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THE Orléans Star

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

October 12, 2023 • Volume 38, No. 10

Next edition October 26



A spooky cast of characters is ready to scare the daylights out of you at the sKreamers haunted barn and wagon ride located at the Proulx Farm. See story on page 9. FRED SHERWIN PHOTO

OC Transpo's financial woes worse than feared

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

OC Transpo is in bad shape. How bad? How about worse than anyone could have imagined.

Everyone knew that ridership took a tremendous blow during the COVID 19 pandemic, but it was thought that it would rebound once the pandemic was over. But that hasn't been the case. In fact, far from it.

Ridership is still way down from what had been projected prior to the pandemic.

According to the latest projection, ridership in 2023 should be around 65 million. In 2019, the transit service had projected ridership would be in excess of 110 million by 2023. In 2019, the last full year of service before the pandemic, ridership was at 100 million. By 2021, it had sunk to 30 million.

Ridership rebounded by more than 65 per cent in 2022, going from 30 million to 50 million and is expected to increase by a further

25 per cent, indicating that increasing ridership is actually slowing down as a percentage of one year to the next. This is largely due to the fact that more and more federal government employees are opting to work from home as is their prerogative under the new collective bargaining agreement.

Staff are predicting ridership won't return to pre-pandemic levels until 2030. In the meantime, costs will keep going up along with the operating deficit which stands at \$40.8 million for the current fiscal year.

According to transit staff, unless significant steps are taken, the combination of fewer riders and accumulating costs could result in a \$6.6 billion shortfall over the next 25 years, including a \$3.7 million shortfall in fare revenue.

The city has three options to offset the projected shortfall – cut service, increase fares,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 ►



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Garage sale raises \$1K for Ottawa Food Bank

ORLÉANS – A recent garage sale held on Sunview Drive in support of the Ottawa Food Bank managed to raise over \$1,000 thanks to the generosity of the folks who dropped by. Organizer Mike Johnson says he knew they were in for a good day when the first person who arrived shortly after 7:30 a.m. donated \$100 to the cause without buying a single item. Other people who dropped by also made a donation in lieu of buying anything, and those people who did make a purchase, topped-up the amount they paid by rounding off the figure to \$5 or \$10. Very little was left by the end of the day and any item that wasn't purchased was donated to Value Village.

Cork & Fork event returns to Shenkman Nov. 2-4

ORLÉANS – The Cork & Fork festival will make its long-awaited return to the Shenkman Arts Centre on Nov. 2, 3 and 4. Organized by the same people who put on the highly successful Orléans Craft Beer Festival in June, this upscale event will bring wineries, distilleries, ciders, craft beer and delicious cuisine together all under one roof at the Shenkman Arts Centre. You'll also be able to enjoy great live entertainment and exciting interactive demonstrations. There are a very limited number of tickets available for each session for this great event, so be sure to get yours today. For tickets, go to eventbrite.ca and type Cork and Fork Orleans in the search bar.

OC Transpo's financial woes worse than first feared

Continued from page 1

or increase the transit surcharge on the property tax bill. Questions are even being raised about possibly delaying construction of Phase 3 of the LRT which would take it out to Kanata and Barrhaven.

When finance staff presented the revised projections to the transit commission on Sept. 18, they suggested a combination of all three.

"Only using one lever will not solve transit's affordability issues. The solution will require a combination of changes," said deputy treasurer Isabelle Jasmin.

Despite the dire projections, Ottawa Mayor Mark Sutcliffe is taking a glass half full approach to the news and the recent difficulties the LRT has been forced to deal with including the recent shutdown and reduction in service due to ongoing technical issues.

"We are building a public transit system for the next 25 years," he told council on Sept. 18. "In a few years from now when the city has grown even more... it will be looked back upon as something that had some stumbles but was an important city-building project."

Transit staff now have several months to come up with a variety of concrete options to address the future of the service and bring them back to council by next June.

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Ciné Starz Orléans unable to renew lease over rent dispute

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

The lights have gone out at the Ciné Starz theatre on Centrum Boulevard for the last time after their landlord, Colonnade Management Inc., refused to renew their lease.

According to Colonnade, Ciné Starz has been behind in paying its rent for more than three years to the tune of more than \$80,000. The property management company had given the theatre operator until Sept. 25 to catch up. When no payment was made, Colonnade seized the theatre, changed the locks and posted a notice on the window informing the public of the seizure and the closure.

The non-payment of rent dates back to April 2020 and covers the period during which movie theatres were forced to close their doors during the COVID 19 pandemic.

While many commercial tenants in Ontario were given a break in the form of deferred rental payments during the pandemic, there was still a requirement, or at least an expectation, that the deferred rent would eventually be paid.

