



Photo by Jessica Nyznik

A Trent Hills firefighter, along with groom Ken Dehne, helps bride Ginette Dehne out of the Trent River after a beachside vow renewal in Campbellford on Saturday. Joined by their original best man and maid of honour, Earl McLean and Kim Ray, as well as Rev. Dave Stephenson, the group took the leap off the icy shore as part of Campbellford's 21st annual Polar Plunge.

Polar plunge a frosty end to vow renewal

By Jessica Nyznik

It wasn't your typical day at the beach Saturday as a bride and groom renewed their vows and jumped into the icy Trent River.

The Campbellford Memorial Hospital Auxiliary hosted the 21st-annual Polar Plunge at Lions Park Beach in Campbellford.

The estimated \$7,000 to \$8,000 raised to be used to help purchase a central monitoring system and upgrade the hospital's computer system.

Bride and groom Ginette and Ken Dehne, along with best man Earl McLean, maid-of-honour Kim Ray and Rev. Dave Stephenson, were the first to jump off the frozen shore.

Ken Dehne was dressed in a used tuxedo, while

Ginette wore her original wedding gown. Married for 20 years, the two decided to renew their vows at the plunge in an effort to drum up some attention for the event that they first participated in last year.

The 18 brave participants, down from 24 last year, stepped, dove and even cannonballed from the frozen bank into the waist-deep water, while under the watchful eye of a crew from the Trent Hills Fire Department's 1100 station.

After performing an ice rescue demonstration, two

'It's for the hospital and my bucket list, of course. You start early, you get a lot more done.'

Hayley Gale

firefighters waded into the water while two stood along the edge of the ice to attend to the jumpers.

Plungers ranged from first-timers to seasoned veterans.

Hayley Gale, 18, and Margaret Bodri, 48, both from Campbellford, jumped together for the first time.

"It's for the hospital and my bucket list, of course. You start

early, you get a lot more done," said Gale. "I've always wanted to do it and I love polar bears ... I wanted to see what the polar bears feel," said Bodri.

Not only was best man McLean a member of the wedding party that was Campbellford's most unique plungers to date, but he has also been taking part in the polar dip for 20 years.

"It was not bad, actually. The clothing helped," said McLean, who took the leap while wearing long johns, a white-collared shirt with a suit jacket, and red tie.

"You can't breathe or talk while you're out there. It's such a shock to the system," added McLean.

In the past, money raised by the auxiliary has helped to purchase an ultrasound machine, a bone density machine, and more for the hospital.

"They give us a wish list and we fill it," laughed Pat Bannister, co-president of the auxiliary and convener of the Plunge.

Protesters gather at convention

By Richard Barclay

An estimated 10,000 to 15,000 unionized workers gathered in Toronto on Saturday to protest the Liberal Leadership Convention.

The protest gathered at Allen Gardens located in-between Gerrard Street East and Carlton Street at 11:30 a.m. to hear speeches made by different union representatives. Unions taking part in the protest were from a wide range of industries. Among them were the Canadian Auto Workers, Ontario Public Service Employees Union, and of course, the teachers' unions. The rally was organized by the Ontario Federation of Labour.

Among the thousands of protesters was Karen Fisk, president of the Hastings-Prince Edward Local of the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario. Along with Fisk was Pierre Martin, second-vice president, and approximately 30 elementary school teachers from the Belleville area.

"I feel that it was very important for us to come down to Toronto while the new premier was being elected to make our voices heard," Fisk said.

Martin organized buses for teachers who wanted to participate in the rally. Teachers met up at Franklin Bus Terminal at 9 a.m. Saturday morning to take a bus from Belleville to Allen Gardens. There were another two buses that Martin organized that were leaving from Bancroft, one for elementary teachers, the other for secondary school teachers.

"From my point of view, I felt that Saturday was successful. We were able to send our message that the rights and freedoms of the people of Ontario must be upheld. It was extremely energizing to be among 10,000 to 15,000 people standing up for their rights," said Martin.

