a wonderful time of year. In the years before COVID, the holiday was chock full of events – some spiritual and some magical – that were on everyone's calendar. Events like the East End Theatre's annual pantomime performance.

If you've never been to a traditional pantomime play, you don't know what your missing. They always involve women playing the lead male role, male cast members dressed in drag, a villain, a hero and a damsel in distress. And they are always laced with double *entendre* that would make your grandmother blush. Some of the most famous pantomime plays are Dick Whittington and his Cat, Cinderella and Jack and the Beanstock.

The East End Theatre Company staged a traditional British pantomime every Christmas for 18 years. They were always irreverent, always hilarious and always entertaining. The founder and spiritual head of the East End Theatre Company was British transplant Diane Barnett, who was a master at casting the right people in the right roles.

Another holiday tradition that didn't survive the pandemic was the annual Christmas Choirfest which involved more than a dozen choirs from churches across the east end. The choirfest was organized by Orléans resident Lynne Stacey who is also the founder of the Cumberland Community Singers and the Crosstown Youth Chorus. Now in her 80s, the pandemic took a lot of wind out of her sails and she no longer has the energy to organize such a massive undertaking.

Speaking of having the wind taken out of your sails, the same is true for the Gloucester North Lions Club, which used to set up and run the Magical Village every year.

The Magical Village was made up of more than a hundred miniature buildings and thousands of lights. It was started by former Gloucester mayor Claudette Cain in the 90s who handed it over to the Gloucester North Lions Club after the city amalgamated in 2000.

Through the years, visitors to the Magical Village helped the Lions raise tens of thousands of dollars for their various charities. At various times it was located at either the Gloucester Centre Shopping Mall, or Place d'Orléans, usually on the second floor next to the food court.

After the COVID regulations were lifted in 2022, the second floor of the shopping mall was leased out to the federal government, leaving the Magical Village without a home. At the same time, the Gloucester North Lions Club went through a transition of its own and many of the people who helped set up and run the Magical Village were no longer with the club and so the lights were turned out for good.

The holiday season is all about traditions, both family traditions and traditions the entire community can appreciate and enjoy. Unfortunately, we don't always fully appreciate those traditions and the hundreds of volunteers who make them possible until they're gone. This is to salute all those people and to say thank you.

