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THE Orléans Star

September 11, 2025 • Volume 39, No. 9

Next edition September 25

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Local musician Scott Jazey is not about to let his ongoing battle with pancreatic cancer stop him from sharing his love of music with friends every second Thursday at the Blackburn Arms Pub. STAR STAFF

Local man pursues love of music despite difficult cancer battle

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

When Scott Jazey was diagnosed with Stage 4 pancreatic cancer in the spring of 2022 and told he had three to six months to live, he decided to spend whatever time he had left pursuing his love of music and sharing it with anyone who cared to listen.

That was three years ago, and although he has been battling the dreadful disease ever since, he's made good on the commitment he made to himself by continue to perfect his craft and hosting an open mic session every second Thursday night at the Blackburn Arms Pub in Blackburn Hamlet.

The pub has always been a welcome venue for local musicians and Blackburn Arms owner Scott Philip was happy to oblige Jazey.

"Scott knows a lot of local musicians and a lot of local musicians know him, so an open mic session seemed like a good idea," says Philip.

For Jazey, the sessions are another form of

therapy in his ongoing battle against cancer.

"When I was diagnosed it really changed my perspective on life and made me realize how much I love music and Scott has been very supportive in letting me use this space," says Jazey. "It's allowed me to really do what I love every couple of weeks with other musicians."

Not surprisingly, Jazey's biggest fans are his mother and father, Del and Don.

His father established a Facebook group called "Scott Jazey: Friends & Family" in April 2024 to keep friends and family up to date on Scott's treatment and upcoming shows.

The very first event they organized took place at the Rainbow Bistro in the Byward Market on April 14. They were hoping 40 or 50 people might show up. In actual fact, it was a packed house with more than 250 people in attendance.

It was a thrilling evening for Jazey who had been going through treatments for the better part of the previous year.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 ►



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Orléans Terry Fox Run to take place on Sept. 14

ORLÉANS – The 33rd edition of the Orléans Terry Fox Run will take place on Sunday, Sept. 14. As in the past, the start and finish will be located in the parking lot of Sir Wilfrid Laurier Secondary School on Tenth Line Road. Registration will open on site at 7:30 a.m. Open start is anytime between 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Bicycles, rollerblades and strollers are all welcome. Dogs must be kept on a leash. Pre-registration and donations can be made at www.terryfox.org/terry-fox-run/. As of Sunday, Sept. 7, more than \$10,473 had been raised.

Orléans Rib and Poutine festival returns Sept. 12-14

ORLÉANS – The Orléans Rib and Poutine Festival returns to the Orléans Festival Plaza on Centrum Blvd. this Friday. Besides all the delicious BBQ vendors serving up lip-smacking ribs, chicken and pulled pork, there will be several food trucks offering a wide variety of poutine. As in the past, the festival will also include live music and a beverage area featuring a number of local craft breweries. Festival hours are Friday, Sept. 12 from 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 13 from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 14 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Free admission.

2015 Orléans Road Map still available by direct email



ORLÉANS – Free copies of the 2025 edition of the Orléans Road Map containing a map of Orléans on one side and a map of St. Joseph Blvd on the other side are still available by sending an email with your home address and phone number to info@orleansstar.ca. Allow up to three weeks for delivery.



Hugh MacPherson (second from the left) presents Scott Jazey with a commemorative wall plaque as Blackburn Arms owner Scott Phillip (far left) and Del and Don Jazey look on. FRED SHERWIN PHOTO

Local man pursues love of music despite difficult cancer battle

Continued from page 1

Three days before the Rainbow Bistro concert, Jazey played a short trial set at the Blackburn Arms which would end up becoming a regular Scott Jazz and Friends gig every second Thursday.

The bi-weekly sessions also double as fundraiser to help pay some of the bills through a 50/50 draw.

“Since this happened three years ago I’m so grateful and happy,” says Jazey. “Even though I know I’m limited, it’s been a

weight off my shoulders doing the things I love.”

Blackburn Hamlet resident and retired military piper Hugh MacPherson is another huge fan who has attended almost every session. He recently present Jazey and Philip with identical wall plaques with a bagpipe strathspey composition of his own to honour both men.

The next Scott Jazey and Friends session will take place at the Blackburn Arms on Sept. 18 starting at 6:30 p.m.

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Week 1 winner –

Orléans Legion Poppy Project surpasses 11,000 mark

By Jody Maffett
The Orléans Star

For the past two weeks, volunteers at the Orléans Legion have been busy turning more than 11,000 knitted and crocheted poppies into a display to mark the 100th anniversary of the national veterans' organization.

The Orléans Legion is among several Legion branches in Ontario that have launched their own Poppy Projects. The local project is the brainchild of Ladies Auxiliary president Wendy Fortier

The volunteers have been attaching the poppies to two large cargo nets that will be draped over the exterior wall of the building.

When the Legion first launched the project last spring, Fortier was hoping they might get 5,000 knitted and crocheted poppies. That goal was surpassed within the first six weeks and the poppies kept coming. They've been knitted by more than 50 individuals and several organizations including the Busy Fingers knitting club in Orléans, St. Helen's Anglican Church and several seniors homes.

"I'm absolutely blown away," says

Fortier. "Never in my wildest dreams did I ever think we would get so many."

One of the things that Fortier has found so interesting about the project is the many different types of poppies they've received. They're all poppies, but they've been created using different shades red wool and they're a variety of different sizes.

More than 40 volunteers have been meeting at the Legion to attach the poppies to the two cargo nets. Fortier estimates they will need to meet again in a week or so to finish the job.

In the weeks leading up to Remembrance Day, the poppy-festooned cargo nets will be draped over the outside wall of the Legion that faces the cenotaph.

The Royal Canadian Legion was founded in 1925 as the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Services League. The organization was essentially an amalgamation of 15 various veteran groups that formed in the years following the First World War. The largest of them was The Great War Veterans Association.

In 1960, Queen Elizabeth II granted the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Services League royal patronage and so it



Volunteers attach some of the more than 11,000 donated poppies to a cargo net that will be hung outside the Orléans Legion in the weeks leading up to Remembrance Day. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ORLÉANS LEGION

became the Royal Canadian Legion. communities across Canada.
Today, there more than 1,350 branches The Orléans Legion is Branch 632 in
of The Royal Canadian Legion located in Ontario. It was formed in 1980.