According to Ciné Starz spokesman Daniel Smajovits, the company was in the process of negotiating an arrangement to pay the

back rent as part of the discussions to renew their lease. Rent was paid both prior to the pandemic shutdown and ever since they were allowed to reopen.

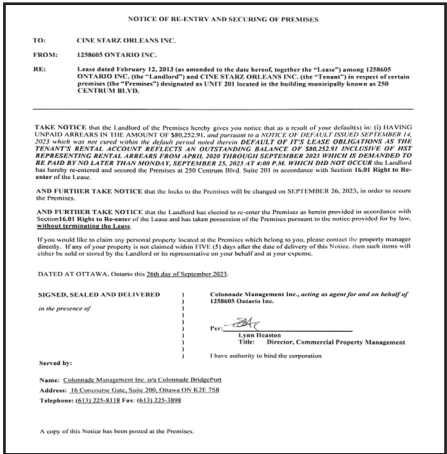
Smajovits notes the negotiations with Colonnade began in good faith, until at some point along the way Colonnade either found a new tenant, or a potential new tenant came forward.

“We reached out to them several days before (the) closure to ask about the renewal and were given excuses and told they would get back to us soon with a proposal,” says Smajovits. As it turned out they never did. The lease termination notice and seizure of the premises came as a complete surprise.

Ciné Starz Orléans first opened its doors in September 2013 to great fanfare. Since then, the theatre has shown a mix of first run feature films, repertory films and French language films. In fact, It was the only theatre in Ontario where French movies, both regular movies and children’s movies, were shown on the regular schedule, in their original format and without subtitles.

The theatre’s biggest draw were its ticket prices at only \$5 per person.

Members of Orléans’ francophone community are especially lamenting the theatre’s



The Ciné Starz Theatre, left, has closed its doors for good after it was unable to negotiate a new lease with Colonnade. Right, the letter of closure posted on its front door. STAFF PHOTOS

demise as it was the only place in Ottawa to watch feature length French movies.

The Orléans francophone organization MIFO also used the theatre for monthly screenings of French language films.

Former Orléans Ward city councillor Bob Monette, who played a key role in bringing Ciné Starz to Orléans, was saddened when he heard the news of the theatre’s closure.

“This is a major loss to the Centrum area and also a blow to moviegoers who could enjoy movies at a reasonable price there,” Monette wrote in a comment on Facebook. “Very sad for the Orléans community, both French and English.”

At this time it is not known for certain who the new tenant will be, or even if Colonnade has a new tenant lined up.

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A fine mess pt 2

In the last editorial published in the *Orléans Star*, I addressed OC Transpo's plans to introduce "on demand" service in Blackburn Hamlet as a pilot project and how this was a harbinger of things to come for the beleaguered transit company.

Now comes word that OC Transpo's financial woes are far worse than first feared.

Even though ridership is up by more than 50 per cent since the dark days of the pandemic, it is still less than half of what was forecast back in 2019. Fewer riders means fewer dollars. A lot fewer riders means a lot fewer dollars, especially if costs weren't cut to keep pace. Remember all those empty buses driving around during the pandemic? Well, they cost millions of dollars to operate along with the LRT.

How many millions you ask? According to OC Transpo, the transit service is facing a \$40.8 million deficit in the current fiscal year alone. To put that in terms of one's tax bill, it would take a four per cent tax increase to raise the necessary money to cover those losses.

And the news doesn't look any better in the years ahead. According to the same OC Transpo officials, it will take another 27 years before ridership is restored to pre-pandemic levels, and unless cuts aren't implemented or additional revenue sources aren't maximized, further losses could total \$6.6 billion – that's million with a "b" – that includes \$3.7 billion in unrealized fare revenue.

Making up for those losses would require a 20 per cent tax increase every year for the next 25 years, and since that's highly unlikely, the city is going to have to make some difficult decisions.

The first temptation would be to cut bus routes and purchase smaller buses to accommodate the reduction in ridership in the most efficient way possible. In the first case, cutting bus routes will only result in even fewer riders. And in the second case, purchasing newer buses will cost a pile of money which the city doesn't have.

The number one reason ridership hasn't bounced back as first predicted is the federal government's decision to allow employees to work from home indefinitely. The loss of that core ridership has put the entire transit service in jeopardy.

Drastic circumstances require drastic measures including a complete revamping of the entire service.

The people who run OC Transpo are promising that the city will get through the difficulties and end up with a stronger system. Personally, I wouldn't bet on it. The more likely scenario is for the service to be scaled back a select number of main arterial routes with some sort of on demand service to get to them. When and how that will happen, only time will tell. Until then the losses will pile up and so will the bill.

