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THE

# Orléans Star

July 18, 2024 • Volume 39, No. 5

Next edition August 1



The Cumberland Panthers U16 girls team beat the Brantford Bisons 41-12 in their OWFL semi-final game on July 6. See story on page 14. FRED SHERWIN PHOTO

## Rotary Club recognizes young people of character

By Fred Sherwin  
The Orléans Star

The Rotary Club of Orléans recently honoured 23 remarkable young people from Orléans and the surrounding area during their annual Young People of Character Awards at the Shenkman Arts Centre.

Among the award winners were Emily Frost, Mekhi Simpson Falcao, Veronique Forest, Kalie Hatoum, Ali Hosseini, Joud Houssari, Jessica Janega, Ali Knowles, Lucas Leingartner, Zoe Lapensee, Bruno Luten, Eric Mercer, Bethuel Mworsho, Christian Patterson, Justine Perreault, Sophie Proulx, Rosa Sadat, Rayaan Saeed, Clara Shales, Angel-May Stubbett, Evangeline Tablou, Haifa Zemni and Maissa Zemni.

Each of the award winners received a glass trophy and a certificate, while three of the recipients – Lucas Leingartner, Ali Hosseini and Eric Mercer – were given a \$500 scholarship.

The recipients were nominated by their

schools and judged by an assessment committee that looked at all the nominations and selected award winners based on the information provided by the nominator in a number of areas including leadership, compassion, creativity, integrity, resilience, social responsibility and commitment to excellence.

The award ceremony was organized by co-chairs Gayle and Nabil Oudeh and their team of volunteers.

Nabil Oudeh and Monique St Amand co-emceed the event with while Maria Stellar and Juliana Drayton from Sing House Studio entertained the audience with their beautiful voices.

The Young People of Character Awards would not be possible without the generous support of the program's title sponsors Assante Wealth Management and Top Rankin Mortgages. Silver level sponsors Design & Systems Inc., CCR International and Ottawa Prestige.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 ▶



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# Markwell Cres. community library celebrates 2nd anniversary

By Fred Sherwin  
The Orléans Star

When Majela Guzman first started a book exchange kiosk at the end of her Markwell Crescent driveway in June 2022, little did she know that it would very quickly become a significant movement in the community.

Guzman, who is originally from Cuba, works as a research librarian at the University of Ottawa. She is also a bibliophile who loves to share her passion for books. That was her original motivation for setting up the book sharing kiosk after the provincial government began to ease the COVID-related restrictions.

The idea is for people to take a book and leave a book. That way several people can enjoy the same book. But in Guzman's case people began to donate more books than they took. Pretty soon, Majela had to start storing the extra books in her garage and from there they spread to her front foyer.

And so began the Zunzun Reading Community. The zunzun, also known as the bee hummingbird, is the smallest bird in the world.

As Guzman explains on her website – “This diminutive yet vibrant bird, emblem-

atic of energy and liveliness, mirrors the spirit of an avid reader's pursuit of knowledge and enjoyment through books.”

“With its roots planted in Orleans, this project has since grown, evolving into a vibrant and dynamic hub for book lovers that fosters a strong sense of community through the shared love of books.”

Today, Guzman has hundreds of books and the collection keeps growing, no matter how many books she gives away.

Shortly after starting the kiosk, Guzman read a story about how children read more if they have a plush toy as a reading “buddy”.

The next day she went out and bought dozens of small plush toys that she pairs with a book and hands out to kids during special events she hosts once a month.

“It improves literacy a lot because they end up reading to the stuffy,” says Guzman.

She then turned her foyer into a VIP birthday room, where kids who are celebrating a birthday get to choose five books, five toys and five small plush toys.

Although Guzman often purchases the plush toys and items like juice boxes and healthy snacks herself. Much of what she hands out is donated by friends of the



Majela Guzman is the woman behind the Zunzun Reading Community on Markwell Crescent. FRED SHERWIN PHOTO

Zunzun Reading Community.

The Zunzun Reading Community Facebook page has over 650 followers.

Besides books for children, Guzman also has a section for teens and adults. And people don't have to bring a book to take a book, explains Guzman. “If you don't have

books at home you can just take a book. The important thing is to read.”

You can learn more about the Zunzun Reading Community at [zunzunrc.org](http://zunzunrc.org).

Anyone wishing to make a donation or sponsor the Zunzun Reading Community should email

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# Delaminated licence plates

Why are so many people still driving around with license plates that have completely peeled so that you can barely read them?

Delamination, as it is referred to by the Ministry of Transportation, first began to take on epidemic proportions with license plates issued in 2019. Car owners with license plates that were either partially delaminated, or fully delaminated, were given a grace period to have them replaced during the COVID pandemic. But the pandemic ended two years ago and there are still drivers out there with delaminated plates.

What makes this issue even more irksome is the ease with which those drivers can get them replaced, and at no cost. All they have to do is visit the Service Ontario office on St. Joseph Blvd., or any other Service Ontario office in the province, hand in their old plates and they'll get a fresh new set of plates absolutely free as long as the plates are five years old or less. If the plates are older than five years then there's a \$59 fee.