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Back to work

So much for the government workplace hybrid experiment which up until now has allowed employees the option to work from home. An option that was born out of the COVID-19 pandemic when there was no other choice.

First, it was federal civil servants who were ordered to return to their offices at least three days a week a little over a year ago. It took awhile, but Ontario followed suit last month, ordering provincial government workers back to their offices full-time starting Jan. 5. Now it's the city's bureaucrats who are being told they need to return to their offices five days a week starting Jan. 1.

The directive, which was issued by Ottawa city manager Wendy Stephanson, was immediately decried by the union which represents the city's inside workers as well as some city councillors including Orléans South-Navan city councillor Catherine Kitts and Orléans West-Innes councillor Laura Dudas who both expressed disappointment the City would be ending the hybrid work option for its workers.

According to Stephanson and Ottawa Mayor Marc Sutcliffe, who signed off on the directive, the move is meant to "increase the level of excellent service" by increasing "culture, innovation and relationship-building" among city employees.

But there is another reason the City wants its workers to return to the office, and its the same reason the City would prefer if the federal government did the same. It's about getting those workers back on to public transit and the O-Train in particular.

Ridership has tanked ever since the pandemic and it has so far refused to bounce back largely because municipal and federal workers have been allowed to work from home. The failing ridership has resulted in a \$50 million annual deficit in revenue, which has to be made up through property taxes.

When the LRT was approved 10 years ago, it was based on projected ridership figures. The pandemic and the decision to allow employees to continue to work from home even after it had ended, wiped out those projections and has resulted in an ongoing year by year deficit.

With the east end extension of the LRT about to open in the coming months, something had to be done to increase ridership and reverse the ongoing deficit. Whether you agree with it or not, ordering the City's workers back to the office is a step in that direction.

That said, a hybrid work model is the future. How we get there without turning the LRT into a very expensive white elephant is the multi-million dollar question that eventually needs to be answered.

— Fred Sherwin

THE
Orléans Star

Jody Maffett
Editor

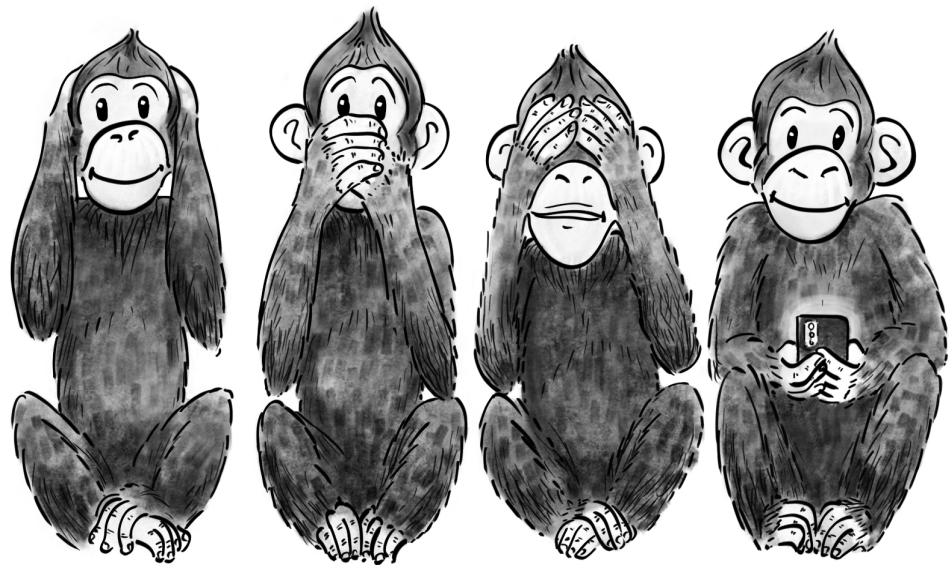
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THE AVERAGE PERSON'S REACTION TO CURRENT WORLD EVENTS



Snappy slogans can't hide Ontario's limping economy

Premier Doug Ford keeps telling us that Ontario's economy is "the best it has ever been", but the numbers tell a different story. Behind the glossy slogans lies an economy limping along under weak growth, rising unemployment, and a mountain of debt.

Ontario now carries more subnational debt than any jurisdiction on Earth. Every resident shoulders about \$60,408 in provincial debt. That isn't a bragging point — it's a warning sign.

Look at growth. In 2023, real GDP reached about \$852 billion, or \$71,659 per person, ranking Ontario just sixth among provinces. This year's performance is even worse: only 0.8 per cent growth in the first quarter, with projections of 1.2 per cent for 2025. The national average? 1.6 per cent. Ontario hasn't stumbled this badly since 2016. So much for "best ever."

The labour market isn't bailing us out either. The unemployment rate is stuck at 7.9 per cent, among the highest in Canada. More than 700,000 Ontarians

are out of work.

For young people, the situation is bleaker still: 14.6 per cent youth unemployment, the highest in the country.

For too many, Ontario now means fewer jobs, higher costs, and dimmer prospects.

Add to that a housing crisis where provincial targets are routinely missed, and affordability slips further out of reach.

This is not responsible stewardship. It is self-congratulation dressed up as leadership.

Ontarians don't need more press conferences and puffed-up slogans. They need a credible plan to rein in debt, spark real economic growth, and tackle youth unemployment with urgency.

Members of the Legislature are not cheerleaders. Our job is to be honest with the people we serve. The truth is Ontario's economy is underperforming.

Until this government swaps spin for substance, our province will remain stuck in neutral — and Ontarians will keep paying the price



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Housing issue is about affordability and availability for all

If you are like most people, when you hear the words “affordable housing” the first thing that probably comes to mind is “low income” housing. But the twin issues of affordability and availability when it comes to housing affects middle and low income earners alike, especially if you happen to live on your own.

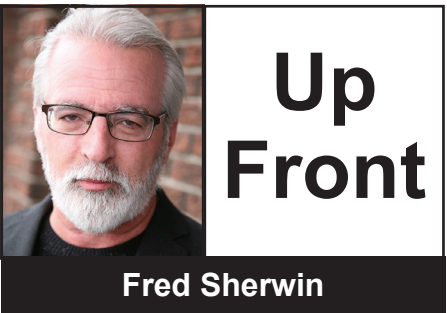
It hits even closer to home if you’re under the age of 30 and are looking to move out on your own, or God forbid, want to buy your first home.

Let’s start with renting. If you own your own home and don’t have grown children, you may not be aware of the state of rental housing in Ottawa. In a nutshell, it’s pitiful.

