



The hidden children

The story of children in Himalayas of Kathmandu, Nepal

FULL STORY ON PAGE 7

FULL STORY ON PAGE 6



The Blitz

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Media Plex to be ready in April



Photo by **Laura Berry**

Journalism students will be studying in classrooms in the Media Plex starting in September. These will provide students with more space and better equipment.

FULL STORY ON PAGE 2



Photo by **Kristie Pearce**

Berta, Mauricio, Karla and Rafael Cea Martinez hold newspaper clippings from El Salvador in their home March 4, 2010. The articles were written during Berta and Mauricio's time spent in jail for their guerrilla involvement.

Family fights for a better life

By **Valerie Barker**

Berta Cea Martinez sits across from her husband with her arms folded Friday, as she recalls the life she left behind in El Salvador.

Before she and her husband Mauricio and their children Rafael, Carlos and Javier immigrated to Canada in 1986, they lived through one of the worst wars Latin America has

seen.

"(Officers) told me 'Lady we're going to take your husband and his friend with us. Don't worry about it we're just going to do an investiga-

tion and if there is nothing for them to hide they will be back tomorrow,' " said Martinez, 48. "Tomorrow was six months later."

SEE FAMILY, PAGE 12

New screening relieves pain

By **Valerie Barker**

In North America, colon cancer is the second most common cause of death in cancer victims, especially for people over 50.

In December 2009, Windsor Regional Hospital announced an additional cancer screening option to health care providers called the Flexible Sigmoidoscopy program. The program involves looking at the right side of the bowel by inserting a soft, flexible light-

“THERE WAS NO RECOVERY TIME AT ALL WHICH WAS GOOD”
- CINDY ROBERTS

ed tube into the rectum.

Nancy Berthiaume is the manager and coordinator of Flex Sigmoidoscopy Program. She is also the nurse in charge of ensuring patients qualify for the screening. She said the test is effective in identifying pre-malignant polyps, or potentially cancer causing cells in 65 per cent of procedures.

"The ministry realizes that only 20 per cent of people in Ontario that actually qualify

SEE COLON, PAGE 4

Pg 3

Spits do something



Pg X

S.U.D.S something



Pg 4

School something



Pg 9

Open house something



Pg 9

Pub something something



Eyes to the unseen



Photo by Laura Berry

James Allison, co-owner of Abars on the River, socializes with customers March 4. Abars is rumoured to have spirits throughout the building. Its history dates back to the 1920s and 30s and includes rum-running and a rumoured suicide.

By Laura Berry

Paranormal investigators, Spectral Solutions, are examining the possibility of spirits haunting Abars on the River.

Spectral Solutions is a non-profit paranormal investigative group from Windsor. Its goal is to examine possible occurrences of spirit activity in and around Essex County.

On Feb. 14, Spectral Solutions spent the night in Abars, a local bar at the intersection of Lauzon Road and Riverside Drive. The group

formed approximately two years ago and has been growing in popularity ever since.

Chantel Trudelle and Tony Bagnarol, members of Spectral Solution, said they have a growing fan base in the area.

"It started by word of mouth but I guess that word has spread," said Trudelle.

Bagnarol, a self-proclaimed equipment geek, says the number of website hits has continuously increased.

"We now have about 2,000 hits a month on our site. I

mean, we didn't really ever plan on making one in the beginning, I just made one one day and it's a good thing I did," said Bagnarol.

The group uses digital thermometers, video and tape recorders, electro-magnetic field detectors, infrared cameras and digital cameras. They also sing songs, bang on walls and attempt to taunt and provoke spirits to engage with them.

Spectral Solutions books appointments based on client

calls, but many of their projects are self generated. Many of the Spectral Solution team have been following the paranormal for as long as they can remember. A few claim to have abilities that allow them to develop histories or images of the people that reportedly lived at the location they're investigating.

Trudelle said she has psychometry, the ability to read the history of certain objects by holding the object in your hand or placing it to your fore-

head. She said she has had the ability all her life.

"I have limited abilities to pick up impressions from the places we go and I've had some luck with contacting the spirits within the residence. It's something I think I've had my entire life," said Trudelle.

The group of nine investigators set up their equipment in Abars on Feb. 14 and waited until after close to start their investigation. The team follows a routine to ensure it can accurately record paranormal phenomena. After an investigation is over, their findings, recordings and video are posted online for the public to watch.

Each investigation includes an initial walk-through and a preliminary interview with the client. Only part of the team attends this portion of the process to eliminate bias. The fewer the team members know about the types of phenomena experienced by the home owner the better. The team prefers to experience potential paranormal activity for themselves and go over their findings later. This allows them to determine whether or not their findings are paranormal or technical error.

For the group, hunting spirits make their jobs exciting. The group sometimes approaches contacts themselves to inquire about an investigation. Michael Ferri is determined to discover the truth behind life after death. He is interested in how the

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Here comes the sun



Photo by Chelsea Coombe

Michele Webster, who has been a fan of the sun for most of her life has been struggling with skin cancer for 10 years.

By Chelsea Coombe

An Amherstburg woman underwent surgical treatment for skin cancer 10 years ago and could be facing more surgery in the future.

Michele Webster has been a

fan of the sun most of her life and was told by dermatologist Dr. Jerry Tan her skin cancer caused by both tanning beds and sun bathing.

Webster said after eight treatments to remove her can-

cer spots, Tan informed Webster she has a great chance of her cancer returning.

"I can't really complain about it," said Webster. "I have had

SEE SUN, PAGE 2



Photo by Valerie Barker

Nancy Berthiaume manager and coordinator of Flex Sigmoidoscopy Program is urging everyone over 50 to go to Windsor Regional Hospital and get checked for colon cancer using the new screening tool.

COLON FROM PAGE 1

for a colon rectal screening actually do any screening at all," said Berthiaume.

This procedure is performed by specially trained nurses with years of clinical endoscopy experience. The

procedure is performed to increase the colorectal screening in Ontario under the supervision of a gastroenterologist and a surgeon. The doctors oversee the project to ensure that they are up to speed on the test and to over-

see the nurses clinical performance

Cindy Roberts, a mother of two from Windsor, said if people get a chance to take the test they should, especially if they are over 50.

"I did get something like that

done," said Roberts. "I found it very easy. There was no recovery time at all which was good."

The chances of curing colon cancer is 90 per cent if detected early, according to Berthiaume.

UNSEEN FROM PAGE 2

dead perceive the world. "Do they see us as ghosts? Are they in a conscious state like we are? That's what I want to find out someday, somehow," said Ferri.

Abars was a location the group was drawn to themselves. Co-owners Corey Clarkson and James Allison said they have been witness to many unexplainable situations.

"There have been nights where either of us have been cashing out and something will move across the floor, like a shadow or something. That late at night there isn't anything that could cause such a shadow," said Allison.

Neither Clarkson nor Allison venture to the upper levels of the bar alone. A rumored suicide is thought to be the reason for the strange encounters the owners have experienced. Abars also has a rich history and is believed to have been involved in rum-running during the prohibition in the 1920s and 30s.

"From what I've heard, a man hung himself upstairs. We've had issues with the lights

THERE ISN'T ANYTHING THAT COULD CAUSE SUCH A SHADOW

- JAMES ALLISON

turning on up there after an inspector told us no electricity was running up there," Allison explains.

There are also rumours that the figure of an old woman frequents the washrooms, and cubby-holes in the walls. A bedroom upstairs remains untouched since the woman inhabited the building over a hundred years ago, employees said.

"I had a customer tell me she saw a ghost in the bathroom for the second time," Allison said.

Others can verify strange and unexplainable experiences within Abars.

Bartender Blaine MacNeil, who has been working in Abars for 35 years, said he always feels like something is present.

"It's hard to explain. You always get the feeling you're being watched. It's been like this for as long as I can remember," said MacNeil.

Spectral Solution team members said they acquired some interesting footage at Abars, but a second trip will be needed in order to decipher their audio and video footage. However, the date of the return visit isn't known at the present time.

Canada's economy grows again in fourth quarter

By Nick Fellis and Kevin McShan

Canada's economic recovery was accelerated in the final quarter of last year, when the economy grew at a better than anticipated clip of five per cent according to Statistics Canada.

The five per cent figure exceeded the 3.3 per cent, projected pace the Bank of Canada was expecting for the quarter in its most recent estimate.

The economic upriswing was stimulated by an increase in consumer spending, an improving housing market and increased exports, according to the report released Monday. The country's gross domestic product escalated by 1.2 per cent between October and December 2009, which was the largest quarterly increase since the third quarter of 2000. The economy grew 0.6 per cent in December marking the fourth consecutive monthly gain.

Goods-producing industries

rose 2.1 per cent, the first quarterly gain since the second quarter of 2007. Production in mining, oil and gas extraction, manufacturing and construction also all contributed to the growing economy.

The public health sector, education and public administration as well as the finance and insurance sector also increased. Despite the modest gain, Steve Mathis, a laid off Ford Motor Company of Canada employee said there is still plenty of work to be done in order to see real sustainable economic growth moving forward.

"I'm slightly encouraged, but a lot more has to be done ... you can skew numbers anyway you want," Mathis said.

Even with the steady economic growth to end 2009, gross domestic product fell 2.6 per cent throughout the year.

Employment increased by 43,000 in January, according to Statistics Canada. All of the gains were seen in part-time

jobs. The national unemployment rate is down 0.1 percentage points to 8.3 per cent. The main source of employment growth was seen by women aged 25 to 54 and youths. This was the first significant increase for youths since the beginning of the economic downturn in the fall of 2008.

Jonah Abbanid, an unemployed worker, said something needs to be done to induce more job creation.

"More jobs have to be opened up and we need to see more jobs being advertised and becoming available because as of right now I don't see the effects," said Abbanid.

Mathis said he is relying on unemployment benefits to support himself while his uncertain future at Ford continues.

"I'm lucky in the sense that I don't work in the real world. I have got coverage for three years. It's a perk from working there so I'm not really worried about the financial part. My wife and I are doing OK," said Mathis.

However, Mathis said he had to return to school to further his education because of uncertainty in the auto industry.

"On the other hand, sometimes I hope I don't get called back in case I'm successful in this and move on into a new career. I'm also tired of the uneasiness in the auto industry because there's a chance you'd never get called back and you can be laid off within a few months or weeks and it starts all over again," he said.

Abbanid has enrolled in the border services program at St. Clair College to train as a border services agent. He said the job market will still present some challenges once he has finished school.

"I've been laid off from Ford for about a year and a half. This is an opportunity for me to go back to school and upgrade.

This is a good thing but still, even after graduating you're faced with the fact that you have to find a job," Abbanid said.