That may sound like a good chunk of change for something that is basically a manufacturing defect, but it's a lot better than a \$110 fine and those owners with the newer delaminated plates have had five years to replace them. That's more than enough time. But I'm not aware of a single person who has been fined for driving with delaminated license plates. In the meantime, I've been fined multiple times for driving through a photo radar zone 10-15 km/h over the speed limit. Why? Besides the obvious fact that I was speeding. It's because the photo radar could take a clear picture of my plate. Meanwhile people with delaminated plates can drive through a photo radar zone with impunity.

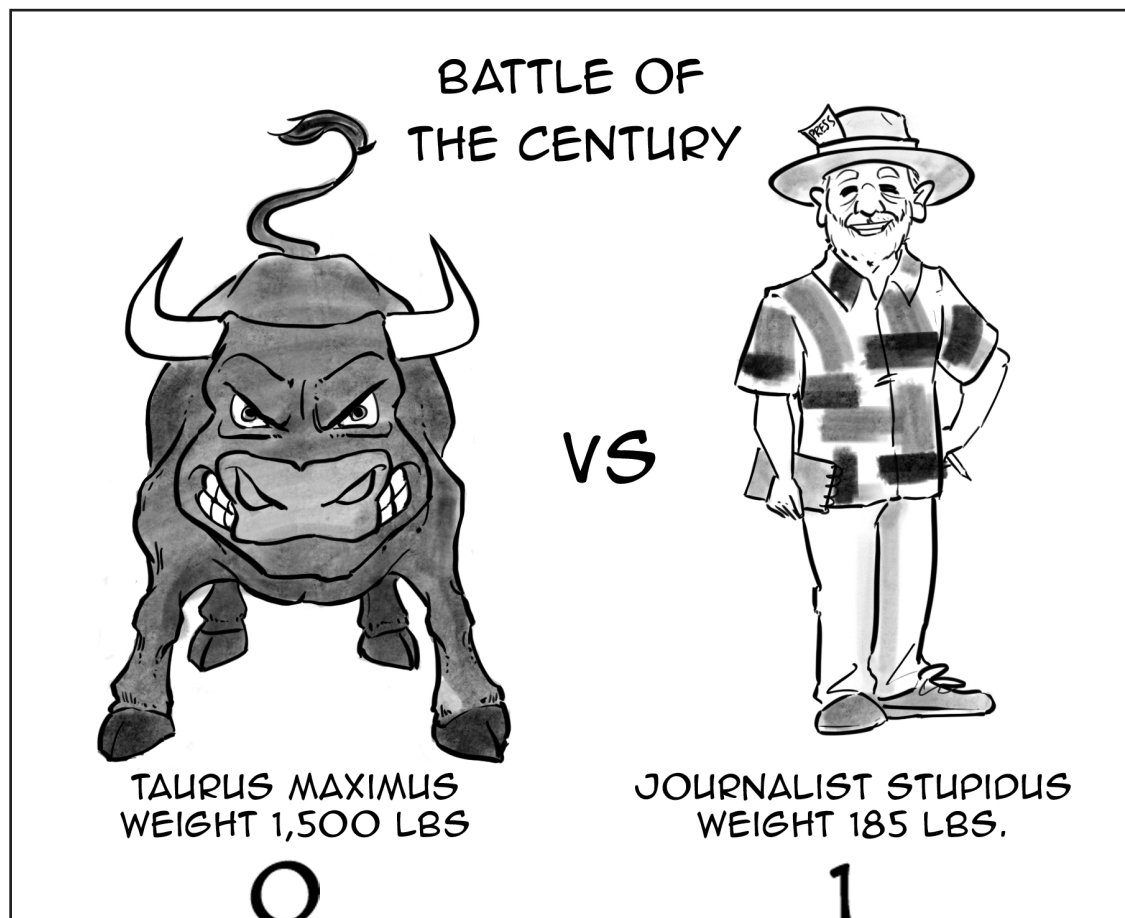
This is about fairness and doing your civic duty. Get your dang plates replaced. As for the police, they should make it a priority to first issue a warning to drivers who still have delaminated and illegible plates, and then start issuing fines.

In May 2022, the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police called on the provincial government to start allowing the police to seize illegible plates at the roadside. This seems a little much, if you ask me, but if you start issuing fines, word is going to get around pretty quick.

As for car owners who deliberately cover their plates with darkened visors, they should be fined immediately, with no warning issued. It's a deliberate action and the only reason to do it is to avoid photo radar and red light cameras. And the fine should be a lot more than \$110. Throw the book at them.

Laws are made not only followed, but enforced. We all have to do our part.

*Fred Sherwin, editor*



## Local member of parliament had a busy Canada Day in Orléans

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer days. Summer is the prime season for fresh markets across our community! I encourage you to visit them and buy fresh local produce!

In the lead up to Canada Day, I hosted, alongside MPP Stephen Blais, our Annual Strawberry Social and Canada Day Bingo on June 29, as we celebrated Senior's Month in June. We welcomed over 165 seniors at the Collège catholique Mer Bleue. A huge thank you to the Lions Club of Orléans for helping with the bingo.

