

Manor

Willistead Manor Christmas.

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Protest

Animal Action Group protests against coats.

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Race

Paramedic students prepare to race.

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College

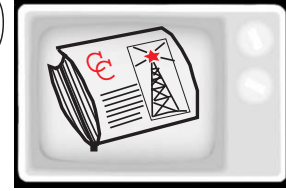
Ribbon cutting for a new building.

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THE CONVERGED CITIZEN

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Students carol for Christmas festival



Photo By Laura Berry

University of Windsor students sing carols to a vast number of onlookers at the Festival of Music celebration inside Windsor's Assumption Church. The choir, led by Jeffery Walker, sang an assortment of classical, traditional, and sing-along style Christmas songs.

The Festival of Christmas has been a recurring Christmas event held every year during the first weekend of December. The festival has been running for over 40 years. The event kicked off at 3 p.m. and covered a wide arrangement of classical, traditional and modern songs.

New gallery comes to Windsor

By Leah Squire

The new 484 Art Gallery on Pelissier Street opened November 17 and is the first multimedia gallery in Windsor.

The first show the new gallery is holding is featuring artist Anthony Macri. Macri's work is mainly black and white photography on traditional film with no digital enhancements. His work captures downtown Detroit over a span of five years. Some of his pictures include the Old Tiger Stadium as well as Henry Ford's first automobile factory, which was turned into a production theatre and now serves as a parking garage. This is a unique opportunity

GALLERY

Continued on page 4

Cancer research in Windsor

By BrittanyMcCormick

Cancer research is not limited to finding a cure for this disease.

Being diagnosed with any form of cancer can often be a stressful and emotional experience. Organizations like the Canadian Cancer Society and the Windsor and Essex County Cancer Centre Foundation are working to improve the quality of life of cancer and palliative care patients using alternative methods.

Dr. Michael Dufresne, research grants administrator for the Windsor -Essex County Cancer Centre Foundation, believes cancer is a global problem. He said only through ongoing funding and excellent research will we

generate results.

"Ultimately, cancer research affects our community by reducing the incidence of cancer in the general population and by decreasing the mortality from cancer and increasing quality of life for those living with cancer," said Dufresne.

The Canadian Cancer Society suggests techniques like venting your emotions and distracting yourself as productive ways to manage stress. It is true that laughter can sometimes be the best medicine. Simply laughing at something that is funny can release chemicals from your brain that can relax your muscles and create a positive effect.

Judy Lund, manager of the Essex County unit of the

Canadian Cancer Society, knows it is vital to have programs that allow patients and their families to cope with cancer.

"We get calls and thank-you cards from people who have been driven by our volunteers or have talked to our peer support program," said Lund. "We are all working towards the goal of having more people surviving this disease and thriving after the diagnosis."

Artistic activities such as writing poetry, singing and making music are also tools used while coping with cancer.

Dr. Lucanne Magill from the University of Windsor recently received a \$50,000 grant from the Cancer Centre Foundation Seeds4Hope

awards program promoting her Odes and Odysseys project.

This focuses on the impact of song writing and the recording of music during therapy with cancer patients and their families.

Therapeutic songwriting encourages communication between patients and their families. It allows them to reveal their feelings and share messages while creating a legacy with their work.

"Programs such as the Patient Assistance Fund, social work, palliative care, health and diet programs, support groups, music therapy, spiritual programs and learning resource rooms help to ease the stress of living with cancer for patients and their families,"

said Dufresne.

According to the Canadian Cancer Society website, alternative complementary therapies include tai chi, aroma therapy and massage therapy. Music therapy is a creative outlet that promotes healing. Canadian cancer studies have shown evidence of music therapy reducing pain, relieving nausea and lowering heart rate and blood pressure.

"I've lost my mother to cancer," said Lund. "When you have a diagnosis like that in your family it seems like your world is moving at a separate pace than the rest of the world. I found that when people are nice to you and can provide support it means more than words can express."

NEWS

History for the holidays



Photo By Kristie Pearce

The Blais construction company float made it snow on Riverside Drive at the 2009 Windsor Santa Claus Parade. Thousands turned up Saturday night to watch over 40 floats parade down the street.

Thousands brave cold for Santa parade

By Kristie Pearce

From marching bands to a stilt-walking fire-juggler, Windsor's annual Santa Claus Parade saw over 40 floats participate in this year's parade for a crowd of thousands.

Children bundled from head to toe lined the streets eagerly waiting as most parents clutched their Timmy's trying to keep warm. Some even arrived with thermoses from home and blankets draped around their shoulders. Shouts of Merry Christmas rang through the night despite the -2 C temperature Saturday night. The Parade began at 6 p.m. and the route stretched along Riverside Drive from Rankin Avenue to Brock Street.

Jenn Katona brought her six-year-old daughter Jasmine to watch the parade she has been enjoying since she was a kid herself.

"I loved it. There's something different every year and I like that," said Katona.

The much-anticipated Santa Claus made his appearance in the finale like every other year. The man in red followed local police and firemen, Miss Canada Galaxy, Natalie Lapointe, Silver Stars Horses, over four marching bands; including two from Detroit, an Elvis impersonator on stilts and a fire-juggler.

The parade attracted crowds of all ages and lasted just over an hour.

Nikiya Berry, 23, who sported a Santa hat with a matching red sweater and said she loves coming to the annual parade.

"It's the best. I loved the Windsor Optimist Youth Band," said Berry.

The Windsor Santa Claus Parade Corporation has been producing the parade annually since 1969.



Photo By Laura Lemmon

Gary Wintermute, a member of the Friends of Willistead, shows of the Christmas decor in Willistead Manor's kitchen and butler's quarters. The 36-room manor is currently decorated for the holidays and is open for tours Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons throughout the month of December.

By Laura Lemmon

The holiday season is being celebrated in style at Windsor's historic Willistead Manor.

Keeping with a now popular tradition, member of the Friends of Willistead took time to decorate 12 rooms in the manor and have residents of the city visit and celebrate the season with a piece of history.

"It's the best time of year to see the house," said Sadie Hearn, a member of the Friends of Willistead. "It's beautiful throughout the year, but at Christmastime there's an extra charm."

