



Photo by Alistair Maitland

A frigid blaze
Firefighters from Quinte West present a surreal image in frigid temperatures on Monday. They put out a car fire on Moira Street West. There were no reported injuries and investigation is ongoing. Quinte area residents will once again be subjected to the challenges of polar temperatures in the next few days. Environment Canada predicts a roller-coaster temperature over the weekend with a mix of warm and cold weather.

Tire slashing plagues res parking

By Jonathan King

Students say they are hoping the college increases security and finds solutions to prevent what they say are repeated acts of vandalism that have been plaguing the student lot.

"It's really annoying and expensive," said Andy Elliott, a second-year radio broadcasting student. "It's a protest about nothing. The school should do more to catch the person doing it."

One person had their weekend plans

ruined after his tires were slashed on the evening of Nov. 22 last semester and had to cancel their weekend plans of heading home to see their family for their brother's birthday.

Kerry Lorimer, director of marketing and communications, said via email that there have been three separate reports of tires being slashed overnight on college property. Two incidents were reported last semester and the latest incident was reported Jan. 10.

Once a report with the college is filed,

then it becomes a police matter.

"College security is also aware of the incidents and continues to closely monitor the property and buildings," she said. "The college has cameras throughout the public areas at Loyalist. For security reasons, we do not divulge the particular locations and patterns of the cameras or enhancements to the systems."

Other students say they feel more security is needed.

"If they have cameras up and they don't do their job, maybe they should re-evalu-

ate, you know?" said Jim Patterson, a first-year welding and fabrication techniques student. "Maybe they should do more patrols or stake out troublesome areas."

In November, college officials said incident reports are completed when vandalism is reported and people are to contact the police, who then complete a report.

"If tire slashing is covered by insurance, then the insurance report also requires a police report when claiming," said Staff Sgt. Al Portt with Belleville Police Service.

"I don't recall any charges laid or reports filed," he added.

"What we do when there's a tire slashing is we ask victims to keep the tire or keep the segment that's been slashed because it can be matched up and used as evidence."

"It's mostly graffiti is what we deal with. Graffiti comes and goes but vandalism and vehicle mischief has fallen off. We get more calls during the summer months when it's warm, but with the cold winter. It gets pretty quiet," Portt added.

Charity match raises \$70,000 for new medical equipment

By James Wood

With skates flying, ice crunching and players crashing into the boards, alumni of the Boston Bruins defeated those of the Maple Leafs 8-5 during a charity match Saturday. The match and following events

raised \$70,000, which is going towards purchasing new medical equipment for the Belleville General Hospital.

Both teams were in town to play against each other for the first time in hockey history, a game that was a thrill to watch.

The two-day event kicked off on Jan. 17

with an autograph signing by the Boston Bruins, hosted at Dem Bones restaurant on North Front Street. The building was packed with Bruins fans seeking to get cards, jerseys, sticks and pucks signed by the greats. Following the signing, the team moved on to the Yardmen Arena, where

the Maple Leafs alumni were waiting.

The crowd in the Yardmen Arena roared their approval as the legends of old made their way onto the ice for the charity match. Notable players such as Jonathan Blum, Rick Middleton, Ray Bourque and Tom Songin were among the alumni,

along with two former Belleville Bulls, Doug Gilmour and Al Iafate. The Bruins took the lead early on, and the final score was left at 8-5, with the Bruins taking the victory.

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Photo by Solana Cain

Master Corporal Sébastien Bouchard returned from tour of duty in Afghanistan on Monday. These soldiers are some of the last Canadians to serve in Operation Attention, which has Canada assisting in the development of the Afghan National Security Forces. All personnel are expected home by the end of March 2014, according to the Department of National Defence.

Protesters camp out at Meyers farm

By Mitch Ward

Nighttime along Meyers Creek Road in Trenton is normally a place for quiet, calm and stillness.

But since last Monday, this peaceful mood has changed. Now the buildings on Frank Meyers' property echo the conversation of a dozen of his supporters, as well as the sparking and crackling of a campfire burning in a steel oil drum, with an air of tension creeping in from the blackness.

