Honouring lives lost in Quebec

By Chris Donovan

Despite temperatures well below freezing, hundreds of people poured into the streets of Belleville Thursday night to honour the six lives lost in the Quebec Islamic Cultural Centre.

The world watched with horror last Sunday as news broke of a young far-right extremist, Alexandre Bissonnette, entering a mosque in Quebec City and spraying the building with gunfire, killing six people and injuring an unknown number of others.

Those attending Thursday’s march waited at the Belleville Islamic Society as members of Belleville’s Muslim community prayed for the dead.

One man from Brighton, Frank Blanchet, was in attendance during the prayers. “I only knew one Muslim man in Brighton, when I heard about the shooting, and I reached out to him to see if he was ok. I went to the mosque after the shooting,” he said.

The man invited Blanchet to pray alongside the Muslim community of greater Belleville.

“He was a truly special moment,” said Blanchet, who shed tears. “For these brave people to open up their place of worship to me after such a traumatizing event was just beautiful.”

After prayers ended, the hundreds of attendees marched from the Islamic society, across the river to Belleville’s City Hall, where a vigil was held for the dead.

Belleville Mayor Taso Christopher took to the podium to share a message of welcome and inclusion.

“We’ve overheard that from the love and support in this community,” said Christopher. “Today, not as a mayor but as a father and a husband,” added, “weEchoed his words.

“We will not tolerate hate in this city, this province, or this country,” he said in a loud cheer from the crowd.

Christopher added that the city will fly the Quebec flag at half mast in honour of the victims and the flag will then be framed. He announced that he will make a trip to Quebec City with local Imam Mohammed Saldah to present the framed flag to the Quebec Islamic Cultural Centre.

Prime Edward Hastings MPP Todd Smith then spoke about the victims of the shooting. He spoke of a university professor at Laval University, a well-known local Imam and a scientist for the provincial government, and of the children, wives, and parents who waited for their loved ones to come home from the mosque, never to see them again.

“Some were fathers, some were sons, some were neighbors who were friends, and we will never forget them,” said Smith.

Smith also took the time to point out a sign in the crowd which read “Canada after everyone,” as he continued a message of acceptance and religious tolerance.

Finaly, Saldah took to the stage to share a religious message that we all have to stick to.

“Allow me to call you brothers and sisters tonight, rather than Lobas and Salafis,” said Saldah as the crowd whispered.

“We are all one body and it is one part of that body is hurt, all of us will feel the pain,” he added.

“We Muslims were hurt and you showed your strength that all of us hurt. We will all be united under the Canadian flag,” said Bobbidi.

As Saldah made his final comments, the crowd spontaneously broke out into the national anthem.

To see more on this story, click on this link: https://www.getPrice.com

International students find place at Loyalist

Ten per cent of college population made up of students from other countries

By Bea Serdon

Coming to a new school is a something that most of us have probably only done a couple of times in our lives. However, coming to a new school in a foreign country, with a whole different culture than yours and adjusting to that in a short period of time, is not something that all of us can say we’ve done.

Currently, 10 per cent of Loyalist’s student population is composed of international students. For these students, Canada is very different and far away from their home. It is a lot of fun and courage for them to venture into the unknown but they took the chance and courage for them to venture into the unknown, and I mean they are living in a place where they probably experienced the unknown, and I mean they are living in a place where they probably experi...
Musician brings talents to city

By Grace Postma

Canadian performer and vocal coach Douglas Rice held an event to showcase his students’ work last Sunday night. The event included opera, Broadway, and a few other pieces from an array of styles. Rice began his music career as a young child, starting private lessons at the age of five. He studied piano, singing, and performance as well as performed in festivals.

“I grew up doing all kinds of music, classical as well as some lighter forms, and I’ve always taken an interest in most genres of music. I would say my exposure to these forms of music is why I am here today,” said Rice. “I seem to have a draw to them now.”

He later in life went on to study music with many teachers in Canada, the United States and throughout Europe, including Ingrid Kromling, Christoph Prégardien, Edward Zander, Diane Toufeks, Victor Martines and Dr Richard Miller.

After his education, he went on to perform in many different productions in those countries. He also began to teach music as a vocal coach and has been teaching for the last 10 years.

He seems to have built strong relationships with his students, based on their eagerness to gesture to him on the piano after they completed a piece or even running up to hug him. “I really can pin down the best moments, there have just been so many extraordinary moments in my teaching career,” said Rice. “I think the best part of my career as a teacher is the knowledge and inspiration to my students and to nurture them and see the results of that work with them. It’s the interchange of ideas that stimulates the growth of the student which is very fulfilling.”

“The best moment as a performer, or at least one of them, would be performing in sold-out Steinwagen, Germany, which is a palace theatre. It’s over 300 years old and Mozart had performed there.”

Rice currently resides in Belleville and teaches in Belleville as well as Toronto. Rice grew fond of Belleville right away as soon as he had attended and judged the Quinte Rotary Music Festival and voice competition.

“I had never been to Belleville before but those two years ago. I really liked the people and I liked the city so I bought a house and there three, I decided to start teaching here.”