– Fred Sherwin, editor

THE Orléans Star

ocna
Ontario Community Newspapers Association

Fredrick C. Sherwin, Editor & Publisher
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The Orléans Star is a bi-weekly publication distributed to 44,000 residences in Blackburn Hamlet, Orléans and Navan. The newspaper is locally owned and operated by Sherwin Publishing Inc., 745 Farmbrook Cres., Orléans, ON. Inquiries and delivery issues should be sent to info@orleansstar.ca.

OC TRANSP0 IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE



Affordable Housing and Groceries Act aims to deliver urgent action

As we transition to the season of fall, I hope you are all enjoying the beautiful colours it brings.

On Sept. 30, we marked the third National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. I was honoured to attend the unveiling of the "Sacred Children's Forest" at the Beechwood Cemetery. This Sacred Children's Forest and the stone that commemorates it will be a focal point for reconciliation and the long journey ahead in memory of the thousands of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit children who never returned home. I truly encourage everyone to take a few moments to visit the commemorative monument in our national cemetery.

October marks Women's History Month, an opportunity to celebrate the amazing women and young girls in our community who work tirelessly to advance women's rights and promote gender equality. It's also the month to celebrate the Latin American and German Heritage Months, as well as the Canadian Islamic History Month, and for all of us to learn more about the many significant achievements and contributions these vibrant communities bring to our community of Orléans.

We celebrated World Teachers' Day on Oct. 4. I want to take this opportunity to say thank you to all the extraordinary teachers in Orléans in recognition of their hard work and their professionalism in supporting our students. You are contributing to their

success towards a bright future.

Moreover, I am pleased to see the federal government investing in Canadians and members of our community that are feeling the cost of living by introducing the government's first piece of legislation this fall – Bill C-56, the Affordable Housing and Groceries Act – to deliver urgent action that will build more rental housing and help stabilize grocery prices, as well as strengthen consumer advocacy by establishing a Grocery Task Force.

The Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry has met with CEOs of the major five grocers and has secured commitments from the them to work towards lowering prices. Canadians can expect to see targeted actions, including discounts on grocery staples, price freezes, and price matching soon.

Small businesses are the backbone of our local economy. During Small Business Week from Oct. 15-21, we celebrate the many small businesses in our community. And I especially want to thank you, Orléans, for supporting them.

I hope you had a great time celebrating Thanksgiving last weekend. It always feels good to show gratitude and take a moment to appreciate quality time with our family and friends.

La version française est maintenant disponible sur ma page Facebook



Commons Corner

Marie-France Lalonde

Reader proof positive you're never to old to see the world

After writing my last column about the many people I have met during my travels over the past year and a half, I received an email from an avid reader who identified with both my newly found passion for traveling and the many young people I have met along the way.

Judy Stewey is 80 years old and her passion for traveling is still very much alive and well.

Although she remembers reading National Geographic magazines in her youth and dreaming about visiting the places featured in their pages, she never acted on those dreams until she retired 15 years ago. Even then, it never occurred to her to jump on a plane and fly off to some far-off country.

It wasn't until a friend of hers who had moved to South Korea invited her to visit that she decided to make the long flight to Soeul. She ended up falling in love with the country and stayed for three months. In fact, she loves the country so much she eventually tattooed her name in Korean on her arm. They always say you never forget your first love. Fortunately, I never tattooed the name of my first love on my arm, or anywhere else on my body.

Following her trip to South Korea, she



visited Southeast Asia several more times including Japan. In 2019, she went to Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos with a group of five other women who were all in their 60s and 70s and who had never met before. The only thing they had in common was there desire to visit that part of the world.

"It was one of the best trips ever," says Judy.

Earlier that same year, she took a cruise to the Eastern Mediterranean and visited Israel, Turkey and Greece.

She estimates that she has been to over 30 countries since she retired. She's not sure of the exact number and keeps a map of the world on her wall in which she places pins in the countries she's visited to remind her where she's been.

The two things she loves the most about

traveling is learning about different cultures and meeting new people, although she's a self-confessed introvert.

"A glass of wine always helps," Judy jokes.

Besides my passion for traveling, Judy also identifies with having a lot of friends who are younger than herself.

"I don't think about age. It's never been a thing. Who cares? It's about meeting people who share common interests," says Judy, who still stays in touch with friends she met five and 10 years ago during trips to Scotland and the Czech Republic among other countries.

Traveling can also be a way to form a closer bond with family members, like the time the boys and I traveled to Cuba in 2017.