To begin with, there just aren’t a lot of rental units in the market, especially rental apartments. In a perfect example of how supply and demand affects pricing, the lack of rental properties combined with ever present demand means that the cost of renting a property has gone through the roof.

According to Rentals.ca and Urbanation, which keep track of such things, the average price for a one bedroom apartment in Ottawa is just over \$2,000, if you can find one. The average price for a two-bedroom apartment is just over \$2,600.

Heck, the average price of a studio apart-



ment in Ottawa is \$1,400. That’s a lot of money for someone if they’re barely making the minimum wage. In fact, it’s lot of money for anyone who’s just starting out in the workforce. But an even bigger issue than affordability or availability.

In doing some research for the column, I went on Realtor.ca which listed 256 properties available for rent in Ottawa as of Sept. 5. There were only two properties under \$1,600 a month and just 49 properties under \$2,000 a month. That’s not a huge pool to chose from. It gets even smaller if you’re fussy about the location.

Things get even worse if you want to rent a townhouse or a single detached home. While availability is slightly better , the cost is so prohibitive it’s almost impossible to pay for it on your own unless you’re making at least

\$90,000 a year. God forbid you’re a single parent.

In order to rent a home in Ottawa and be able to live with some peace of mind, you need to be a married with two incomes. Otherwise, you’ll be spending two-thirds of your take home pay on rent plus utilities.

They also don’t make apartments or even townhouses like they used to. They are smaller with much smaller bedrooms. I remember visiting one apartment with my daughter and making the mistake of thinking the master bedroom was a den.

As difficult as it is for young people starting out on their own to rent a place to live, buying a home has become little more than a pipe dream.

It wasn’t that long ago that you could buy a starter home for \$350,000 with a \$35,000 down payment.

That same starter home now costs \$550,000, which means you need to come up with a \$55,000 down payment.

Short of winning a lottery, there’s not a whole lot of people out there with \$55,000 salted away waiting for the day they want to buy a starter home, especially if they’re already trying to pay off a student loan, which puts home ownership for most people

under the age of 35 completely out of reach.

For many young people, the only path to homeownership is with some help from their parents, being in a committed relationship with two incomes, or they happen to be the beneficiary of a large inheritance.

It’s the same in every major city in the country. It’s even worse in Europe, where rent is even more expensive and home ownership is even further out of reach.

So what’s the solution? I’m not sure there are any. We’ve gone down the path of no return. Kids are living with their parents a lot longer and more and more homeowners are house poor, spending larger and larger chunks of their income on their mortgage and property taxes, leaving little if anything for amenities like furniture.

So while creating “affordable” housing for low income individuals and families is important, it fails to address the lack of affordable housing for young people and single income earners, especially in the area of rental units. The situation is forcing people to spend a high percentage of their income on housing, leaving them with little or nothing to put away, which will lead to other issues as they get older. But that’s another problem for another column.

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Ward 2 residents invited to provide their input into 2026 budget process

Over the past months, as I've gone door-to-door speaking with residents across the Ward, I've consistently heard about your priorities for our community, concerns about the rising cost of living, and a desire for continued investment in our neighbourhoods to improve our quality of life.

These conversations have a lasting impact on me, especially as we enter the City's annual budget cycle, and I meet with the Mayor and Senior City Staff to advocate for improvements in our community.

Your feedback has helped me push the City to invest more in the east end, recognizing that we have lagged behind other areas in transportation and infrastructure renewal.

As a result, more arterial and local roads have been repaved, splash pads in the Ward upgraded or replaced, new playgrounds built, Lois Kemp Arena expanded, sidewalks and pathways renewed, funding for a new Mouvement d'implication francophone d'Orléans (MIFO) building secured, along with traffic calming and safety improvements.

Laura Dudas

Orléans West-Innes Ward 2

Although much has been accomplished, there is always more to be done. Budget season is in full swing, making this a critical time to advocate for the projects and upgrades our community needs. Please take a moment and share your priorities with me through my survey at lauradudas.ca/2026-city-budget-survey/. All ideas are welcome and greatly appreciated.

Pivoting to another subject that is dear to my heart: tree planting. We were successful in receiving a grant for 500 trees from Trees for Life to be planted at 1754 St. Joseph Blvd. on the former Convent grounds.

Volunteers will be needed to help plant trees on Sunday, Oct. 4 at 9 a.m. Everyone is welcome and youth can receive community hours by participating. Bring a shovel, bring your friends, and spread the word!

Please let me know you are coming by RSVP'ing to Laura.Dudas@Ottawa.ca so I can plan accordingly. This will be lots of fun and will leave a lasting legacy for our community.

Keeping pedestrians and cyclists safe is everybody's responsibility

With the school year now in full swing, there's a fresh energy in our neighbourhoods. Sidewalks and crosswalks are busier, schoolyards are alive with chatter, and bikes are out in full force as kids ride to class or head home at the end of the day.

It's a wonderful time of year, but it's also a moment when road safety deserves our full attention.

Our youngest residents are some of the most vulnerable people on our streets. Children may be distracted by friends, rushing to get to class, or simply unaware of the traffic around them.

Cyclists – especially younger riders – can be harder to see and may not always signal or travel in a straight line. Even adults walking or biking are at greater risk than someone protected by a vehicle. That's why, as drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians, we all share the responsibility of making our roads safer.

For motorists, that responsibility starts with slowing down. School zones, residential streets, and intersections are areas where extra caution is never wasted. A few moments of patience can prevent a life-changing accident. Be alert for children

Tim Tierney

Beacon Hill-Cyrville Ward 11

darting out unexpectedly, watch carefully when turning, and always give the right of way to those at crosswalks and pedestrian crossings.

For pedestrians and cyclists, safety comes from being visible and aware. Making eye contact with a driver before crossing, wearing bright or reflective clothing, or using lights at dusk or dawn can go a long way.

Intersections deserve special attention. They bring everyone together – drivers eager to move forward, cyclists approaching from bike lanes, and pedestrians stepping off the curb. Taking a second look before moving through, yielding when needed, and slowing down are small acts that can prevent tragedies.

At the end of the day, road safety is about more than rules – it's about the kind of community we want to live in. One where parents feel confident letting their kids walk to school, where cyclists feel safe, and where everyone feels respected. Let's keep looking out for one another, not just at the start of the school year, but every single day

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FALL 2025 HOME STYLE



Visit Sound & Sight: your total Smart Home store

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

The Sound & Sight audio-visual store on St. Joseph Blvd. has been helping their customers upgrade their home audiovisual experience for more than three years now.