After the buses arrived, protesters armed with picket signs and sporting ETFO clothing made their way to the rally area.

By 1 p.m. the park was a complete sea

of protesters from many different union groups. Leaders of the union groups made speeches about many issues including austerity policies, Bill 115, and Idle No More. At the end of the speeches, the crowd began chanting, "Stop the war on the poor. Make the rich pay!"

The protesters then began their march, going west along Gerrard Street East to Yonge Street. They then continued north to Carlton Street to their final destination, Maple Leaf Gardens, where the Liberal

Leadership Convention was taking place.

The streets were packed shoulder to shoulder with people waving the flags of their unions, as well as picket signs with slogans aimed directly towards the Liberal party. The slogans of choice that the teachers unions decided to go with were "Teachers Always Put Students First," "Respect our collective bargaining rights" and "If you work in Ontario, this is your fight. Stop Bill 115."

Bill 115 removes the affected teachers'

unions right to strike. By doing this the cabinet is able to intervene to prevent a strike before or after it has started. However, an ETFO article published on their website, states that the legislation does not specifically remove the right to take strike votes and action under the Ontario Labour Relations Act.

The protest came to an end at around 4 p.m. The teachers from Belleville made their way back to their bus to head home after a very long day.



Photo by Richard Barclay

Karen Fisk, full-time president of the Hastings-Prince Edward Local of the Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario, marches along Gerrard Street East towards Yonge Street with other protesters on route to Maple Leaf Gardens where the Liberal convention was taking place this past weekend.

Justin Trudeau to tour media wing at Loyalist College

By Jessica Nyznik

Belleville is expecting a visit from Justin Trudeau on Valentine's Day, so dump your date and head to Loyalist College.

Trudeau is scheduled to make an hour-long stop at the college on Feb. 14, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

According to Lenore Begley, president of the federal Liberal riding association for Prince Edward Hastings, Trudeau's visit will begin with a tour of the media studies wing followed by a question and answer period at 10:30 a.m., which will be held in Alumni Hall.

Trudeau is looking to make a connection to a younger audience, which is why he chose Loyalist to host this event, said Begley.

She said she feels Trudeau has "an obvious appeal to youth" because he is energetic and hopeful and that "causes people to have a lot of hope".

The MP of the Montreal riding of Papineau, Que. is currently making his way across the country for his Liberal leadership campaign.

In a public statement, Trudeau said he would be talking with people about the challenges and concerns that affect Canadians and offering ideas how to overcome these issues together.

Trudeau is one of nine candidates running for the leadership in the April 2013 election.

As the son of former prime minister Pierre Trudeau, Justin Trudeau said he hopes to win this election by his own merit.

"... I don't expect anybody to support me because of who my father was. I intend to earn it," said Trudeau in a personal message on his website.

The college welcomes the public to attend the Q&A period in Alumni Hall in room 1H6.



Photo by Jeff Peters

Defence Minister Peter MacKay visits CFB Trenton last Friday to announce the investment of \$110 million to be expended on various infrastructure upgrades around the base. Projects include improvements to the Military Families Resource Centre, the construction of a new building for the Advanced Warfare Centre, a new aircraft hanger, and upgrading the National Air Force Museum.

CFB Trenton to get infrastructure upgrades

Defence Minister announces improvements worth \$110 million

By Jeff Peters

Minister of Defence Peter MacKay announced the investment of \$110 million for infrastructure upgrades at CFB Trenton last week.

Projects include improvements to the Military Families Resource Centre, the construction of a new building for the Canadian Forces Land Advanced Warfare Centre, a new aircraft hanger and an upgrade to the National Air Force Museum.