One of Judy's favourite and most memorable trips was when she and her daughter went on a cruise around the Italian peninsula in 2016 and visited places like Venice and Rome. She was 73 and her daughter was 52. They hadn't traveled outside of the country together since her daughter was 15, mostly because one or the other of them was busy taking care of their family.

Which reminds me, I need to take my daughter to England either this summer or

next. She loves history and especially British history.

A couple of things Judy doesn't share with me is my penchant for being spontaneous, traveling without a pre-planned itinerary, or traveling alone.

Being a woman, I can understand why she would rather not travel alone and I am always impressed when I meet young women who do. Their reasoning is that they always meet people along the way, so technically they are never alone.

As for always needing to have a pre-planned itinerary, I know for a fact she's is not alone. A lot people need at least a rough idea of where they are going and what they are going to do every day, even if its just relaxing on a beach. Personally, I just love never knowing what the next day is going to bring, because each day brings a different surprise.

As for Judy, she has not traveled since the outbreak of the COVID virus in March 2020, but the bug is still there.

She still has a number of countries on her bucket list including Scandinavia, Australia and maybe one last trip to Asia.

At 80 years of age, Judy is proof positive that you are never to old to get out and see the world.

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Residents asked to take advantage of ‘Be Safe, Be Seen’ campaign

One of the most common concerns I hear from residents is the issue of speeding across our city. Whether I am canvassing door to door, receiving emails and calls, scrolling through Facebook community pages, or simply out and about, I hear how frustrated people are with the speeding on our streets.

Although speeding is a provincial offence, both road safety and traffic calming are municipal affairs and as Chair of the transportation committee, I see how much effort the City has been putting into mitigating harm caused by speeding.

Investing in safe road design and enforcement is key to road safety, and most initiatives in the implementation plan are engineering and enforcement related. But education toward road users’ behaviour change is also an important element in shifting and accepting a safer road culture.

For the month of October, the Road Safety Action Plan will centre its communications on speeding and aggressive driving. Their monthly efforts include the promotion of

safety messaging through advertisements, feature stories published to the ottawa.ca newsroom, and organic social media posts. The goal is to change behaviour, resulting

in safer roads across our city.

Sadly, between 2017 and 2021, aggressive driving behaviours of at least 209 drivers was a contributing factor in fatal and major injury collisions

in Ottawa. The most common contributing factors to fatal and major injury collisions include failure to yield the right of way, loss of control, speeding, disobeying traffic control and improper turning or passing.

As part of the Safer Roads Ottawa’s “Be Safe Be Seen” campaign, the public is invited to pick up a free light or reflective item for pedestrians and cyclists from Ottawa Fire Stations around the city. Locations, and dates and times for pick-up are listed at Ottawa.ca/BeSafeBeSeen.

The days are getting darker, and the trick-or-treaters will soon flood the streets. I encourage everyone including both motorists and pedestrians safe and be seen.



Tim Tierney

Beacon Hill-Cyrville Ward 11

Entrepreneurial spirit and economic opportunity alive and well in Orléans

The sense of excitement is always palatable whenever I speak with owners of newly opened businesses.

Their products are varied: specialty donuts, dressmaking and alterations, gluten-free food, pottery, accounting and bookkeeping and a myriad of service providers to name a few of our new establishments. However, their attraction to setting up shop in Orléans is the same; they all recognize the rising potential in Ottawa’s east end, and they want to play a part.

A huge new development for our local business community is the upcoming expansion of the Heart of Orléans Business Improvement Association (BIA).

The expansion of the BIA provides a larger scope for this important business entity, incorporating new businesses down the hill, as well as further along St. Joseph Blvd. This expansion was unanimously supported at city council and ties in beautifully with the Orléans Secondary Plan and its goals of job creation, smart growth and improved amenities.

An additional benefit of a strong BIA is a unified voice advocating for the needs of businesses in the east end. This is something we have seen in other areas of the city, and

as Orléans grows and evolves over time, having that entrepreneurial voice working with the city and partners will make a difference in bringing further investment to our community, attracting

new businesses and jobs and promoting existing ones.

At the same time as we welcome new ventures, established businesses on Innes Rd., St. Joseph Blvd., Orléans Blvd. and Jeanne d’Arc Blvd., are thriving, growing and renovating their spaces to meet renewed customer demand. As the business community continues to recover from the impacts of the pandemic, this is proof positive of this exciting renewal.

The success of local businesses is everyone’s success; local jobs and owners mean money spent in our community and a bevy of product offerings for all of us to enjoy.



Laura Dudas

Innes Ward 2

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Wine & Tree event raises funds for local environmental project

By Dorothy Berthelet
Special to the Orléans Star

A Wine and Tree event held on Sept. 17 at the Domaine Perrault winery in Navan raised funds for the Rotary Club of Orleans's Ottawa Rotary Youth Forest (ORYF), an environmental initiative that focuses on involving youth in the planting and nurturing of trees which ties in with the 50 Million Tree Program led by Forests Ontario.