They carry the latest state-of-the-art Smart TVs from Samsung and Sony and impeccable sound systems that bring the visual experience to the next level including all the leading brands like Totem Acoustic, Denon and Sonos, along with some brands you may not be as familiar with such as JL Audio, Rel Acoustic subwoofers amplifiers, and Martin Logan.

Beyond the audiovisual, Sound & Sight is a licensed dealer for Panasonic and Human Touch massage chairs as well Jaymar furniture and Fornirama furniture.

They also specialize in Smart Home systems and components. They sell and install motorized blinds by Hunter Douglas, Alta Window Fashions, security and surveillance systems, Smart Home HVAC controls, lighting controls, home net-working systems which can be operated from your Smart phone.

It's been seven years since Sound & Sight owner Jason Miller left StereoPlus where had been working since he was just 16 years old. It didn't take long before many of his former clients at StereoPlus started calling on him for advice in designing and equipping their home theatres. As a result, Jason decided to start his own consulting business. That was four years ago.

In 2022, Jason fulfilled his dream of opening his own store after purchasing the property at the corner of St. Joseph and Orléans Blvd.

Today, Jason has clients across the city thanks mostly to the quality of the audio visual equipment the store carries, the knowledge he possesses, and the fact that he personally stands behind everything he sells.

To get a taste of all Sound & Sight has to offer and to take advantage of their anniversary deals, you should visit their showroom. They are open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Saturday and closed Sundays.

If you can't make it to their showroom, you can check out their website at www.soundsight.ca which has several



Visit the Sound & Sight showroom on St. Joseph Boulevard and experience the difference quality makes for yourself. FILE PHOTO

links to videos on their Blog page which are bound to spark your imagination, or you can visit their Facebook page [@soundsight.ca](https://www.facebook.com/soundsight.ca).

The website also has a page where they

post all of their clearance sale items where you can pick up a new addition to your own audio-visual system at prices that are often greatly reduced from the suggested manufacturer's list price.



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To make easy decorating changes with max impact, paint a room, a feature wall, or your front door. Randall's exclusive C2 Cabinet and Trim paint works wonders in kitchens and bathrooms! Randall's has in-store colour experts and poster-sized real paint samples to help you find the perfect colour.

Even better, hire one of their decorators to give a colour consult right in your home... and while they're there, they can consult on furniture placement and selection or on

any other décor ideas that can add comfort to your home. To top it off, when you work with a Randall's decorator, you are eligible for discounts on the purchases you make at Randall's.

If you already know the colour you need, Randall's is the go-to place in Ottawa to match a paint colour, even a fabric sample, or a floor, cabinet or furniture stain colour.

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that the paint, stain, epoxy or sealant that you apply adheres properly and, therefore, lasts longer. Fortunately, Randall's has the know-how and is ready to share.

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(The preceding article is provided as paid content to the Orléans Star by the folks at Randall's.)

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M Greer Glass can take care of everything from mirrors to shower stalls

STAR STAFF – Thinking of renovating your bathroom and want to put in a new glass shower stall? Then you should call Marty Greer at M Greer Glass Solutions, who has over 40 years experience in the industry.

Marty will work with you on the design and then work with your contractor on the installation to make sure your vision becomes a reality.

But M Greer Glass Solutions does a lot more than just shower stalls. They can replace virtually any type of glass in your home from windows to glass table tops and everything in between. When possible, the products are locally sourced and manufactured.

Marty worked for a number of companies before finally starting his own mobile business in 2010. In his words, “to provide an honest service at a fair price”.

It wasn’t until 2021 that he decided to incorporate and M Greer Glass Solutions was born. It was also in the middle of the pandemic, which presented its own set of unique challenges.

Fortunately, glass installers were deemed an essential service during the pandemic, so

he was able to accept jobs while following the proper COVID protocols like wearing a face mask at all times and social distancing.

Marty also secured a major contract with three of the four area school boards to replace broken windows and glass doors which has kept him very busy.

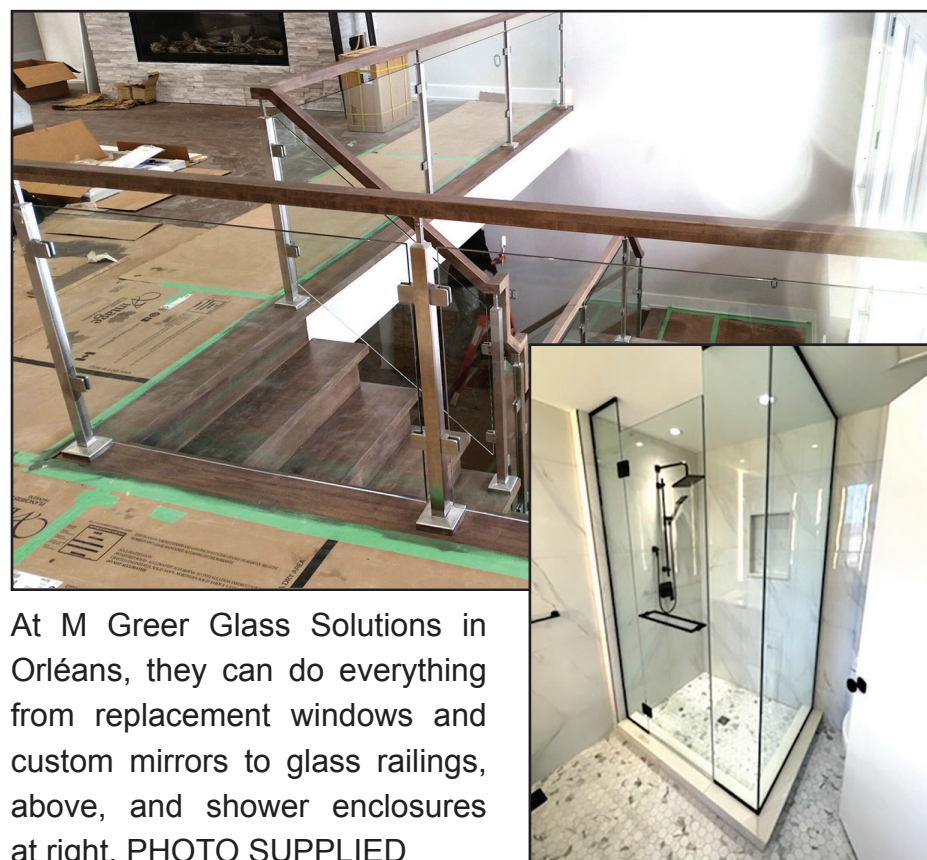
But his most fulfilling job is working with residential clients to meet their needs.