Most years, there is an overall theme to the manor's decorations, but Hearn said this year there is more of an eclectic look.

"There's no specific theme this year," she said. "Each room is decorated differently to reflect the style of the designer and the feel of the specific room."

The seasonal tours offer a chance to mix the holiday season with Windsor's historic past.

Completed in 1906, Willistead was built by Hiram Walker's son, Edward Chandler Walker, and named

as a memorial to his older brother, Willis. It was established as a residence for Walker and his wife, Mary, so that he could be close to the Canadian Club plant that he took over after his father's death.

Over the years, Willistead has been used as a public library, housed the Art Gallery of Windsor and has been fully restored after years of near disrepair.

"It's the best time of year to see the house."

-- Sadie Hearn

When it was re-opened to the public in 1981, the Friends of Willistead began decorating for Christmas to draw locals to the manor.

"We're the ones that started doing the Christmas decorations," said Mary Jane Dettinger, past president of the Friends of Willistead. "It was extremely successful and continues to be."

Dettinger said their continued success during the holiday season has a lot to do with renewed historical interest in the Windsor-Essex area as well as with family traditions.

"When people come in I always ask them if it's their

first visit to Willistead," said Dettinger. "A lot of people say 'Oh no, we come here every year'. Or a lot of people bring their grandchildren. It's a great way of getting people to come to Willistead and start a special tradition with their family or friends."

While the Christmas themed decorations help to draw crowds to Willistead, decorator Lynn Teahan said it is the beauty of the actually home that keeps them coming back.

"The old-world charm captivates everyone who visits," said Teahan. "So many people come through and they marvel at things we don't see in homes today: the grand staircase, the many different rooms and the hand-carved woodwork on all the accents. Homes like this aren't built anymore and it amazes people to see it."

While it seems like Willistead is a popular place to visit for those in the holiday spirit, not everyone knows about the Walker family home.

According to Hearn, distant relatives of the Walkers have just discovered the existence of Willistead Manor and their historical and familial link to the property. They plan to visit in the summer of 2010.

NEWS

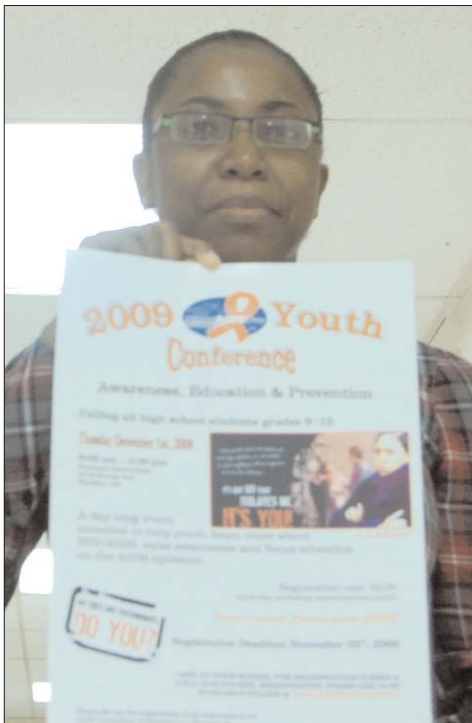


Photo By John Deng

Pauline Nash, director of Health Promotion and Community Education, holds a poster with an awareness message in her office on Pelisser Street Nov. 30. The posters were distributed to people in the Windsor area before World Aids Day, a time to reflect on the daunting challenges many local communities face in the battle against the tenacious disease.

AIDS Awareness Day

By John Deng

The AIDS Committee of Windsor will host the Aids Day Youth Conference on Dec. 1 at the Caboto Club in Windsor to create AIDS awareness among young people.

The conference is a joint collaboration between the ACW, the Windsor-Essex County Health Unity and the HIV Care Clinic of Windsor Regional Hospital to commemorate World AIDS Day.

Pauline Nash, director of Health Promotion and Community Education at the AIDS Committee of Windsor, said the AIDS Day youth conference is an opportunity to remember people who have died of AIDS and to support those currently living with the disease.

"It is an opportunity to express hope for a cure and a better quality of life, said Nash. "The world has the goal of universal access to HIV prevention and treatment by 2010."

She said about 100 students from high school in the Windsor-Essex County are

expected to attend the event. They will get basic information about the disease, including treatment, prevention and different testing procedures commonly used.

"This is a long day event intended to help youth learn more about the epidemic, self-esteem and how to make the right decisions regarding their personal health," said Nash.

This year's event will also feature songs, poetry, readings, personal stories and a candle-lighting ceremony. A group of HIV- positive people will share stories with students about the impact of the disease in their personal lives.

Nash said the students will be given an opportunity to create a poster with awareness messages to educate their peers and family members regarding the struggle to reduce discrimination and stigmatization affecting people living with HIV.

Michael St. Pierre, director of Resource Development, said the goal of the ACW is to educate and empower young

AIDS

Continued on page 4

International day of protest staged in front of local business



Photo By Matt Weingarten

Josh Ewener and Dan MacDonald protest in front of Lazare's Fine Coats and Jackets, 493 Ouellette Ave on Nov. 28.

Members of the Windsor Animal Action Group took part in the rally as part of 'Fur Free Friday', an international day of protest against the fur industry

By Matt Weingarten

The Windsor Animal Action Group held a protest on Nov. 27 in front of Lazare's Fine Coats and Jackets on Ouellette Avenue as part of Fur Free Friday, an international day of protest against the fur industry.

"We've organized the protest as part of Fur Free Friday – this is a day of protest against the fur industry because we want to raise awareness that perhaps at one time fur was necessary," said Dan MacDonald, member and spokesperson for WAAG. "Fur was a symbol of status. But today, fur is a symbol of cruelty. It's unnecessary. It's cruel. Animals are dying horrific deaths...for fashion. Anyone who loves animals will find this disgusting. It's a fashion trend that needs to die. Fur is dead. Literally."

Paul Twigg, owner of Lazare's Fine Coats and Jackets, called the protest a non-event.

"I understand that 10 to 12 people stood around outside the front door of the store for

an hour or so and held up signs. It didn't discourage customers from coming in," said Twigg. "In fact, several customers commented that many of the protesters were wearing leather shoes."