The state-of-the-art Canadian Forces Land Advanced Warfare Centre will be designed to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) silver-level

standard and is expected to be ready for training in 2015. The \$36.5 million building is intended to serve as a training facility for all the Canadian Forces parachutist courses as well as the aerial delivery courses, mountain operations courses, rappelling courses, path-finding courses and all parachute-rigger courses. The training facility will be constructed by Varcon Construction of Brampton, Ont.

The Military Families Resource Centre has recently been completed by the Wing Construction Engineering Squadron. The defence minister stated that the well being of military families is one of the top priorities of the Canadian Armed Forces.

The new maintenance hanger to be built at 8 Wing will be able to shelter and maintain the CC-177 Globemaster and CC-130J Hercules. The facility will feature two aircraft bays, administration offices and warehouse space. All together,

it will have a floor area of 18,244 square metres and a ceiling of 30.5 metres. The \$72.9 million contract for the construction of this sprawling facility was won by Bondfield Construction of Concord, Ont. The contract was announced on Nov. 12 of last year.

The National Air Force Museum, which has been under going renovations since 2004, will take the museum into its final phase of modernization. The improvements include stairwells, a mezzanine, railings, finished ceilings and floors and the completion of electrical and mechanical systems.

“These impressive state-of-the-art buildings will enable our dedicated Canadian Armed Forces personnel to continue their excellent work as world leaders in military aviation operations,” said MacKay.

The minister also stated that the infrastructure improvements were in step

with the Canadian Forces 21st century military doctrine of the Canada First Defence strategy, which will allow the armed forces to keep pace with their military obligations both home and abroad.

The Canada First Defence strategy lays out three big picture responsibilities the Canadian Forces must be prepared for: defence of Canada, defending North America and contributing to international peace and security.

Within this framework defence scenarios are laid out – for example, conducting daily domestic and continental operations. This purpose is illustrated by Canada’s commitments to NORAD; supporting major international events in Canada such as the Olympics. Leading and/or conducting missions in major long-term international operations as was the case in Afghanistan and deploying forces in response to crisis elsewhere in the world, in a short-term role, which is the scenario

in Mali.

MacKay said there are no plans to further extend the Canadian mission in Mali with a second aircraft. Currently, the Canadian government has allowed the French the use of a Canadian C17 Globemaster. Initially, the aircraft was projected to assist the French in logistical operations for one week, but at a press conference last Thursday, the government announced an extension of one month. This would have the Globemaster in the northwest African nation until the Feb. 15.

“We would allow the French the use of that aircraft for a total of 30 days. That would take us up to Feb. 15. So that aircraft will continue within those parameters, within that timeframe, essentially providing heavy lift, strategic logistic support bringing personnel and equipment from France to Bamako, the capital, in support of the French mission there,” said the minister.

Blue Rodeo rocks two nights at the Empire

Classic rock band delights audience of loyal fans

By Julia McKay

The Empire Theatre was the place to be Saturday and Sunday night for fans of one of Canadian’s most beloved groups, Blue Rodeo.

The classic rock band was in Belleville for a two-night performance as a part of their 25th anniversary tour of Canada.

Concertgoers arrived early to the sold-out event, in couples and families, and checked out the band’s merchandise, grabbed a drink or popcorn, and talked excitedly among themselves, while waiting in line before the concert on Sunday night.

The energy level in the lobby before the concert was high and infectious. Fans perused the songbooks, bought T-shirts and CDs for sale.

Gary Parcels, of Belleville, has been a fan of Blue Rodeo since the 1980s and wanted to share the concert with his family, so he bought tickets as a Christmas present for his daughter Brylie Ivuy, 12.

“I don’t mind them,” said Ivuy before the show, when asked what she thought of the band. At intermission, her response was a bit different.

“It’s really good and I would see them again,” she said with a big smile.



Photo by Julia McKay

Canadian recording artists Blue Rodeo thrilled local fans at the first of two concerts at the Empire Theatre and Centre for the Performing Arts Sunday. The group is touring across Canada on their 25th-anniversary tour.