The protesters have been staying overnight on Meyers' property, keeping watch on the barns and silos that belonged to the 85-year-old farmer before they were expropriated by the government in 2012.

The expropriations along the northern edge of CFB Trenton were made in order to expand the base to include new training facilities for JTF2, Canada's special operations force.

Meyers was able to lease his land since 2012, but the Department of National Defence eventually claimed it as their own late in 2013, erecting fences and posting no trespassing signs.

Meyers has been quietly resisting the government since the beginning of the process, never wanting to give over his farm.

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Photo by James Wood

A brisk walk

Heavy winds and blowing snow this past Sunday did nothing to stop Dan Collins for going on his daily walk through Zwick’s Park in Belleville. A superintendent for water distribution in the area, Collins completes a full circuit every day.

Ice storm impacts on budget for Prince Edward County council

By Hannah Yoon

It looks like it’s going to be a long winter for the people of Prince Edward County. The disastrous ice storm last month has taken its toll on the county council’s budget. The bill totalled \$499,279 and will most likely increase as there are still areas in the county that need to be checked. Council currently has had to use its own funds to cover the costs, but realized it is more than they budgeted for this winter. They were not anticipating the cost of the damages of the ice storm, said Mayor Peter Mertens. On Jan. 14, the council put in a request to the minister of municipal affairs and housing for the county to be officially declared a “disaster area.” This is needed to apply for funding from the Ontario Disaster Relief Association Program (ODRAP). If the county is approved by ODRAP, two-thirds of the costs will be covered while the council covers the remaining one-third. Mertens said it could take up to six weeks to hear back from them but is quite

confident that they will be approved. “The largest component was the actual ice storm itself. And that’s all of our works crews and our contract crews having to work pretty much around the clock. So a lot of overtime, a lot of material and we used up pretty much most of our winter salt and sand in that three to four-day period. And keeping the roads open for hydro crews, that all was part and parcel of that,” said Mertens of the immediate damage the ice storm done to the county. The second major component that is costing the county is the clean up. It does not have cleanup crews on standby for every tree or wire that is damaged. They have their day-to-day regular work to do so the cleanup is all overtime or contract work. “It will take at least two months, if not longer,” said Mertens regarding the clean up of the whole county. It could go into the early spring months, depending on the weather. With the temperatures dropping to almost -20 C this week, this slows down the cleanup process for people in the county.

Bill and Henny Huiskamp of Hallowell Township will have to wait until all the snow melts to start cleaning up the mess of trees on their property. “We can’t get at it now. It’s quite frozen and the snow keeps on coming,” said Huiskamp about the branches all over her lawn. The county isn’t alone in waiting for disaster relief from ODRAP. Approximately 36 other municipalities across the province applied for financial aid because of the damage of the ice storm. All Prince Edward County can do for now is wait, do their best in cleaning up and hope for the help they need to come in. “I’ve learned never to be over confident when it comes to getting funds from the any municipal or any level of government because they have their own priorities and sometimes our needs don’t always fit into their priorities. But I believe that, in this case, because of the severity of it that they will come forward with money. Will it be the total amount? That remains to be seen, but I think there will be some funds coming forward,” said Mertens.

Meyers...

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This raised the ire of a woman named Lisa Gibson, who started a Facebook page last October to bring his issue to light and to gather supporters. Since that time, there have been multiple protests on the property and a tense day on Jan. 13 when Meyers confronted construction workers who had driven heavy construction equipment onto the property. It was after that particular standoff that a supporter raised the idea of starting a night watch to make sure the farm wasn’t destroyed unnoticed. Michael Clark was the man who first suggested it and has been coming by the farm every night since last Monday with a handful of others. “It was Monday that we stopped them at the barn, and I said if anything, they’re going to do it at nighttime. So we need people staying the night, and I said I’ll do it, so I’ve stayed Monday night, Tuesday night, Wednesday night, Thursday night, and tonight, and I will continue doing nights.” Meyers showed his appreciation for their efforts by running extension cords to a rundown but sturdy trailer to give the people a warm place to get away from the wind and to store food and water. Firewood was piled up for the fires, and