– Fred Sherwin, editor

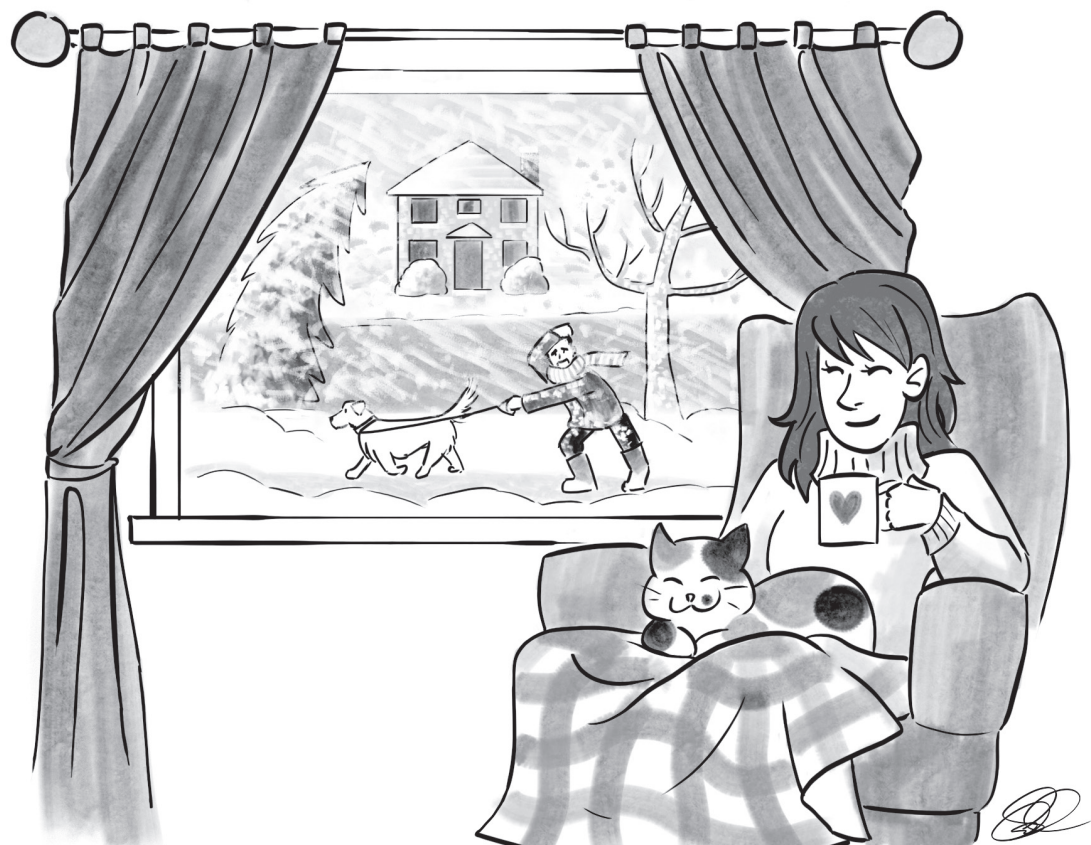
THE Orléans Star



Fredrick C. Sherwin, Editor & Publisher
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ADVANTAGES OF OWNING A CAT VS A DOG #1



Application period now open for Canada Summer Jobs program

As we are getting closer to the holiday season, it was great to attend the lighting of the beautiful tree on Centrum Plaza on Nov. 24. Thanks to the hard work of The Heart of Orléans BIA, the community truly came through to enjoy hot chocolate, music and Santa.

We also celebrated the 26th anniversary of Santa's Parade of Lights on Nov. 25. It's always a special moment to walk along St. Joseph to give out candy canes to the young ones and see such a big crowd – 150,000 people-gathering on a beautiful evening.

The parade would not be possible without the devotion and hard work of the Ottawa Professional Firefighters Association. I want to especially thank the chairman, Bob Rainboth as well as his entire team, for their leadership.

November marked Diabetes Awareness Month, and I had the privilege to meet Raina Smith, a 12-year-old young leader from Orléans who has lived with Type 1 Diabetes since she was 5 years old. I rose in the House to thank Raina for sharing with me the challenges she is facing and for advocating the important role governments can play in rising awareness to combat Diabetes.

Moreover, I want to let you know that the application period for Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) 2024 funding opened on Nov. 21 and will close on Jan. 10, 2024. I want to encourage our local employers to take

advantage of this funding to hire youth, ages 15 to 30, and create valuable summer job opportunities that strengthen our local economy and our community and provide valuable work experience for our youth.

Funded public and private sector employers are eligible to receive a wage subsidy reimbursement of up to 50% of the provincial minimum hourly wage. Employers from the not-for-profit sector will continue to be eligible for a wage subsidy reimbursement of up to 100% of the provincial minimum hourly wage. Learn more at Canada.ca/Canada-summer-jobs.

This year again, the tradition continues in celebrating the accomplishments and leadership of women and young girls of our community through their volunteerism. I want to let you know that the call for nomination is open and the deadline to nominate an outstanding woman or girl for the Orléans Leading Women and Girls Recognition Awards is Feb. 16, 2024. Help us celebrate amazing individuals by requesting your nomination form by email at Marie-France.Lalonde@parl.gc.ca.

This is my last column before Christmas and I want to wish you all from my family to yours, Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season!

****La version française est maintenant disponible sur ma page Facebook****



Commons Corner

Marie-France Lalonde

Despite fire, Navan spa owner already making plans for second location

It's been over a month since fire severely damaged the Shaw House at the corner of Trim and Colonial Roads in Navan and the Country Moment Spa and Coffee Shop along with it, forcing the locally owned small business to close indefinitely.