Women's Day gala recognizes locals

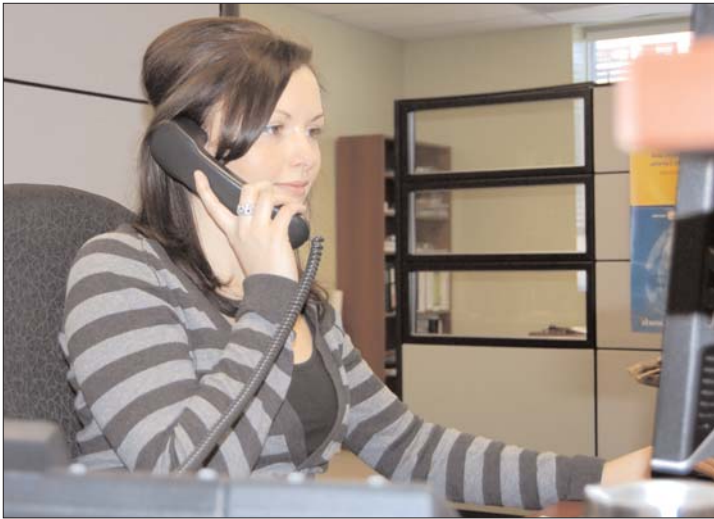


Photo by Rebecca Tessier

A driver on Pitt Street is seen texting while driving March 5, after a law passed in Ontario on Feb. 1 against distracted driving.

By Rebecca Tessier

Women's Enterprise Skills Training of Windsor is holding their annual gala to celebrate International Women's Day.

According to international woman's day.com, International Women's Day was first celebrated in 1911 in Switzerland. In that event over one million men and women attended rallies to end discrimination, demanding women the right to work, training and to be able to hold public office and vote.

Today, thousands of events are held worldwide to inspire women. WEST is no exception. WEST is a locally based multicultural organization that focuses on providing employment and educational settlement

services to visible minority women and newcomers to Canada who can't find jobs.

WEST is holding its annual International Women's Day Gala March 8 where they will be celebrating two women who have overcome language and cultural barriers.

Britney Lucier, event chair for WEST said she is looking forward to the event and the women they are celebrating.

"This year WEST has chosen Donia Tinto and Elsie Calumpang," said Lucier. "They have demonstrated that self-motivation and WEST's programs have contributed to their success."

Lucier is hopeful that the event will bring more attention to the disadvantage women from different cultural backgrounds face when trying

SEE WOMEN, PAGE 5

Column

A day in the life of

By Veronica Samek

What is it like to be a student journalist? In a word, hectic.

Like every student attending their first semester of a new program, you're not sure what to expect. Each day we'd learn the basics of writing for Canadian Press, cultivate our interview skills and learn to see the world as a string of news stories.

I used to think that last one was impossible but after looking for news leads week after week, I found myself on an interview with everyone who crossed my path. My normal conversations morphed into establishing the 5 Ws and I'm sure my friends were confused when I'd blurt enthusiastically, "This would make a great story."

I'll admit not all of these journalistic conversations are that obvious but the skill of asking the right questions has put me in and got me out of a few situations. It always helps to ask the right questions when you're buying a car, finding the best local hot spot or figuring just how your boyfriend lost that hundred dollar bet.

Snapping back to reality, the joy of interviewing is over and now my story needs to come together. Clichés are discouraged but every journalist will break this rule. Time is of the essence. The coffee is poured and as the facts and quotes come together, converged journalists are mulling over

their next step: converging. From print to radio and produced to a newscast, converged journalists can publish their story in all media.

Covering all bases of the media playing field has become as important as the stories themselves in today's news world. With the advancement of fields like social media, the way we share news has changed dramatically. Twitter has throttled the speed in which we receive news and online editions of local papers keep us updated as the news happens.

Today's journalist is online, updating and networking, tweeting and posting. With the click of the mouse, we can find events, locate sources, e-mail an interview, research a company and find statistics to complete the story.

Reporting with the internet can be a breeze but as our instructors have ingrained, a full story comes from clenched fists, a wiped tear and the ability to make a personal connection with those you've interviewed. Putting a face to our reporters keeps us in the community and as consumers continue to read, we hope to inspire the next student journalist ready for late nights and hard work.

This is a just a glimpse in the life of a student journalist. It may be brief but in the world of journalism you're often constrained to a 500-word limit.

Texting while driving: a dangerous new trend



Photo by Donia El-Haddad

A driver on Pitt Street is seen texting while driving March 5, after a law passed in Ontario on Feb. 1 against distracted driving.

By Donia El-Haddad

Cities in the U.S. and Canada have been passing laws that prevent driving while distracted, including Windsor.

In Windsor, police have recently begun issuing tickets for distracted driving.

Since Feb. 1, drivers caught with a cell phone pressed to their ear or typing text messages and emails will get a \$155 ticket, but lose no demerit points, according to Sgt. Brett Corey of the Windsor Police Service.

"Common sense would dictate the majority of people across the border that text is more prevalent in the younger generations," said Corey. "We're issuing offense notices, if we observe somebody texting."

The new law also prevents drivers from looking at display screens unrelated to driving, such as laptops and DVD players. They can still use GPS as long as the device is affixed to the dash. The hands-free use of iPods and MP3 players is also allowed.

The cheapest solution to the

ISSUING OFFENSE NOTICES, IF WE OBSERVE SOMEBODY TEXTING"
- BRETT COREY

texting problem is a Bluetooth headset which consists of an earphone and a microphone and is placed over one ear. The Bluetooth allows you users to talk on their phone handsfree.

"It's not a major problem with your insurance," said Angelo Dimenna of All-Risks

Insurance on Ouelette Avenue. "It'll have the same effect as a minor speeding ticket."

Text messaging behind the wheel is more prevalent than we may think. Thirty-seven per cent of generation Y say they instant message while driving and 21 per cent of baby boomers admit to the same behavior while driving, according to a new survey released by Nationwide Mutual Insurance.

According to a news release found on the Ministry of Transportation website, if a driver challenges the ticket in Ontario, a judge has the discretion to adjust the fine to anywhere between \$60 and \$500. The new rules do not however apply when calling

Windsor schools learn social justice



Photo by Aaron Knight
Adam Vasey, poverty reduction co-ordinator of Pathway to Potential, presents Grade 8 students with a video about people living in poverty in Windsor. This presentation is part of the Social Justice Forum which was held at the University of Windsor on Feb. 24.

By Aaron Knight

Over 120 Grade 8 students gathered to learn about poverty at the Social Justice Forum held the University of

Windsor. Invitations were sent out to 60 schools across Windsor asking for two Grade 8 students from each school to

attend the free forum on Feb. 24. The forum covered issues such as poverty, lessons learned from the Holocaust, clean water and the environment, refugees and an art project for the students to express what they learned.

The group Poverty-Reduction strategist known as Pathway to Potential attended the event, where they showcased the young adults with a presentation on Windsor's poverty issue.

Adam Vasey, poverty reduction co-ordinator of Pathway to Potential, said it's important for kids to be aware of things they can do to help.

"It's not just about food and money, yes it's very important, but there are many ways that these kids can help," said Vasey. "Just making them aware of what's happening in our community can make the difference."

Throughout the meeting the students watched videos on those who are living in poverty in the Windsor area. They were also given pocket guides that gave facts on what living in poverty is really like.

Talia Kleinplatz, community organizer of Pathway to Potential was the one to hand out the guides.

"What we want is for these kids to take something home that they feel passionate about," said Kleinplatz. "So when they go back to their schools, they can present what they have learned and make a difference." Over 120 Grade 8 students gathered to learn about poverty at the Social Justice Forum held the University of Windsor.

Invitations were sent out to

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525 University Ave.
Thanks

WOMEN FROM PAGE 4

to better their education or pursue a career in Canada.

"It's really important that these women get the help they need," said Lucier. "With language and cultural barriers it's hard for them to find a place in our society. Hopefully our gala and WEST in general will shine light on the situation."

A student of the language instruction for Newcomers to Canada program, Rosanna Ierullo, 31, is excited for the gala and hopes to one day be awarded with the Journey to Success award.

"They have really helped me," said Ierullo. "I hope one day to receive the award. It will make me feel like I have given

"It's really important... women get the help they need" - BRITNEY LUCIER

a lot to my community and achieved a lot."

The gala is being held at St. Clair College Centre for the Arts March 8 at 5 p.m., and tickets are \$50. For more information and ticket purchases call (519) 256-6621



Photo by John McCann

The wind turbine projects that Jim Shean opposes are underway in Harrow off Gore road.

Kingsville mayoral pool not so deep

By Kate Redmile

Jim Shean is the only candidate so far to file his name for mayor of Kingsville in this year's municipal election.

Shean is a 65-year-old retired OPP officer who was raised in Kingsville and is an active member in his community. He says he brings experience, knowledge and business to the town and is familiar with the people and the retail sector.

Shean says the mayor should only be elected for a two year term.

"This allows other people to come in and creates a fresh flow for the public to get involved in municipal affairs," said Shean.

Shean said he thinks one issue that is sure to be a major issue in this year's municipal election is the Lake Erie wind turbine project. He is opposed to the project and attended a meeting in 2006, where he and other residents voiced their concerns.

"I'm concerned about the costs of that project because we're living in difficult economic times right now and the tax dollars can be spent on better programs," said Shean. Shean said he is in favour of

freezing the mayor's salary during the four year term and said he hopes to create an effective physician recruitment program. He said the Mayor and council members should not control their own salaries.

Laurena Fayherd, a Kingsville resident, said she is opposed to the Wind Turbine Project.

"I think that Shean will make a great mayor and will really involve the people in decisions that concern the town," said Fayherd.

"THERE ISN'T ANYTHING THAT COULD CAUSE SUCH A SHADOW"
- JAMES ALLISON

Fayherd also said Shean would bring a big change to the town of Kingsville.

"He knows this town and the people in it, he was involved as a police officer and I believe he'll be involved as mayor," said Fayherd.

The municipal election starts Oct. 25 and candidates have until Sept. 10 to file.

So far, only two candidates have filed for the position of council members, previous councilmen Gord Queen and councilwomen Sandy McIntyre, according to Shean.



Canadian prides shines

Photo by John McCann

A Windsorite leans out is car window, holding the national flag in celebration. The streets of Downtown Windsor were filled with screaming fans Feb. 28 after the Canadian mens' hockey team won the gold. The game ended in a 3 - 2 victory after Sydney Crosby scored the winning goal against the United States.

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to resort to self-tanners and refrain from using tanning beds."

Elizabeth Davis of Your Personal Touch hair salon says a big factor in skin irritation from tanning beds is photosensitivity.

"Photosensitive agents are added into sunscreen that causes your skin to be irritated," Davis says. "A lot of doctors mistake it for the patient being allergic to the sun."

According to skincareguide.ca it can take skin cancer 20 years or more to develop. By taking 10 minutes out of your life every three to six months to do a self-examination, the website says it can be caught early and could save your life.

A pigment in the skin called melanin allows one to tan but serves other purposes such as absorbing ultraviolet radiation and protecting DNA.

Within melanin there is a gene referred to as melanocortin 1 receptor, which is associated with higher levels of skin cancer. To determine if a patient has this gene a doctor uses a cotton swab to collect saliva from inside the mouth for analysis.