people have been placing straw around the outdoor common area to keep the mud down. Canadian flags were placed on fence posts and flown from the barns, and a Mohawk warrior flag was draped on the steel wires of the fence along the train tracks. Meyers drove up to the camp in his truck to see them before heading to his house directly across the road. “I appreciate everything they’re doing for me, from the bottom of my heart. I don’t think myself better than any of them.” The online support network has ballooned to over 40,000 supporters and the number of supporting participants has grown with every action and protest. Individuals have been coming in from farther away. Virginia Elliott drove from Montreal, stopping in Kingston to pick up another supporter and arriving at the farm in her station wagon with masking tape on the windows spelling out ‘From Montreal to Trenton, in support of Frank Meyers.’ “I’ve lived through expropriation experiences, and it’s appalling how farmland is a resource in this country that is so unprotected,” said Elliott. “This is actually my birthday present to myself. I had four days off and I said ‘you know what, I’ve got four days off and I’m going to stand with the supporters because I support Frank Meyers.’”

Escaping from the cold in record numbers

Canadians among the busiest travellers around the world

By Guillaume Nolet

Canadians can’t get enough of travelling. At Toronto Pearson International Airport, the busiest in the country, travellers like the Couch family are just passing by before reaching their final destination in South America. “It makes for a long day, but the end result is well worth it,” said Andrew Couch, who left with his wife and two kids from Alberta early Saturday morning. After a four-hour flight to Toronto, the family will be staying overnight in Toronto before continuing south on a six-hour flight to Bogota, the capital of Colombia. Canadians are among the busiest travellers in the world. Statistics Canada numbers reveal that the number of overnight trips overseas by Canadians has risen by 93 per cent between 2000 to 2010 and the recent numbers suggest no slowing down. In fact, the Canadian Tourism Commission reports that in 2012, Canadians took 32 million trips to international destinations, a six per cent increase from 2011. While the number-one reason for Canadians to travel abroad is leisure, business trip travellers are the highest spenders. Statistics Canada found that in 2010, Canadian business visitors spent an average of \$181 per night, twice as much as people on pleasure trips, and three times as much as those visiting friends and relatives. When asked if one of his family travelled overseas last year for business rea-

sons, Andrew Couch, a geologist working in the oil industry in Calgary, said he definitely did. Johanne St-Amand, a senior travel agent at McCarten Travel Group in Belleville, agreed this time of year is one of the company’s busiest. “From December to March, many people tend to travel south to the Caribbean and Mexico, because of the weather that we have in Canada, while June through September is a period where travels to Europe is more important,” said St-Amand. Last December, the ITB World Travel Trends Report for 2013 and 2014 suggested that the overall North American outbound travel market is gaining momentum after a slow last few years, due to good travel from Canada. However, Canadians still travel less than Germans, Americans and English, also known as the “Big Three.” China and Russia are strongly competing to be on the list of the world travel leaders, with leading growth of outbound trips for 2013 of 26 per cent and 12 per cent respectively. In 2012, U.S. destinations accounted for 70 per cent of overnight trips by Canadians, while sun destinations such as Mexico and Cuba dominated the overseas travel with a total of 2.7 million visits by Canadian travellers. St-Amand said most of her clientele prefers the Caribbean countries. However, like the Couch family, more and more Canadians are choosing other exotic, less-travelled countries. “We already travelled to Mexico last year, so we were looking for a new destination and a place with less tourists,” said Alina Couch. The Couch family manage to pay 30 per cent less on their airfare compared to flights to any country in Central America, like Costa Rica, Belize or Guatemala.



Photo by Guillaume Nolet

Andrew and Alina Couch, with their two daughters, in transit at Toronto Pearson International Airport, before leaving on vacation in Columbia. According to a new study, in 2012 alone, Canadians made well over 32 million trips to other countries, up six per cent compared with 2011.

St-Amand said that last-minute reservations are still a good idea, but you need some flexibility in your dates in order to get good rates. The senior travel advisor also suggests looking at mid-week departure dates, which are often less expensive, and to always double check the country’s requirements on visas and passports. “In some countries, passports needs to be valid up to six months beyond the departure date,” said St-Amand. According to the ITB report, 2014 looks promising with an estimate four percent growth on total outbound travel as the world economy gradually improves. St-Amand said one thing to look for in 2014 is a continuous rise in young adults travelling. According to the World Tourism Organization, the number of international trips made by young adults could rise from 200 million trips a year now to 300 million by 2020.