Twigg admitted the sale of fur has dropped recently, but believes this is due to current economic conditions. He said that his business has had to diversify in recent years and is selling other products which aren't fur based. Service is also a large part of his business, including storage and cleaning of fur and fur products.

"These groups of protesters are entitled to their opinion," said Twigg. "I think they are going after the wrong people here, we are the merchants at end of the fur cycle."

Fur Free Friday is the same day as Black Friday in the United States. It started as an American day of protest against the fur industry, caught the attention of Canadian animal rights activists and has grown into an international event. Last year there were more than 100 anti-fur demon-

strations worldwide, according to the WAAG website.

"This is Windsor's first year hopping on board with Fur Free Friday and it will not be our last. Not until the fur industry is dead and buried," said MacDonald. "I think it's only a matter of time before the last remaining relics who still wear fur join the old owners of their coats and the fur industry will fold."

The fur industry has been targeting a much younger demographic with a new "Fur is Green" campaign.

"We want people to know that fur is an excellent choice if you care about nature - because fur is a natural, renewable resource," according to the "Fur is Green" website.

MacDonald believes fur is the farthest thing from "green."

"It shows contempt for nature. It's inhumane to animals – and fur is treated with a soup of toxic chemicals: ammonia, formaldehyde and other poisons – just to stop it from rotting in the buyer's closet," said MacDonald.

NEWS

The myths of breastfeeding



Photo By Jocelyn Herbst

Gwen Frank, Public Health Nurse and Certified Lactation Consultant in Gravelbourg, Sask.

By Jocelyn Herbst

When we think of a woman's breasts, we may think of music videos or clothing ads, but rarely consider breasts to be life-nurturing.

"The message we get watching television is that they are there to sell cars. They're there to look good in a push up bra but heaven forbid they actually be used for lactation," said Gwen Frank, Gravelbourg public health nurse and international board certified lactation consultant.

"We are not saying all women have to breastfeed, but they should be informed of the

risks of artificial baby milks and what it does to the health of her baby, as well as to her body not being able to lactate."

There are misconceptions about breastfeeding and the milk produced. According to an information pamphlet given to mothers from the Public Health Unit. Some believe women do not produce enough milk, but that notion is incorrect. In fact many women produce too much milk. Some also believe the size of a woman's breast affects the amount of milk being produced, however size is just a myth. A woman with

smaller breasts can produce as much as someone who has larger breasts.

Milk is created inside the woman's breast by the alveoli which are tiny sacs within the fat and muscle. The tiny milk ducts, which look like straws, carry the milk to the areola and to the nipple, which is the protruding part of the breast the baby suckles to get food.

However, according to Frank there are much fewer of these ducts than previously thought. She said the original diagrams of the breast were drawn by Alastair Copper, a physician who took cadavers and injected wax backwards into the breast.

There used to be an enlarged section termed sinuses. Teachers used to instruct that milk was produced in the glandular cells, flowed into the ducts and collected in the sinuses which was important for the babies to latch. The diagram remained unchallenged until 10 years ago. Today, people know these sinuses don't exist. The milk goes from the milk ducts to the areola.

Despite cow's milk and baby formula having a lot of the same proteins and fats as a mother's milk, they do not have the same immunity properties a mother passes to her infant. Another important component in the milk is called colostrum.

"(Colostrum) differs from mature milk in that it has much higher amounts of immune factors that help to coat the gut of the newborn baby to prevent leaky junctures in the gut and protects the infant from an invasion of viruses, bacteria and foreign substances that can trigger allergies."

According to www.askba-by.com there are some disadvantages to consider before breastfeeding. For instance, a mother is the only person who can feed her baby if they are breastfeeding. There is also an inability to measure how much the baby has ingested.

However for Nadine Lee, those are not reasons she would have considered when breastfeeding her three children.

"I don't understand why people wouldn't unless it's for medical reasons," said Lee.

Lee knew breastfeeding had health benefits for her children and for herself. She said she was able to lose weight faster after her pregnancies. She also said her children didn't have as much constipation and if they did get sick it was only minor symptoms. She also thought breastfeeding was easier than formula because she didn't have to sterilize anything or buy formula.

Despite the Public Health Units attempts to educate women about breast-feeding, there is still a stigma surrounding feeding in public.

Lee had taken her children to the community pool and needed to feed her baby. She had a blanket over her and was not exposing herself. A female lifeguard came over, telling her it made her and some of the people around uncomfortable.

When Lee was asked to leave she refused. Lee finds it insulting and offensive to a baby since breast milk is a baby's natural life source.

"It's less about the woman's rights," said Frank, "and more about the rights of baby to eat and to eat the best food possible."

AIDS

Continued from page 3

people to make informed decisions when faced with the challenges of growing up.

"The AIDS epidemic and drug use are affecting youth at an increasing rate," said Pierre, "Noting the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS reports that young people between 15 and 24 account for 45 per cent of all new cases of HIV in the world."

The ACW was established in 1985 by community volunteers who were concerned about discrimination and stigmatization against people living with HIV.

St. Pierre said a year ago, an Ontario court judge, upon learning someone in his courtroom was HIV-positive, stopped the court process, had the individual masked and all evidence related to his case placed in plastic bags.

"Isolated incident perhaps, but one can only imagine the impact this level of ignorance and fear about HIV can have," said St. Pierre

The AWC is a charitable organization that provides health services for 100 people affected by

the disease in Windsor-Essex and Chatham-Kent. It also provides community education programs to more than 600 youths and adults, including individuals in the gay community.

GALLERY

Continued from page 1

for the gallery in Windsor, since Macri's studio recently burned down and these photos are the only pieces of work that survived.

Owner Fazy Sassine is a fan of Macri's work, especially these days, as he feels that traditional photography is a dying art.

"Anthony's work is all shot by film, something that is very rare these days. No digital enhancements. Even though I work with digital photography and have a respect for it, I think it's amazing when someone can capture true art without the help of technology,"

said Sassine. "I don't think digital photography is art. There are too many people buying digital cameras and calling themselves photographers."