Webster agrees with skincareguide.ca which recommends the use of sunscreen with a sun protection factor 15 or higher.

"You don't have to stay out of the sun you just have to use sun block and always check your moles and freckles," said Webster.

skincareguide.ca, a website based on information from international dermatologists suggests people should stay out of the sun between the hours of 11 a.m and 3 p.m and to protect themselves with an umbrella if necessary.

"I don't have any regrets about going out in the sun, but I do advise using the proper protection...nobody wants cancer," said Webster.

Wal-mart clothing brands to change

By Tabitha Jones-Lucas

Windsor's Wal-Marts are set to carry George brand clothing exclusively, cutting loose Bum, 725, Penman's and Simply Basic.

The transition of going from multiple clothing brands to only one has already started to take place. Although Wal-Mart has carried these brands since arriving in Canada it will no longer do so. The only

other brand name clothing that will be sold in Wal-Mart stores is Disney, and it's only available in the infant department. "By only carrying George clothing it will make it easier for the customer to only have to look for one brand," said Tammy Forsyth, assistant manager at Wal-Mart on Dougall Avenue. George is a fairly new brand, entering Wal-Mart stores four years ago to replace Simply Basic

because it offers a better selection in trend and clothing appeals for all ages.

"The George line fits well where 725 runs small and Bum runs bigger and Penman's doesn't cater to every age group," said Forsyth.

"With the George line the quality of the clothing is comparable to something you would find in a mall," said Wendy West, a Wal-Mart sales associate. A lot of the

clothing will look the same as offered with the other brands, but have the George label instead. "Our company hasn't informed our customers about the change," said Forsyth. But we've always had positive feedback from the customers regarding the George line. George appeals to men, women and children. "This change will be a positive change for Wal-Mart," said West.

POVERTY FROM PAGE 4

60 schools across Windsor asking for two Grade 8 students from each school to attend the free forum on Feb. 24. The forum covered issues such as poverty, lessons learned from the Holocaust, clean water and the environment, refugees and an art project for the students to express what they learned.

The group Poverty-Reduction strategist known as Pathway to Potential attended the event, where they showcased the young adults with a presentation on Windsor's poverty issue.

Adam Vasey, poverty reduction co-ordinator of Pathway to Potential, said it's important for kids to be aware of things they can do to help.

"It's not just about food and money, yes it's very important, but there are many ways that these kids can help," said Vasey. "Just making them aware of what's happening in our community can make the difference."

Throughout the meeting the students watched videos on those who are living in poverty in the Windsor area. They were also given pocket guides that gave facts on what living

in poverty is really like.

Talia Kleinplatz, community organizer of Pathway to Potential was the one to hand out the guides.

"What we want is for these kids to take something home that they feel passionate about," said Kleinplatz. "So when they go back to their schools, they can present what they have learned and make a difference."

Rosalyn Breshgold, principal of LaSalle Public School and chair of the Social Justice Forum, was in charge of bringing together various groups to help educate the

students.

"The Social Justice Forum is a partnership between the C.A.W., Local 200 Social Justice Division, the University of Windsor, the Centre for Social Justice and the Jewish Community Centre," said Breshgold. "The reason for the partnership is that we wanted to offer something for Grade 8 students in our system to begin to think about social justice."

This is the sixth year for the forum, with each year bringing new topics and presentations for students to attend. After attending the forum, the two

chosen students from their schools then go back and present what they learned. The schools are then challenged to design a project idea by March Break, that reflects what they learned.

"We're trying to get that commitment from the kids while things are still fresh in their minds," said Breshgold.

The project ideas are not all in yet, but Breshgold said she hopes to hear from them soon.

"It's interesting to see what ideas these kids come up with to help our community. I look forward to see what they come up with this year."

CUPE marches on city council daycare decision



Photo by Matt Weingarden
Jean Fox, President of CUPE Local 543, addresses the crowd at the Windsor Kids First march at Fred Thomas Park. The rally was in support of saving city-run daycare.

By Matt Weingarden

The Windsor Kids First march to save city run daycare took place March 5 in downtown Windsor. The rally was attended by 300 parents, early childhood educators, child care advocates and members of the Canadian Auto Workers and Canadian Union of Public Employees.

"I'm here to stand with the CUPE members in Windsor, with the families and the children to say you deserve better. This is about the children and families," said Fred Hahn, Ontario president of CUPE.

"Let's send a clear message to all politicians. They need to see the crowds and hear the message. It's their job to represent the children and people in the city of Windsor."

In February Windsor City Council voted 5-3 to close municipal daycare centres in Windsor and Essex County resulting in a savings of more than \$750,000 to city taxpayers.

"We're not going to sit back

and allow MPs and MPPs to treat our children as second class citizens," said Teresa Fracas, Chief Stewart of CUPE Local 543.

"These children are our future, they're the ones that will be sitting in the positions that we are in now. They are

“Childcare comes first, but so do jobs”

- JEAN FOX

future pillars of our community."

The march started at McDougall Avenue and Chatham Street winding its way through City Hall Square and ending at Fred Thomas Park at Wyandotte Street and Glengarry Avenue. The noisy crowd chanted "Windsor childcare, not for sale," while passing motorists honked their horns in support.

"All of this comes from a decision that has been made without the consultation of the citizens of Windsor," said Jean Fox, President of CUPE

Local 543. "Childcare comes first, but so do jobs."

The closure of seven municipal early learning and childcare centres and two satellite programs has resulted in the elimination of 118 CUPE early childhood education jobs according to a report to city council.

Parent Scott Sipcar said he doesn't agree with the way council has handled the situation.

"There hasn't been any meaningful consultation with parents. The politicians need to be reminded who they represent," said Sipcar.

The starting rate for ECEs working for the city was \$23.71 per hour, with a pay rate that increased to \$27.88 per hour for those with five years experience.

Most ECEs will be re-located to alternative positions within the city. Services to help employees deal with the anxiety and stress of job loss will also be provided, according to Fracas.

The hidden children: mountain children chained by owners



Photo by Yolanda Brown
John Thompson of Belle River and his wife, Soyon, hold a picture of one of the children they helped rescue in the Himalayas of Kathmandu, Nepal.

By Yolanda Brown

Half of all children born in the Himalayas of Kathmandu, Nepal, will die before age eight due to bad nutrition, lack of medical services and crumbling environmental challenges, say a pair of local activists.

Soyon Thompson and her husband, John, are part of an organization called Mountain Child. Their work is rescuing impoverished children in the Himalayas. The Thompsons recently returned to Windsor after a six-week trip to the Himalayas and are sharing the story of their adventures in Kathmandu.

At a discussion at Escape Cafe on Riverside Drive Feb. 17, they shared their experiences with a small crowd of people who came to listen to their story.

Mountain Child is a non-profit organization that raises awareness, resources and financial aid for humanitarian work. The group works amongst children living in the Himalayas.

The Thompsons said they have been working to stop the cycle of suffering through their ministries and to expose issues of child slavery and sexual exploitation.

"We went to hand out medicine two years ago in Kathmandu and saw people with open wounds and big gashes. Diseases were everywhere, preventable disease," said Soyon Thompson.

Anthony Sunsin, a nursing student at the University of Windsor, said he was inspired by what he heard.

"I was aware of what was happening, but I had no idea of just how bad it really was," said Sunsin. "I definitely felt that I was almost always called to go and be a part of different movements like this one. Someday I would like to help them in the medical field once I am done school."

According to the Thompsons, the core value of Mountain Child comes from a biblical worldview seeking to deliver the message of Jesus Christ to the people of the Himalayas.

"Everyone lives in fear because of their religious beliefs. Tibetan Buddhism is the largest form of religion in Kathmandu. It's got a very strong hold on all the people," said John.

John said it is mandatory for each mother to give up their firstborn child to the monastery to be raised by Buddhist leaders.

Dawn Birchard, a Windsor woman, attends a meditation group at the Midwest Buddhist Meditation Centre in Windsor and was informed by a man from Nepal of the practises by the Buddhist leaders in the Himalayas.

"The practises in Nepal are terrible, people are afraid to breath even afraid to ask permission from their monks to leave," said Birchard.

On one trip, while Mountain Child founder, Jake Reid, was trekking through the Himalayas, he encountered two men with several children. The children were collected from the mountains and the adults openly spoke of their plans to sell the children into the sex trade industry of south Asia, Reid said.

"Many children are abandoned on the streets by their parents and end up in child labour or the sex industry," said Reid.

Thompson and her husband are working on making the world aware of this problem by speaking to others. The couple is working with missionaries on a ranch in Kathmandu that aims to be a safe haven for the children.

At the ranch the children receive education and medical treatment. They stay at the ranch until they are 18 years old and then returned to their homes to educate others like themselves.



Photo by Joe Merheje

Mehri Hagos and his group of children pose for the camera after the MH Kicks for Kids program at Windsor WaterWorld.

MH Kicks for Kids

By Joe Merheje

Windsor's WaterWorld is giving downtown youth a opportunity to plunge into an after school fitness and academic program.

Staff at the indoor water park has created a program called MH Kicks for Kids, made possible by a \$6,000 grant from the Canadian government. The money is being used for supplies like healthy snacks and equipment to help kids stay focused and keep out of trouble.

MH Kicks for Kids is named after program founder and supervisor Mehri Hagos, who

grew up in the downtown area. It was originally for youths ages 12 to 15, but expanded when younger children wanted to participate.

"It started about two years ago when my assistant manger came up to me and told me I needed to start training kids. She made flyers and I went around handing them around the neighbourhood," said Hagos. "At first we expected six kids but eventually ended up with 20 or 30 kids coming in. It was targeted for kids aged 12 to 15, but eventually seven and eight-year-olds wanted to join the fun."

Children use WaterWorld's facilities for exercise, including jogging, sit-ups and push-ups, but they are also given snacks and helped with homework by the staff.

Hagos, a personal trainer, created the MH 100 training regimen for the program. Health is just one part of the plan, he said. They also try to keep the young people focused on the positive aspects of living in the community.

"Muscle and health 100 days, 100 reps, 100 sets and most important 100 per cent. Helping these kids getting places, paving the road for

them, letting them know you could do this," said Hagos "I work for the city and I went to university and college and you don't have to settle for doing or selling drugs."

Coming from the same neighbourhood, Hagos said he knows the importance of having nice shoes and what it is like not having any.

"I choose one kid and buy them a pair of shoes and I made sure the rest of the kids saw, so they also know they can obtain a pair of shoes," said Hagos.

Phillip Emanuel, one of the youths, says he enjoys coming

to the program to keep active and to stay out of trouble.

"I feel good we have (Hagos) to do this and he's taking his time to help us achieve better and stop me and my friends from doing all the negative things outside," said Emanuel.

MH Kicks for Kids provides the most improved child in fitness and academics with a new pair of Jordan basketball sneakers.