I would also like to express my gratitude to many local businesses for the door prizes and treats, and to the following retirement residences: Jardin Royal Garden, Willowbend Retirement Community, Portobello Retirement Community, and Aspira Bearbrook Retirement Living, who donated an amazing array of delicious dishes. Thank you to the Orléans Fruit Farm, where we can always find delicious strawberries.

On July 1, I was able to attend the 108th commemorative ceremony of the Battles of Beaumont-Hamel and the Somme at the National War Memorial, during which I had the honour of laying a wreath on behalf of Canada in memory of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment soldiers who made a tragic sacrifice on July 1 1916, at Beaumont-Hamel, France,

during the Battle of the Somme.

It was a perfect summer day to attend several activities marking our country's birthday, such as joining the celebrations at the Baitun Naseer Mosque in Cumberland and the Orléans Legion Branch 632, which respectively hosted a community barbecue.

Afterwards, I joined my team at our booth at Millennium Park to partake in the "O Canada Orléans" celebrations, organized by the Kiwanis Club of Eastern Ottawa. Thank you for your leadership again this

year. It was wonderful to meet so many families and kids enjoying the celebrations and activities.

On July 2, I met with three residents of Orléans who were selected among 12 from Canada to serve as lifeguards at the upcoming Olympic games in Paris and will be deployed to the aquatic venues during the games. Congratulations to John Rapp, Stéphane Cliche, and his daughter Karianne.

Lastly, I would like to let you know that I will be hosting, in partnership with my colleague MPP Stephen Blais, our annual Corn Roast & BBQ on August 29 at Petrie Island from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Save the date for lots of fun for the whole family and, of course, some good local corn and BBQ!

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



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# How I survived the running of the bulls in Pamplona

I survived. I went *mano to mano* with six raging bulls on the streets of Pamplona and lived to write about it.

I stared death straight in the eye and death blinked first.

There's nothing that makes you want to run for your life faster than when your fleeing six charging bulls snorting down the back of your neck knowing that the tips of their horns are just inches from your keyster, unless it's your mother chasing you down the street with a wooden spoon in her hand, but that's a different story for a another day.

Now where was I? Oh yea, on the streets of Pamplona, running for my life during the annual San Fermin Festival and the running of the bulls.

The day started with a 5 a.m. wake up call and a 30 minute bus ride from my accommodation to downtown Pamplona.

Now, if you're like me you, you're probably thinking that Pamplona is a quaint little Basque village that wakes up once a year for the festival and the running of the bulls. Well, think again. Pamplona actually has a population of 200,000 people making it roughly the same size as Kingston.

Like many people, my own vision of Pamplona came from Ernest Hemingway's



Up  
Front

Fred Sherwin

description of the town in the *Son Also Rises* where he rights about ....

After the 30-minute bus ride we arrived in the centre of the village which is now a city, to what can only be described as organized chaos.

The 10-day festival attracts over a million people, but only about 1,000 people actually participate in the run which takes place every morning at 8 a.m. sharp. Think of Sparks Street during Canada Day and then stampede six fighting bulls from Elgin to Bank Street and you get part of the picture.

Now, throw in 90-degress turn euphemistically referred to as "dead man's curve" add a mixture of nervous anxiety, bordering on sheer terror and mass hysteria and you get some sense of what it's like and they haven't even released the bulls yet.

The course is actually 800-metres long and the whole event takes just over two minutes.

I started the run just past dead man's curve, about 300 metres from the bull ring where the running of the bulls ends.

When the run begins a large firework is set off to let everyone the bulls have been released. It's also when people start jumping up and down to try and see when the bulls are actually coming their way. It reminded me of a punk music concert when everyone starts pogo-ing.

After about a minute what can only be described as a wave of panic hits you and everyone around you and off you go, swept up with the rest of the throng running from something you can feel but can't actually see. It's then that you realize that the threat of being trampled by 2,000 people is much more realistic than being trampled by six bulls.

If you've ever seen those YouTube videos of Black Friday shoppers pushing and shoving through the doors of a store to be the first ones to get the door crasher deals you'll have some sense of what it's like if those same shoppers were being chased by a bunch of 1500 lb. bulls.

Think of a mosh pit at a Green Day concert, only its moving.

After about 20 seconds running for my life I briefly caught a glimpse of a out of the corner of my eye as it ran by. I had missed the other five.

Once the bulls pass you, you have to keep running until you get to the bull ring and that's when the madness really starts. The big bulls actually run through the ring and out the other side to their pens.

In their place, are introduced a series of six younger bulls whose horns have been tapped to make them slightly less dangerous. The bulls themselves, however, are still a force to be reckoned with as they run through the crowded ring picking off revelers whose adrenaline is still coursing through their veins.

The younger bulls come out one at a time and run around for 10 minutes before heading to the pen only to be replaced by another bull.

I stuck around for about half an hour to watch the spectacle and then departed for the nearest bar packed with runners eager to tell each other how they all just cheated death.

Would I do it again? Absolutely! In fact, I'm thinking of going with my two boys next year. It'll be a blast.



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# Major changes coming to Ottawa's public transit service

Hey Orleans! Have you heard about OC Transpo's New Ways to Bus? We're introducing over 100 routes as part of the initiative, set to launch alongside the opening of O-Train Lines 2 and 4 in the south. This will open up new, convenient connections across the city, with almost every neighborhood and most customers experiencing changes to their trips.