For owner Amanda Watson, the experience has been both heartbreaking and heart warming. While firefighters were working to get the blaze under control and limit the damage to the century old home, dozens of the village residents gathered across the street hoping and praying the damage would be kept to a minimum. Some of the people were even in tears at the sight of one of the town's historic landmarks possibly going up in flames.

In the end, the firefighters, many of whom are volunteers from Navan and the surrounding community, managed to put the fire out while limiting the damage as best



the could, but to do so they had to open up the back of the home and the roof and while the building is still standing, a lot of work will have to be done to make it a livable, workable space again.

In the meantime, Watson is already making plans to relocate the spa to the Hammond Golf Club, which is about 10 minutes east of Navan.

Thanks to the generosity of people

who have donated more than \$37,000 to a GoFundMe campaign, Watson has been able to get by day-to-day while trying to deal with her insurance company. The claim could take months to resolve before she receives an actual cheque.

She had already been contemplating opening a second location at the golf club, but the fire sped that process up. Even so, it will take two to three months to get the space ready for clients. With all that said, we should be mindful of the fact that the estheticians and other staff who called Country Moments their second home, are out of a job during what for most people is a joyous time of year.

I know you will join me in offering them our thoughts and prayers and the hope that all of their clients will return once the new location opens.

Being hit by a fire and forced to close

indefinitely would defeat most people. But small business owners aren't most people. They are either born with the ability – or learn pretty quick along the way – to adapt. Adapt to the ebb and flow of the economy and issues that are completely out of control like inflation, recession and pandemics.

In a way, small business owners are a lot like farmers who have to depend on the weather from one to the next and even from one week to the next, for their livelihood.

Being a small business owner, like being a farmer, is constant challenge. It takes a certain kind of individual to weather the storm, even if its a fire that temporarily closes their business, and keep on truckin'.

Amanda Watson is that type of person and I have no doubt that the Country Moments Spa will rise out of the ashes in 2024 and reopen in the Shaw House in Navan.



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Canadian municipalities pushing for affordable housing measures

As 3rd VP, my Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) colleagues and I, convened Canada’s municipal leaders with their federal counterparts at its FCM Advocacy Days from Nov 21-24 here in Ottawa.

This highly successful edition of Advocacy Days had a firm focus on municipal priorities at a crucial time for local governments. The following is an excerpt from an FCM press release titled, *New research: Canada’s housing challenge is also an infrastructure challenge.*

“Municipalities recognize that increasing taxes and fees on property can increase the overall cost of construction, impact the business case for developers to start new projects and contribute to upward pressure on housing costs. However, under the current framework, municipalities simply have no other way to fund the infrastructure that is essential to build housing.

“That’s why FCM is calling on the federal government to convene provincial, territorial and municipal leaders to discuss a new Municipal Growth Framework that better

aligns municipal revenue with economic growth and population growth.

“Such a framework would improve affordability and quality of life for Canadians by enabling municipalities to take concrete action on housing affordability and other pressing challenges facing the country, including homelessness and climate change. A move toward a new Municipal Growth Framework starts with new federal infrastructure investments in Budget 2024.”

To learn more about FCM and read the entirety of the press release, visit fcm.ca/en. On a lighter (and brighter) note... This year was another huge success for the Santa’s Parade of Lights in Orléans. It’s always great to get together with my east end colleagues for some festive community engagement.

Thank you to the dozens of volunteers for making this event possible each year, and especially the Ottawa Firefighters Association for their time and dedication.

Here’s to a safe and happy holiday season, Ottawa East!



Tim Tierney

Beacon Hill-Cyrville Ward 11

Hope still alive for province to take back responsibility for Hwy 174

Driving on the 417 into Ottawa from the west end, it is impossible to not feel the disparity between what we have here in the east on the 174.

Kanata has lighting, HOV lanes, bridges, and fresh pavement. The east, well, it has the City paying millions annually to plow, pave, and maintain a road it should never have owned in the first place.