"We are the only centre to have 40 to 50 kids coming on a regular basis and I deal with the kids' issues and try to get them to stay on the right path," said Hagos.

Local artists celebrate heritage

By Justin Jackson

The Artists of Colour, a group of African-Canadians hosted the Courage of Creativity event showing black history through artistic means.

Beginning Feb. 5 and running through Feb. 16, at Mackenzie Hall, Windsor artists displayed works of art, danced and played music. After a presentation highlighting black history, the artists painted to music in time with the beat.

The event was held in order to honour the way their ancestors were able to communicate to each other through artistic means by displaying their art and selling it to the public. The event featured over 20 local artists.

Local artist and owner of Studio 1, Jerry Crosby, said he has always been an artist and

helps those who wish to express themselves.

"I've been an artist as long as I can really remember," said Crosby. "Anytime you want to try to be creative and do your thing as an artist, that's when you become the artist. I think this is a great opportunity for upcoming artists to show their work."

Crosby said he is impressed with the exhibit and with the responses the studio is receiving.

"It's huge. It's awesome. It's a start to a new beginning and we have great responses already as a studio. We got another show coming up so this is a great opportunity for upcoming artists."

The artwork at the event included pictures of famous African-Canadian people throughout history. Others expressed themselves through

dancing and playing musical instruments.

Originally Black History Month was called Negro History Week in the United States because of the work of Dr. Carter G. Woodson, an African-American scholar.

In the 1950s, organizations began to form in order to celebrate black history. Toronto was the first city in Canada to announce Black History Month through the collective acts of several organizations in 1979.

Toronto MP Jean Augustine declared to the House of Commons that Black History Month be recognized throughout Canada in 1995.

"Call Studio 1, if you need any assistance with anything," said Crosby. "If you got a creative bone in your body and want to express it ... give us a shout."



Photo by Sara Macri

Business losing out

Leon Wild Sr. of Wilds Photography shows off his old fashioned camera to reinforce his old fashioned techniques.

SEE FULL STORY ON PAGE 4

St. Clair hosts open house

By Marc Girard and Laura Berry

St. Clair College's future students came out in droves as new students came out for its annual open house.

The open house was held March 2 at St. Clair's gymnasium. A second open house was held at the Thames Campus in Chatham on March 3. All programs had booths set up to show what their individual programs offer.

About 500 students from the Windsor and Essex County area and as far away as Ingersoll and St. Thomas showed up for the event.

The journalism program was one of many on display. The booth had high amounts of traffic, with the interest generated by the new journalism school located at the corner of Victoria Avenue and University Avenue. The school is scheduled to open March 31.

Destahnee Turner, a high school student, said she's considering the journalism program.

She said it's hard to make a decision about which program to choose.

"I got accepted to journalism," said Turner. "I'm interested in nursing, but I don't



Photo by Laura Berry

Approximately 500 people attended the St. Clair College open house on March 2. Potential students had the opportunity to meet faculty and learn about their future programs.

think that's what I want to do. I just know I'm coming here."

Other booths included the chemical laboratory technician program where students conducted chemical experiments and made their own ice cream.

Potential entertainment technology students were

shown how the program offers an opportunity to learn stage lighting and pyrotechnics.

According to Roger Faubert, spokesperson for St. Clair, interesting booths like this make the event a success.

"There's still a lot of students that are undecided," said

Faubert.

Students had until Feb. 1 to apply for their preferred college programs, but it doesn't mean they are out of the running for a chance to get into school next fall.

"Sometimes people will apply because of the pressure and now they're not sure if

they made the right choice," said Faubert. "Tonight is an opportunity to sort of seal the deal for some people. They can come over, meet some teachers, go to residence, get information on the services we provide and find out what the particulars of their program are."

Spitfire & Firkin Pub to open in Windsor

By Nick Deziel

Business partners Mike Galanopoulos and Kyle McDonald will get to see their vision come true when the Spitfire Firkin Pub has its grand opening on April 19. The pub will be the only Firkin Pub between Windsor and Toronto.

"Our pub offers a little bit of a different atmosphere," said Galanopoulos. "I think we have a cozier home-like feeling and that was our intention. It's kind of like a giant living room and we're hoping that's how everyone feels when they come in here."

In the last year Windsor has seen two pubs close their doors. The closing of Patrick O'Ryans and the Kildare House doesn't dampen the dreams of McDonald and Galanopoulos having a successful pub in town.

The pair said the name demonstrates their support of the Windsor Spitfires



Photo by Nick Deziel

The Spitfire & Firkin Pub located on Tecumseh Road East will have its grand opening on April 19. The pub will be the only traditional British pub in the city.

although it has no affiliation with the team.

"We want to people to feel at home and welcome to be

here," said McDonald. "We're a traditional British pub in terms of how the layout is and the woodwork and Windsor

hasn't really had a traditional British pub so we're just trying to do something different." Firkin pubs were established

in 1979 in the United Kingdom.

Both partners want to make sure the food is top notch and traditional, so patrons can get the taste they would have gotten back in 1979.

"We want to make sure our food is the best in our area," said McDonald. "The chef puts out five new dishes a day.

With the combination of our new business lunch, I think our food will be second to none."

The partners of the pub, located on Tecumseh Road East just past Banwell Road, have a plan to make sure customers are coming back.

"Excellent customer service," said Galanopoulos. "A great experience. You'll see me and Kyle out on the floor all the time, so if anyone has questions or concerns on how to make the pub better and more comfortable place to come. We're open to any kind of ideas."



Photo by Mohammed Malik

Liam O'Donnell, owner of Dr. Disk on Ouellette Avenue stands at the counter of his store March 5.

Dr Disk to change locations in April

By Mohammed Malik

Dr. Disk on Ouellette Avenue is moving to a new location in April.

The shop has been at its current site at 659 Ouellette Ave. for 24 years. It's moving to a new location on Ouellette Avenue April. Unlike the current shop, the new location will also feature two floors. One will feature CDs and discount products while the other floor will be dedicated to vinyl albums. According to owner Liam O'Donnell the main reason for this move is the lack of a comfortable heating and air conditioning system.

"We require a bit more space at this point and it's two floors so that's handy, but there's other issues as far as there's no heat in this building," said O'Donnell.

Dr. Disk has stores in Windsor and Hamilton and they have been in business since 1986. The shop is well known for its import music selection and its special order service. Both shops carry new and used items. The Windsor shop will close April. 18 and re-open April. 24.

The shop, like many others, may face issues with Internet downloading and satellite radio. Many consumers prefer to download or listen to the wide selection of tracks available to them through the Internet and radio. The shop owners realize this and O'Donnell thinks many customers will continue to shop there because of the low price on used CDs. They cost between \$5 and \$10, with used imports costing slightly more. They also carry Windsor's largest selection of vinyl albums, O'Donnell thinks that this is because of the size of the album cover as well as the ritual of putting a record on a turntable and lis-

tening to it. Sales have picked up due to their increasing popularity, especially with modern music groups releasing albums in both vinyl and CD formats.

"I'm more Internet-based than anything in that aspect, I guess you'd say," said Ryan Peebles, student services officer of the Student Representative Council at St. Clair College.

Dr. Disk also promotes in-store shows. The overall turnout is low, but they will continue to have shows at the new location. They don't help the shop in retail sales, but they provide entertainment, said O'Donnell. A handful of bands did well in turnout. In terms of structure the shop itself is deteriorating. The carpet is wearing out and the walls are losing paint. There is also not enough room to accommodate all their products, as they often receive new material three times each week.

Of the four original shops in Ontario, two remain including the Windsor location. The original shop in London opened in 1982. O'Donnell has owned the Windsor shop since 2001. He originally worked at the London branch and moved to Windsor to run the shop after Sid Atlin, the original owner died. He bought the shop from Atlin's son and has worked there since.

According to O'Donnell customers can also trade in CDs and records for store credit or cash. Credit offers more to the customer and they can combine it with cash to make a purchase. The value is determined by the shop's need for the CD or record and the condition of the item. O'Donnell will also order CDs for customers. Special orders require a deposit of \$5, he said.

Twin Bridge Permit Suspended as New RCCAO Study Released

By Jim Hastings

In March of 2006 the Detroit River International Bridge Company a multi-national construction project, and the Canadian Transit Company proposed a document called Project Description and Type 2 Categorical Exclusion Environmental Documentation.

The document described a proposal for the construction of a new six-lane cable-stayed international bridge, parallel to the existing Ambassador Bridge.

Transport Canada has stated the proposal would require approval from the Minister of Transportation John Baird, under the Navigable Waters Protection Act. Windsor Port Authority also stated they would need an environmental assessment. Since 2006 no environmental assessment has been completed. Transport Canada spokesperson Mark Butler explained that the bridge company must first obtain the necessary approvals, environmental and otherwise, on both sides of the border before they can pro-

ceed with building a second span.

"The Ambassador Bridge will require specific approvals from the government of Canada before a second span can be built. Those approvals have not been issued as the Environmental Impact Statement has not yet been completed," said Butler.

The Residential and Civil Construction Alliance of Ontario recently released a study called Ontario's Environmental Assessment Process Taking a Big Bite Out of Provincial Economy. In the study it list key recommendations to help fast track the environmental process.

One of the key recommendations is to reduce the timeframe related to 'bump-up' requests.

RACCO Executive Director Andy Manahan believes the environmental assessments should not take 20 months, even with big projects like the Ambassador Bridge Enhancement Project.

"Our study was geared towards basic infrastructure projects such as repairing

roads and sewers. When you have big international projects like the Ambassador Bridge Enhancement Project it will take a long time to complete. However the environmental assessments should not take 20 months," said Manahan.

The study also shows how much money and time is going into the environmental assessment process. Based on approximately 140 environmental assessments completed this year, the delay is costing taxpayers an additional \$232 million and is holding back the creation of 10,000 full-time jobs in Ontario annually.

The Ambassador Bridge Enhancement permit has recently been suspended by the U.S. Coast Guard over environmental impact concerns. Another concern is that DRIC does not have permission to build on city-owned property.

"In our society it takes a long time to complete big projects like these, if this were China the process would be a lot faster," said Manahan.



Local photographers losing business to technology



By Sara Marci

Advancing technology has sparked a growing number of independent photographers, but a local shutterbug says the pros are being exiled from the group.

"In my day you told the camera what to do. You had to know what you were doing or else your photos would look terrible and no one would hire you. Now because of digital cameras and Photoshop people think there's no need for a photographer," said Leon Wild Sr., owner of Wilds Photography on Wyandotte Street West in Windsor.

Wilds Photography has been in operation since 1905 and has been one of Windsor's leading photographers for weddings and portraits.

The family business has been passed down through four generations of the Wild family. Wild went to school for photography and then taught at the University of Windsor for a year. He inherited his photography business from

his father Noel.

With modern technology on the rise and cameras advancing from film to digital, Wild's photography business is in jeopardy. Cameras have become so advanced that instead of having to learn how to properly work a camera the camera does all the work.