Marty can replace fogged up and broken thermal glass in your existing windows and doors as well as mirrors in bathrooms and gym mirror walls. He can also design and install glass railings, floor to ceiling wine chillers and replacement glass for wood stoves and fireplace doors.

He can also cut mirrors to whatever size and shape you want and he can repair and replace window screens and screen doors.

To find out more about the various products and services M Greer Glass Solutions can provide, please visit their website at www.mggs.ca.

And, if you already have an idea about what you want, you should contact Marty for a free consultation by either calling 613-715-3856 or email Marty@mggs.ca.



At M Greer Glass Solutions in Orléans, they can do everything from replacement windows and custom mirrors to glass railings, above, and shower enclosures at right. PHOTO SUPPLIED

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Upgrade your comfort, lower your costs: Attic Pros has you covered

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

When it comes to home upgrades, insulation is often overlooked – yet it plays a vital role in improving comfort, reducing energy bills, and even boosting your home's market value.

Fortunately, Orléans homeowners have access to Attic Pros, a trusted local company with over a decade of experience in delivering top-tier insulation services. Led by the father-son team of Jeff and Justice Koradi, Attic Pros specializes in green insulation solutions that combine innovation with proven techniques.

While Jeff leads the company, Justice oversees the day-to-day operations, ensuring every project meets their high standards. Together, they've helped thousands of residents and business owners enjoy more comfortable indoor spaces while saving significantly on energy costs.

Attic Pros offers a full range of services, including:

- Attic and wall insulation

- Spray foam insulation
- Insulation removal (especially when old materials are outdated or potentially hazardous)

All installations are done to code, qualifying homeowners for government grants or rebates of up to \$2,500 while keeping your home. And all of their insulation materials are highly fire resistant and mold resistant which might also save you money on your home insurance.

What sets Attic Pros apart is their hands-on approach. Jeff and Justice personally oversee every installation, ensuring quality workmanship and customer satisfaction.

"We've earned the reputation of being one of Ottawa's top insulation companies, and we work hard to maintain that with every single job," says Jeff Koradi.

Whether you're upgrading your current home or starting a new build, Attic Pros will guide you through every step from inspection and budget-friendly options to grant applications and seamless installation.



Jeff and Justice Koradi are the father and son duo behind the Orléans-based Attic Pros home insulation company. FRED SHERWIN PHOTO

In the end, you'll enjoy not just a well-insulated home, but the peace of mind that comes from working with professionals who truly care.

To learn more, visit atticinsulationpros.ca or call 613-702-8374.

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Let Louise Cardinal Concept turn your design dreams into reality

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

Spring has sprung and life begins anew once again, so why not breathe new life into your home? You have the desire. You have the motivation. You even have a few ideas on what you would like to do. The only thing you're lacking is a plan. That's where Louise Cardinal can help.

With over 35 years of experience, Louise has built lasting professional relationships in the Ottawa and Gatineau area and is universally well-regarded by her trade partners and clients. Leveraging her experience, Louise is an expert at facilitating change across project phases, be they small styling consultations, or turnkey ground-up projects.

She is passionate about creating designs that reflect a client's personality, as well as serve them in their day-to-day life through ergonomic designs that create a calming and clean atmosphere.

Finding her passion for design early in life and hoping to employ her keen eye for detail, Louise attended Outaouais College and has been creating beautiful and functional spaces ever since.

Having built Louise Cardinal Concept from the ground up, her philosophy has not changed: a home should be a reflection of the individuals living within it. This sentiment

can be viewed across her numerous successful projects, as well as satisfied clients whose spaces she has transformed.

More recently, Louise has teamed up with her daughter Claudel, who studied interior design at the CEGEP de l'Outaouais. Claudel worked at several local design firms before joining LC Concept to help build upon her mother's dream when she first created the company.

Bringing to the team a technology and usability-rich mindset and approach, Claudel is ushering in the next generation of interior design perspectives and mentalities. Specializing in space planning and detailed technical drawings, she is inspired by a minimalist style mixed with elegant natural earthy tones.

Claudel feels the magic of interior design is walking into an existing space, transformed and brought to life in an entirely new way.

Working with her daughter, Louise is proud to share her knowledge and expertise with someone who shares her passion for design and creating truly beautiful and functional spaces.

Together, Louise and Claudel have an uncanny ability to envision the final product. Their primary objective is to create the ideal interior living space that has the style and atmosphere that reflects your personality.



Claudel and Louise Cardinal

So whether updating your kitchen or bathroom, transforming your living room, or undertaking a total home makeover, Louise and Claudel are more than happy to lend their expertise and creative genius to help make your dreams a reality. For more information visit www.louisecardinal.ca.



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Michael and Lauren Teggart are the father and daughter team behind Futuric Kitchens. STAFF PHOTO

Upgrading your kitchen can be as easy as refacing your cabinets

By Jody Maffett
The Orléans Star

Is your kitchen looking old and tired and in need of a facelift? Why not consider changing your cabinet doors and drawer facings and replacing your countertops?

Futuric Kitchens, located at 830 Industrial Avenue, Unit 4, has been specializing in cabinet refacing since 1976.

Owned and operated by the father and daughter team of Michael and Lauren Teggart, Futuric Kitchens specialize in kitchen renovations from a full makeover to simply refacing your cabinets with the latest materials and styling.

Cabinet refacing is by far the most affordable way to upgrade your kitchen and you can save thousands of dollars in potential renovation costs in the process.

At Futuric, they have hundreds of different colours and finishes of cabinet doors and drawer fronts to choose from including acrylic, 3D laminates and melamine.

Cabinet refacing can bring a whole new look to your kitchen in very short order. When you reface your cabinets, you keep the existing structure while upgrading and replacing the cabinet doors, drawer fronts, and hardware. The front edges, ends and kick-plate are all covered in the same material to match your new doors.

With cabinet refacing, it is easy to coordinate a new floor or wall paint with the result being a beautiful new room for a much lower cost than a full remodel.