This is not about the city trying to compete with the province on investments, but rather the Government of Ontario finally hearing the city’s frequent pleas to take back the 174, which have become so numerous I have lost count.

Realistically, the province has much deeper pockets than the City of Ottawa. Ottawa is responsible for the care and maintenance of over 12,969 lane kilometres of roadway; the budget for the entire City of Ottawa is one-

fifth of what the Ontario Government spends on highways and bridges alone. We could never hope to keep up.

So, it was like salt on a wound when the provincial government announced that they were uploading the Don Valley Parkway and the Gardiner Expressway in Toronto. This deal will free up over a billion dollars for Toronto. Ottawa deserves the same.

But there is a sliver of hope. The province and the city are talking and there is a cautious level of optimism about the prospect of seeing the 174 finally taken back under the provincial wing.

And yet, 26 years after it was downloaded, and following nearly annual requests from the city to the province to take it back, it is abundantly clear that this historical mistake needs to be righted and now.



Laura Dudas

Innes Ward 2

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Please contact Fernando at fernando.diniz@rogers.com for more details.

2023 Christmas Program

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www.orleansstar.ca

Cumberland Village gallery has lots of unique gift ideas

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

The Da Artisti Gallery and Studio in Cumberland Village is the only place east of the Hwy 417/174 split that sells unique one-of-a-kind items made by local artists that make the perfect gift for that unique one-of-a-kind person on your shopping list.

Located in the old general store building on Old Montreal Road, Da Artisti has everything from handmade jewelry and printed handbags and scarves to fused-glass ornaments and inlaid wood charcuterie boards.

And this is the perfect weekend to visit Cumberland Village, located just 10 minutes east of Orléans as the small town is holding its annual Christmas Market on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at four different locations including Da Artisti.

In opening the studio and gallery, owner Wendy Canci has created a space where local artists and artisans can display and sell their work in a one stop location.

The shelves are overflowing with unique artwork: jewelry, ceramics, woodworking, soaps, candles, scarves, and so much more. The walls of the gallery are adorned with exquisite paintings and woodworking.

When it comes to unique gift items you won't find anything more unique the book art

pieces by Lise Forgues. Each piece takes over 100 hours to make.



Book art by Lise Forgues

The studio specializes in fused glasswork made by Wendy Canci, Martine Marceau and Jennifer Kelly. From gorgeous wall hangings and sculptures to decorative bowls and vases, to sushi sets and more: no two pieces are alike. The same can be said for the stained-glass creations made by the talented Diana Atkinson, whose pieces hang in the gallery's windows.

Among the local artists featured at Da Artisti is Deborah Lyall who is famous for her

fibre and textile art which includes handbags, pocketbooks, clothing and small original art pieces as well as hand-stitched Christmas ornaments.

The gallery sells exceptional woodwork creations made by Ron Lacroix and Serge and Sheila Parisien, metal sculptures made by Ron Matton and ceramics created by Katherine Arnold.



Accessories and clothing by Deborah Lyall

When it comes to jewelry, the gallery sells handmade pieces designed and made by Nathalie Brunelle as well as hand-blown glass creations by Barbara Ham and Janet Evans.



Woodwork by Serge and Sheila Parisien

When it comes to wall art, Da Artisti has watercolour paintings by Danielle Beaulieu, marquetry by Brian Phillips, acrylic and oils by Mary Douglas and pyrography by Joanne Lacroix.

So as you can see, there is something for everyone at the Da Artisti Studio and Gallery in Cumberland Village. You can get there by driving east down St. Joseph Blvd. which turns into Old Montreal Road past Trim Road, or you can take Hwy. 174 east and turn left at the light at Cameron Street. Da Artisti is located at 2565 Old Montreal Rd. near the corner of Old Montreal and Dunning Roads.

Caravela Restaurante is now accepting reservations for New Year's Eve

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Dessert and Coffee
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Three seatings: lunch, 5 pm and 7:30 pm

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Salt Water Santas at it again this Xmas

Continued from page 1

There are roughly 300 chocolates in a bag. That first year Sullivan would have to go back to Costco several more times before they turned the lights out on New Year’s Day.