Now that people are under the impression that they can take the photos themselves, most people won't go to a professional photographer and pay money to have their photos taken.

There are so many things a professional photographer can do that your average Joe can't, Wild says.

The lack of business is becoming a problem for Wild's Photography because with no clients there's no money for bills, new equipment and up-keep of his work space. Hours for his employees are being cut because he can't afford to pay them as much.

Tanya Dean, an amateur pho-

tographer in Windsor, started taking photos two years ago when she bought her Cannon Rebel XS.

The features on this camera include an auto lighting optimizer, in color contrast and sharpness control. These settings alone eliminate much of a professional photographers purpose.

"I always wanted to be a photographer, but I was never good at getting the proper lighting or how to properly adjust my shutter speed. Now it's pretty easy to get photos because my camera automatically adjusts settings for me," said Dean.

Dean has started creating a website so she can advertise herself as a freelance photographer even though she never went to school for photography.

"With digital cameras making the technical aspect of photography easier I'm able to pursue my dream of being a photographer," said Dean.



Photo by Sabrina Burrell

Julie Bortolotti, development officer for the Windsor Humane Society, stands next to a row of empty feline kennels March 5. The first phase of the shelter expansion, to be completed by April, includes more housing for cats and several new adoption rooms.

Family Skate-a-thon raises money for the Humane Society

By Sabrina Burrell

Families who are looking for something to do this March Break can keep the kids busy while raising money for animals in need.

Julie Bortolotti, development officer for the Windsor Humane Society, is in charge of fundraising and volunteering at the shelter. While she organizes many events for the shelter she said the fundraiser next weekend was not her idea.

"The organizers are the people from Global Spectrum, they're the people who bring in the entertainment for the WFCU Centre," said Bortolotti. "They contacted us and wanted to hold an event to help raise money for us."

Global Spectrum is hosting a Skate-a-thon to raise money for the Humane Society.

Scott Munro, an intern at the WFCU Centre, is responsible for initiating the event. He said the idea for the Skate-a-thon came from events the Humane Society had done in

the past.

"I had to complete some projects for my internship at university and I chose the Humane Society because they had done events together in the past," Munro said.

In addition to skating, families can also win door prizes and kids can have their pictures taken with Bomber, the Windsor Spitfires' mascot. Volunteers from the shelter will be there for a meet and greet featuring animals available for adoption.

The event is planned for March 13, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$3 per person or \$8 per family payable at the door. Skaters can also bring in Wish List items for donation.

The Humane Society, which recently underwent a multi-million dollar expansion project, still needs basic supplies. The Wish List items include blankets, cleaning supplies and food. The donations help maintain the cost of running the shelter.

Taxi Cab Preventions

By Terrance Lumbadue

The robbery that occurred Feb. 27 in the 1000 block of Drouillard Road has some Veteran Cab drivers concerned for their safety.

Windsor Police Public Relations officer, Sgt. Brett Corey described the Saturday evening occurrence.

"An unknown suspect used a steak knife to rob a cab driver from the Veterans Cab Company at approximately 8:05 p.m. After arriving at his destination, the passenger pulled out a steak knife and held it to the throat of the cab driver and demanded the driver's money," said Corey. "The suspect took the money from the driver and the keys to the vehicle and proceeded to flee on foot. The driver was not physically injured and described the assailant as a white male, 40-years-old, skinny build, clean shaven, wearing a grey toque, blue jeans and white work gloves."

Corey said they are still looking for video and trying to analyze the video from Shoppers Drug Mart on Tecumseh Road and Howard Avenue.

"We're looking at the video that was inside the cab which has been most recently installed and we're trying to analyze that to see if we can get any images from that," said Corey.

Cameras have been installed in taxicabs and are monitored by Windsor Police.

Babhama Tussa and Ahmad Hassoun, both drive Veteran Cabs. They asked the City of Windsor in previous years for more protection. They said one of their requests was a glass shield to place between the driver and customer.

"I really feel scared, I try not to put my hours during the night. If we had a glass shield between us and customer, then I wouldn't have to worry about working the night time or day time," said Hassoun.

Managers of Veterans Cabs were not available for Comment. Corey said the investigation is ongoing.



Photo by Gregory Moore

Ashley S. in Mrs. Higginbottom's senior kindergarten class participates in a class exercise at Immaculate Conception Catholic School.

JK registration promotion winding down

By Gregory Moore

Local elementary schools are making their class size predictions for September with the end of the junior kindergarten registration period.

Promotions for JK registration ended March 5. Parents can still register their children for school at any time of the year, but school boards consider Feb. 22 to March 5 the main promotion period and use it as a gauge for class sizes in the coming school year.

"The basic promotion period that we encourage people to register their kids within is ending on Friday," said Scott Scantlebury, public relations officer for the Greater Essex County District School Board. Their campaign included advertisements in all 13 weekly community newspapers, several radio advertisements, television promotions and informational vehicles at some schools.

"I think that relates to the importance we put on this period and getting numbers in as soon as possible," said Scantlebury. "The big thing is that we get a real reflection of how many kids we're going to have in September, so that we can prepare staff lists and staff schools properly so we don't have to do a whole lot of running around in August and September."

Zina Vivier, principal at Immaculate Conception Catholic School on Tuscarora Street, said during the promotion period she saw herself focused on reassuring parents of new students and giving them tours of her school.

"As of yesterday there were 14 confirmed and I think there were nine that still had not completed their paperwork," said Vivier. "For us that is amazing this time of year, to have that many."

Vivier said her school usually sees a surge in enrollment during August and she hopes to have another half class of kindergarten students by September.

She said the large number of new Canadians in Immaculate's district is what keeps its number of new registrants stable.

Sharon O'Hagan-Wong is the assistant superintendent of learning support services for the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board. She said the information principals gathered between March and June regarding enrollment was extremely helpful in determining which schools received full-day, every-day kindergarten programs. Schools are not allowed to increase their capacities for two years after implementing the program and new full-day classes had to be placed at schools that were already under capacity.

Schools that met that requirement will not offer full-day kindergarten if another school in their district could not offer as well, in order to avoid "school shopping."

The public board has seen an average decrease of 1.7 per cent in registered kindergarten students since 2004. The Catholic board's numbers at the JK level have gone down every year since 2005 by an average of 3.9 per cent



The new building is only a few blocks away from the current St. Clair College for the Arts. The new building, located at the corner of Victoria Avenue and Chatham Avenue.

All photos by **Laura Berry**



Vince Vitales cuts through metal rods while John Carmichael finishes framing a door in the new journalism building.



Dan Bondy prepares the future journalism school for new windows March 5. Amico workers are said to finish the project at the end of the month.



Amico workers finish up some electrical work in the new schools basement. The basement contains two new classrooms, a lounge, bathrooms and office space.



James Smith speaks with Amico workers on the development of the new journalism building March 5.



New editing studios are under construction along the back wall of the newsroom. These stations will allow students to edit their TV broadcast assignments.



Veronique Mandal gives journalism student Kristie Pierce a tour around the new school March 5.



Ghislain Leduc measures a bracket March, 5 2010 at the future school site for the St. Clair journalism program.



John Seman lays tile for the bathroom floor March, 5 2010 at the future school site for the St. Clair journalism program.

All photos by **Kristie Pearce**



Steve Johnson chalks out measurements as journalism coordinator Veronique Mandal and construction supervisor James Smith discuss the building layout.



Electrician Kent Hergott works on the wiring in the basement classroom March, 5 2010 at the future school site for the St. Clair journalism program.

Windsor Spits seek second Memorial Cup

By Chris Lucas

With only four games left in the Ontario Hockey League regular season, the Windsor Spitfires are on top of the Western Conference and looking to win the Memorial Cup for the second straight year.

A vital part of the Spitfires winning season has been young phenomenon Taylor Hall, who has 38 goals and 62 assists for a total of 100 points. He is the first Spitfire to have a 100-point season since Cal O'Reilly in the 2005-06 OHL season.

Hall is currently in the lead for points in the OHL and is ranked by the Central Scouting Bureau to go first overall in the 2010 National Hockey League Entry Draft to be held in Los Angeles this summer.

"Certainly getting the leading scoring title would mean a lot," said Hall. "But, if we're tied down the stretch I'm certainly going to take those few games off to get ready for play-

offs."

However, the Spitfires have not been a dominant team as of late, with a 6-4 record in their last 10 games. They have had to play a handful of the league's best including the London Knights, the Plymouth Whalers, the Barrie Colts and the Kitchener Rangers.

Bob Boughner, head coach of the Windsor Spitfires, said he wants his team to be ready and at the top of their game entering the playoffs.

"We've been working hard on a lot of little things," said Boughner. "Obviously special teams you want to be clicking. We've been working a lot on special teams and we've been working a lot down low in our zone and we know we can score goals. It's not an issue. We don't really practice offensive drills. Our guys are natural goal scorers so what we're trying to practice are the little things."

The Spitfires will host the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds



Photo by Chris Lucas

Windsor Spitfire Taylor Hall feeds a pass to teammate Cam Fowler over Team Orr's Mark Pysyk's stick while goaltender Mark Visentin prepares to make a save during the Canadian Hockey League Top Prospects game in January.

Sunday March 7 at the Windsor Family Credit Union Centre. Windsor forward Zack Kassian will return for this game after serving his 20 game suspension. He was suspended for an illegal hit on Matt Kennedy Jan. 14. Kassian is a hard-hitting, goal scoring forward who will

add a huge presence for Windsor in the playoffs.

"He's in phenomenal shape," said Boughner. "He's tried real hard in the last month and a half since he's been off. He's itching to get back and I don't want him to be too emotional when he gets back. I want him to just be Zack Kassian the

power forward."

With the season wrapping up, the Spitfires will have to face four teams that have already clinched spots in the playoffs as they get ready to make another run at a Memorial Cup championship, which will take place in Brandon, Manitoba.

Spits beat up on spirit

By Brock Seguin

Taylor Hall's five points led the high-scoring Windsor Spitfires to a 7-1 win over the Saginaw Spirit Thursday, avenging a similar defeat to



Photo by Brock Seguin

Windsor Spitfires salute the crowd after their 7-1 win over the Saginaw Spirit Thursday night.

you're going to get some points," said Hall.

As the Spits' lead increased the physical play also increased. There were four fights in the second period. Scott Timmins scored a buzzer-beater with three seconds left in the second period to give the Spits a 6-1 lead.

Timmins scored the last goal of the game 15 minutes into the third period to give the Spitfires a 7-1 win. The win gave the Spits their 48th win of the season and back-to-back 100-plus point seasons. With Hall's fifth point of the night recorded in the second period, he broke the 100-point plateau on the season for the first time in his Ontario Hockey League career. Hall now leads the Ontario Hockey League with 100 points with Tyler Seguin a close second with 99.

"Certainly getting that league scoring title would mean a lot," said Hall. "But if we're tied down the stretch I'm pretty sure I'm going to take those couple games off at the end of the year. I'd rather be rested for the playoffs. To get five points is a good accomplishment, but I'm certainly proud of getting 100 points."