Rice has just celebrated his first ring living in this Belleville. He describes his career fondly, reminiscing about the day he performed in the same opera house Mozart had performed in while he was alive. Mozart appears to be of great influence to Rice, even stating that his favorite piece to perform is Tosca from the Magic Flute, which is a piano by Mozart.

Rice also has been credited as a writer of his own opera entitled Harvest Sky as well as composing many other musical pieces. With his life being immersed in music, it has led to his notoriety in the Canadian music scene.

Artists share their skills with those who like to paint

By Curtis O’Connor

Art and community came together on a cold and stormy Tuesday night at Chilango’s restaurant on Front Street. Bottle & Brush, hosted by Krane Educational Arts Foundation, helps teach painting techniques to all skill levels. Brigitte Frances, owner of Krane, said she felt inspired to start the business when she discovered there were few opportunities for her daughter to practice art.

“I really wanted to put our business in a place where she could enjoy and develop her skills. We couldn’t find anything we were happy with, so I figured instead of just complaining about it, I started a business.”

Since starting the enterprise with florist Rob Kranendonk – a professor in Loyola’s Art and Design program – Frances says it has grown steadily.

“We were pop-up for over a year, and ever since then we’ve been doing well, and we’re hoping to purchase a bigger space,” says Frances.

Kranendonk’s focus is on expanding the abilities of artists of all skill levels. “You can come here and with our workshops, or maybe you could be quite experienced…You can have no idea what end of the paintbrush to hold, or you could be quite experienced,” he said.

The point is to have fun, and to take that out of your mind. We have a theory,” Frances adds. “There are no mistakes. It’s all going to work out for you.”

For Frances, it’s important to maintain a connection with local businesses, to support the downtown community. “It’s the interchange of ideas that stimulates the growth of the student which is very fulfilling,” said Rice. “I think the best moment as a performer, or at least one of them, would be performing in sold-out Steinwagen, Germany, which is a palace theatre. It’s over 300 years old and Mozart had performed there.”

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The Indo-Canadian dream

By Aman Parhar

And Vadhera first dreamed of having a life in Canada in the late 1970s. He had a lot of exchange students in his high school and he was so inspired by them that he wanted to work at Canada to help make his dream come true. He was determined to settle down and live a fuller life in comparison to their lives.

He told his father when he turned 24 about his desire to immigrate to Canada. “In India, I never even picked up a glass of water. He gave me a job of a dishwasher. But that guy knew where I stood. He told me that if I posed a problem, he wouldn’t hire me. So I started to work hard.”

The Indo-Canadian dream

Vadhera continued to work in Canada for the next 11 years. “I was working like a mule. Was work something I’d have in my blood so I actively started looking for a new angle.”

He took three weeks off work, but his visa and decided to “go with the flow.” He managed to officially sponsor his family to Canada and they got married in 2002. This was the second year in a row that Canadian Ski Patrol attempted to break the world record.

In celebration of Canadian Ski Patrol Day, participants at Batawa Ski Hill were among those across the country who came together to attempt to break the record. The snow angels went on for a minute, with the opportunity to be outside and to be part of something that was so much bigger than themselves.

To see a video on this story, click on the image below.

This year, the snow angels event appeared quite pleased with the turnout at Batawa.

"It’s the fact that everyone is getting out and fun, that they are recognizing who are we, because we are all volunteers," said Fleming.

All in all, those organizing the snow angel event applauded quite pleased with the turnout at Batawa.

Snow angel world record attempt falls short

“Today, thanks to investing in a business in Belleville, Vadhera has managed to send all of his three children to university in Ottawa. He likes Belleville more than Toronto and feels that a lot more people will be investing in real estate in Belleville because of property prices in Toronto. He believes that he has achieved what he wanted to by coming to Canada.


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One of the dozens of competitors makes his way back to the starting area after a hard fought race down the track.

Perfect conditions for racing

By Curtis O'Connor

Smoke and ice enveloped across Moira Lake near Belleville as hundreds of competitors arrived at the site for the Moira Smoke and Ice Classic Snowmobile Races.

The event, organized by the Centro Hastings Snowmobile Club, was a remanding success – day in and day out the day’s weather was perfect. As race fans streamed onto the lake Saturday morning, Brad Freeman, one of the event’s organizers, beams as he looks out across the ice.

Freeman was unsure whether the races would go ahead due to warmer than average temperatures this winter. “I’ve been out here every day making cords. The Patriots’ overtime win on Sunday night as they took in a nail-biting game of the year. “The evening wore on and the crowd began to thin, the racers continued to pack the Ignite Camp and Retreat Centre to watch the game projected on the big screen. “What else can you do on a February night but watch the game?“ says Freeman. For many years, we all raced, but never in a championship game. “Drag racing used to be pretty prominent, says Freeman. As race fans streamed onto the lake from downtown Belleville, where the game was being played as the competition head into the final quarter. However, things took a turn in the fourth quarter and the Patriots put up 21 unanswered points to win the game at 28-28, forcing the first Super Bowl overtime in the history of the NFL. The Patriots won on to win the game. “I just find the CFL is a more exciting game because of all the passing, but the Super Bowl is always an exciting game and I love watching the halftime shows,“ says Boyle, as he returned to other patrons at the bar. “I love the game but it’s all about the commercials for me“, said Boyle.