Celebrating muliticulturalism with music

By Sarah Vissers

A blizzard blew into Belleville this past weekend, but it was one of drumming, not snow.

Fubuki Daiko, a Japanese drumming group from Winnipeg performed for school groups last Friday at the Maranatha Christian Reform Church in Belleville with additional family shows on Saturday.

Ted Howe, the artistic director of Quinte Children's Theatre, spearheaded the event. A former elementary school teacher, Howe said he feels it's important to expose children to unique forms of art they may not otherwise experience, whether because of a lack of access or lack of funds.

World music is something QCT wants to bring more of to children, and Fubuki Daiko is a great start, he said. Half of the members have some personal link to Japanese culture; Hiroshi Koshiyama's parents are both Japanese, his wife Naomi Guilbert is half Japanese, half French-Canadian. All members were born and raised in Canada.

"This is a perfect example, especially in the Canadian context. This is a real celebration of multiculturalism in its highest form.

"For people to draw from their ancestral roots and to share that, we're just thrilled to do that," said Howe.

Fubuki Daiko has been performing together for 19 years. Most of their performances have been to younger audiences. In fact, teaching their craft in schools generates most of their income.

Their use of Hyottoko, a masked character known as the town fool, is a strategic maneuver the group uses to get the children engaged.

And engage it did. Laughter rang through the church as Koshiyama danced around in the audience and pulled children—and teachers—up on stage to play with the band. Most of the audience waved their hands in the air, hoping to be chosen.

Howe said he was happy with the reaction. "I'm just so thrilled and pleased with how this show turned out. The children looked like they thoroughly enjoyed this experience and to me this is all what it's about, making sure the children have fun and experience something they would never ever have an opportunity to experience. That makes me proud of what we're accomplishing here."

Olivia Latrille, 16, who attended Saturday's show said, "I thought it was very cool and powerful. I'd like to come again."

"We had a great time. The kids were



Photo by Sarah Vissers

Members of Fubuki Daiko, a Japanese drumming group from Winnipeg perform for school children on Jan. 17 at Maranatha Church in Belleville. The members, from left to right: Naomi Guilbert and Giselle Mak.

super fun audience to play for," said Guilbert.

Talking to Guilbert, one can learn a lot about the art and soul of taiko drumming. The incorporation of martial arts is a major part of the technique of taiko drumming. But not in the way you'd expect: it incorporates itself through the stance of

the drummers and the philosophy they must practice.

"You need to be with no ego and connected to the energy of the people around you," said Guilbert.

What's also interesting is Guilbert's foray into taiko drumming.

"As a kid, I was exposed to Japanese

culture, from my mom's side of the family, but all the stuff for girls I thought was really boring.

"But then I saw I taiko group perform. They were from Vancouver and they were mostly women in that group, and then the first time I saw that it was like, 'oh, maybe there is something interesting there.' I

was hooked after seeing them perform. I thought, 'one day I want to learn how to do that.'"

Twenty-five years later, she is still performing and travelling around North America to perform and teach with the band. The farthest they have gone is Poland, and they hope to do more in the future.

Dancers share love of performance with senior spectators

By Julia Karpiuk

Seven dancers from the Maracle Centre for the Arts arrived at the Westgate Lodge Nursing Home Saturday with their dancing shoes on.

The Maracle dancers usually perform at Westgate Lodge around Christmas time but because of the poor weather conditions, the performance was moved to the new year.

The dancers—of all ages—enthusiastically approached the chance to share their

talent with the Westgate community. The studio prepared eight dances for the residents. Offering a little bit of variety with some hip-hop, modern, jazz and ballet, the residents were offered a nice break from the usual daily activities.

