



Photo by Matthew Blair

Organizers of Porchfest Ken Hudson, son Callum Hudson and Lucinda Pritchard pose outside Glanmore National Historic Site during the opening of Porchfest 2012.

Musical Talent takes over East Hill as Porchfest ramps up

By Matthew Blair

A walk through Belleville's historic East Hill neighbourhood will be a musical one this weekend, as the city celebrates its 5th annual Porchfest festival.

This year's event, which encourages pedestrians stroll from house to house to hear musicians play will host 26 acts on 21 porches, said co-organizer Lucinda Pritchard.

"We have a great mix of performers,"

said Pritchard, who, with her husband, Ken Hudson, brought the concept of the event to the city in 2009.

Andy Forgie is among the myriad professionals and amateurs who will be playing this weekend. He said Porchfest is a great way for musicians to get their work noticed.

"This is a great opportunity to spread your wings and perform before a lot of people over the afternoon," said Forgie, a notable local children's entertainer who

has played at Porchfest for the last several years.

"Not only is it fun, you also get to showcase your talents. You never know who may be watching."

Because the event relies on the cooperation of people in East Hill, Pritchard said extra precaution is taken to ensure Porchfest runs as smoothly as possible.

"We have taken steps to alleviate any issues," she said. "We contacted the police

so they are aware of the events and ask all porch-hosts to let neighbors know of their involvement.

"As well, all participants are required to sign a Code of Conduct which includes a point about noise. We expect all bands to maintain an unplugged feel, which means low sound levels during the event."

Pritchard and Hudson said they believe Belleville Porchfest is one of the only events of its kind in Canada. Although

more people came out to see the show, there are no plans to expand the event area, said Pritchard.

"We want to maintain the walkability of the event," she added.

Some performers this weekend include Tore Down Blues Band, The Whistle Dawgs, Meaghan Lattanzio and more. Performances will begin at 1 P.M. and end at 4 P.M. For more information and a full line-up, visit the official Belleville Porchfest website.

Couple bonds over new video game

By Katy Burley

Radio broadcasting student Bryan Peters and his girlfriend Shelby Fraser have taken their love – of Grand Theft Auto – to a new level.

Peters and Fraser each bought their own copy of the latest version of the series Tuesday night. Peters said he played the new GTA V game for approximately three and a half hours on Tuesday right after he bought it and played until he couldn't keep his eyes open anymore. He went to bed around midnight.

After all that time, the gamer said he doesn't think he has even completed five per cent of the missions.

"It's just such a huge game," he said. "I just kind of played around a bit. I only did one or two missions."

Peters said he considers both himself and Fraser to be heavy gamers, adding that gaming is one of the top five things

he does in his spare time.

Video games is a big common ground in the couple's relationship. Peters said he is more interested in games like GTA, while Fraser is into games like Call of Duty and Skyrim. He said Fraser bought GTA V on an impulse and that he was surprised at her choice.

Peters said being in a relationship with a gamer means making compromises. He plays Call of Duty with Fraser, although it isn't his type of game. He said games like Call of Duty are a good way for the couple to vent frustrations, but they try to have a lot of fun with it.

Peters is one of the many consumers who have given positive feedback about GTA V.

"I think it's very worth the money. I'm agreeing with all the reviews it's gotten already," he said.

Although other people he knows may be skipping class to play the game, Peters

said he doesn't plan to miss any school. "I'm pretty committed to my radio course right now," he said. "Sometimes I'll sacrifice my sleep for it."

Peters said he and Fraser will be playing the game a lot together. "The couple that plays together, stays together," he said.

"The couple that plays together, stays together." Bryan Peters



Grand Theft Auto V arrived in stores on the 17th and made \$800 million after 24 hours of sales.

On the street

New iPhone leaves Loyalist students wanting more



JUSTIN TURNER, 20, ADVERTISING, 2ND YEAR

"I just got a new Galaxy and it's way better than the iPhone.

I'd only get an iPhone if I didn't already have a phone."



KIMBER JOLLY, 19, SALES, 2ND YEAR

"I already have an iPhone and I don't see a reason to upgrade. It's too expensive and I don't use my phone that much anyway."



LUCAS ANSLEY, 20, TVNM, 1ST YEAR

"All the iPhones are the same. I might be interested if Apple did something different or added useful features so there's more that I could do with it."



COURTNEY MATTIS, 26, COMMUNITY AND JUSTICE SERVICES, 1ST YEAR

"I might get one if my carrier offered iPhones, but they don't. It's too much money for me anyway."



MANDY LARADE, 19, PHOTOJOURNALISM, 2ND YEAR

"My old iPhone has everything I need, why would I upgrade? There are more important things for me to spend money on than another phone."