



Photo by Evan Campbell

Jeff Chisholm of Belleville battles the wind and snow on the Bay of Quinte last Friday. Temperatures plummeted this week, reaching -20 to -30 degrees C.

# Weather fluctuations impact on fishing

By Evan Campbell

It's been a difficult season so far for local fisherman. Fishermen are finding that the lack of cold weather is causing them not to be able to fish their favorite spots on the Bay of Quinte.

Although frosty temperatures are here now, warm weather earlier this month forced fishermen to find new spots.

Jeff Chisholm and his team of fishermen, the Quinte Ice Fishing Team, have been fishing the Bay of Quinte since they were young, and in their adult years are making a business out of the fishing that can come from such a rich fishing waterway.

With the sun setting fast on the Bay, Chisholm and his friend Matt Heayn head out to the middle of the Bay in search of the Walleye in deeper waters. With the weather being above freezing for the past couple weeks the ice is a concern for safety with some spots being safe and some not.

As Chisholm and Heayn walk their gear out, they use a technique called spudding to check the ice quality. By taking a large steel spike with a sharpened tip and hitting the ice to check for the sound the ice makes and the way it cracks, fishermen can determine if it is safe to keep walking.

Once at the fishing spot, the fishermen

start to drill their holes with a hand auger. As the blades start tearing through the ice, you can hear the shredding of the layers until the sound of water comes through the hole and splashes onto the top of the ice.

With new technology, the fishermen can now use underwater cameras and sonar to detect fish in the area. "It's so helpful, it's almost like cheating," said Chisholm.

After jigging for an hour-and-a-half with the winds picking up, snow blowing in their faces and the light getting dim, the team packs up and heads in for the night without any fish.

Now that the season is in full swing, Chisholm and his team will be able to get

clientele on the ice.

"For sure, it has an impact on my business. If I can't bring clients out I can't make money," said Chisholm.

With the weather now in the minus 20 degrees C range, the ice should be getting solid enough, so Quinte residents can use the ice for fishing and other activities.

People are encouraged to check with someone who knows the ice well enough to see if it can be used safely. "There may be 10 inches of ice in one spot and 10 meters away it can be two inches," said Quinte Conservation Manager Terry Murphy. Even with some spots being safe for use, open ice can be anywhere and can be very dangerous and deadly.

## Cold temperatures don't deter beach party fun in Shark Tank

*Dry weekday event sponsored by committee for Alcohol and Related Risk*

By Catherine Jackman

For the third consecutive year, the Shark Tank pub transformed from its usual cafeteriaesque atmosphere into a beach party.

The pub was complete with a table set up for what would appear to be beer pong, a limbo station, coconut races, mannequins dressed for a luau, and a fully set up bar.

The only thing setting it apart was that the entire event was completely dry.

The bar was serving mocktails. Instead of beer pong, the people attending were playing water pong with fatal vision goggles, which simulate drunkenness.

The only alcohol present at the Hawaiian luau was a table set up to explain standard drink sizes and give a visual representation as to how much alcohol can be consumed.

Camille Parent, who has been on the Alcohol and Related Risk committee for four years, was the host of this event.

"I had an event in my mind to have what is called a Root Beer pong competition. So we did that one year, and the following year we decided to step it up a notch and we started the Hawaiian Luau," said Parent.

The committee's intention is to teach the students not how to abstain from alcohol, but how to drink responsibly.

"I think they'll be able to say to themselves, 'Hey, if I'm going out and I have three drinks, I'll be able to go out, have a good time, make it home safely and wake up the next day, not feeling rough, and not really affecting my life.' I want these nights to empower the students to make the right decisions," said Parent.

Students had a different reaction.

"I've always wanted to wear the goggles, plus this seemed like something fun that I could do on a Wednesday night," said Ryan Walker, a student at Loyalist College.

The reaction from five of the approximately 30 students there, was that this committee is unnecessary and isn't as effective as they believe to be. Most, didn't even realize that the luau was to promote responsible drinking, coming solely for the free pizza.

"I feel like most kids were there just for the free food to be totally honest, although I feel like there were attempts at connecting with the students, I feel like it didn't work because they weren't serious enough," said Andrew Blouin, a second-year television new media production student.

Parent had some of the same concerns.

"I think it's not quite as important because we're a smaller campus. I think it's more important at the larger campuses. Queen's University, for example, there's some pretty big problems with hazing and initiation type of thing, but I don't think that happens at Loyalist," said Parent. "Being a small campus I think it's easier for us to take away the importance of it, but I would say it's equally as important even though we don't have as much of a need for it as some of the other."

Despite its seeming lack of effectiveness, Parent said that the committee still plays an important part in the school, with goals of how to raise more awareness in the future.

Parent said he would like to set up a mock car accident, complete with emergency service crews to demonstrate the affects of not only drinking and driving, but also texting and driving.

The committee plans on hosting the luau again next year.

# Video games take rap for school shootings

By Vivek McCague

The recent shooting at Sandy Hook elementary school in Connecticut has raised concerns about violent video games.