"It's nice to have a change of pace. I enjoyed the little youngsters best of all," said Donald Rogers, who has been at Westgate for two years now. It's a satisfying feeling for dancers like Hailey Proud who performed solo two pieces. "I like contributing to the commu-

'We love to perform in the community and it gives them a lot of time to practise. This is why they do it. They love to dance.'

Mother Kelly Proud

nity and sharing with others what I can do," said Proud.

Proud's mother, Kelly has had her two daughters at the studio for four years now and enjoys seeing her girls perform anywhere.

"We love to perform in the community and it gives them a lot of time to practise. This is why they do it. They love to dance," said Proud's mother. As for the studio, this isn't the first time they have showcased their dancing abilities in the community.

They also perform annually at the Classic Cruisers Car show in Marmora, which is a charity event.

"Pretty much every time people ask us to do something, we will do it free of charge," said Angela Maracle, owner of Maracle Centre for the Arts.

"It's so good for the kids. That way they're not actually taking classes, they're actually going out and doing things to benefit other people," said Maracle. Maracle has owned her studio since 1988 and it is a staple in the Belleville community.

School stages 1960s musical production

By Samantha Quinn

Vacant hallways were filled with classic songs of the '60s, the laughter of families, a special guest, and voluminous up-dos to celebrate the beginning of a new year at Centennial Secondary School.

The school staged the classic 1960s musical *Leader of the Pack* for the school's annual production Jan. 16 to 19.

Originally called *The Songs of Ellie Greenwich*, it celebrates the life and times of the singer, songwriter, and record producer, Ellie Greenwich, from her professional triumphs to her personal misfortunes.

It includes such well-known songs as *River Deep Mountain High*, *Rock of Rages*, *Leader of the Pack*, *Hanky Panky*, *Be My Baby*, and *Chapel of Love*, all performed by students who are apart of the drama and art programs at CSS.

The students of CSS have been practicing almost daily with their music teacher, David Reed, since the first week of school. The girls have been growing their hair since summer for their beehive hairdos.

"The audition process was internal; when we started in the first week of September, I had 18 kids in class, all good singers, who all became the core group that drove the show," said Reed, director of *Leader of the Pack* and the vocal and guitar teacher at CSS for 15 years.

The last four days have been hectic and exciting for the cast members, running around doing costume changes into long evening gowns, colourful flowing dresses, tuxedos and leather jackets for their back-to-back performances.

"I've always loved the theater, even when I would do acting, but once I started working in the back with lighting for talent shows, I found my true talent. Now I am doing stage managing and I love it," said Amy Owen, 15, the future stage manager of productions at CSS.

Holly Owen, 16, drama major, and Colton Crawford, 16, who's in the arts program, play the two main characters, Ellie Greenwich and Jeff Barry.

"When it is show time, I get so into the zone, I can't think of anything else. I want to be an actress once I'm done high school so this is my passion," said Holly Owen, Amy Owen's sister.

Many of the other performances CSS has done in the past 15 years include *Sound of Music*, *My Fair*



Photo by Samantha Quinn

Drama students perform, *I Wanna Love Him So Bad*, the closing number of Centennial High School's performance of the musical *Leader of the Pack*.

Lady, The Music Man, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Little Shop of Horrors, and Sherlock Holmes.

"These kids have been very involved and have wanted to make this performance their own. They coordinated all of the costumes and sets as well as all of the publicity put into this," said Reed.

Although it was Reed's first time directing a play, in the past he has brought in several special guests

for local performances, such as the Wild Strawberries, the Rheostatics, Ron Sexsmith, the Skydiggers, and this year's guest, Freddy Vette, a Rock and Roll performer from Stirling-Rawdon, north of Belleville, who brought in many locals.

With the school's average audience of 250 to 350 people each night, they were able to make a profit from their \$15 ticket price to put towards the next

production in late May 2014 for things such as costumes, props, setup, and lighting.

"My favourite part is watching these students have those moments when they rise to occasion after working so hard for four months. I see them every day for four years, watching them grow and achieve. I have the best job in the world. I get to be with talented musicians all day every day," said Reed.

Hockey Day in Canada

Legends...

Continued from Page 1

Iafrate was happy to be back on the rink where he had started his hockey career. “If you had asked me 30 years ago when I was drafted here if I would ever be playing an alumni game with the Leafs and the Bruins where I played for all three teams, it’s something you could never imagine.”