Students from St. Peter High School and École secondaire publique Gisèle Lalonde in Orléans were recognized as part of the event for having planted 1,000 trees at Navandale Farms on May 2, along with the South Nation Conservation Authority which assisted with the Navandale property.

Rotary Club of Orléans president Batool Siddiqui thanked all those who provided assistance during the event.

Ottawa city councillors Catherine Kitts and Laura Dudas attended the event along with Orléans MP Marie-France Lalonde and

MPP Stephen Blais, who were also present and shared their support. Attendees enjoyed the wine, delicious refreshments and good companionship while also enjoying the beautiful sunny location.

As the tree-planting initiative rolls forward, the Rotary Club of Orléans is seeking a landowner who is interested in planting trees on their property. The property should be at least 10 hectares in size in order to accommodate the planting of at least 10,000 trees over several years. The location must also be located in the City of Ottawa and within the South Nation River watershed.

The 50 Million Tree Program will provide the landowner with financial support to offset the costs of planting trees on their property.

The Rotary Club of Orléans is also looking for volunteers to help plant and water trees and remove weeds. Please call 613-841-4261 or e-mail phil.mcneely19@gmail.com to register as a volunteer, or to offer property.



Members of the Rotary Club of Orléans stand around the first tree planted at the Domaine Perreault winery in Navan with local politicians and the owners of Domaine Perrault. PHOTOS SUPPLIED



The Orléans Cork & Fork is back!

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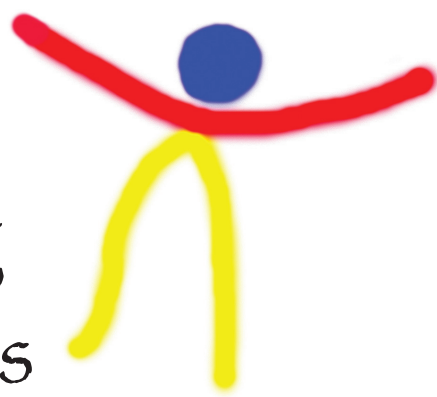
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Do you know someone in your community under the age of 18 whose talents and abilities set them apart during the past year? If so, why not consider nominating them for the Orléans Outstanding Youth Awards? Nominees must be 17 years old or younger as of Sept. 1, 2023, and reside within the City of Ottawa east of Blair Road. Nominees will be judged on their accomplishments between Oct. 1, 2022 and Sept. 30, 2023. All submissions must include the name, address and phone number of both the nominee and the nominator as well as a resume of the nominee's accomplishments. There are no categories *per se* – those nominated will be judged on their accomplishments in any one area, or a combination of areas. Nominations can be submitted by e-mail to OYA@orleansstar.ca or regular mail to The Orléans Star c/o 745 Farmbrook Cres., Orléans ON, K4A 2C1. The deadline for entries is Oct. 31. For additional information visit www.orleansonline.ca/OYA, or call Fred Sherwin at 613-447-2829.

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The winners in the younger age group will receive passes to the Proulx Farm's 27th annual pumpkin festival, while the older winners will receive passes to the sKreamers Haunted Barn and Creepy Wagon Ride.
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Spook-tacular sKreamers attraction is back

While many people associate the month of October with fall foliage, Thanksgiving and setting their clocks back an hour, there are a great number of people who associate October with ghosts, goblins and things that go bump in the night, culminating with Halloween.

For those people, no October is complete without a trip to sKreamers, Ottawa's most spook-tacular Halloween attraction open every Friday and Saturday night at the Proulx Farm near Orleans.

sKreamers is the name given to the two haunted barns and the creepy wagon ride that make up the attraction which has become a major fundraising activity for Kiwanis Eastern Ottawa Est.

sKreamers is the brainchild, and some

might say the obsession, of Kiwanis member Harley Bloom who first put together a modest Halloween attraction in the Gloucester Centre Mall in 2001.

It wasn't until 2006, after an exhaustive search for a more permanent location, that the Kiwanis Club made a formal arrangement with the Proulx Farm to convert one of their barns into a haunted house.

The attraction has evolved over the years to include a second barn and a creepy wagon ride involving over 200 volunteer actors, many of them students who use the experience to earn community service hours.

Recognized among Canada's Top 10 scariest attractions, sKreamers has raised over \$500,000 for various community

initiatives while scaring the daylights out of people, many of whom continue to come back year after year.

To find out more about sKreamers including the attraction's ticket policy, visit www.skreamers.ca. Admission is \$20 per person. Tickets must be pre-ordered by visiting the website.