The 484 Gallery, however, is more than just a place for displaying art. In the back rooms of the gallery, Sassine is also running a professional recording and multimedia studio. Fazy does web design and photography, all running out of the gallery as well.

Miranda Sims, 20, says having an individually-owned gallery will bring something different than the Art Gallery of Windsor.

"I like the Art Gallery of Windsor, but the fact this

gallery is privately owned is a good thing. You get a different feel in the gallery. It feels like a downtown New York loft and he focuses on one artist for each exhibit. So you can see a large collection of a particular artist's work rather than one or two pieces," said Sims.

Sassine has made some very strong connections in the art world mainly by attending South by Southwest is an interactive music film seminar in Austin, Texas, where over 2,000 bands show off their talent. Sassine met his music partner there and together formed their band What She Said.

Sassine has recorded some

solo project, featuring some names such as Detroit's own Kid Rock. Sassine's style of music is called "synth pop," which is a combination of electronic instruments and live recordings.

For Sassine's next art show he will be bringing in Camilla Pardo, who is the chief designer of the Ford GT. This show will be held on Jan. 15 coinciding with the North American International Auto Show in Detroit. Sassine is optimistic this will be a very successful show and is even considering taking the doors out of the gallery so he can park Pardo's car in the middle of the display floor.



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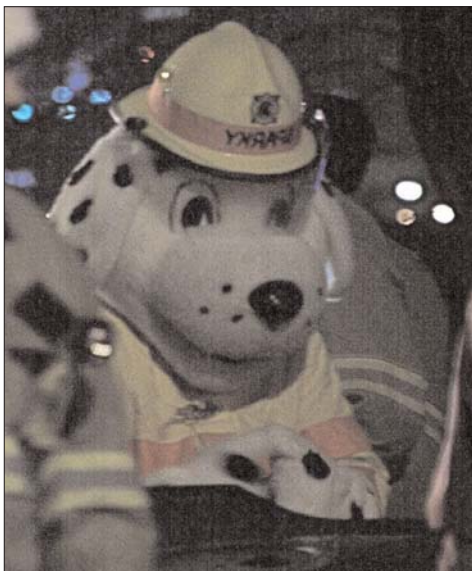
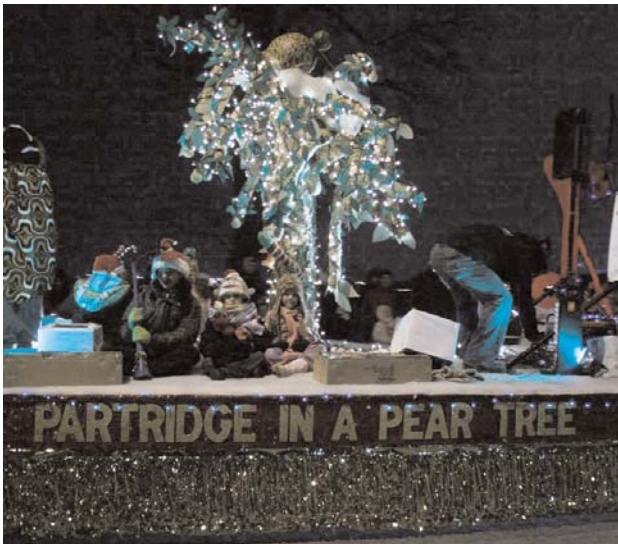
SANTA CLAUS PARADE



The Windsor, Ontario 41st Annual Santa Claus parade started at 6 p.m. Dec. 6 and went down Riverside Drive from Rankin Avenue to Brock Street. The parade included the banner to start the parade, A.M. 800, Sparky the Firedog, Windsor Fire and the BR. 28 RCL Pipe and Drum Band from Chatham, Ontario.



Photos By Rebecca Tremblay



NEWS

Homeless Coalition of Windsor Essex County

By Brittany McCormick

The Homeless Coalition of Windsor Essex County has the single goal of eliminating homelessness and poverty.

In accordance to the Central Housing Registry in December 2007, there were 1,933 people on the waiting list for social housing. Families who are in danger of becoming homeless must apply for housing early because the wait can take as long as three years.

Jennifer Cline, energy conservation project coordinator at the Homeless Coalition believes it is important to have organizations like the homeless coalition because it provides collaboration and communication between agencies and services dealing directly or indirectly with homelessness.

"It allows partnerships to be created between organizations that may not normally look at partnering," said Cline. "It strengthens the gaps between services and programs and allows groups to come together to discuss the issues and needs of the community and then work together to create effective solutions."

The coalition is a group of volunteers and community organizations that hold events to increase awareness about homelessness in local areas. They use their leadership to prevent and reduce Windsor's homeless population.

"Our next big project is operation backpack. We're collecting hygiene products like soap, face cloths, deodorant and hair brushes to go into a back pack so they can be distributed to people in need," said Becky Parent, Community Developer for the coalition. "Homelessness in our community, although sometimes hidden is a very urgent problem."

The coalition defines homelessness as people who are living on the street or in shelters. People that are at risk of losing their

house or are living in an unsuitable, unsafe or illegal environment are considered homeless.

The Windsor Essex County homelessness fact sheet states that between January and December the Salvation Army of Windsor supplied shelter to 1,466 men in 2007 and 1,551 men in 2006. This more than doubles the 687 men that they sheltered in 2005.

"We know that last year more than 1,400 people sought out emergency shelter," said Parent. "Those are just the figures that reflect the people who actually sought shelter. That doesn't include people who may be staying with friends or relatives houses or people who may be too intimidated to walk into an organization and ask for help."

In 2001, Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative asked communities to maximize their resources to address this issue. The United Way teamed up with Windsor-Essex County to propose a coalition approach to implement certain changes. The Homeless Coalition was earlier known as Taking Action on Homelessness Together Coalition. To this day the Homeless Coalition resides in the United Way office building at 300 Giles Blvd. East.

Currently the Homeless Coalition consists of 36 organizations and individuals from the health, housing and social services sectors. The coalition holds monthly meetings to support Windsor's executive, advocacy, health and public awareness subcommittees. They emulate the Windsor homeless coalition's values of respect, empowerment, inclusion and participation.

"It is very rewarding to work for the coalition," said Cline. "There are a lot of great people who I work with from other agencies and it is amazing to see the partnerships and growth that develop in the community."