Cathy McKee has been a longtime fan and when her daughter told her back in October that the band was coming to the Empire Theatre, “I just ran down to get tickets. I didn’t want to take any chances of missing it.”

“It’s always special. They are one of the most popular acts to come since the theatre opened and we’ve had them here over a dozen times. They have such a loyal fan base and shows are always successful,” said Andy Forgie, promotions director for the Empire.

Once the show started, the music and

cheering could be heard from the lobby. The audience sat back in their seats and just enjoyed the show.

The band started the evening with a fan favourite, *Cynthia*, and introduced every member of the band with a single white spotlight.

“I was just saying how great they harmonize, and how that comes with playing together for so long,” said Deana Bangs, 54.

Along with the 2012 induction into the Canadian Music Hall of Fame, Blue Rodeo has recently been honoured by the city of Toronto with a proposed street to

be named after them. Blue Rodeo Drive will be located in the Riverdale neighbourhood in the east end of Toronto.

Marie Milliard, 27, bought her tickets two minutes after they went on sale online as a surprise Christmas gift for her husband, Rick Bensch, who has been a fan since seeing the band in Waterloo the late 1980s.

“I was glad to see them come to the Empire as any trip avoided to Toronto is great,” said Milliard.

The tour will be coming to Kingston’s K-Rock Centre, on Saturday, Feb. 9.

Sleepout fundraiser helps CMHA

By Jeff Peters

About 130 people took to Market Square last Friday in support of the Sleep Out so Others Can Sleep In fundraising event for the Canadian Mental Health Association.

The participants built cardboard box huts and wrapped themselves in layers of winter clothing to stay warm. The event had participants raise pledges from family and friends to help the CMHA raise funds and awareness for mental illness and homelessness locally and at the nationally.

The money raised from the event will go to support repairs, maintenance and upgrades for CMHA’s homes in Belleville and the surrounding area, said Executive Director Sandy Sidsworth. She said that the event has had its largest participation since it began six years ago.

“It has grown every year. People who do it once do it again and they bring people. So it is just growing because people want to take part in it,” said Sidsworth.

“It’s fun up until about two o’clock in the morning ... every body was talking about how cold it was ... one of our coldest sleep outs was the second year, it was – 32C,” said Sidsworth.

St. John Ambulance members made rounds of the encampment. A major medical concern for those sleeping out was the risk of hypothermia and dehydration. This year’s event saw one young woman treated for an unrelated illness, thought to be the flu.

Alexander Davis, a senior at Albert College braved the -17C temperatures. Davis, who is originally from Smith Parish, Bermuda, took part in the Sleep Out for the second time in two years. Davis made sure he packed extra thick socks, and suggested any newcomers to the event do the same.

“It was very shocking to see that, wow, this is what some people go through every single night,” said Davis.

Davis’s slept out with 35 other Albert College students, who collectively raised more than \$500 for the CMHA.

Idle No More movement continues in Belleville

By Richard Barclay

Even though Chief Theresa Spence has completed her hunger strike, Idle No More rallies continue to spread throughout Canada.

On Friday, Jan. 25, there was a small rally in Belleville’s Market Square. Idle No More activist Rebecca Boldt organized the rally. A group called Idle No More Belleville that came together on Facebook attended the demonstration. The Facebook group is primarily used to share information and organize demonstrations.

About 10 to 15 people showed up to raise continued awareness with regards to the Idle No More movement. Due to the extremely frigid temperature the protest was cut short, lasting from noon. to 1:30 p.m.

The Idle No More supporters engaged in circle dances, drumming and singing native songs. The message they were communicating was that the issue is not only a native one. They said whoever lives off of the resources that the land produces will be affected by Bill C45.

“The Idle No More movement is basically about protecting the land, because of the Bill C45 that was passed it

‘The Idle No More movement is basically about protecting the land, because of the Bill C45 that was passed, it takes a lot of protected bodies of water away and leaves very little left to be protected.’