The first step is to visit the Futuric design center on Industrial Avenue and talk to one of their design specialists who can walk you through the pros and cons of different

finishes and hardware, such as drawer slides, hinges and handles.

The next step – which can often be the most difficult – is choosing a colour. Once you select the finish and colour, the rest is up to the Futuric team of installers.

Refacing your cabinets and drawers can often be done in three or four days. In rare circumstances, if you are also installing a new countertop and new construction, they may need an extra day or two.

If you do decide to reface your cabinets, you can opt for a variety of add-ons such as a center island, new drawer boxes, crown molding or a light valance at the same time. Microwave shelves, wine racks and corner shelves can also be installed and made to match your new cabinet doors.

Should you want to take the next step from resurfacing to remodeling, Futuric has the expertise and know-how – from design to installation – to help make your dream a reality.

Futuric has earned the Platinum Award in the Cabinet & Cabinet Makers category by Community Votes Ottawa for the past five years in a row, reflecting their continued commitment to quality and craftsmanship.

To find out more about how Futuric can provide you with a kitchen cabinet make-over, or a complete renovation, visit www.futurickitchens.com or drop by their showroom at 830 Industrial Avenue. Michael, or Lauren, will be happy to guide you through the various options of upgrading your kitchen. In fact, Michael is often in the office, especially on Saturdays, where he is more than happy to provide you with his expert advice.

Stay warm this winter with a custom fireplace from Romantic

By Jody Maffett
The Orléans Star

With more than 60 years of combined experience in selling and installing fireplaces of every type and model, the father and son team of Mike and Jason Pilon have a well-established reputation for meeting and often exceeding their clients' expectations. It's one of the reasons why they have a 4.9 star rating on Google with 237 reviews. It's also the reason why so many of their new clients are referred to them by existing customers.

"It's probably the most rewarding part of the job," says Mike Pilon, who sold fireplaces in Cornwall for 31 years before moving to Orléans in 2009. "When someone says, 'Oh, so-and-so told me I should come here,' you know you're doing things right, especially when you think a fireplace should last a lifetime. We don't get a lot of repeat customers, unless they move to another house and want another fireplace."

The biggest advantage to buying your next fireplace at Romantic, besides their selection of quality natural gas, propane, wood, pellet, and electric fireplaces and

stoves is the fact that they do their own installation, including mantles and hearths. There are no sub-contractors involved.

Their after-sale service is also second to none. In fact, Mike and Jason make it a point to check in with their customers from time to time to make sure everything is working to their standards and the customer's satisfaction.

The first step to buying a new fireplace at Romantic is to visit their showroom located in the Canotek Business Park. You can drop in anytime between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. from Monday to Friday and between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturdays.

Since the owners are the salespeople, you will be greeted by either Mike or Jason, who will be happy to explain the pros and cons of the different types of fireplaces in meeting your needs and your budget. In most cases, they will give you three options – good, better and best. The decision is then up to you.

Romantic carries all the leading brands of fireplaces including Canadian manufacturers such as Enviro.

After the initial consultation, either Mike



When it comes to custom fireplaces, Mike and Jason Pilon are your local sales and installation experts. FILE PHOTO

or Jason will visit your home to see where the fireplace is being installed and to further ensure that you are making the right purchase and to give you an accurate final quote. Once the fireplace is installed, you can enjoy it for as long as you remain in your home.

The Romantic Fireplace showroom is located at 5380 Canotek Rd., Unit 7. To get to the Canotek Business Park, exit Hwy. 174 at Montreal Road. You can also visit their website at romanticfireplaces.com, or Google "Romantic fireplaces and BBQs" to see hundreds of pictures of their work.

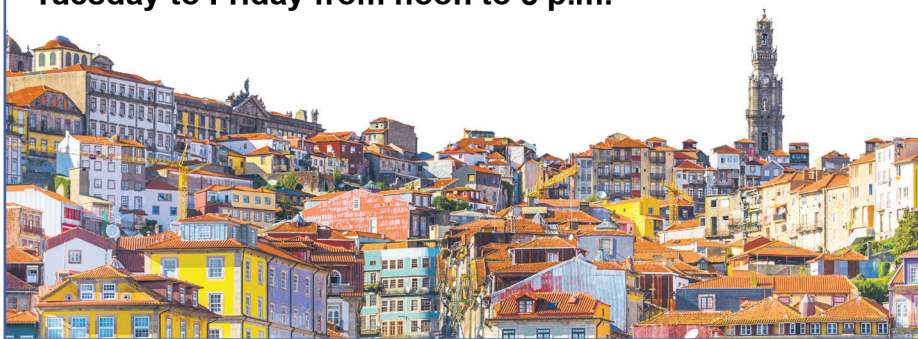
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Orléans gymnast wins bronze at Junior Pan Am Games



By Jody Maffett
The Orléans Star

Samantha Couture, 15, recently returned from the Jr. Pan Am Games in Paraguay where she helped Team Canada win a bronze medal in the team competition along with teammates Stella Letendre, Coralie Demers and Maryam Saber.

The Gloucester Tumblers gymnast was accompanied to the Games by her coach Anic Bellerose.

The Jr Pan Am Games marks Couture's fifth opportunity to represent Team Canada in her young career. More impressively, Couture has medalled at every international event she has competed in – Germany, France, Montreal, Italy and now a bronze medal in Paraguay.

◀ Samantha Couture is pictured with her coach Anic Bellerose after the pair returned from the Jr. Pan Am Games in Paraguay. PHOTO SUPPLIED

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When it comes to maintaining your furnace, experience matters

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

There's no question that when it comes to maintaining your furnace, experience matters. It can also save you hundreds of dollars.

By hiring a professional to regularly maintain your furnace and humidifier, both units will be able to operate at maximum efficiency, and you will be able to avoid any problems that often occur when a home's furnace is neglected.

"It's the one appliance you can't do without," says Jerry Lemay, who has been installing and maintaining furnaces in the east end for over 47 years.

Now is the time to have your furnace checked out to prevent any potential problems from popping up this winter.

Anyone who has experienced having their furnace malfunction in the dead of winter due to improper maintenance, or no maintenance at all, very seldom makes the same mistake twice. With his wealth of experience, Jerry can pinpoint problems repairmen with far less experience may not which could mean the difference between merely repairing your furnace or having to replace it entirely.

Although he is a sales rep for the Keeprite line of furnaces, Jerry can repair any make and model including gas furnaces, oil furnaces and electric furnaces, which is why he's earned the nickname "Dr. Furnace".