If you have any questions, you can e-mail them at skreamersottawa@gmail.com.

The Proulx Farm is located at 1865 O'Toole Rd. off Innes Road just east of Trim Road.



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Councillor // Ward 2 Orléans West-Innes
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NEIGHBOURHOOD UPDATE

Come say “hi”!

Whether during open office hours, a community event, or when simply doing neighbourhood rounds, I truly enjoy hearing from you on what matters most. I regularly make a point of knocking on doors with my team – if you see me doing the rounds on your street, don't hesitate to stop me and say “hello”!

STAY IN THE LOOP!

Sign up for my monthly newsletter at [LauraDudas.ca/contact/](https://lauradudas.ca/contact/).



Gems

Thank you to everyone who submitted nominations for the Fourth Annual Gems Awards.

Congratulations to this year's winners:

- Ace Arte Studio
- Arteast
- Kiwanis East Ottawa
- Studio Jade
- La Société franco-ontarienne du patrimoine et de l'histoire d'Orléans (SFOPHO)
- Rangoli
- blanc&turquoise
- M.A.P Physiotherapy



For all the details on the 2023 Gems recipients, visit: [LauraDudas.ca/Gems](https://lauradudas.ca/Gems).

City Budget

The Draft City Budget 2024 is scheduled for consideration by City Council on December 6. It is important for me to hear directly from you about this proposed budget. I will be co-hosting a joint Budget Consultation with Councillors Kitts, Luloff, and Tierney on November 18. Join us from 12:30 to 2 pm at Ray Friel Recreation Complex, located at 1585 10th Line Road, in the Fallingbrook Room (Hall D). City staff will be in attendance to explain how the City Budget works, and to answer your questions. I look forward to seeing you all there.

In addition to the joint consultation, I will be hosting a number ward-specific budget events and activities in the coming weeks. If you would like to receive updates on the timing and locations, please let me know by sending an email to Laura.Dudas@Ottawa.ca.

If you can't attend these events, I still want to hear from you on your priorities. I am hosting a survey on my website at [LauraDudas.ca/Budget2024](https://lauradudas.ca/Budget2024).



SAVE THE DATE!

Pumpkin Parade

SAVE THE DATE: In partnership with École élémentaire catholique l'Étoile-de-l'Est, I will be hosting the fourth annual Pumpkin Parade on Wednesday, November 1 at Louis Perrault Park. This is one of my favourite annual events and it's incredibly popular with families. Last year we had well over 250 jack-o'-lanterns!

For updates on the drop-off and parade start time check back at [LauraDudas.ca](https://lauradudas.ca) or follow my Facebook page at Facebook.com/CouncillorLauraDudas.

Improving Our Neighbourhoods 2023 Year at a Glance

- ✓ Major road resurfacing projects completed this year:
 - Jeanne d'Arc Boulevard
 - Innes Road
 - Bilberry Drive
- ✓ Updated, accessible play structures at Pierre Rocque and Barnabé Parks
- ✓ New bench at St. Louis Woods Pathway
- ✓ Improved and resurfaced pathways
 - Diceman Park
 - Troyes Park
 - North Vineyard Park
 - Bearbrook Park
 - Pierre Rocque Park



Ward 2 Orléans West-Innes

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CALLING ALL PARENTS!
DO YOU AND YOUR PARTNER LIVE TOGETHER AND HAVE A CHILD AGED 3 TO 5?

Researchers at the University of Ottawa invite you to participate in a study exploring how mothers and fathers play with their children during the preschool years. Each parent will be invited to come to the University of Ottawa to play different games with their child. Monetary compensation is provided for each participation.



For more information, please contact
Dr. Jean-François Bureau
613-562-5800 ex 4495

Local beauty salon and spa does its part to protect the environment

STAR STAFF – AKA Beauty Concepts has been doing its part to protect the environment for the past 10 years.

The Orléans beauty salon and spa is part of the Green Circle Salon Program which recovers, recycles and repurposes the chemical waste from beauty salons.

The program partners with over 40 like-minded companies across North America, including recycling facilities, chemical waste facilities, clean energy producers and bio-composite plastic producers.

AKA Beauty Concepts is located at 2586 St. Joseph Blvd. next to the Garlic King and across from McDonald's.

They offer a complete line of services including styling, colouring, highlighting, hair botox treatment and nail treatments.

The professional staff at AKA Beauty Concepts pride themselves on making sure that every client leaves the salon smiling and satisfied with their results.