Windsor remains atop the Western Conference standings with 101 points, leaving them a six-point lead over the London Knights. The Spitfires are already locked into the playoffs and are looking to repeat as both OHL and Memorial Cup Champions.

"It's going to be tough down the stretch," said Henrique. "But you know we're looking forward to it. They're going to be four tough games obviously, but we want to get on a roll heading into the playoffs."

"WHENEVER YOU'RE PLAYING WITH A PLAYER AS GOOD AS HIM YOU'RE GOING TO GET SOME POINTS."

- TAYLOR HALL

the Spirit weeks earlier.

With five games left in the regular season Windsor headed into Thursday's game looking for their second straight 100-plus point season.

Adam Henrique started what would end up being a good night for him and the whole team, with a first period goal.

Jordan Skellett scored the lone goal on the night for Saginaw in the first period to tie the game at 1-1. Henrique fired back with his second of the night late in the first to give Windsor a 2-1 lead heading into the second period.

Henrique added his third of the game early in the second period to complete his hat trick. The combination of Hall and Henrique continued to put up points, as Hall scored the next two goals for the Spitfires.

"Whenever you're playing with a player as good as him

Millions watch golden game



Photo by John McCann

Fans mob Ouellette Avenue after Canada's defeat of the U.S. 3-2 in the Olympic men's hockey final.

By Will Palazzolo

Millions of die-hard Canadian hockey fans watched as their home country stole Olympic gold away from their arch rivals, the United States in Sunday's tournament final.

The down-to-the-wire game, won by Canada 3-2 in overtime, was the most-watched hockey game since the gold-medal game in 1980, according to puckthemedia.com. The United States beat Finland after shunning the Soviet Union. The 1980 game, "Miracle on Ice" drew 32.8 million viewers.

According to CTV.ca, in Canada the game Sunday averaged 16.6 million viewers, nearly half the country. About 80 per cent of the country or 26.5 million watched at least part of the coverage. The game now stands as the most-watched television broadcast in Canadian history.

Josh Lunde, supervisor of Cineplex Odeon in Devonshire Mall said there

was a large turnout at the movies on Sunday, as the theatre reserved a screen specifically for the gold medal game.

"We definitely didn't do too much, advertising the Olympics, but the game itself had an amazing turnout," said Lunde.

Lunde said it was hard to concentrate on work during the final minutes of the game.

"It was very tough to stay on task to the point where I wasn't working. I had no choice to be in the theatre that it was playing in, as did most of the staff, but it was understood as it was one of the most important games of our lives," said Lunde.

Devoted hockey fan J.P. Smyth was in the downtown area when Canada defeated the U.S. in overtime.

"Definitely red and white was the main colour in the bar, but it went pretty quiet when US scored with 24 seconds left, but it got pretty crazy when we got the win," said Smyth.



Photo by Matt Livingston

Louis Pilloni is followed by James Kelly around a bend in Malibu CA. The two are professional downhill skateboarders and owners of SkateHouseMedia.com

Skateboarding gives way to "new media"

By Matt Livingston

The ability to film a video and post it online has had a profound effect on skateboarding since YouTube first appeared in 2005, say some big-name skateboarders.

"New media" is a term encompassing many forms of computerized, digital and networked technology. It has provided skateboarders across the world the ability to instantly see progression in their sport through video.

Justus Zimmerly, owner of Slasherskateboarding.com, said new media has given skateboarders an outlet to showcase their skills and abilities as well as compare their skill to others in the industry. "For me it's just where I go to see what other people are doing," said Zimmerly. "I'll see people like Louis Pilloni and James Kelly do something crazy, and want to try it too. It gives you something to work towards instead of waiting until after the season for a DVD to come out."

YouTube has provided a place for skateboard companies to release videos of their riders skating, as well as new products being tested for release.

Skate House Media is an online website run by James

Kelly and Louis Pilloni, team riders for Loaded Boards. Skate House lets them provide daily video updates of the progression in their skateboarding, Pilloni said.

"Even though downhill skateboarding has been around since the birth of skateboarding, over the last couple years it has taken an extremely progressive step forward in the style of riding. Through putting up media every single day people can see what the top of the riding. Watching other riders skate is the best substitute for actually skateboarding," said Zimmerly.

"There are lots of videos out there that really aren't that great," said Zimmerly. "When you do come across something that's really well done it's the next best thing to actually doing it yourself."

Pilloni said websites like Skate House Media hope to continue fostering growth in the sport by consistently producing video.

"With skate house, were trying to get a video up every day," said Pilloni. "We want to document something that's new and interesting, something that will inspire ourselves as well as others."

Punch Kettlebell Gym gains popularity through Boot Camp programs in Lakeshore

By James Tracey

Punch Kettlebell Gym in Lakeshore is attracting clients for its Boot Camp programs.

The gym is designed to assess what type of workout best suits the client and keep them exercising daily.

Gym owner Roberto Santarossa says the Boot Camps involve a active workout that combines a variety of

exercises in a short amount of time.

"The key is it's a strength, cardio, flexibility workout," said Santarossa. "All in one 30-minute shot."

The gym uses a variety of different tools for the workouts including medicine balls, dumbbells, punching bags, sledgehammers and tires.

Santarossa says the gym

Vipers go up two games

By Breayn Glaves

With the LaSalle Vipers ahead by two games in the first round playoff series, fans are excited to see the possibilities this post-season brings.

"I think the LaSalle Vipers will do very well in this series," said Vipers fan Tim Edwards. "Last year they beat the Lincolns 4-3 in the playoffs, advancing them to the next round."

Turner scored the opening goal of the second game in the series against the Lincolns on Wednesday March 3. St. Mary's scored a late first peri-

od goal to head into the intermission ties 1-1. In the second period, St. Mary's capitalized on a power play to take the lead 2-1. Mid-way through the third, the Vipers were down 3-1 when Turner started the comeback with his second goal of the night. Baldwin added a late marker to send the game into overtime.

In overtime, Matt Beaudoin scored at the 1:36 mark to win the game and extend their series lead 2-0. The fans were ecstatic.

"I feel the team doesn't need to make any adjustments for

game three," said Vipers goaltender Conner Lyons. "If we play our system for a full 60 minutes we should do fine."

The Vipers played their second game in the best of seven series at home. According Lyons, the Vipers played well against the Lincolns last year. LaSalle had won 4-3 in last season's playoffs. Out of the eight teams in the Greater Ontario Junior B Hockey playoffs the Vipers came in 5th place in the regular division.

St. Mary's will host game three Friday, March 5 at 7:45 p.m.

Korenic makes All-Canadian Basketball

By David Baril

St. Clair College guard David Korenic has been selected for the 2009-2010 All-Canadian basketball team.

Korenic led the nation in scoring, averaging 26 points per game. The Saints finished their season with a record of 6-12.

"It was a very young team, except for the veteran David," said Jay Shewfelt, an athletic coordinator at St. Clair College.

"We missed the playoffs by one spot, finishing seventh in the (Ontario Colleges Athletic Association) west," said Shewfelt.

Shewfelt is impressed with Korenic's performance this season.

"It was an outstanding year for him, he was a good leader, but we didn't have much on offense so other teams' defense would focus on David," he said.

Korenic won the team's most valuable player three years in a row and was also selected first-team all star three years in a row.

"I feel I could've done better, but I'm proud with my performance. I'm honored to be on the All-Canadian Team," said Korenic.

Korenic was also happy with his team's performance.

"We had our struggles, and



By David Baril

St. Clair College guard David Korenic drives the lane for two of his 49 points against Sault College in a 94-59 victory. Korenic led the Canadian Colleges Athletic Association in scoring with 26.0 points per game.

we lost a few guys due to academics, but I feel the team will get better and we just missed the playoffs this year," he said.

Shewfelt also feels confident about the team's season next year.

"We feel confident we'll make the playoffs next season.

David will be leaving and it will hurt us. But I feel the team will keep getting better," he said.

Korenic won the Canadian Colleges Athletic Association scoring title this season. His plan now is to play professionally in overseas.

often gets a lot of people looking to lose weight and finds that most clients are satisfied with their results. He also says he plans on expanding the gym to other parts of the city since his gym is nearly full.

The gym makes sure that all the trainers have a relationship with the clients.

"It's the trainers' job to get to

know each individual client," said Santarossa. "We do all the little things that are important to customer service. If a client doesn't show up for a few days we email and ask them where they've been."

Cary Robinet has been a trainer at the gym for nearly two years. She became a trainer after a being a member of the gym for three months. She

says her new profession has really helped her maintain her fitness level.

"I can lift and do things I never thought I could do," said Robinet. "It's great and it's really quick. I got four kids so it's a great 30 minutes in and out."

Santarossa says the gym has a variety of routines that keep the workouts fresh for clients.



Photo by April Colby
A group of mall-walkers walk the halls of Devonshire Mall early Friday morning.

Window shopping for better health

By April Colby

While many are still in bed, some Windsor residents are already on their fifth lap around Devonshire Mall, walking with a clear goal in sight -- health and wellness.

The mall opens at 9:30 a.m. Monday to Friday and 11 a.m. on Sundays. For one particular group though, earlier access is available. A group of walkers arrives early to walk the halls of the mall for exercise almost every day.

On March 5 Estella Jackson had been there since 8 a.m. "I just started. I had my walker first and then I figured I could do without the walker," Jackson said.

Jackson, 75, has been mall-walking for the past two weeks on advice from her doctor. She says she needs to lose weight and has heart problems so mall-walking was a great option for her.

She said she likes that the temperature is always con-

stant, the music is nice, the general atmosphere is pleasant, and even the smells are pleasing.

"It's all very good," she said. "I really like it here."

If Jackson didn't have Devonshire Mall to walk in, she said she probably wouldn't be walking at all.

"Nope. I'd be sitting in the house watching television and knitting," she said.

CC YOU JUST NEED GOOD WALKING SHOES"
- BOB AXFORD

Bob Axford is not a novice to mall-walking. He and his wife have been walking Devonshire for "probably 15 years," he said.

Axford walks for about a half an hour to 45 minutes each day, usually with a few friends.

He also started because of health reasons. He said

because of a heart attack he had a few years back, he developed heart problems. This prompted he and his wife to start a walking regime.

"It helps. It helps a lot," he said.

He said he likes the temperature in the mall and said it's nicer inside than it is outside right now.

Axford walks up and down every corridor of the mall and said there's no special etiquette or rules.

He said to make sure you walk in the right direction with the flow of people, don't cut people off and to remember "you just need good walking shoes."

Jackson said mall-walking isn't for everyone, but for those who make the decision, it's a good one. She said she's happy with her decision to start walking and said she hopes to keep it up.

"I said 'I'm going to, so I'm doing it.'"

Policy announced against unsupervised children

By Charles King

College librarians are sending a stern message to students after two mothers left their children unsupervised while attending class last week.