"I've gained a reputation for being the repairman of last resort," Jerry explains "A lot of people call me for a second opinion, or when they can't seem to get the right answer from anyone else."

It's important to note that contracting J.G. Lemay Heating and Air Conditioning to maintain your furnace will not effect your existing warranty.

Besides furnaces, Lemay also repairs and maintains hot water tanks, humidifiers, thermostats, and heat recovery ventilation systems, not to mention gas BBQ hook-ups, kitchen fan installation and dryer hook-ups and installation.

Jerry warns against signing contracts offered by door-to-door salesmen who are often nothing more than con artists.

"No reputable furnace salesperson or maintenance guy is going to walk around with a clipboard. Stay away from those guys," says Lemay.

For quality work you can trust, it's best to go



Jerry Lemay has been in the home heating and air conditioning business for more than 47 years. FRED SHERWIN PHOTO

with someone who has the type of experience and solid reputation earned by serving the community for more than 47 years.

To book an appointment and have your furnace checked out today call 613-835-2658 or 613-830-1661.



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Plenty to see and do at Shenkman Arts Centre this fall

By Jody Maffett
The Orléans Star

The Shenkman Arts Centre will play host to a number of great shows this fall as well as several new art exhibits.

The season kicks off on Wednesday, Sept 17 with a Matinée Café performance by the Rideau Ramblers at 2 p.m.



Canada’s premiere blues guitarist, Jack de Keyzer will perform in the Harold Shenkman Hall on Saturday, Sept. 20.

De Keyzer’s music is steeped in Chicago blues, Detroit Motown, Muscle Shoals’ deep soul, Memphis’ rock and roll, and Philadelphia’s funky soul jazz.

Tickets are \$59 and can be purchased by visiting shenkmanarts.ca.

On Thursday, Sept 25 the NAC orchestra will perform at the Shenkman Arts Centre as part of their Symphony in the Community series.

This concert presents a rare opportunity to see the National Arts Centre Orchestra perform right in your backyard.

The month of September will be brought to a close with performance by Neil Diamond tribute artist Will Chalmers.

The Solitary Man show will include some of Neil Diamond’s most popular songs including *Sweet Caroline*, *Song Sung Blues*

and *Cracklin Rose*.



The month of October kicks off “Seven Drunken Nights - The Story of The Dubliners” featuring such classics as *The Irish Rover*, *Belle of Belfast City*, *Dirty Old Town*, and *The Town I Love So Well*.

On Thursday, Oct. 9 Paquette Productions presents “Walk Right Back – The Everly

Brothers Story” direct from the UK.

The show follows the Everly Brothers’ rise to fame from humble country beginning to super stardom, through their decade-long feud to their glorious reunion which gave them back to each other, and back to the world.

On Thursday, Oct. 16, reggae and fusion vocalist Ammoye will perform live and on stage as part of the Shenkman Arts Centre’s World Music series.

This seven-time JUNO Award nominee is a unique multidimensional vocalist raised in the tradition of Reggae music, hailing from Clarendon, Jamaica and now residing in Toronto, Canada. In 2024 Ammoye was awarded Female Vocalist of the Year at the Reggae North Music Awards

For a complete schedule of all the shows coming to the Shenkman Arts Centre, visit shenkmanarts.ca and click on the “events” button.



Naj Barghout

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Cumberland Panthers sweep weekend games against South Gloucester

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

The Cumberland Panthers swept all four of their games against the Gloucester South Raiders on the weekend.

The U14 peewee squad got things started with a dominating 43-0 win over the U14 Raiders at Millennium Park on Saturday.

Six different players scored for the Panthers, including running back Precious Okoro who scored twice. Grayson Rouleau threw a pair of touchdowns to Jaylan Clerge and Evan Nicholls and Clerge threw a touchdown of his own to Knox Constant.

The Panthers' sixth touchdown was scored on a pick six by Charbel Elias, while place kicker Noah Rosarion added four converts and a 30-yard field goal.

The win improves the Panthers' record to 4-0 and places them in a two way tie for first place with the Myers Riders.

In Saturday's second game, the U16 bantam team easily dispatched the U16 Raiders 46-26.

Slotback Trenton Murdock was a one man wrecking crew for the Panthers, hauling in five catches for 151 yards from quarterback

Kam Sorne, four of which were for touchdowns. He also returned a punt 85 yards for another touchdown. The win evens the Panthers' record at 2-2.

With the Panthers' peewee and bantam teams both posting wins on Saturday, it was the U10 and U12 teams turn to take to the field on Sunday.

The tyke squad was first up and set the tone for the day with a 56-12 win over the Raiders. Nolan Camp ran the ball nine times for 119 yards and 4 TDs, Jason Kavanaugh scored three times on four carries for 58 yards. And Marshall Harmer ran four times for 66 yards and another touchdown.

Lucas Fopa kicked three two-point converts and Harrison LaPorte added another.

The team dedicated the game and the rest of the season to teammate Mielke Safarian who suffered a season ending injury during practice earlier in the week.

In the final game of the weekend, the U12 mosquito team posted a 37-10 win over the Raiders.

Quarterback Nico Scarfone threw a pair of touchdowns to Calvin Paiano and Ruslan Delorme and ran for two more, while run-



Quarterback Kam Sorne avoids a tackle in the Panthers U16 game against the Orleans Bengals on Saturday. MIKE SCHMIDT PHOTO

ning back Owen Nicholls added another.

Mavrik Poirier was the game's defensive star with 12 tackles and an interception.

The win improves the Panthers record to 4-0 and sets up a showdown with the U12 Orleans Bengals, who are also undefeated, in Saturday's second game between the two

east end rivals.

The day will begin with the tyke game at 9 a.m. The mosquito teams will take to the field at 11 a.m., followed by the peewee squads at 1 p.m. and the bantam game at 3 p.m. All four games will be played at Bilberry Park behind St. Matthew High School.

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Former North Gloucester greats inspire next generation

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

Former North Gloucester Giants and Cumberland Panther greats Luigi Vilain and Jonathan Sutherland recently returned to where it all began on the Gil-O-Julien Field in Vanier.

Both men started their respective football journeys with the Giants in the National Capital Amateur Football Association and then went on to play varsity football with the Cumberland Panthers.

Sutherland started out as a running back and middle linebacker and became one of the premier backs in the league throughout his six-year NCAFA career that included A-Cup championships at both the mosquito (2010) and peewee (2012) levels. It wasn't until he played with the Panthers that he began to specialize at linebacker.