This new network is a key part of OC Transpo's 5-Year Roadmap and stems from the 2023 Bus Route Review. It fits within the Council-approved Transit Services budget and aims to increase bus service reliability to 99.5 percent. What to expect:

- 27 Frequent Routes: Running seven days a week, every 15 minutes or less during weekdays.
- 58 Local Routes: Designed to connect you to neighborhood destinations and transit hubs where you can catch Frequent routes and the extended O-Train network.
- 17 Connexion Routes: Offering fast, peak-period connections to the O-Train.

Check out the "New Ways to Bus" Travel Planner at [octranspo.com/en/plan-your-trip/service-changes/new-ways-to-bus/](https://octranspo.com/en/plan-your-trip/service-changes/new-ways-to-bus/).

Expect a shift from downtown-focused bus routes to ones that improve connections to community hubs and key destinations. While some customers might need to walk a bit further to their bus stop and/or make additional transfers, the changes are designed to make your overall journey more efficient.

In addition to fewer Connexion routes, some routes with low ridership will be retired to enhance connections to new routes and the O-Train. No changes are planned for existing 300-series Shopper routes and 400-series event routes. Some 600-series School routes may see changes, but these won't impact the current school year and will provide comparable service for students.

We're excited about these improvements and hope they make your travel around Ottawa even better!



**Tim Tierney**

Beacon Hill-Cyrville Ward 11

# Have your say on the city's priorities heading into 2025

Inflation, rising rents, high grocery bills, the cost of nearly everything has skyrocketed, and make no mistake; municipalities are feeling it too. While many large municipalities across Canada have had to bring in large property tax increases in 2024 (10.5% in Toronto, 8.6% in Calgary, and 4.9% in Montréal), Ottawa has managed to avoid those significant increases, with last year's rate being among the lowest across the country at 2.5%.

The cumulative effects of rising costs have impacted municipalities across North America, with the cost of asphalt, construction materials, and just about everything else, increasing rapidly. However, City operations and services are funded by taxpayer dollars and that there is no endless supply of money to draw upon, the City needs to make sure that it lives within its means.

At home, many of us are making choices: focusing on necessities, switching stores in search of deals, or eliminating unnecessary purchases altogether. If Ottawa

wants to continue its track record of fiscal responsibility, it is imperative that we follow suit.

This summer, while many of us are taking a much-deserved rest, is when staff shift gears and start drafting next year's budget. Whether it be city services, infrastructure, or transportation, this is a massive undertaking.

Soon, the Mayor will sit down with staff and councillors to identify priorities, but ultimately it will be up to him to set the property tax rate for 2025; which is what will define those budgets.

It is important to me that when I sit down at the table, I am sharing the feedback I hear from the community. Though it may seem early, I am asking if everyone could take a moment over the coming weeks to fill out my budget survey at: [LauraDudas.ca/2025-city-budget-survey](https://LauraDudas.ca/2025-city-budget-survey)

I want to hear about your priorities for 2025 and beyond, ensuring that I am fighting for the things our community needs and deserves.



**Laura Dudas**

Innes Ward 2

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# Follow your artistic passion at Da Artisti

If you are looking for a unique artistic experience, then you should consider taking a fused glass class at the Da Artisti Studio and Gallery in Cumberland Village.

Fusing is the heating of two or more pieces of glass in a kiln so that they melt together to form one piece. The result is an object that has a stained glass quality with colour and texture, but without the leading that is required in making stained glass. You can also do a lot more with fused glass. You can make dishes and decorative panels, or jewelry, or use it as an embellishment for other objects like night lights.

The 1-on-1 and group classes at Da Artisti are taught by owner Wendy Canci who is an accomplished fused glass artist in her own right. Each class is three hours long, during which you will make your own fused glass creation.

In the introductory class, you will make a 5" x 10" platter, and a soap dish. In the intermediate class, you will learn to cut circles and make a 12" bowl using glass enamels, or glass powders. If you don't have three hours to spare, you have the option of taking one of Da Artisti's workshops which range from 90 minutes to two hours. Depending on the workshop you have the option of making a 5x10 inch suncatcher for \$65, or four Christmas ornaments because it's never too early.

All of the classes are ongoing, but take place on demand. To reserve a spot, simply call the studio at 613-833-2565. Better yet, you can drop by the Cumberland Village gallery at 2565 Old Montreal Rd., chat with Wendy and browse through some of the many unique pieces produced by local artists and artisans.

In establishing the studio and gallery five years ago, Wendy's goal was to create a judgement-free environment where creativity is embraced and experiments are celebrated. It's that environment that makes Da Artisti so welcoming to aspiring artists, even if those aspiring artists are looking to express their inner creativity for the first time.

## Da Artisti

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Dr. Plant is also sensitive to the anxiety many people have when visiting the dentist. She has been successfully treating anxious patients for over 25 years to the point where they are no longer afraid of coming to the dentist and actually look forward to it and sometimes patients even fall asleep in the chair.

Getting to know her patients and their dental fears helps her decide what techniques to use to help them relax as much as possible. One of the most effective ways Dr. Plant does this is to allow her patients to communicate with her during their procedure using various techniques such as raising their hand to signal her to stop and give them a short break.