Photo By Gord Bacon

St.Clair College Paramedic Challenge winners, George Shkreli and Chris Kirwan, will represent the Saints at the National Paramedics Challenge in Oshawa next April.

The amazing race, triage style

By Gord Bacon

Second year Paramedic students put their training and endurance to the test in earning an opportunity to represent St.Clair in next April's Paramedic Challenge.

The Amazing Race style event featured a series of challenges to test the skills and knowledge of the participants. The 12 student field was divided into pairs and led all over campus to create emergency helipads, perform CPR, assess mystery ailments, answer skill testing questions, just to name a few.

Essex native Chris Kirwan and Windsorite George Shkreli won the competition, to be held at Durham College and will take the lead at the event next April.

Twenty-two-year-old George Shkreli, who says the toughest part of this year's event was the figuring out the clues, credits his team's strong finish to preparation.

"The most challenging part of the race was figuring out

where to go next, all of the stations were difficult but that's why we studied so hard. We had to think outside the box to figure out the clues," said Shkreli.

Shkreli says he's excited to represent St.Clair and though he loves his field of study, it makes it hard to maintain a personal life with the heavy work load.

"It's been my life goal to help people when they need it most, at the time of distress, not hours later in a hospital," said Shkreli. "The hardest aspect is the work involved. Studying is easier because I enjoy the program so much but it's tough putting in 100 per cent of my time when I still want to maintain relationships with people outside of the program."

Although Kirwan's assessment of the day closely mirrors that of his partner, he points out that teamwork played a major role in their success.

"George and I prepared for the race by reviewing a lot of material and practicing a lot

different skills," said Kirwan. "We set up a strategy plan that allowed for more focus where George led the skills stations and I led the academics."

Kirwan also took the opportunity to commend the time and work his instructors put into creating a "crazy" event this year that will help his team compete for the big prize come spring.

"John Lassoline and the faculty did an amazing job of organizing some wild stuff for us to do and it will show when we compete in Oshawa," said Kirwan. "My favourite obstacle, as a former lifeguard, was the pool, where we had to retrieve a victim from the bottom and perform CPR."

Both students are eager to bring the championship trophy back to Windsor with the help of runners up Cyprian Czechowski and Zack Livingston. The eighth annual Paramedic Challenge will be held next April at Durham College in Oshawa and will feature over 30 teams from across Canada.

SPORTS



Photo By Rich Boersma

Richard Panik, 28, of the Windsor Spitfires battles for a loose puck in front of Erie Otter goalie Jaroslav Janus with Otter forward Shawn Szydlowski Thursday night at the Windsor Family Credit Union Centre. The Spits won 3-1.

Spits bounce back after loss

By Rich Boersma

Eric Wellwood had a goal and an assist to lead the Windsor Spitfires past the Erie Otters 3-1 Thursday night at the Windsor Family Credit Union Centre.

The Spits got off to a slow start and it cost them as Otter forward Greg McKegg capitalized on an early power play to give Erie 1-0 advantage.

Windsor used physical play to try and get back in the game and it worked. They were able to draw a penalty and tie the game on the power play. Scott Timmins drew the puck out of the corner and found a wide-open Wellwood in the slot, who snapped it past the Otter goalie Jaroslav Janus.

A few minutes later Spitfire captain Harry Young dropped his gloves with Shawn Szydlowski.

The Spits were able to gain some momentum from the fight as Taylor Hall had two great chances at the end of the first period, but was unable to beat Janus, who had an excel-

lent game.

Windsor continued their strong play in the second and were able to take the lead. Richard Panik was able to bury a rebound chance just as the Spitfire power play expired.

The Spits tried to build on the lead but were unable to solve Janus. The best chance belonged to Dale Mitchell

"I felt very good tonight, I had my legs moving and things worked out tonight."

-- Eric Wellwood

who found himself alone in the slot and fired a hard shot toward the corner, but Janus' glove snaked out and denied the scoring chance.

Early in the third period the Spits were able to beat Janus again and build on their slim one goal lead. Hall made a nice individual effort but was unable to score. Adam Henrique then dug the puck out of the corner and fed

Mitchell who scored his sixth of the season.

The Spits defended well for the remainder of the period to seal the victory.

Wellwood was happy with his performance and felt a strong game was needed on his part.

"I felt very good tonight, I had my legs moving and things worked out tonight. I think the last couple of games I've struggled and tonight I wanted to bring my game up," said Wellwood.

The Spits will lose a few players this upcoming week as camps open up for the World Junior Hockey Championships, which takes place annually.

"It is important for me as an overage in this league to step up. I did last year when Hall and Ellis were at camp, I had a lot of power play time," said Mitchell.

The Spits have a quick turnaround as they travel to Mississauga to face the St. Michael's Majors Friday night.

Saints basketball win

By Rich Boersma

On Saturday afternoon St. Clair's men and women basketball teams both beat the Redeemer Royals.

The lady Saints started the game off slow, settling for quick shots and were their shooting was off. The Royals pulled ahead in the first few minutes, but it wasn't long before the Saints came storming back.

Led by their defense they

were able to create turn overs which led to offense. They started driving the basket and drawing fouls. The Saints shot 88 per cent from the free throw line in the first half. They rebounded well and were able to lead 41-26 at the end of the first half. Jenae Grayer led the Saints with 13 points in the half.

The second half was more domination from the Saints as they continued to get the majority of the rebounds on

both sides of the floor. Their shooting also improved to 43 per cent in the second half as they kept up their large lead.

Leading scorers for the Saints were Sarah Stevens with 15, Ashley Huston, with 14 and Grayer added 13 as the Saints cruised to a 78-49 victory.

Head coach Jimmy Parsons had his team pay more atten-

Pacers vs. Police a slam dunk



Photo By Marc Girard

Ishmael Johnson of the Prince Edward Public School Pacers puts up a shoot against members of the Windsor Police Service team at the Hoops for Humane charity event at W.D. Lowe high school Dec. 3

By Marc Girard

At Prince Edward Public School, a simple curriculum lesson turned into a successful charitable event that could continue for years to come.