Iafrate said he had good memories of his time spent in Belleville, and he will always remember the coaches who believed in him and got him started.

“It’s easy to not believe, but they believed in everybody.”

As for being a legend of hockey, Iafrate was very relaxed about the label.

“I guess it’s pretty neat,” said Iafrate. “I haven’t found anything in my life I love doing as much and I guess that’s why you become a legend, because of how much you love doing it.”

The day after the big game, local teams got their chance to play with the greats in the Pro-Am Tournament held at the Yardmen. Six teams participated in a two-pool tournament, with each team bolstered by NHL alumni that had been drafted the night before. In a series of matches that ran from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., the competition eventually came down to a match between the RCAF Flyers and Duvanco Homes, resulting in a 4-1 win for the Flyers.

Despite the loss for Duvanco, team organizer and president of Duvanco Dustin VanSoelen was happy to have the chance to play alongside the likes of Doug Gilmour and Rick Middleton.

“It’s just a great feeling. These are the guys we’ve grown up watching on the NHL Saturday nights, and a chance to play beside them is incredible.”

The event raised \$70,000 for the hospital foundation, which will be used towards purchasing new medical equipment. Although the goal was \$80,000, the amount reached was still enough for the foundation.

“We did about the same last year,” said Jen Barrett, director of development. “We’re very excited, very happy with the results.”

Next year’s event is already in discussion.



Photo by Candice-Rose Gagnon

Noah Carisse of Orleans, 10, and Craig Anderson of the Ottawa Senators stand at attention during the national anthem. Noah participated in the Scotiabank Skaters program during the opening ceremonies at the Canadian Tire Centre in Ottawa on Hockey Day in Canada.



Photo by Julia Karpiuk

Fans wait in anticipation as the Bruins and Leafs alumni game is minutes away from the puck drop.

Pond Hockey Classic hosted by CFB Trenton

By Justin Greaves

\$50,000.

Twenty-six teams laced up at the third annual CFB Trenton Pond Hockey Classic, which took place at the Batawa community centre this past weekend.

What started off as just a small pond and a few teams has grown into a classic, fast-paced tournament, attracting people from all over.

CFB Trenton has hosted the event every year and continues to be the backbone of the event. Over 200 players – both civilian and military – battled on the three rinks with a record number of players.

Each of the 26 teams is asked to donate at least \$300 to play, which teams do online. The team with the highest donation wins a prize. All proceeds will be split evenly between military families and the Trenton Memorial Hospital Foundation.

Organizers are hoping to surpass last year’s \$20,000 and reach as high

“It’s all positive, it’s been growing a lot, we have almost doubled in teams from last year. It just keeps getting bigger and better,” said Troy White, who has directed the tournament for two years.

Numbers have almost doubled since last year’s 16 teams.

“There are a lot of good things happening, teams are having fun, it’s a great natural Canadian thing, and it’s all going to charity,” said White.

The tournament format is based on the Canadian Pond Hockey rules. To get a goal, the player must: “Score from the attacking side of half only. Shots must be taken at or over the halfway mark, which is determined by the volunteer, according to the Canadian National Pond Hockey rules manual.

Custom-made nets are used since there are no goalies.

Donations can be made online at hockeytroops.com.



(Above, left) Boston Bruins alumni player Tom Songin and Toronto Maple Leafs alumni player Mike Krushelnyski collide as they skate down the ice at the Yardmen Arena. Both players were part of the Legends of Hockey Charity Classic held at the Yardmen to raise money for the Belleville General Hospital. *Photo by James Wood*

(Above, centre) Garrett Logan carves hard to the net at the 3rd annual CFB Trenton Pond Hockey Classic which took place at the Batawa Community Centre on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 17 and 18. Over 30 teams took part making it the biggest year so far. *Photo by Justin Greaves*

(Above, right) Austin Tame-Dunkley and brothers Zach and Hutton Sheerin headed out to Meyers Pier Sunday on Belleville’s waterfront for a game of shinny. *Photo by Dillian Cools*