Informing her patients step by step as to what she is doing also goes a long way in reducing their level of anxiety. Offering nitrous oxide (also known as laughing gas) is another method used to relax a nervous patient.

When it comes to young patients, Dr. Plant pays special attention to a child's behaviours and feelings so that they feel unique and respected. To do this, she uses a variety of approaches such as using kid-friendly words and the "show-and-tell" technique explaining each procedure in language they understand. Dr. Plant's goal is to raise a new generation of children who have no fear of the dentist.

The Blackburn Shoppes Dental Centre also provides cosmetic services including veneers, crowns, braces and implant, utilizing the latest technology including the use of a digital scanner that takes a digital impression and 3D printing of your teeth and provides a more comfortable experience for the patient.

So, no matter what your age, you can count on having a positive, stress-free experience when visiting the Blackburn Shoppes Dental Centre.

Don't put off going to the dentist any longer – it's an important part of your overall health. You can contact the dental office at 613-834-5959 or online at [ottawafamilydentist.com](http://ottawafamilydentist.com). It's the first step in what will be a ful"filling" experience!



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With 10 bays, five licensed technicians and one apprentice technician, Precision is the largest service centre in Orléans. They also have the expertise to service any make and model of vehicle. While many people will opt for an oil change at one of a myriad of places that specialize in quick oil changes, the people who normally work at those establishments do not have the type of mechanical expertise that Precision's technicians have, to give your car a thorough inspection.

Technicians at Precision will check all your fluid levels, tire condition and pressure as well as all your drive belts and hoses. There is nothing more annoying than losing a drive belt or blowing a hose in the middle of nowhere. Not only is it inconvenient, but it can cost you valuable vacation time, not to mention a potentially expensive towing bill.

Besides belts, hoses and tires, a Precision technician can also inspect your brakes, suspension, exhaust and air conditioning. So why not take advantage of their expertise and have your vehicle checked out today to avoid the chance of a potential head-aches tomorrow? Nothing has the potential to ruin your vacation worse than an unexpected mechanical failure that could have been easily prevented by a trip to Precision Automotive. As the saying goes, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Precision Automotive owner Rob Brouwer and his staff have been providing peace of mind along with honest service and honest value for over 28 years. They offer an industry-leading 2 year/40,000km warranty on most newly installed parts and labour.

Precision Automotive is located at 385 Vantage Dr. behind the McDonald's at Innes and Tenth Line Road. You can also visit their web site at [precisionautomotive.ca](http://precisionautomotive.ca) or call them at 613-841-5550. Happy motoring!



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If you're an audio-visual buff, or just someone who wants to upgrade their home entertainment system with the latest in audio and visual technology then you need to visit the Sound & Sight showroom on St. Joseph Blvd.

Sound & Sight is the premier home entertainment and Smart Home technology store in the east end, bar none. The store is locally owned and operated by Jason Miller, who has over 30 years of experience in the audio-visual and home entertainment industry.



Jason Miller

Jason can help turn your audio-visual dreams into reality by working with you in developing a concept, coming up with the design elements and putting all the pieces in place. It all starts with Jalila Elleuch, Sound & Sight's resident interior designer. Jalila has the vision and creativity to turn any space into an audio-visual dream space by balancing the visual with the functional.

Jason's main area of expertise is on the product side of things – from multi-room sound systems to state-of-the-art home theatre set ups – he can turn your home into a Sound & Sight oasis.

They carry all the leading brands of audio visual equipment including Samsung, Sony, Harmon Kardon, Mission and Sonos, along with some leading brands you may not be familiar with such as JL Audio; Totem speakers, which are made in Montréal; and Lexicon amplifiers.

Beyond the audiovisual, Sound & Sight also equips your home with all the latest Smart Home technology including motorized blinds, security and surveillance systems, Smart Home HVAC controls, lighting controls and home networking systems. And they are also a licensed dealer for Panasonic and Human Touch massage chairs.

As you can see, Sound & Sight is more than just an audio visual store.

To get a taste of all they have to offer, visit their website at [soundsight.ca](http://soundsight.ca) which has several links to videos that are bound to spark your imagination. You can also visit their Facebook page @soundsight.ca.

But if you want to take advantage of their ongoing special deals and pricing on everything from flat screen TVs to sound bars and speakers, you need to visit their showroom at 2688 St. Joseph Blvd. at the corner of Orléans Blvd. across from the TD bank.



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# Take the first step toward pain-free feet

Orléans residents are truly fortunate to have the premier foot care clinic in the entire Ottawa region right here in their own back yard. The Orléans Dynamic Foot Clinic can diagnose and treat virtually any type of foot ailment including corns and calluses, bunions, Morton's Neuroma, plantar fasciitis, Athlete's Foot, heel spurs, ingrown toenails and planter warts.

Led by Mélissa Clouthier-Chatel, who has a Doctorate in Podiatric Medicine, the team of foot care specialists at the clinic can help you find the relief you are looking for to enjoy the quality of life you deserve. Chiropodists Anna Grynechko and Katie Kroupskaia round out the team, which also includes office manager Lucie Quinn.