When Katie Green and her Grade 8 class began the unit on global citizenship, they had no idea where their studies would take them.

The class finished their unit with projects and tests, but for the students it wasn't enough. They wanted to make a substantial impact on society. They brainstormed ideas, such as barbecues and festivals, but everyone liked the idea of putting together a basketball game.

"The kids really wanted to make a difference," said Green. "They love basketball, so this event just makes sense for them."

The event, which took place in the gym of W.D. Lowe high school, originally had a goal set to raise \$1,200-\$1,500 for the Humane Society and any additional money over \$1,000 would go to the Cancer Foundation. At the start of the event, Green was more than happy to announce that \$2,500 had already been raised.

During the event, tickets and food were sold at the door, which Green said helped the event raised an estimated \$4,000. This money is to be split between the Humane Society and the Cancer Foundation.

"Anyone can be a global citizen," said one of Green's students, Fatimah Jaber. "You can make a difference, but anyone who really wants to make a difference, rich or poor, can if they motivate themselves to want to."

With the help of the Windsor Police Service basketball team, the Prince Edward students put together a night of fun and entertainment.

"It's just outrageous, the job the kids are doing," said Green. "They're motivated and doing a great job."

The first game involved the Prince Edward Pacers' basketball players from the girls and boys teams playing against the Windsor Police. The second game involved the Windsor Police and a group of Prince Edward alumni, who came back from their respective high schools to dawn the Pacers' purple and teal one more time.

In the last game of the night, the Windsor Police took on the Windsor Fire and Rescue squad. Between games, there was entertainment and competitions put on by students from all over the school, highlighted by a choreographed dance to "I Gotta Feeling" by the Black Eyed Peas.

"It's amazing for these kids, during this economically troubled time, to do such an unselfish thing," said Prince Edward principal Rob Romano. "I'm very proud of them."

SAINTS

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NEWS

Canada welcomes fourth player to telecommunications

By Gord Bacon

Canada's Ministry of Industry has over ruled a Canadian Radio and Telecommunications Commissions decision by declaring Globalise Wireless Management Corp., a Canadian controlled company.

Globalise, is now permitted to open its wireless division under the name Wind. It was initially denied entry into the Canadian market by the CRTC in October, when ownership issues were raised. On Friday the ministry allowed to the company to begin operating in Canada, "without delay."

Though the controlling interest in the company currently falls with Canadian chairman Anthony Lacavera, Cairo-based telecommunications giant Oracom owns 32 per cent of the corporation and has lent more than \$500-million to Globalise. The move gives Oracom a majority share in the company's equity, a violation of domestic ownership rules according to the CRTC.

In a press release by

Minister of Industry Tony Clement, the decision to overrule the CRTC does not bend any rules or create an exception to the Canadian ownership and control requirements. He said the government's decision to declare Globalive a Canadian controlled company is based on facts relevant to the case.

CRTC rules say Canadian ownership and control requirements state that no foreign entity controls the ongoing ability to determine strategic decision making when managing the day-to-day operations of a company. After reviewing the case, Clement said the company does, in fact, meet these requirements, despite the financial backing by Oracom.

Though opposed by Canada's major wireless players, TELUS Mobility, Rogers Wireless and Bell Mobility, who control 95 per cent of the current wireless market, the fourth addition to the countries cell- phone market will be allowed to commence business immediately and will force greater competition and diversity, said Clement.

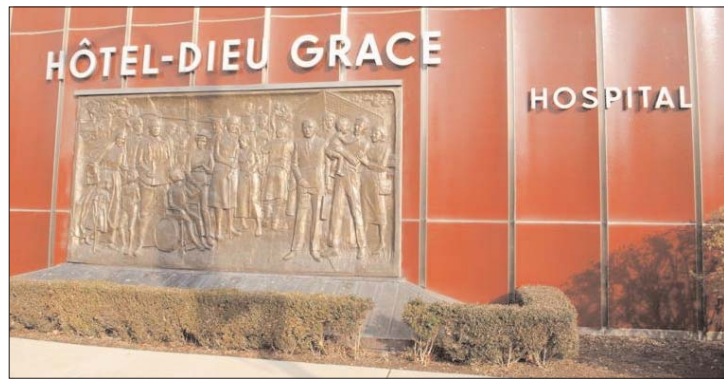


Photo By Matt Weingarden

The sixth annual 'Heart and Soul' gala to raise funds for Hotel Dieu-Grace Hospital was a huge success this year, considering the hard economic times the city is experiencing. The 'mottown inspired' Gala raised over \$105, 000 this year. Money raised is used to purchase equipment not funded by the government.

Sixth annual 'Heart and Soul' Gala successful

By Matt Weingarden

Despite the economic hardships that the city of Windsor is presently experiencing, the success of the sixth annual Heart and Soul Gala fundraiser has far surpassed what organizers had expected.

"The gala this year is a real testament to the community," said Kim Spirou, Vice President of Communications and Development at Hotel-Dieu Grace Hospital. "This year has far exceeded our expectations, we were worried current economic times would cut into money raised when actually this has been our best year ever."

More than 850 people

attended the gala and over \$105, 000 was raised, according to Spirou. We're still waiting for a final tally.

Although the hospital receives money from the government for operating expenses and 90 per cent of construction costs, the government does not fund equipment.

"Technology gallops every year," said Mary Alice Beneteau, Director of Diagnostic Services and Nuclear Medicine. "We are in competition with hospitals all over the province for funding and the government only has so much money to go around. We need to be able to offer better patient access to diag-

nostic imaging. This helps increase our efficiency. Fundraisers like this are paramount to our success."

Money raised at the gala is used to help offset costs associated with the purchase of specialized medical equipment.

"Windsor is unparelled in its giving," said Beneteau. "Even in the midst of tough economic times, the people of Windsor always manage to come through."

According to Spirou, "Ultimately the purpose of the gala is two-fold, not only to raise money for the hospital, but just as important, to 'friend raise' within the community."



Photo By Gord Bacon

Officially opening the Centre for Construction Innovation and Production are, St. Clair Vice President Academic Dr. Peter Tumidajski, Student Representative Council President Justin Fox, College Board of Governors Vice-Chair Deborah Linneh, Windsor West MPP Sandra Pupatello, St. Clair President John Strasser, and Kingsville Mayor Nelson Santos.