Awaiagon Whiteman

takes a lot of protected bodies of water away and leaves very little left to be protected. Before Bill C45 was passed there was 2,000,000 lakes and rivers that were protected and now there is just under a hundred,” said Awaiagon Whiteman, who lives in Belleville and has been a supporter of the Idle No

More movement since it began.

When Boldt was asked whether she felt that the Idle No More movement will have less impact since Spence has stopped her hunger strike, Boldt said, “No I don’t think it will. Even though Chief Spence was a key role in Idle No More, she herself was not Idle No More.”

The rally in Market Square was not as big a turnout as Boldt would have liked, but it still shows that the Idle No More movement is still active, even in smaller communities.

This was first Idle No More demonstration in the city of Belleville. There was no negativity towards the demonstration from people passing by. Everyone seemed fairly supportive of the group’s message, and what they were doing.

Sports

Bulls top Knights in weekend action

Belleville holds second-place slot in Ontario Hockey League

By Julia McKay

Belleville Bulls Stephen Silas and Joseph Cramarossa came away with one goal and one assist each to beat the Ontario Hockey League-leading London Knights 3-1 at Yardmen Arena Saturday.

The Bulls struck first with a solo shot by defenceman Stephen Silas within the first five minutes of play. It was a fast-paced game between two of the top teams.

Knights defenceman Paxton Leroux left the game early with cheers from the fans, after receiving a five-minute penalty for instigating an off-ice fight with the Bulls' bench.

The Knights got on the board, tying the game, during the second period with a goal by left wing Matt Rupert assisted by Chris Tierney.

The Yardmen crowd jumped to its feet when the Bulls took the lead in the third with their second goal by left-winger Daniil Zharkov, assisted by Silas and Cramarossa. It quickly turned to boos when officials waved the off the goal.

The goal was allowed after video replay, making the score 2-1.

Cramarossa added to the lead with the Bulls' third goal, assisted by Scott Simmonds.

Knights goaltender Jake Patterson and Bulls goaltender Malcolm Subban battled hard all game, with the hometown goalie letting in only one goal. The Bulls outshot the Knights 40-23.

The win kept the Bulls in second place in the eastern conference with the Knights leading the league.

With 3,205 people in attendance, the Bulls played before the second-largest crowd at home this season. The Bulls next take on their local rivals, the Kingston Frontenacs, this Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Yardmen Arena.



Photo by Julia McKay

Belleville Bulls Joseph Cramarossa, 19, celebrates his goal with his teammates Stephen Silas, 26, and Brady Austin, 22. The Bulls triumphed the league-leading Knights 3-1 at the Yardmen Arena on Saturday.

Campus rink helps students keep active in the cold

Great opportunity for everyone to get moving

By Laura Boudreau

Loyalist College has created an ice skating rink on campus to keep students active during the cold winter months.

"Both students and faculty agree that the rink is a great idea. It brings athletics into the wintertime," said Amy Hoskin, athletic assistant at Loyalist.

The rink was opened to staff and students last Friday. The athletics department had a barbecue and served hot chocolate to celebrate students who wanted to come out and skate.

"I love skating and having a rink outside is a great activity for fun and for exercise," said Courtney Davidson, a first

year early childhood education student at Loyalist.

"I love playing hockey. It is a great time. There's nothing quite like skating around on the ice," said student Nick Crouter.

Hoskin said college athletic staff felt that it was their duty to give exercise opportunities to all students, who don't necessarily like playing structured sports, or working out at the gym.

"I'm a firm believer that being outside is great for everybody. So, by having this

rink, we are getting students outside. We are keeping them active and giving them something to do," said Hoskin. "It's nice to get the students out of their residence rooms and the school and into the weather."

"We like to make athletics fun for all students, not just the ones on the varsity teams."

The weather was warm when the construction began and the rink started out as a giant mud pit. Colder temperatures solidified the athletic department's ef-

forts.