The message, sent out by St. Clair College library staff, read "It is against library policy to leave children unattended while in class or exams" and "Security will be called if this policy is ignored."

"We've had incidents before," said staff member Rose Marie Ruston. "We felt it was time to announce it to let everyone know about our policy."

Ruston said library staff cannot be held accountable for a child's safety in their parent's absence.

Librarian Joan Oliver described an incident which occurred four years ago, where staff and students were told to leave after a power

outage.

"The child must have been just seven or eight years old and he was just left here," Oliver said. "That is when we decided to put in the policy, but that doesn't mean everyone abides by it."

Oliver said parents choose the library because it is generally a quiet place and they feel it is safe.

"They think their child will just sit with books," she said. "But in the case last week, the child was everywhere."

Security was called to bring the child to the mother, who wasn't found immediately.

"It's very emotional for these children being brought to security looking for their parents," Ruston said.

Ruston said some teachers are unaware of the policy and recommend the library to students, so they decided a public caution was necessary.



Photo by Marc Girard

Blood donor Peter Bechard makes his 50th donation March 3 at the Canadian Blood Services clinic on Grand Marais Road in Windsor. The Finnerty Run for Blood is currently underway with every donation made being matched by Lakeshore's Gerald Finnerty running a kilometre.

By Marc Girard

A Lakeshore man's big heart will be put to the test April 3 when he hits the road for his annual blood drive.

Gerald Finnerty, 42, is in his fifth year of the Finnerty Run for Blood. This event encourages family, friends and even strangers to donate blood. For each blood donation, Finnerty pledges to run a kilometre.

"You know, it doesn't cost

any money," said Finnerty. "So you can't blame the economy. It's just the time to go in and deliver."

The campaign had appointments booked Feb. 16 - Feb. 27 where donors made donations to support the drive, but the clinics are still open to donation for Finnerty's cause. As of March 3 over 30 donations had been made, which

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Photo by Kristie Pearce

Mauricio Cea Martinez sits at his home March 4. Mauricio spent over six months in La Esperanza, a prison in El Salvador, for his involvement with the guerrillas.

FAMILY FROM PAGE 1

The family lived in the capital city San Salvador during the 12-year Salvadoran civil war in 1980. Conflict erupted between the military-led government and the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front.

The FMLN was a political group formed in the 1960s by the guerrilla movement. The guerrillas fought for fair elections and improved social conditions in El Salvador and the government fought back violently to maintain power, the Martinezes said.

Martinez's step-son, Rafael Cea Martinez, says he will always remember the horrific sights he saw in the streets.

"One morning there was a big commotion in the neighbourhood. Ten people were laying dead in the sidewalks and in the streets with signs of torture and blood everywhere," said Rafael, who was six at the time.

Tensions between the FMLN and the government in the 1970s led to the war that claimed over 75,000 lives.

According to Time Magazine, the U.S. sent \$7 billion to the

Salvadoran military regime over the course of 10 years. The U.S. administration worried about communist expansion in Central America and viewed the El Salvador military government as a potential barrier against Communism.

"The military and the elite joined forces to take over the power in El Salvador. It made the poor poorer and the rich richer," said Rafael, 36. "We were only left with the choice of going to the mountains to fight for the structural changes that would enable us to have a better life."

The guerrillas included a diverse group of people such as students, teachers, trade unionists, urban workers and peasants, said Rafael.

"Like many people, my dad got involved in the guerrilla movement because he saw the injustices that the military and the Salvadoran elite were bestowing to the people of El Salvador," said Rafael.

Mauricio Cea Martinez, 60, listened patiently to his son as he waited to tell his story.

"When I was young, I came from a humble family," said Mauricio. "My mom worked

in the market and my dad was a shoemaker. In the place I lived a lot of poor people lived worse than us."

Mauricio attended the University of El Salvador where he studied biology and where he met Jose Dimas Alas, a friend who would later recruit him for the guerrillas. At the time Martinez was 24, Rafael was 11, Carlos, 8 and Javier, 2.

"When I see everything that happened in Salvador and when I studied in the university we tried to make something for the people," said Mauricio. "They needed justice and opportunity to get education for a better life because in El Salvador it was impossible."

Mauricio joined the guerrillas in 1970, but over a year later he lost contact with them.

He re-established the connection in 1976 only to learn that his school friend Alas, who had recruited him, was captured and killed.

"My guerilla name was Eduardo. Everybody in the movement didn't know each others' real names because of the danger," said Mauricio. "I had several weapons but I never used them. I never went to the streets. My work was more sophisticated. I had to protect top guerrillas."

Mauricio kept his involvement in the guerrillas a secret from his family and his co-workers at the Ministry of Agriculture where he farmed fish in the city.

His social position enabled him to get around without raising suspicion said Rafael. He would establish safe homes for top ranked commanders of the guerrillas to meet.

For over 10 years Mauricio secretly worked with the guerrillas. It wasn't until the military captured a guerrilla commander that he was exposed. Two days before Mauricio was arrested the commander had visited him in his home.

"Friday, April 16, 1985 I went to work and came home at 3 p.m. My friend and I went to my house and the police came in behind us and said 'Were going to make a routine home inspection,'" said Mauricio. "They had tortured the commander and he told everything."

Martinez was at home preparing dinner for her family when the officers followed her husband in the house. They told her they were taking them in for questioning and that her husband would

return shortly. She said the after the officers ate the dinner she had prepared for her family, they stole some of her belongings and spent the night in her home.

The next day at 6 a.m. the officers told Martinez to gather the children and her belongings. The soldiers held her and her children's heads down as they drove to the National Guard military base so they wouldn't be aware of their surroundings.

"I didn't know what was going on. I just grabbed a suitcase and put in a few dresses that belonged to me and prepared the bottles for my little son and then we went," said Martinez.

Rafael was 11 years old at the time and said these experiences encouraged him to get involved with the FMLN. The organization still exists today.

"When I was there I remember hearing people moaning with pain, people being tortured," said Rafael. "It helped us understand we were not the only ones and there were people in worse situations."

Mauricio's sister went to pick up the children as Martinez was taken away for interrogation.

In the same building the guards played audio of a woman being raped for Mauricio to hear. He was told the woman was his wife and more than one man had been with her. They also told him that a guard had molested his son, he said.

On the women's side of the base Martinez was repeatedly interrogated about guerrilla activity she knew nothing about.

"I only knew he was doing something for the poor people, like getting clothes to bring it to them," said Martinez. "I was in jail for nothing, only because I was his wife."

Martinez and Mauricio remained prisoners at the National Guard for 15 days before they were transferred to La Esperanza prison in San Salvador, which housed political prisoners.

"The day after we were kidnapped my sister-in-law made it known that we were in jail otherwise we could've disappeared," said Martinez. "She went to the Red Cross, the human rights agency and the Ministry of Agriculture."

Martinez said the National Guard was known for torturing prisoners and it was common for inmates to disappear. Mauricio's sister wanted to make the couple's kidnapping public in hopes to spare their

lives. The following day after the kidnapping, the Ministry of Agriculture went on a national strike for nine days to raise awareness. Martinez spent the next four months as a prisoner.

While in jail, Mauricio participated in a hunger strike that lasted 22 days drinking only water, tea and sometimes hanging candy.

He was held for six months until a lawyer his sister hired got him out. However, life after jail came with its problems.

"After we got out of jail nobody wanted to hire me. The people know you are political prisoner and nobody wants to hire you because they are afraid," said Mauricio.

The family decided it would be safer to find a new home outside of El Salvador.

With the help of the International Organization for Migration, a company established in 1951 following the Second World War, the Martinezes moved to Canada in October 1986. The IOM has offices in over 100 countries and is dedicated to promoting humane and orderly migration.

Martinez said it was extremely hard to leave the family behind. They had originally planned to stay in Canada for five years or until the war settled at home.

"We suffered for years, especially during Christmas time, everybody cried," said Mauricio.

"I was actually kind of excited," Rafael said. "I was a kid going to a new country with a new language. It was still a big change for everyone to leave our families behind and our way of life."

After peace accords were signed in 1992 all armed FMLN units were demobilized and their organization became a legal political party. The FMLN won the presidential elections in March 2009 and are still in power.

Martinez now works as a personal support worker at the Devonshire Seniors' Residence. Rafael is married with a seven-year-old boy and Mauricio has worked at Canadian Electric Coating Factory in Windsor for the last 22 years.

To date, the Martinezes are still active members of the FMLN. They have helped create committees and fundraisers to support the political party in El Salvador and try to visit their family back home once a year.

Local bands get shot at stardom



Photo by **Lauren Gaiswinkler**

S.U.D.S. band members, from left to right, Brad Fishleigh, Cody McGowan, Danny Wright and D'Arcy Sloan, bottom, demonstrate the spirit of their musical presence Friday in preparation for their battle for disBAND on March 14. Inspired by the 'pub session' genre, the band encourages energy and the consumption of alcohol at each show.

By Lauren Gaiswinkler

Small-town bands are gearing up for the opportunity of a lifetime.

Chatham, Ont. has been chosen as one of six locations for the MuchMusic reality TV show disBAND's audition tour. Panelists from the show will select one band from each location to compete on the third season in Toronto.

Producers chose Chatham's Encore Bar & Nightspot as the venue. As a condition, the tour has expanded to include the St. Clair College Thames Campus. John Sciliberto, Encore's booking agent, says he was shocked by the decision.

"One of the judges, Colin Lewis, approached me on it and said they're going to do

this audition tour and they're going to choose selected cities," said Sciliberto. "Originally, my assumption was they're going to do a cross-Canada tour with it. Later, I found out they chose six cities, Ontario only - and somehow Chatham made it." Though a surprise to some, others are excited at the prospect. Local Band S.U.D.S.

has been a part of the Chatham music scene for about a year. Band members say the local support contributed to the band's current success.

"I was in a band a while ago called Hundred Proof, and I talked to them and got us our first show," said Danny Wright, guitarist and singer. "Then there was another band

that really helped us out - the Truck Stop Super Friends, another local band from here so we kind of got our kick-off from that. And then just things throughout the town, like the disBAND thing we're a part of now."

It won't only be local bands benefiting from the spotlight, according to Sciliberto. He

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Windsor residents find kindred Spirit in Pittsburgh filmmaker



Photo by **Darren Breckles**

By Darren Breckles

An award-winning filmmaker's most recent project, shown in Windsor Feb. 26, tackles the problem of urban decay with a light heart.

The event, My Tale of Two Cities- What Windsor Can Learn From Pittsburgh's Comeback, was shown at the Capitol theatre. Filmmaker Carl Kurlander was at the screening and was part of the panel discussion that followed.

The event was put on by the Downtown Windsor Business Improvement Association as part of its Re:Vision Down-

town series in cooperation with the Windsor International Film Festival.

Kurlander said he moved from Hollywood, California, to teach at his hometown University of Pittsburgh. The movie is about his family and his city, struggling to reinvent themselves.