When it was all said and done, they went through 36 bags of chocolates and raised over \$18,000 which they handed out to about 12 different charities including the Orléans-Cumberland Community Resource Centre, the Ottawa Food Bank, the Shepherds of Good Hope, the Ottawa Mission, CHEO and the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Last year, they went several hundred more candy canes and chocolates and raised another \$15,000.

They plan to kick off their fundraising efforts this Saturday, with Presland directing traffic and Sullivan collecting the cash only donations. Everyone who drops by gets a chocolate and every child gets a candy cane.

Sullivan is especially excited about the latest addition to his display – a miniature Christmas house made out of recycled wood with a miniature village inside which people can see through a window.

The display will be lit up every night from this Saturday until New Year’s Eve.



Tony Sullivan and Bob Presland, aka The Saltwater Santas, raised over \$15K last year from visitors to Sullivan’s Christmas light display on Sugar Creek Way. FRED SHERWIN PHOTO

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Heart of Orléans BIA celebrates another successful year

Special to The Orléans Star
by Tannis Vine, Executive Director
The Heart of Orléans BIA

This time of year is an occasion of renewal for the Heart of Orléans BIA. It is a time to look back and celebrate this year's accomplishments but also a time to embrace the exciting new challenges next year will bring.

This year was another excellent year for the BIA. We hit some key milestones including an expansion of our BIA boundaries!

Our success is directly linked to the hard work of our BIA team. We have made extraordinary progress this year, and I'd like to personally thank every board and team member for their energy, commitment and consistency in driving our BIA forward.

Some highlights of our accomplishments this year include:

- An expansion of our BIA boundary to include the four LRT stations, Youville Drive, Jeanne d'Arc Blvd. and the Taylor Creek Business Park communities.
- A GIANT Adirondack chair painted by two local artists.

- Newly designed banners.
- A new bike repair station.
- The Beat, our flagship magazine.
- Behind the Business campaign showcasing stories behind the businesses.

We continued to carry out advocacy work with all three levels of government for things like CEBA forgiveness or repayment delays, addressing transit issues and its impact on staffing and keeping federal employees in Orléans.

Our expansion project was the largest initiative of the year. However, it was also the most rewarding. Over the past 12 months, we have connected with numerous business owners throughout our existing district as well as in our expansion area.

This summer, we visited over 400 businesses. We were welcomed with open arms, met the faces behind the business and learned their stories. Our membership truly is the heart of our community and backbone of the Orléans economy and we're always in awe of their success and commitment. As you check off your Christmas list this year, please consider purchasing something from



a local business.

We look back with a sense of accomplishment, and ahead with big expectations. I will close by urging you all to engage with us as we continue to break barriers to better serve our members and improve our economic

and community success. We are excited to get started with the hopes of realizing our vision of nurturing an engaged and enthusiastic membership that reflects and values our vibrant community, known as The Heart of Orléans BIA.

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Celebrate New Year's Eve at Little Turkish Village Casino Night

Little Turkish Village is pleased to welcome you into 2024. With this year's theme being casino, we ask that you to dress to impress! Choose from one of two four-course New Year's Eve dinners including one bottle of wine per couple, and one Flaming Sambuca per person for \$90 per person. (Taxes not included)

Dinner of Queens

Lentil Soup
Turkish Salad

Dinner for 2 with assortment of six charcoal grilled skewers including Shish Tavuk, Beef Kebab, Shish Kebab, Shish Kofte, and Seafood served with rice and wedge potatoes.

Dinner of Kings

Lentil Soup
Choice of Chicken or Beef Cheese Balls or Falafel (4pc)
Lamb Chops with 3-piece marinated Shrimp in a rich cream sauce with mashed potatoes and seasonal grilled vegetables.

OR

VIP Club Rainbow Trout marinated and cooked on a broiler served with flavourful mashed potatoes and seasonal grilled vegetables

Both dinners include choice of Homemade Fruit Custard or Chocolate Mousse Cake for dessert with coffee or tea

Purchase your ticket(s) before Dec. 24 for preferred seating and the chance to win our Dinner for Two.