Users have suggestions for improvements.

"I think the rink is awesome for hockey and free skating. However, benches for those of us who love watching hockey and have a hard time putting on our skates would be a great idea," said Davidson. "There is a picnic table beside the rink now but portable benches would be useful."

"It surely makes this cold weather worth it," said Crouter.

Troops head out onto the ice for fundraiser

Military families benefit from pond hockey action

By Myriam Lublink

Troops of CFB Trenton sharpened their skates for the second annual pond hockey tournament in Batawa from Thursday through Saturday, raising thousands of dollars for the Military Families Fund.

A 'Roots of Hockey' fundraising dinner was organized for the evening of Jan. 24 to kick off the weekend's games. Organizer Capt. Jeff Moorhouse of 436 Transport Squadron said about 160 people attended the dinner.

"Our goal for this year is \$50,000 but we figured we'd set a high goal. I'm thinking we'll probably be in the \$30,000 range when we've tallied everything up."

The Military Families Fund was established in 2007 to help deal with the unique and unexpected needs of military families. Rachel Patten and husband Cpl. Brian Patten, an aircraft structures technician at CFB Trenton, have recently received approval for funding because one of their two children has special needs.

"The assistance that we are receiving from the Military Families Fund will go towards desperately-needed respite care, which is in-home specialty care for our children, and towards significant extra costs that come as a result of having a child with special needs," said Rachel Patten.

Toronto Maple Leafs legend Ron Ellis dropped the puck at the first game on Saturday morning at 9 a.m. Spectators were excited for the games to begin and happy to have the chance to meet Ellis.

Capt. Troy White of 436 Squadron organized game schedules and oversaw the events of the tournament.

"It wasn't easy fitting all the teams in, but in the end it's a lot of fun and it's for a



Photo by Myriam Lublink

The Rock Solid Tattoos play against CFB Trenton's 8 AMS team during a pond hockey tournament in Batawa last Friday.

good cause," said White.

Each of the 18 teams had to pledge \$300 in order to join. After the tournament's successes last year, a website was built to make it easier to sponsor teams.

"Teams can register online now," explained Moorhouse. "Friends and family members of those teams can use our site

to sponsor their individual team too. We know things are really going to pick up with the site."

The tournament format was round-robin, with 30-minute games and four players on the ice at a time. The games all followed the rules of Canadian Pond Hockey.

It was decided last year that since the tournament was set up as a fundraiser, there would be two winning teams.

"The team that wins the tournament is a winner, of course," said Moorhouse. "However, the team that brings in the most money is considered a winner just the same."

Volleyball team loses on weekend

By Sofia Rojas

The Loyalist Lancers Men's volleyball team lost 3-1 to Trent University Saturday on home turf.

The last time Trent faced the Lancers, it was a victory for the Loyalist team but the Trent boys came back with a vengeance and dominated the court.

The Lancers seemed to have the upper hand at the beginning of the night with good communication, supportive teamwork and encouraging words from the crowd. The sound of chanting, drumming and shaking of home-made maracas filled the gym. The Lancers won the first set 25-22.

As the game progressed, the Lancers were slowly losing their lead to the Trent boys and were unable to keep up with the consecutive spikes coming from the opposite side of the net. Trent took the second set 26-24.

It became clear the Lancers were losing their steam as Trent was gaining theirs, resulting in the third set going to Trent, 25-19, as well as the fourth and final set with a score of 25-18.

"We definitely didn't play to our ability," said Glenn Martin, the Lancers' right-side hitter and setter.

"The team was lacking intensity and communication, so everything periodically broke down at the wrong time," he said. When asked if there was anything positive about the way they performed, Martin replied with a simple "no."

The Lancers currently have 12 points and are tied for seventh with Sir Sandford Fleming College. The boys are scheduled to play Algonquin College on Saturday, Feb. 2 at 3 p.m.