With foot and back pain, many people make an incorrect self-diagnosis which often leads to the situation getting worse. The foot care specialists at the Orléans Dynamic Foot Clinic will perform a thorough examination using the latest technology to provide a diagnosis and recommend the appropriate treatment which is often covered by your health insurance.

In most cases, orthotics, custom made to your feet, will solve the problem and provide the relief you are so desperately looking for. A properly made orthotic allows for the foot's natural range of motion but limits bad tendencies in movement, returning the foot to its optimal position and functioning. The Orléans Dynamic Foot Clinic uses CryoVizion technology to perform a non-invasive examination of your lower body and feet. Through 3D imaging they can then create an optimized fit for your orthotics which can make all the difference in the world.

You shouldn't have to spend the rest of your life walking in pain. Healthier feet means happier days. Be kind to yourself and book an appointment at the Orléans Foot Clinic today. You can find their website at [orleansfootclinic.com](http://orleansfootclinic.com).



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# Building a practice one relationship at a time

The roots of the Orléans-based law firm Grandmaitre Virgo Evans Lawyers/Avocats go back a long way – more than four decades in fact, when founder Gerry Dust opened the practice in 1979. In the early 1990s, he teamed up with Brad Evans and the firm became Dust Evans.

Over the next 20 years, the two men turned the firm into one of the most pre-eminent law practices in Orléans, specializing, in Real Estate Law, Will and Estate Law and Corporate/Commercial Law.

In early 2011, Phil Grandmaitre's name was added to the partnership. He began working at the firm as a student in 2003 and was called to the Bar of Ontario in 2006.

Josée Cameron-Virgo began her career with Dust Evans in 2002 and, after spending several years with the Ottawa office of a national law firm, re-joined the Dust Evans Grandmaitre family as a partner in the fall of 2011.

Today, the firm continues to specialize in Real Estate Law, Will and Estate Law and Corporate/Commercial Law.

As leaders in the community, Brad, Phil and Josée are committed to supporting the community that supports them in any way they can, following a tradition first started by Gerry Dust who was one of the founding directors of the Orléans Chamber of Commerce and was in too many endeavours to list.

Brad Evans is a past chair of the Ottawa Mission and the Heart of Orléans BIA, and a former Board Member of Arts Ottawa East. Josée Cameron-Virgo is a past director of the Ottawa Sport Council, the Orléans Chamber of Commerce and past secretary and director of the Ottawa TFC soccer club. Phil Grandmaitre is a past president and current member of the Navan Community Association, a past member of the now defunct Business Club d'Orléans and past board member of the board of directors of the Montfort Hospital Foundation. Phil coaches multiple sports teams with which his kids are involved and is the President of the Pioneer League and well as the Navan Minor Ball Association. As a firm, GVE continues to support several local clubs and organizations through sponsorships of all kinds.

The firm is proud of its past and ongoing contributions to Orléans and its surrounding areas. It is committed to continuing the tradition of supporting the community that has supported it for over 40 years.

Whether you are buying or selling a property, getting started in business or need estate planning or administration advice, Grandmaitre Virgo Evans Lawyers/Avocats has the expertise to make the process as stress-free as possible. You can reach them by calling 613-837-1010 or you can visit their website at [gvelaw.ca](http://gvelaw.ca).



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# Providing all your photo-related needs

There is a place in Orléans where photography and photographs are treated with a reverence that is a throwback to the pre-digital days when people used to take pictures with actual film, and prints were made in darkrooms.

Michael Willems Photo is located in the Place d'Orléans Shopping Centre next to The Bay. Its owners, Michael Willems and John Heitshu and the rest of the team are committed to providing a personalized service to their customers, which includes passport photos, portraits, customized printing, framing and photo restoration – and their prices are incredibly reasonable.

Willems is a photographer who used to work in the Greater Toronto Area. He moved to Orléans in 2019 and opened his studio in August that same year.

The secret to the studio's success is the sheer quality of their work. Customers who want prints made from existing photos on their smartphone often sit side-by-side with Willems as he crops and enhances their photo to end up with the best pictures possible. The same applies to customers who have photos they need restored. Willems and the team can work miracles and make the impossible possible when it comes to photo restoration. No matter the damage, they can fix it so that the end product is close to perfection.

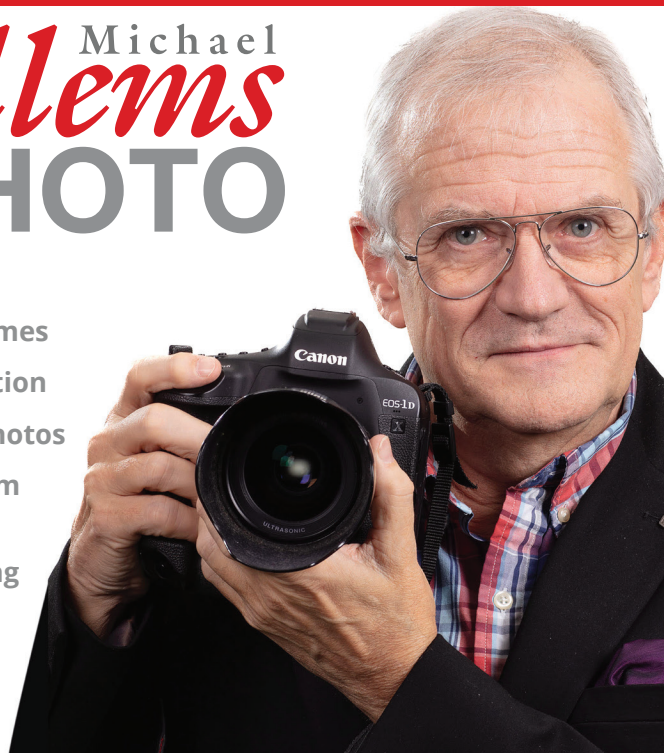
Another area of expertise is their passport photos. They take the best passport photos in town, hands down. No appointment is necessary and it takes just five minutes.