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December 7, 2023 • Volume 38, No. 11 • 11

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 632 2023 Poppy Campaign Report

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 632 Poppy Committee would like to thank the community of Orléans for its generous support during this year’s campaign. At last count, more than \$145,000 has been raised, surpassing our initial goal of \$140,000. We did this with the help of over 280 volunteers. The committee would like to especially thank the Army and Air Cadets who volunteered hundreds of hours and raised \$9,000 between them. The money raised will be used to support various charities in support Veterans, their dependents and Cadets. Among the groups which have received funding in the past year include:

- Veterans and Aging, Comforts
- Student Bursaries Branch 632
- Military Families Resource Center
- Operation Leave the Streets Behind
- Perley Health Care for Seniors and Veterans
- Operation Leave the Streets Behind
- Camp Maple Leaf
- Healing Heroes on the Fly
- Operation Service Dogs
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Music recital showcases amazing young talent

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

Prior to the COVID pandemic, a group of local music teachers would hold a series of four music recitals during the fall and winter to give their students an opportunity to perform in front of a live audience.

It was called the Gloucester Music Club and the recitals featured some of the best young pianists, violinists, vocalists and other instrumentalists in the east end of Ottawa and beyond.

Like most other public events, the Gloucester Music Club recitals were suspended during the pandemic in order to adhere to provincial regulations banning public gatherings.

As things started to return to normal in 2022 there was no real desire to reinstate the Gloucester Music Club or the recitals.

It wasn't until former GMC president Jennifer Messer opened a piano rehearsal studio on Montreal Road earlier this year that the seed was planted to organize a successor the Gloucester Music Club, and so the Ottawa East Music Club was born.

The second in a series of five recitals was held at the 10,000 Hours Piano Rehearsal Studios on Nov. 26.

Nineteen young people between the ages of six and 17 who are at various stages of their musical education performed in front of an intimate audience made up of about 60 family members, music teachers and other musicians.

Among the many standouts were recitals by Annie Lee, 9, who played Chopin's Waltz in B minor Opus Posthumus 69, No. 2; Charlotte Hu's performance of *Fantasy Bossa* by British pianist and composer Christopher Norton; and Victor Leclerc-Wu's performance of Franz Schubert's *Impromptu Op. 90, No. 2*.

But the two recitals that stood out the most for this writer were Naomi Lee's performance of Chopin's *Etude Op. 10 No. 5 Black Keys* which was a sheer delight, and Carl Albert Loschhorn's *Etude No. 60, Op. 136, No. 20* which was played by 12-year-old Sofia Zaika who recently immigrated to Canada with her parents and older brother.

The family is originally from Ukraine, but they moved to Poland five years ago with the goal of eventually ending up in Canada. It was friends of theirs in the local Ukrainian community who convinced them to put down roots to Ottawa.

One of the first things they did after they



Naomi Lee, 13, closes out the Ottawa East Music Club Recital on Nov. 13. This was the second in a series of five music recitals to be held at the 10,000 Hours Piano Rehearsal Studios in 2023-2024.

FRED SHERWIN PHOTO

arrived here was to find a piano teacher for Sofia, who started playing piano when she was six under the tutelage of her mother Yulia.

"This has been our dream to live in Canada," says Yulia. "In Canada, our

children have many opportunities they didn't have in Poland."

The next Ottawa East Music Club recital will be held on Jan. 14. The 10,000 Hours Piano Rehearsal Studio is located at 353 Montreal Rd.



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French historical society publishes second volume of Orléans toponymy

By Louis Patry
SFOPHO/CAPNFO
Special to the Orléans Star

The Francophone historical society of Orléans, (Société francophone du patrimoine et de l'histoire d'Orléans - SFOPHO) was created in 2011. One of its committees, the CAPNFO (Comité pour l'amélioration de la place des noms francophones à Orléans), has existed since 2012.