He would go on to sign a full scholarship at Penn State University where he played with the Nittany Lions as a safety for six seasons from 2017-2023. He remains one of only two players in the program's history to be a four-year captain.

In 2023, Sutherland was selected fifth overall in the CFL draft by the Montreal Alouettes. Instead of signing with the Alouettes, he opted to sign as an undrafted free agent with the Seattle Seahawks. He spent most of his rookie year on the team's practice roster.

In 2024, Sutherland signed a free agent contract by the New York Giants but was placed on waivers after playing just one pre-season game.

This past May, he was signed by the Las Vegas Raiders following a successful mini-camp tryout. Unfortunately his stint with the Raiders didn't last long as the team waived him on June 12.

Although he has yet to decide his next move, he still has the option of reporting to the Alouettes and pursuing a career in the CFL.

Vilain played defensive end with the North Gloucester Giants and the Cumberland Panthers until 2017 when he moved south of the border to play at Episcopal High School in Virginia to get more exposure. The move paid off when he signed a

scholarship with the University of Michigan in 2017.

After not seeing any game action during his first two years at Michigan, Vilain played in seven games in his junior year and made seven tackles, one tackle-for-loss, one sack, and one forced fumble.

After playing in five games in his senior year at Michigan, Vilain decided to transfer to Wake Forest to complete his fifth year of college eligibility.

In 2021, he was drafted in the third round of the CFL draft by the Toronto Argonauts, but chose to remain in college for a bonus year granted to all university athletes who had to miss a year during the pandemic.

After going unselected in the 2022 NFL draft, Vilain was signed as an undrafted free agent by the Minnesota Vikings and saw action in four games before being waived the same year.

Since 2022, Vilain has been signed and released by the Carolina Panthers, Cleveland Browns and Dallas Cowboys playing on a series of practice squads without seeing any game action.



Jonathan Sutherland, left, and Luiji Vilain, right, with Victor Tedondo from the Gridiron Academy.

After being released by the Cowboys this past July, Vilain decided to retire from football to focus on his family.

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COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

SATURDAY, SEPT. 13

CUMBERLAND FARMERS' MARKET from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the R.J. Kennedy Arena, 1115 Dunning Rd. in Cumberland Village featuring fresh vegetables, specialty foods and homemade treats.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 12

SATURDAY, SEPT. 13

SUNDAY, SEPT. 14

ORLÉANS RIBFEST AND POUTINE in the Orléans Festival Plaza on Trim Road. Festival hours are Friday, Sept. 12 from 11:30 am to 9 pm, Saturday, Sept. 13 from 11 am to 9 pm, and Sunday, Sept. 14 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Free admission.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 13

NAVAN PAVILION OPENING CEREMONY – Ribbon cutting and speeches at 7 p.m. followed by a performance by The Band

Sterling. Food truck and cash bar. Must be 19+ to attend.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 14

ORLEANS TERRY FOX RUN in the parking lot at Sir Wilfrid Secondary School on Tenth Line Road. Registration will open on site at 7:30 a.m. Open start is anytime between 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Bicycles, rollerblades and strollers are all welcome. Dogs must be kept on a leash. Pre-registration and donations can be made at terryfox.org/terry-fox-run/.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 16

TRIVIA NIGHT from 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday night at the Royal Oak Pub Orléans. Free to play. Prizes for the winning team! The Royal Oak Pub is located at 1981 St. Joseph Blvd. For more info visit facebook.com/RoyalOakPubsOrleans

THURSDAY, SEPT. 18

SCOTT JAZEY & FRIENDS OPEN MIC SESSION at the Blackburn Arms Pub in Blackburn Hamlet starting at 6:30 p.m. For more information visit www.facebook.com/ScottJazeyFriendsandFamily.

CUMBERLAND FARMERS MARKET from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the R.J. Kennedy Arena in Cumberland Village with 85 local farmers and vendors ready to showcase their freshest produce, handmade goods, and unique finds.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 20

ORLÉANS FAMILY FUN DAY hosted by the Chateaufeuf Community Association in Barrington Park from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. Loads of free activities the kids will love. Rain date is Saturday Sept. 27.

IN MEMORIAM



Aline Desjardins, 89
Passed away on August 31, 2025

Heinrich (Henry) Haltiner, 91
Passed away on August 31, 2025

Diann Young (née Wood), 81
Passed away on August 30, 2025



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Orleans Bengals tyke quarterback Caleb Baxter scored five touchdowns against the Myers Riders last Saturday. STAFF PHOTO

Bengals tyke, mosquito squads remain undefeated

By Fred Sherwin
The Orléans Star

The Orléans Bengals tyke and mosquito teams are off to a strong start to their 2025 campaigns, winning their first three games without a loss. Both squads played the Myers Riders last weekend and both teams won in impressive fashion.

The U10 tyke team shocked their west end opponents by jumping out to a 22-0 first quarter lead on their way to an impressive 46-14 win.

Heading into the contest, the Riders had won their first two games by a combined score of 121-80 largely based on the play of all-star running back Akin Gendo.

The Bengals, meanwhile, won their two first games by combined score of 56-20.

In Saturday's match, the Bengals defence managed to keep Gendo pretty much in check limiting the speedy youngster to just two touchdowns – one near the end of the first half and the second late in the fourth quarter with the game already well in hand.

Quarterback Caleb Baxter, who is an all-star in his own right, did most of the scoring for the Bengals with five touchdowns. Roman Gallinore scored the other major for

Orléans and place kicker Kip Lambert was successful on five of his six two-point convert attempts.

The tyke team is hoping to return to the A-Cup championship game this season after losing in the final to the Cornwall Wildcats last year.

The Bengals U12 mosquito team is also hoping to play for the A-Cup championship this year, and after their win over the Riders last Saturday, they are well on track to getting there.

Running back Callum Marshall had three touchdowns in a 39-0 shutout win over the Riders.

The Bengals other two touchdowns were scored by fellow running back Zakariya Osman and receiver Braxton Hofmeister, who hauled in a fourth quarter touchdown pass from quarterback Kyle Lafleur.

Lafleur then ran in the one-point conversion on a quarterback keeper.

Place kicker Kian Rochette also contributed to the scoring with a two-point convert in the first.

Both teams will see action against the Cumberland Panthers in what should be two highly competitive games.



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