"Our complete devotion to creating amazing hair and customized aesthetic services in our attractive and welcoming



AKA Beauty Concepts is located at 2586 St. Joseph Blvd. next to the Garlic King and across from McDonalds. STAFF PHOTO

salon and spa will leave you feeling fabulous, refreshed and relaxed," they state on their website.

The salon will be celebrating its 10th

anniversary on Oct. 23.

Members of the public are invited to drop by, meet the staff and ask any questions they may have.

Tastes OF THE WORLD

Monday, October 16, 2023

Noon to 3:00pm

EVENTS

Live performance by
Nick Straccini
Flag Trivia
World Travelogue

RSVP Appreciated *Adrian at 613-416-8678*

www.allseniorscare.com



"Taste the Difference" MENU

Coq au Vin - France
Pork Schnitzel - Germany
Cabbage Roll - Poland
Cottage Pie - Britain
Chicken Goulash - Austrian

Les saveurs DU MONDE

lundi 16 octobre 2023

Midi à 15h00

ÉVÉNEMENTS

Interprétation en direct
par Nick Straccini
Trivia sur les drapeaux
Carnet de voyage

RSVP apprécié *Adrian au 613-416-8678*

"Goûtez la différence" MENU

Coq au vin - France
Escalope de porc - Allemagne
Rouleau de chou - Pologne
Cottage Pie - Grande-Bretagne
Goulasch au poulet - Autriche



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What's on in Orléans

STAR STAFF – With Thanksgiving in the rearview mirror and Hallowe'en just around the corner there is plenty to see and do over the next two weeks in the east end.

For those people who appreciate live music, there is no shortage of venues to choose from starting with the Stray Dog Brewing Company in the Taylor Creek Business Park.

The Stray Dog Taproom Series features appearances by The Whiskey Ghost this Saturday, RedFox on the 21st and Moonfruits on Friday, Oct. 27.

The Whiskey Ghost plays covers of such legendary Canadian bands as the Tragically Hip and Blue Rodeo, while RedFox is a five piece indie-folk band based in Montreal. Moonfruits is a bilingual art-funk duo from Ottawa.

Ryan MacIntyre will be playing at the Royal Oak Pub in Orléans this Friday, Oct. 13 and Divided Highway will be the feature band at Taproom260 on Centrum Blvd. on Saturday.

Friday, Oct. 13 is also country music night at the Broadhead Brewery in the Taylor Creek Business Park, featuring Eastbound of Bytown.

This weekend is also when the Mac My Cheese Fest will take place in the Orléans Festival Plaza on Centrum Blvd. Members of the public will be able to purchase their favourite comfort food at a variety of delicious cheesy food vendors.

If you're a wrestling fan, Broadhead is presenting a Remix professional wrestling event in their taproom this Saturday starting at 7 p.m. Tickets are available online or at the brewery on Vimont Court.

On Sunday, Oct. 15, Broadhead will be hosting a Fall Makers Market featuring 35+ vendors including Meatings BBQ. The event gets underway at 11 a.m. with free admission and free parking.

On Wednesday, Oct. 18 the Shenkman Arts Centre's matinée series will feature the duo Kamancello who combine the Kurdish Kamanche with classical cello.

There are also still tickets left for the Huu Bac Quintet who will be playing in the Richcraft Theatre on Thursday Oct. 25 as part of the Shenkman Arts Centre's World Music series.

Last, but by no means least, the Royal Oak Pub in Orléans will be hosting a Hallowe'en party on Saturday, Oct. 28.

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Young karter earns ticket to world championship in Bahrain

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

Fourteen-year-old Olivier Mrak has a need for speed and its about to take him to Italy and Bahrain.

The Orléans teen has been competing in kart racing since 2018 with the encouragement of his father Andreas, who always dreamed of racing himself.

The first year was spent practicing and getting used to the sport.

In 2019, Olivier started to compete at the cadet level, where he remained until the end of the 2020 karting season.

In the summer of 2021, he graduated to the Rotax Minimax category for kids aged 9 to 12. Rotax is a kart racing series organized by the manufacture and distributors of Rotax kart products. Competition takes place on a club, national and international level which culminates once a year in the Grand Finals.

In August of 2022, Olivier traveled to Indiana to compete in an international event and then in April of this year, he raced in the Rotax Max Junior category in Montréal and placed second.

With each successive category, the engines

get bigger and the karts get faster. But with each category also comes a learning period to get used of the competition, because with successive category the competition gets more intense and the competition gets more aggressive as Andreas Mrak explains.

“Olivier is always very fast in qualifying and he usually ends up on the front row at the start or the second row, but as a first-year junior, he’s not used to all the contact you have in the junior racing,” says Andreas, who knows a thing or two about fast cars as the owner of Mark Motors. “He knows how to wiggle his way through traffic to get to the front. Unfortunately, that also makes him a target sometimes.”