Willems also offers photography lessons with many years of experience teaching at Algonquin College, Sheridan College, Henrys and Vistek. Whether you are just a beginner or have been taking your own photos for years, Willems can help take your picture-taking skills to the next level.

To find out everything Michael Willems Photo has to offer visit their website at [michaelwillemsphoto.com](http://michaelwillemsphoto.com), or simply drop by the studio in the Place d'Orléans Shopping Centre.

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Twenty-three young people from Orléans and the surrounding area were presented with the Rotary Club's Young People of Character Awards on June 23. PHOTO SUPPLIED

## Rotary Club recognizes Young People of Character

Continued from page 1

Patti Slaunwhite also provided financial support, while Catherine Kitts, Groupe Regimbal, Laura Dudas, Orléans MP Marie-France Lalonde, Grandmaitre-Virgo-Evans Lawyers Avocats, the Pathway Group, Re/Max Hallmark Realty, Scotiabank, Sobeys, Orléans MPP Stephen Blais,

Taylor Creek Volkswagen and ServPro Canada.

Want to know more about the Rotary Club of Orleans? Go to [facebook.com/Orleans.Rotary.Club](https://facebook.com/Orleans.Rotary.Club) or visit [portal.clubrunner.ca.4921](http://portal.clubrunner.ca.4921). The Rotary Club focuses on youth, the environment, and community service (both local and international).

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# Blue Spruce Antiques a hidden gem on Dunning Rd.

By Jody Maffett  
The Orléans Star

Blue Spruce Antiques is one of those hidden gems in Cumberland that very few people know about unless they are an experienced antique hunter.

If you drive south along Dunning Road between French Hill and Colonial you will pass their sign on the right, or west side of the road.

Lorraine Seguin is the owner of Blue Spruce Antiques. She bought the business, which included a farm house and 49 acres of land, in 2006. Before that she was a regular at flea markets across the region including places like Stittsville, Masson and Lachute and had already built up a sizable collection of her own. In fact, it took her a year to move everything from her old house in Orléans to the new property on Dunning. Since then, she has only added to the collection.

In the early days, she was selling almost as much as she was purchasing. More lately,

the tables have tipped in favour of new acquisitions, which Seguin admits is the best part of being an antique dealer.

Seguin keeps most of her antiques in a large barn on the property. A nearby yurt contains the remainder of the vintage items which include antique dolls, fine china, silverware, jewelry, over 100 solid wood dining chairs, gas lamps and artwork of all kinds.

The business has managed to weather the pandemic, the derecho windstorm which ripped apart the canvas roof off one of her yurts last year, and several personal issues and setbacks.

The place is open for business once again this summer and Lorraine is eager to renew acquaintances with her regular customers and welcome some new ones.

Blue Spruce Antiques is located at 2870 Dunning Rd. They are open every Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on weekdays by appointment only. Call 613-286-2535 or 613-219-7702.

# Da Artisti offering 1-on-1 and group fused glass classes

By Jody Maffett  
The Orléans Star

If you are looking for a unique artistic experience, then you should consider taking a fused glass class at the Da Artisti Studio and Gallery in Cumberland Village.

Fusing is the heating of two or more pieces of glass in a kiln so that they melt together to form one piece. The result is an object that has a stained glass quality with colour and texture, but without the leading that is required in making stained glass. You can also do a lot more with fused glass. You can make dishes and decorative panels, or jewelry, or use it as an embellishment for other objects like night lights.

The 1-on-1 and group classes at Da Artisti are taught by owner Wendy Canci who is an accomplished fused glass artist in her own right. Each class is three hours long, during which you will make your own fused glass creation.

If you don't have three hours to spare, you

have the option of taking one of Da Artisti's workshops which range from 90 minutes to two hours. Depending on the workshop you have the option of making various objects including a night light, a strip construction or a plate set.

All of the classes are ongoing, but take place on demand. To reserve a spot, simply call the studio at 613-833-2565. Better yet, you can drop by the Cumberland Village gallery at 2565 Old Montreal Rd., chat with Wendy and browse through some of the many unique pieces produced by local artists and artisans.

In establishing the studio and gallery six years ago, Wendy's goal was to create a judgement-free environment where creativity is embraced and experiments are celebrated. It's that environment that makes Da Artisti so welcoming to aspiring artists, even if those aspiring artists are looking to express their inner creativity for the first time.