Since then, the CAPNFO has undertaken many projects including the correction of misspelled names of streets and parks in Orléans, the promotion of the proper official spelling of the word Orléans with its *acute accent* as dictated by the 1994 decision of the Ontario Geographic Names Board, and the submission of historical names to the city for parks, streets, facilities and buildings.

This committee of volunteers has also written 85 short stories relating to the history of people who shaped the village of yesteryear and the Orléans of today.

The initial stories appeared in the now-extinct *L'Express d'Orléans* newspaper and today they continue in the *L'Orléanais* monthly newspaper.

Eighty of these translated stories are now available in two bilingual books; one, *A Brief History of Orléans, Ontario and of its French Toponymy*, published in 2017, and the other, *The History Behind the French Toponymy of Orléans, Ontario Volume 2*, recently launched in September 2023.

The 2017 book of 114 pages contains a well illustrated brief history of Orléans, as



L'histoire derrière la toponymie française d'Orléans (Ontario)
Volume 2

The History Behind the French Toponymy of Orléans, Ontario
Volume 2



well as the stories behind 30 French names in the Orléans toponymy.

The 2023 book of 196 pages deals with the stories behind 46 French names and those of four others in the Orléans toponymy and includes beautiful photos and maps of early Orléans. It was published with the financial help of the ACFO Ottawa Bilingual Ottawa Program.

These books, which would be an excellent Christmas gift, could serve as an exploration guide of parks, streets and buildings in Orléans, and of course, they would be of interest to anyone who wants to know more about the community in which they live.

Both books in the collection can be purchased at MIFO located at 6600 Carrière St., The cost is \$20 for Volume 1 and \$30 for Volume 2.

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FRIDAY, DEC. 8

UGLY CHRISTMAS

SWEATER PARTY at the Royal Oak OrLéans, 1981 St. Joseph Blvd. (corner of Jeanne d'Arc). Mandie's band Seven Dollar Sundress will be performing starting at 8 p.m. Light munchies will be provided while supplies last. There will be door prizes to be won and, of course, a prize for the ugliest Christmas sweater in the house!!

FRIDAY, DEC. 8

SATURDAY, DEC. 9

CORO VIVO OTTAWA

PRESENTS "A Jazzy Christmas/Un Noël Jazzé" at OrLéans United Church, 1111 OrLéans Blvd. (just north of Hwy. 174) featuring special guests, the Chinese Childrens' Choir of Canada. The

performance begins at 7:30 p.m. both nights. Tickets are \$25 per person and can be purchased at eventbrite.ca. Children under 14 admitted at no charge.

SATURDAY, DEC. 9

TWILIGHT TREASURES

CHRISTMAS MARKET from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Ray Friel Recreation Complex. With over 25 merry local vendors, you'll discover an array of unique, festive treasures that will light up your season. And guess what? Entry is absolutely FREE!

SATURDAY, DEC. 9

THE 30TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS ANGELS

FUNDRAISER to raise money for deserving local families at Christmastime. Event gets underway at 7 p.m.

at Taproom260 in the OrLéans Town Centre on Centrum Boulevard. Live music, silent auction and raffle prizes. Raffle tickets can be purchased in advance at the restaurant.

FRIDAY, DEC. 15

JOIN THE MUSICA VIVA

SINGERS for an evening of all things pastoral: "Dreams of Sheep" at OrLéans United Church, 1111 OrLéans Blvd. This eclectic program includes songs of sheep and shepherds down through the centuries, featuring Renaissance partsongs; a bit of Handel; contemporary works by Canadian composers and even a little Kate Bush! GA \$25 or \$15 for those with a fixed or low income. For tickets visit eventbrite.ca, or the MVS website at www.musica-viva.ca.

IN MEMORIAM



Pierre Boutet, 72

Passed away on November 24, 2023

Gérard Raymond, 86

Passed away on November 23, 2023

Benard Mainville, 77

Passed away on November 20, 2023



www.heritagefh.ca/obituaries

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