In August, Olivier managed to avoid any serious contact and placed fourth at the Rotax Max Junior race in Hamilton.

Between his qualifying results and his race results, Olivier earned enough points to win one of three tickets to the World Championships in Bahrain later this month.

According to Andreas Mrak, the event in Bahrain is first class with the entrants even getting to race their karts on parts of the Formula 1 track in Bahrain. The organizers provide the karts and a maintenance area for



Olivier Mrak with his father Andreas, above, and behind the wheel of his Rotax Max Junior kart. PHOTOS SUPPLIED

each racer.

When he gets there, Olivier will face some pretty tough competition. With more than 75 karts entered in his category alone, it would be a huge achievement just to make the final.

Olivier’s father is hoping his son will employ the proper balance of coolness on

the track to avoid any possible contact, along with the proper level of aggression when he needs to move up through the pack.

“Often times it’s not the fastest kart that wins the race, but the one that’s able to avoid all the craziness. You don’t have to be the fastest, you have to be the smartest,” says Mrak.



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Young hockey prospect's journey takes him to British Columbia

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

The road to a professional hockey career can often take a few twists and turns. Such is the case for 17-year-old hockey prospect Aidan Souigny.

Aidan began his hockey journey with the Cumberland Minor Hockey Association, but his talent would soon see him join the Ottawa Jr. 67s AAA peewee team. He progressed up through the various age divisions until he was drafted by the Navan Grads Junior A team in 2021.

Unfortunately, things didn't quite work out with the Grads and Souigny decided to play elsewhere. His agent put out a few feelers to see if any teams south of the border needed a defencemen and he ended up in New Jersey playing for a U16 major midget team.

While in New Jersey he was scouted by Boston University, which happens to have one of the best Division 1 hockey programs in the United States. They expressed interest in Souigny joining the program on a full ride scholarship in 2024 and he made a verbal commitment to go there.

The only question that remained was where would he play hockey this season?

Although he was drafted by the Oshawa

Generals last spring, the OHL was not an option because to play there would mean losing his NCAA eligibility.

His only other option was to find a Junior A team in a competitive league, where he could continue to develop as a player.

After weighing several different offers and opportunities, he settled on the Salmon Arm Silverbacks in Salmon Arm, BC, near Kelowna.

The Silverbacks finished fourth in their conference in the British Columbia Hockey League last season and made it all the way to the semi-finals in the playoffs.

The decision to play in BC was made on the advice of his father, his agent and Boston University, which endorsed the move.

It hasn't been the easiest of transitions, however. Salmon Arm is a long way from Navan, where his parents live and where he grew up.

"When I played in New Jersey last winter, I was away from home, but it was only an eight-hour drive. Salmon Arm is on the other side of the country," explains Souigny.

"It's been a huge adjustment. In fact, I'm still adjusting to the lifestyle and to the hockey. It's a lot quicker than in New Jersey."

Souigny is also adjusting to having to



Navan native Aidan Souigny is playing Junior A hockey in British Columbia with the dream of one day playing in the NHL. FILE PHOTO

study online while he's playing hockey.

Technically, he is still enrolled at École secondaire Garneau and he does all of his courses asynchronously through the French Catholic school board.

The challenge is in maintaining his marks

so he won't lose the academic requirements to get into Boston University.

So far, it hasn't been a problem, and as long as he keeps his eye on the prize of a Division 1 scholarship and a potential professional hockey career, he should do just fine.



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COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

SATURDAY, OCT. 14

NAVAN FALLFEST at the Navan Fairgrounds from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lots of fun activities for the whole family. Kids games, scarecrow making, silent auction, decorated pumpkin contest. Pancake breakfast from 8-11 a.m. at the Navan Fire Hall. Check out the cool fire trucks and have your picture taken with Sparky.

SATURDAY, OCT. 21

THE ORLEANS PHOTO CLUB meeting from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Queenswood Heights Community Centre at the corner of Duford and Amiens. For more information visit www.CPOPC.ca.

SUNDAY, OCT. 22

HARVEST MARKET at the Domaine Perrault Winery, 1000 Perrault Rd. near Navan. Highlights include: 20 awesome local vendors; Wood-fired pizza truck and Smoqueschack BBQ food truck; Mulled wine and wine tastings and pumpkin painting for the kids!

GENERAL NOTICES

BUSY FINGERS – Calling all knitters and crocheters. Looking for something to keep you busy this winter and socialize with other like-minded individuals? Than why not join the Busy Fingers knitting club. We meet the first and third Monday every month and the yarn is provided. For more information call Eileen McCaughey at 613-841-3641.


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