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July 18, 2024 • Volume 39, No. 5 • 13



# Cumberland Panther teams enjoying successful playoff run

By Fred Sherwin  
The Orléans Star

The Cumberland Panthers boys and girls football teams are having another successful summer season with both the girls U16 and U19 teams making it to the Ontario Women's Football League finals and the all three boys teams hoping to do the same in the Ontario Summer Football League.

Because of the delay between when the *Orléans Star* goes to press and when it's delivered to your home we do not know the results of the games that were played this past weekend at the time this article was written including either of the girls finals or the boys semi-finals, but we can review how they got this far.

The girls U16 team put on a impressive display of football in beating the Brantford Bisons 41-12 in their semi-final at Millennium Park on July 6.

Charlie Levac lead the way on offence with two touchdowns and three successful extra point attempts, while Reese Tremblay, Lila O'Byrne and Maelle Parthenais added a touchdown each.

The Panthers sixth touchdown was scored by the defence when Miranda Thomas

scooped up a turnover and ran it into the end zone. Breyana Boutin added a 2-point convert and Casey Henderson had a an interception to set up one of the Panthers' major scores

It was the Panthers' eighth win of the season against five losses.

In the final played at Millennium Park on July 13, the Panthers were up against their namesakes from Peel who were 10-2 heading into the championship game.

The U19 title game, also at Millennium, featured a battle of the unbeaten with the 7-0 Cumberland Panthers taking on the 7-0 London Wolfpaac.

The Panthers earned their spot in the championship showdown with a 16-13 win over the Peel Panthers U19 team in the semi-finals, while London beat the London Jr. Mustangs 34-7.

A story about both girls championship games will appear in the next edition of the *Orléans Star* on Aug. 1.

As for the boys, the U16 Junior Varsity team wrapped up their regular season with an exciting 33-26 overtime win against the Hamilton Junior Ti-Cats on July 6. With the victory the Junior Varsity Panthers clinched



The U16 (pictures above) and U19 Cumberland Panther girls teams are both a win away from winning their respective provincial championships.

first place in the East Division and one of the top seeds in the playoffs.

Unfortunately, the U18 senior varsity team suffered a disappointing 26-24 defeat against the Kingston Grenadiers in their season finale on July 6, which left them out of the playoffs in 5th place.

Last but by no means least, the U14

bantam varsity team was scheduled to play their season finale at the University of Ottawa against their crosstown rivals the Myers Riders on Sunday.

A win would give the banthers a perfect 8-0 record and a tie for first place with the London Jr. Mustangs who also finished the regular season with a perfect 8-0 record.

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## COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

**SATURDAY, JULY 20**

**CARIVIBE REACH THE BEACH** event on Petrie Island. Soca, Dancehall, Reggae and Afro Beats music, food concessions, a Kids Zone and much more. The festivities run from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.. Admission \$25. Children under 12 are FREE. General Admission Tickets and weekend passes are on sale at eventbrite.ca.

**CARIVIBE BOOM BOOM BLOCK PARTY** at Mexicala Rosa's on Centrum Blvd. where a number of DJs will provide music from 10 p.m. until 3 a.m.

**STARLIGHT DRAG CABARET AND PRIDE FESTIVAL** at Orléans United Church featuring eight drag entertainers and hosted by Edin Starlight. This is a family friendly

all ages event. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$12.50 for children and youth under 18. Tickets can be purchased at eventbrite.ca. Orléans United Church is located at 1111 Orléans Blvd.

**CUMBERLAND FARMERS MARKET** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the R.J. Kennedy Arena, 1115 Dunning Rd. in Cumberland Village. The Cumberland Farmers' Market features fresh vegetables, seasonal fruits, specialty foods and a variety of artisan goods.

**SUNDAY, JULY 21**

**CARIVIBE REACH THE BEACH EVENT** carries on at the Shenkman Arts Centre from 2-9 p.m. with a food festival, a Trinidad vs Jamaica Comedy Clash and dance party. General Admission Tickets and weekend passes are on sale at eventbrite.ca.

**THURSDAY, JULY 25**

**ORLEANS FARMERS MARKET** from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the parking lot at the Ray Friel Recreation Centre on Tenth Line Road. Shop the freshest seasonal produce, meat and dairy, baked goods, prepared foods, crafts and more while getting to know the folks who grew and made it.

**SUNDAY, JULY 28**

**ORIGINAL NAVAN FARMERS MARKET** from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Navan Fairgrounds featuring over 190 vendors including artists and artisans, local craft breweries, food vendors and a whole lot more. For a full run down visit facebook.com/OriginalNavanMarket/.

## IN MEMORIAM



**Joseph Armand Piquette, 82**  
Passed away on July 3, 2024

**Louise Léonie Laniel, 84**  
Passed away on June 27, 2024

**Roch Thibodeau, 80**  
Passed away on July 25, 2024



[www.heritagefh.ca/obituaries](http://www.heritagefh.ca/obituaries)

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\*The amount to be paid out as member dividends from the 2023 year-end surplus earnings is determined by each caisse at its annual general meeting in Quebec, and by the board of directors of Desjardins Ontario Credit Union Inc. in Ontario.  
For more information, visit [desjardins.com/dividends](https://desjardins.com/dividends) or contact your caisse or credit union.