We would like to apologize to Coach Brecka for the misspelling of her name in the November 6th issue of the Converged Citizen.

SPITS

Continued from page 7

tion to defense and allow offense to come from that after the slow start.

"We focused more on defense, and trying to get more defensive stops and steals to get more easy lay ups on the offensive end," said Parsons.

Huston, the starting guard for the Saints, feels a big adjustment in the second half was driving the basket and hitting free throws.

"At half time we had to stop shooting and start driving going toward the basket more and once are shots started falling that really helped us," said Huston. "Free throws are those easy shots that we need to make and they are definitely something we focus on."

This was the final home game of the semester for the Lady Saints, but their next game is Friday, Dec. 4 in

Brampton against Sheridan College.

In the second game of the afternoon the Men's team also struggled out of the gate, but thanks to a couple of three point shots that Jamaal Thompson made while getting fouled seemed to give them momentum.

The Royals were able to keep it close thanks to a big performance by Ian Kilingenberg, who had 19 points in the first half alone. Leading scorers for the Saints in the first half were Curtis Davis and Thompson who dropped 11 points each.

The second half saw the Saints come out and coupled with some good performances of the bench by Ryan Salmon and Rashaan Robotham they were able to pull away.

The Saints' bench outscored the Royals' 24-7. Some good defense along with consistent shooting helped the Saints win their fourth straight win as the

took the game 97-62. Davis led the Saints with 23 points, Kyron Patrick had 20, Thompson had 18 and Salmon had 14.

Klingenberg led all scorers with 29 points in a losing effort.

"I felt good. The second one was kind of a slow motion shot, I wish I could have hit the free throw. But it got us going and we started off hot," said Thompson, on his shooting at the start of the game.

Coach Matt Devin was happy with the way his team played and gives credit to their defense.

"Well Defense was definitely one of the things we want to focus on, making sure we kept them in check and scored some easy buckets ourselves. We have just been trying to build off the last couple of games and today we did a pretty good job," said Devin.

The men's next game is against Sheridan College.

TRAVEL



Photo by Brittany McCormick

Ben Dupuis built sandcastles and dug holes with three local boys while vacationing in the Dominican Republic.

Off the Resort

By Brittany McCormick

Witnessing the sights that Punta Cana has to offer is an opportunity that everyone should experience.

Located on the eastern shores of the Dominican Republic, its beauty reaches deeper than the pearl-white, sandy beaches and clear turquoise waters. Looking out at the vast Ocean is truly a calming and entirely inspiring experience.

Punta Cana has a rich culture that cannot be experienced when sitting poolside at the resort. Opting to go on one of the many excursions that the resorts have to offer is a great way to encounter the true nature of the country. Many tropical resorts recommend that guests swim with dolphins and go parasailing. Activities like these are exhilarating but can become repetitive because they are similar at many resorts around the world.

Punta Cana offers a dune buggy tour of the surrounding towns and rural areas for an extra \$75. A tour guide leads you through the small villages that are busy with people shopping and tending to their fruit stands and tobacco shops. The atmosphere is relaxed with Dominican's sitting in lawn chairs watching their children playing along the sidewalks. Kids will wave at the tourists and run along beside the buggies yelling and laughing. The towns have high-energy during the day and are often cluttered with scooters and bicycles. The culture couldn't be further from that of North America.

The engine of the dune buggy rumbles as you drive behind the guide into vast farm lands.

Small, poorly constructed wooden shacks are scattered along the side of the single dirt road and clothes lines are hung between small trees. The blue cloudless sky meets a distant horizon hidden in the trees. Muddy water splashes over you because of the poor road conditions and the previous night's rain. Getting dirty adds to the experience and cools your skin from the heat of the afternoon sun.

You can't help but gaze around into the colorful and heavily wooded forests as you enter the path. The convoy of dune buggies comes to a stop at an opening in the woods so that Dominican locals can give tourists some background information about their country and how they live. They also have jewelry often made of the light blue Dominican stone Larimar, small souvenir statues carved from wood and bags of lollipops available for purchase. They encourage you to buy hard candy and lollipops so that you can throw it to the local children along the trip as if you were in a parade. The children are dressed poorly, usually wearing clothes that are too big for their small frail bodies. When kids hear dune buggy engines they run to the edge of the road because it may be the only opportunity they have to receive candy.

The farm land is rich with sugar cane plants contained by barbed wire fences. The single lane gravel roads seem to go on for miles as they twist and turn throughout Punta Cana. The excursion nears its end with a visit to the local underground caves. The cave entrance is made of dirt and draped with thick hanging vines. The sun kisses the

entrance and feeds the plants rooted into the walls. It provides the cave with its only source of light. A makeshift wooden path leads down into the mouth of the cave and is built into the wall of rocks. After a hot day trip around Punta Cana's countryside, a swim in the depths of the earth is most refreshing.

The cave walls are moist and jagged. The water is clear under the sunlight but becomes black like oil in the deep corners of the cave. The leap from the rocks into the water is thrilling. The water is cold and wraps around your body like a thick blanket. Small local boys join the tourists for a swim and begin to climb along the inner walls of the cave. It is amazing to see how easily they cling to the walls and how fearless they are jumping into the water. The children are cheerful and they obviously have taken advantage of the beauty they've grown up around.

The day trip is long and ends at a public beach. These beaches differ from the resorts because they are littered with garbage and allow Dominican vendors to openly sell their merchandise. Unlike North America, children openly talk to strangers and run to greet tourists. Though Spanish is the language spoken in the Dominican Republic and tourists often can't say more than hello, that doesn't stop the children from trying to make friends and asking for treats. These accommodations aren't available on the resorts of Punta Cana. It is only when you decide to stray from the average vacation do you truly open yourself up to new experiences.

Slum City



Photo by Nick Feltis

A typical building found in a broken down neighborhood of Detroit City. Many of the buildings that were once functional places to live, have been eroding and rusting away for some time.