He sees parallels between Windsor and Pittsburgh in the cities efforts to revitalize.

"It seems that Windsor has so many similarities in a good way," said Kurlander. "It took Pittsburgh twenty-five years. I'm hoping with what I heard

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A Film, "My Tale of Two Cities", by filmmaker Carl Kurlander was shown at the Capitol Theatre Feb. 26. The event, sponsored by the Downtown Windsor Business Improvement Association, featured a panel discussion following the film. Panellists who spoke to the audience include Carl Kurlander, Thom Hunt, Veronique Mandal and Steve Whibbs.



Photo by **Layan Barakat**

Riverside Secondary School creative writing teacher Mary Quenville looks over paperwork, March 5 at her desk. She believes students should be encouraged to study the arts.

Local students discouraged from arts programs

By **Layan Barakat**

The term "starving artist" is no longer a euphemism, but taken very literally.

Windsor youth are being discouraged from their aspirations to become artists and are being steered towards a more practical career goal.

"I am noticing a frightening trend of people steering towards the math and sciences as if that is the be-all-and-end-all," said Mary Quenville, English and creative writing teacher at Riverside Secondary School. "That's a safe way to make a contribution in the world."

Many artists are trying to put

their name on the artistic map. Sarah Ilijanich, a former drama student at the University of Windsor has opened Lakeshore Academy of Fine Arts, a youth drama school. It is an after-school program for youth to learn all the fundamentals of performing arts. These programs are fighting the idea that studying maths and sciences is the only way to succeed.

"There is actually a declining interest in becoming a professional actor because the economy is so bad," said Lionel Walsh, associate professor of acting at the University of Windsor. "Unfortunately, the

government system and school system is telling students to get a secure job and people aren't willing to take creative risks."

According to Walsh, getting youth involved in the arts does not necessarily mean they will follow that career path. They teach many disciplines for other career choices.

"(Studying the arts) teaches communication," said Walsh. "It helps you develop as a person, it helps you develop compassion for others, reading skills, organization, and responsibility. All of those things translate with anything you choose to do in life"

Local event provides gaming

By **Hani Yassine**

Local college students will be able to get their gaming fix during an upcoming tournament.

No Man's LAN is a local area network party hosted at the main campus of St. Clair College on March 6 and 7. This will be the event's fifth anniversary, according to vice-president Alex Watson.

In the past there were only four to six games available. This year, 12 games are being hosted.

Players bring their own computer to compete in up to 12 tournaments, each a different game and each a different prize.

Some of the prizes include donated merchandise and new hardware received from event sponsors like Future

Shop, PC Outfitters, Sapphire and Alienware.

But aside from games, the event's president, Will Tran, wants to broaden its interests, making it more about just games.

"This time around I want to take into a new direction. I just don't want to primarily focus on video games," said Tran. "I want to focus on the actual information technology field so we actually support the college students and the community around the college."

Organizers expect this year's turnout to be the biggest yet. The previous event drew 70 people, but Watson says it was due to poor advertising. He says, this year's event already has 120 participants pre-registered, and they're

expecting about 200 people.

According to Watson and organizer Erica Weber, players who feel like taking a break are able to bring in any kind of card game or board game to take their mind off the tournaments.

They say people are also allowed to play for fun and don't have to compete in the tournament.

Weber says the event has around 20 sponsors.

"Most companies came back pretty positive because they knew we'd have high numbers," said Weber.

The event will cost \$10 at the door, but \$5 for people who pre-register. Some of the games being hosted at the event are Starcraft, Team Fortress 2, Call of Duty 4, Mario Kart Wii and Halo 3.

Windsor bar host city's largest Battle of the Bands



Photo by **Cassie MacInnis**

Marco Civiero, 20, the lead guitarist for Academy drive, practises for the upcoming Battle of the Bands at the Chubby Pickle.

By **Cassie MacInnis**

The Chubby Pickle, one of Windsor's rock and roll venues, is trying to make history by hosting the biggest Battle of the Bands in Windsor.

The Battle of the Bands will begin April 2 and continue until April of 2011. There will be a group of three bands playing every Friday night. The winners will go on to the quarterly event and then to

the finals.

Christian Pinard is the creator of the Battle of the Bands event. His goal is to have over 100 bands from across Ontario compete in groups of three every week. So far, 58 demos have been sent in. Winners will be identified each month.

"This Battle of the Bands is not open to just anyone with a guitar and a dream," said

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means Finnerty will run at least 30 km. Finnerty, a marathon runner has no problem with the distance.

Finnerty said it's excellent to see all of the support.

"I like to see people doing stuff before they need to," said Finnerty. "You know, where they donate, give the blood just because heaven forbid, when a family member needs it, they're going to start realizing, I have three pints of blood I can give."

Joan Hannah, recruitment director at Windsor's Canadian Blood Services clinic, said Finnerty's run comes at a time when there is a lull in the number of blood donations. Finnerty's cause has given the Red Cross donation

numbers a boost.

"The Finnerty run is at a really challenging time because we are on the appointment system," said Hannah. "The people that come in over the holiday season can rebook in the middle to the end of February. During the holidays, people are busy and aren't thinking much of what they're doing two weeks from now, so lots of people don't rebook. Gerald having his run during this time is certainly helpful."

Donations can be made until March 31 by going to the Canadian Blood Services clinic at 3909 Grand Marais Rd. East in Windsor and mentioning the Finnerty Run for Blood. Clinics can be found at www.blood.ca.

Bands partner for homeless coalition

By **Patrisha Norris**

Local bands are pulling together March 19 for the Can't Ignore the Poor movement in Windsor to help the homeless.

Brandon Blake along with local bands, Immanuel, Faithful Unto Death and Anu Beginning want to raise awareness about the homeless coalition in Windsor. Alongside Rev. Mike Mendler at the Windsor Christian Fellowship Church, the bands are trying to spread the message that poverty exists in Windsor. The bands will perform at the WCF on the Seventh Concession. Donations accepted during the event will be given to the Homeless Coalition of Windsor-Essex County.

Seventeen-year-old Blake, began planning the movement in Windsor four months ago. Blake said he started planning the show when he heard about Brandt Russo who started the movement. Russo bought a bus and traveled around the U.S. helping the homeless a few years ago. He says he planned two previous shows, but both were canceled, and now Blake is going to spread the message in one show.

"The Bible says to be like Jesus. He was homeless and if he came across a homeless person that asked for money he wouldn't just give him five bucks and walk away," said Blake. "He would give him everything and anything he had. I just hope kids see what's going on. I hope they would help and not run away."



Photo by **Patrisha Norris**

Brandon Blake and Clay Annan, organizers of the Can't Ignore the Poor benefit, stand at the Detroit River looking out at Downtown Windsor March 5. Can't Ignore the Poor benefit is to raise money to help the homeless.

Clay Annan, 19, is helping Blake organize the Can't Ignore the Poor show. However, he says, this isn't his first benefit show. Annan participated in a benefit show to sponsor a mission trip to Negolas, Mexico. He and nine others visited local rehab centres and orphanages and played games with children.

He said he had fun helping others, so much that he wanted to get involved in Blake's project.

"It's not about getting our name published. The Bible says, don't let your right hand know what your left hand is doing," said Annan. "We're doing this to let kids know about problems that are real.

So maybe someone else will realize what is going on and they'll start something. Who knows where it will go."

The Homeless Coalition of Windsor Essex County is a community partner that develops and implements strategies that reduce, prevent and raise awareness of homelessness in the area.

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Pinard. "We are screening all the bands before. This way we can ensure that every weekend will have great bands of a specific genre."

The winner each month will be awarded \$600 in recording time at Sound Labs Recording studio on Roosevelt Street. They will also move on to the quarterly event.

The band that wins four shows will receive more studio time, new equipment and will open for the next famous band to play at the Pickle.

"Each week there will be a different genre and the winner will move on to the battle at the end of the month," said Pinard. "This is a great opportunity for local bands to get their name out and gain a following."

One of the bands that will be competing is Academy Drive,

a local band whose members have been playing together for two years. Marco Civiero, guitarist from Academy Drive, is excited for the upcoming event.

"We have entered other events similar to this but there has never been much incentive to do well," said Civiero. "With the upcoming Battle of the Bands, we could potentially win enough money and studio time to create an album or at least a demo to send out."

The judging criteria will be based on the crowd support, the quality of music and stage performance.

"We are in the process of finding judges. The Pickle is hoping to have members of local bands, such as Tea Party or Ashes of Soma, come and judge this event," said Pinard. "This has the potential to be one of the biggest music con-

tests to ever hit Windsor. So let's put Windsor back on the map for live music and rock out."

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says the opportunity has opened Chatham up to possible national recognition.

"It's going to be filmed, it's going to be taped, it's going to be shown on MuchOnDemand and on MuchNews," said Sciliberto. "And the best part of it, one of the finalists are actually going to make season three and have their own thirty-minute episode."

There is a lot of stiff competition, according to members of S.U.D.S., but the band is confident they bring something exciting to the table.

"We have a good time, and in turn, when people see you having a good time, they have no choice but to have a good

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here tonight in Windsor they'll start coming back in five years or in two years because a lot of good people are doing a lot of good things. That's what I heard tonight."

Chris Edwards, executive director of the DWBIA, said he saw the film at a conference in Milwaukee and wanted to bring it to Windsor due to the similarities in the cities situations. Both cities have seen their dominant industries leave and are seeking to reinvent themselves.

Pittsburgh's revitalization has been well publicized. The Economist named the city number 29 in the world and number one in America, in a list of the world's most livable cities.

City Planner Thom Hunt, points out that Windsor still has work to do before residents can talk about successful revitalization.

"Change doesn't come through affluence. Historically, we have a pretty affluent city," said Hunt. "We didn't have to work too hard as a city beyond 1905 when Ford decided to relocate here. I think we haven't really hit the bottom of the depression cycle, to become pissed off enough to actually do something about it."

Some critics of the movie expressed their opinion on the Downtown Windsor Ontario Blog.

The film, say some posters, is not a blueprint for urban renewal. Some felt it didn't deal with revitalization in any detail, instead being the observations of a witty filmmaker, contrasting life in two cities.

Some bloggers supported the movie and said it highlighted real progress being made and the shift in attitudes neces-

"Change doesn't come through affluence"

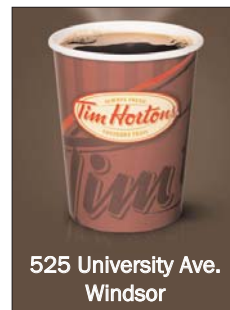
- THOM HUNT

sary to change a city.

Over 300 people attended on a snowy night when the Canadian men's Olympic hockey team was playing a semi-final game against Russia.

Most stayed for the panel discussion, which continued for an hour and a half after the film.

The event featured panelists Thom Hunt, Karl Kurlander, downtown businessman Steve Whibbs, and Veronique Mandali; Coordinator, Journalism and News Media at St. Clair College.



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