Photo by Chris Donovan

Quinte fans come out for Super Bowl

By Chris Donovan

More than 100 million people across the globe sat on the edges of their seats Sunday night as they took in a nail-biting historic Super Bowl LI, which saw an overtime victory for the first time ever in a championship game.

The Quinte region was no exception. Football fans watched on screens big and small in churches, schools, bars, and at home. The former turned into a celebration of winning with parties on Saturday night to see about 50 people in Ameliasburg watching from Bloomfield’s Eat’n’N’Go.

“Pizza is a must-have for me during the game and I love watching the halftime shows,“ said Boyle, as he returned to other patrons at the bar. “I just find the CFL is a more exciting game because of all the passing, but the Super Bowl is always an exciting game and I love watching the halftime shows,“ said Boyle, as he returned to other patrons at the bar.

Another group of football fans were watching the game from the comfort of their home. “I love the game but it’s all about the commercials for me“, said Boyle.

The Falcons led the Patriots 28-3 in the final minutes of the third quarter, but the game looked all but over. Several people left the Red Lion bar, in downtown Belleville, where the game was being played as the competition head into the final quarter. However, things took a turn in the fourth quarter and the Patriots put up 21 unanswered points to win the game at 28-28, forcing the first Super Bowl overtime in the history of the NFL. The Patriots won.

“One spectator at the Red Lion, Will Boyle, had watched seven Super Bowls in his lifetime. “The potentially bigger fan of the CFL than the NFL because I’m older and grew up with it, but most of these young guys probably like the American League,” said Boyle, as he returned to other patrons at the bar.”

“Pizza is a must-have for me during the game”, said Paul, who was watching his seventh Super Bowl of his lifetime. Paul said he is normally a Carolina Panthers fan, but was cheering for the Falcons in the big game, and guessed that the Falcons would win the game by one touchdown.

“I just think it would be cool to see history made”, said Paul, referring to Patriots quarterback Tom Brady. Brady took over the game in the final minutes of the third quarter and led the Patriots to victory, but the game was not even close.

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By Vanessa Tignanelli

As a young girl, growing up in Milan, Bill, William Albert Allard spent his afternoons running to the streets of Paris and learning the trade of a print shop owner. By the age of 20, he was working in Paris as a studio assistant for a portrait photographer, helping to capture the likeness of the great figures of the time. When his employer left for America, Allard decided to follow him and become a professional photographer.

In 1957, at the age of 20, Allard had already graduated from the University of Montana and had decided to become a professional photographer. He was deeply affected by the political events in Europe, particularly the protests of 1968. This was a time when the world was in flux, and the era of the counterculture was just beginning. Allard was drawn to this new world of ideas and activism, and he felt that his photography could be a powerful tool for social change.

His first major assignment was for National Geographic, and he has been a staff photographer with the magazine ever since. Allard's work has been featured in many books and exhibitions, and he is widely regarded as one of the greatest photographers of the 20th century.

Allard's career is a testament to the power of photography to capture the human experience and to shed light on the world's most pressing issues. His photographs have been used to raise awareness about a wide range of topics, from civil rights to environmental issues.

In 2005, Allard was awarded the National Medal of Arts by President George W. Bush, and in 2006, he was honored with the National Humanities Medal by President George W. Bush.

Allard's love for the American West and the cowboy. This love is evident in his photographs, which capture the rugged beauty of the landscape and the people who inhabit it.

Allard's work is not just about the west; it's about the human experience. His photographs often focus on the relationships between people and their environment, and he is known for his ability to capture the essence of a place.

In his later years, Allard has been a mentor to many young photographers, and he continues to inspire and influence new generations of artists. His legacy as a photographer and as an educator will continue to be felt for many years to come.
Practising karate for a healthy life

By Beatrice Serdon

"My purpose is to give them hard work and determination. Dozono is very important. Desire must be supported by determination and their determination by hard work," says Dozono.

By Aman Parhar

Adams Strickland currently ranks third in the most kills in the OCAA. This is his final year playing for the Loyalist Lancers, using four years of his eligibility.

By Beatrice Serdon

"Volleyball player says goodbye to Loyalist"
Hundreds of Belleville residents gathered outside of City Hall for a candlelight vigil in response to the fatal Quebec City mosque shootings that left six dead and 19 wounded.

Belleville residents, young and old, gathered for the vigil.

Thousands marched through downtown Belleville, led by Imam Mohammad Saleh and Belleville Mayor Taso Christopher, in solidarity against the fatal mosque shooting in Quebec City.

Attendees at last Thursday night’s vigil in front of Belleville’s City Hall listen to remarks from Mayor Taso Christopher as they honour the victims of a terror attack several nights earlier in Quebec.

The crowd marched from the Islamic Society of Belleville to City Hall. Speeches were given and candles were lit in honour of six who lost their lives and others wounded in a recent shooting at a Quebec City mosque.