By Nick Feltis

Shattered windows, decrepit and demolished buildings, rust-covered automobiles left on street corners, and an alleyway full of broken bicycles. These images were far beyond anything I had ever envisioned. When I arrived in Detroit city for the first time, the images in my head were ones that would never be forgotten.

Having never been to the city, I pictured only the massive stadiums and monumental landmarks. Joe Louis Arena, Tiger Stadium, Comerica Park, and Ford Field gave me my mental perception of what I was expecting. Hidden beneath the enormous buildings and skyscrapers lay a broken down environment that was once inhabited by a vibrant working community.

On the corner of John R Street and Adelaide, Meg and Jerry's fruit market seemed as if it had survived through a depression. Amongst all the eyesores that filled the neighbourhood, the market remained open for business. As I stood in front of the store, I looked around for any other signs of life. Across from me was a desolate church whose windows had been boarded up, then spray painted over. To my right was a three-storey home that was once painted blue. As the paint chips peeled away from the siding they landed on the overhang of the front porch. The home made of red bricks had lost many over the years as the home aged. On the front door I noticed something had been spray painted in red bolded letters, "We313." Looking at many of the other homes in the area, I noticed the red brick home was not the only one that had been tagged. To my left was an abandon four floor building that was formerly a car part factory. On this particular day the sun was shining so when I glared towards the building I could

see through to the other side, since the windows were shattered.

As I walked down John R, I reached Alfred Street. where I witnessed something that would change my life forever. In the middle of the street lay an older man on a shoddy mattress, covered in a single bed sheet, with no cars in sight. Beside him was a shopping cart full of soda cans and a collared sweatshirt. It was the middle of December and nearly below zero. I realized at this point how much I took my life for granted. While he lay there in the freezing cold, I stood in my winter jacket with my gloves and toque in hand. There were times in my life where I thought I had it bad. Growing up in a family with very little money was hard but there was always a roof over my head, food on the table and family to lean on. Not knowing his past I saw at this moment that he had none of the aforementioned. No roof, no food, and no family. When the man noticed me he stood up. As my heart was racing faster than it had ever been before, I expected the worst to happen. The area I was in had no sign of life within a quarter of a mile of where I stood. My car was parked two blocks away and I was ready to sprint and escape danger. Before I started running, he raised his right hand in the air and started waving to me. That moment has been forever placed in my memory.

Looking back on that cold December day, I came to realize that just because he doesn't have a home, or a family doesn't mean he can't have a warm heart. In this world people are often misjudged because of what they look like. Stereotypes and prejudice play a big part in how people interact on a daily basis. Never will I forget that day, as it has changed my perspective and I realized that no matter how somebody dresses or acts, they should always be given a chance in life.

TRAVEL

It's all downhill from here



Photo by Matt Livingston

From left or right: Joobs Hietzler, Dave Blanchard, Nick Hietzler and Matt Livingston round a bend on their long boards in Burlington Ont.

By Matt Livingston

Most people see roads as a way to get to their destination, for me and my friends our destination is the road.

When our car makes a left hand turn and begins to climb the hill we quickly realize we've reached our destination. The car starts up the winding hill while everyone's eyes are trained to the ground scouring it for dips, cracks and potholes hidden within the cement.

When my four friends and I reach the top of the hill there isn't a water park, rollercoaster, or museum for miles, although Burlington Ont. has a lot to offer we weren't there for the tourist attractions.

As a downhill skateboarder I am always looking for that one perfect spot. A road which snakes its way down a hill, steep enough to go fast, and of course light on traffic. This search has lead me north to Burlington, a city nestled on a large elevation change known as the Niagara Escarpment.

When me and my four friends set out to leave Windsor Ont. and head to Burlington we were unsure of what we would find. We knew there would be hills, but how many of them would be safe to skate down was unknown. Approximately 30 minutes outside of Burlington we saw the first sign that we were headed in the right direction. The sign read "Welcome to Escarpment country."

After that point everyone in the car was on high alert, eyes peeled because every turn we made could lead to finding a hidden gem. Nothing was off limits. Every road was up for consideration. We finally discovered a road that we thought would be appropriate to try out. We got out of the car and set down our long boards at the top of the hill curious to see how fast this would take us. When we reached the bottom everyone was disappointed. This hill was far too slow and the walk back up was punishment for the bad decision.

We decided as a group it was time to move on.

Our next stop brought some reward, as we began to drive up a hill through a freshly paved subdivision. We saw another long boarder riding down the decent. We knew we were onto something. We flagged down the skater and asked him if he wanted a ride to the top, this is always the best way to make friends with another downhill long boarder. On the ride up we asked him about some of the local spots. He told us that the road we were on was fun, but not fast enough to really get the adrenaline rush we were all looking for. He told us of a great road, on the outskirts of town that was low on traffic and high on speed. We managed to get the name of the road for later. However we were going to skate the spot where we already were.

After getting in a few runs with our new friend we decided it was time to leave. Staying at one road for too

long usually attracts unwanted attention from local law enforcement. With the name of our destination plugged into our Global Positioning System this time we knew we would find something good.

The GPS said we had reached our destination. We saw the hill in front of us and knew we were in for quite a ride. We started to drive up the rural hill only being able to see as far as the next bend. As we rounded every corner it was like Christmas morning, each new turn presenting another obstacle for us to conquer. The road was over shadowed with large old trees, all of them proudly displaying their fall colours. As we kept climbing I could feel myself beginning to get nervous with all the thoughts of what I was about to do. When the car finally came to a stop at the top, we all piled out and began emptying long boards from the trunk. Next came the safety gear, helmets and gloves to protect our heads and hands are a must.

The four of us did our final high five, and began to push into the decent. At this point I'm so nervous my stomach feels as though it's being rung out like a wet cloth. I adjust my body into my riding stance, and allow gravity to bring me up to speed. I'm not focused on the beautiful fall colours, or the sounds of nature from the forest next to me.

At this point my mind is on the road and where it's going to take me. Each turn brings more excitement than I could have imagined on the car ride up. When I finally have the end of the hill in sight I begin to relax a little knowing I have made it down safe.

The walk back up allows for time to reflect with my friends about the ride down. These walks are always filled with smiles and laughter. After all its not always the road that creates the memories, its spending time with friends doing the things that you love most.