Prof. Nick Graham, who teaches game architecture at Queen's University, said the shooting in Sandy Hook has once again led to the discussion of violence in video games. Violence in video games is often brought up as a factor by those opposed to firearm regulations.

"Which is clearly the real problem," Graham said.

Violence in video games and the effect it has on humans has gone through numerous studies. A recent study by Stephen R. Burgess professor of psychology at Oklahoma State University showed that exposure to violent video games increased aggressive thought, feelings and behavior among players. Burgess said he also found that the majority of people both men and women preferred violent video games.

Sam Sanderson, an active gamer with over 700 hours clocked in on Call of Duty multiplayer, said he did not think it increased aggression growing up around guns and violence. Sanderson said he thought rather that video games have de-

sensitized him somewhat. He said school shootings such as Sandy Hook don't happen because someone played a violent video game but because they have had some hardship or mental illness.

"I don't think violent video games affects society, I think it does affect the brain, but I don't think people are going to go out and say I'm like Call of Duty I'm gonna start shooting kids," said Sanderson.

In another study by Holy Bowen and Julia Spaniol, both PhD students in psychology, they presented data that revealed people who played violent video games showed decreased psychological reactivity (heart rate and galvanic skin response) to real violence, proving people can be desensitized by being exposed to violent video games.

Mike Ampoosh, a casual video gamer playing between three to five hours a week, said video games don't add up to violence, and incidents such as the Sandy Hook shooting are not a product of violent media.

"Some people just don't have the right mind state to do things," said Ampoosh.

The study by Bowen and Spaniol further showed that through functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), that while people played violent video games, they showed increased aggression after playing,

but the aggression only lasted five minutes.

Graham explained that in a 1997 game called Golden Eye was one of the first games to introduce realistic violence. Golden Eye had a real 3D depiction of people and the goal was to walk through the world shooting and killing people. One thing he found particularly disturbing was if you shot someone in the leg and just wounded them, they would kind of limp off and your job was to kill them as they were trying to escape.

"In some sense, that's as bad as it gets, shooting someone in the back as they try to limp off, for pleasure."

"And so it seems we don't have this epidemic of violence coming at us as a result of these types of games which I guess is very reassuring," Graham said.

Violent video games is often mentioned as a plausible cause for violence in youth however Graham said that there have been many studies done and that they have all had a very difficult time trying to find a link.

"One thing we do know is that a lot kids report playing video games as a way of getting their aggression out. The kids report violent video games relieve aggression rather than causing it."

### Instagram winner of the week

**Congratulations to Rob Howsam (username stokerrob), winner of the Pioneer's second weekly student Instagram photo contest. To see all of the Instagram photos submitted, search #Pioneerpics with your Instagram app. Be sure to follow us @LoyalistPioneer! The deadline for the contest is each Tuesday by 5 p.m. Photos must be taken the week of the contest.**

# Warm food a welcome sight on a cold winter night

By Vivek McCague

It's likely the coldest week of the year and that is the perfect time for Inn from the Cold.

Inn from the Cold is a program run by the Bridge Street United Church for over 20 years now, aimed at helping people who have lower incomes or are homeless by giving them a warm place to have a warm meal and socialize.

The program started Jan. 18 and runs daily until Thursday, Feb. 28. Susan Catherwood, one of three co-coordinators for Inn from the Cold for more than five years, said the program currently has about 160 volunteers and still needs 28 more with about 15 volunteers there every day.

The volunteer chefs start their day at 9:30 a.m. and start preparing the food, some of which was donated, with the rest bought by the church. Last Sunday, the chefs prepared squash soup, chili, white rice, corn, salad, cake and cookies with ice cream for dessert.

The guests started arriving shortly before 4:30 p.m., gathering in the gymnasium next to the kitchen. The kitchen starts serving the soup of the day at 4:30 and then the hot meal and desert at 5:30.

Anne Pennington, a kitchen volunteer for 10 years, said the program gives people a "chance to have a well-cooked meal,

some time for fellowship and kibitzing."

Catherwood said volunteers have served more than 100 people every day since it started.

Jim Berry, the greeter for the past four and a half years, said each year there is an increase in the number children coming to the event, underscoring the area's need for such a program.

Carol Leslie, who is in charge of administrative assistance, said there was definite increase of people coming to Inn From the Cold in the past five years she's been at the church. She said usually at the start, there are roughly 50 to 60 people who show up and then more and more people start coming. This year, however, they started with more than 100 people.

Volunteer Gary Magwood said five per cent of the population is less fortunate and it is the responsibility of the other 95 per cent to help.

"Fifteen people here and some donated food is all it takes to help them," Magwood said.

Terrilynn Fobear, a mother of five, has been coming to Inn from the Cold every day and said that there are not enough events like this around Belleville and existing ones should be advertised more and open all year-round.

"Last but not least the food is good here – a little spicy tonight," Fobear said.



Photo by Vivek McCague

Gord David, left, receives food from Grant Branes on Sunday night's Inn From the Cold at Bridge Street United Church.