

BEST FRONT PAGE

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THE EQUITY

The Equity has it all! Well laid out. Excellent photography! STORIES on the front page... something many of the entries here did not have. It says right in the judging criteria that new stories relevant to the community are a must!

SPORTS GET FIRST WIN

PAGE 9

THE EQUITY

www.theequity.ca

Volume 128, Issue No. 42

The voice of the Pontiac since 1883

Wednesday, October 19, 2011 87 cents

Getting in the Halloween spirit. Face painting was provided for free at the Lavender Ridge Farm's outdoor marketplace and art show. Danielle Sachs, THE EQUITY



Original art on the Ridge

For two days over the weekend Lavender Ridge Farm was transformed into an outdoor marketplace and showcase of local artisans work. From food and drink to hand knits, pottery and leather goods, there was a variety of items and skills on display. DANIELLE SACHS Equity Reporter LUSKVILLE Oct. 15, 2011 Despite the wind and intermittent rain, Art on the Ridge was a success, according to Joanne Labadie, co-owner of Lavender Ridge Farm. "It's just so thrilled with the turnout," she said. "You can't say nothing ever happens in the area. These people are more than artisans, they're fantastic business people." There was an overwhelming display of booths and products. Anne Bursey, from Just B Designs was one of the co-organizers of the event. Please see ART page two

A FALCON FINALE! PW FOOTBALL TEAM TAKES QC TITLE PAGES 14-15
Daddy DUI | 158 crosses, 100 soldiers and a plane
Son injured in early morning crash Page 3 | LD on Remembrance Day Page 12

Low Down

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Houseboat torched?

Denis Tremblay's houseboat was a flaming ball of fire floating down the Gatineau River Nov. 13, as the vessel caught fire and later exploded on the water. Both police and Tremblay think the fire was deliberately set.
Owner suspects arson in houseboat fire
By Lucy Scholey
Some Wakefield villagers may have heard a gunshot-like bang at about 11 on the night of Nov. 13. Out of curiosity, they may have peered outside to see Denis Tremblay's houseboat engulfed in flames on the Gatineau River. Tremblay, who owns Boiserie du Ruisseau, a Valley Drive furniture store, said he built the craft four years ago and sometimes rented it out for river cruises. Standing on the train tracks watching the 24-by-eight-foot burning mass float away the 45-year-old Tremblay said he had no idea how the boat caught fire, but suspected someone set it. "I can't believe it right now," he said. "Sounds like a bit of chaos." Police officers investigating also suggested that the fire was set deliberately. As the wind pushed the boat upstream, Tremblay and a handful of onlookers checked out the Riverside Drive dock across from Cafe Molo, finding the mooring lines there. Tremblay said that was the only unusual thing about the scene. Otherwise, the two fold-up chairs, stack of driftwood, a charcoal grill, wooden furniture and a beer bottle from last summer were the usual paraphernalia on the dock. Conf'd Page 2

Talking titties to get monologue off chest

By Lucy Scholey
Boobies, tatas, bosoms, boobers, jugs. Whatever you want to call them, they are front and centre of the first-ever "Titty Talks" performance Dec. 1. A collective of women will perform monologues about their journeys into womanhood, aging, survival and, well, their ladies. The show is reminiscent of the Vagina Monologues, but instead of a set script, each story is personal and self-written. "Titty" is not in the dictionary, but "titillating" is," said Christine Leger, the play's creator. Leger had conceived of the idea several years ago and, after watching a documentary by Wakefield-based Rooney Productions about the AIDS epidemic in Southern Africa, decided to organize the show this year and donate proceeds to CARE Canada and the Wakefield Grannies. "AIDS is really affecting women," Leger said. "A lot of it has to do with sexual violence." Facts and humour will be intertwined in the stories and Leger hopes viewers will realize that they can collectively spark change. Despite the play's name, the show will not be just boob-talk. Leger says. Conf'd Page 11

MS patient gets second cop visit

By Trevor Greenway
The day after the Low Down published Sandy Daviau's side of the story in the drug bust at his Clarke Road home, police paid him another visit. They weren't at his doorstep to search for more marijuana or to return his confiscated meds. They returned to hand the Edelweiss resident, who suffers from multiple sclerosis a \$276 summons for a dog-barking violation. "I really thought they were there to arrest me," said a stressed-out Daviau, upset over the MRC des Collines having seized a quantity of his pain medication and then returning to "kick him when he was down." Conf'd Page 21

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THE LOW DOWN TO HULL & BACK NEWS

The Low Down had excellent photography, writing, and lay out.

THE EASTERN DOOR
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October 7, 2011 \$2.00
THIS WEEK
Halloween House Decorating Contest
See details on back page!
HST to tax us?
The new tax agreement signed last week between Quebec and Ottawa won't have an effect on community, says Council. Page 6
100 acres of sacred land
Biosphère Réserve de la Forêt Handley over 100 acres to the Hiaawatha Institute to return land where the Paganconk started his journey. Page 8
Give blood, please
Naomi Rice suffers from Autoimmunity (AITP) and she is sharing her story this week to encourage blood donors. Page 12
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g not available s Lake Road

wood logging so that's why they turned it down," said head of the Land Use Committee Rosa Vowles. If a forestry company improves the forestry road, they have access to the tax credit refund for the investment they put into the road. But it's available only for forestry companies, said Dugas. It's also the only program available from the Ministry of Revenue for funding. It was announced this spring that there was no other kind of funding available for other users of the road. "We're trying to get some funding for it. We've been working on this since late summer trying to find a solution and trying to see if we could get some action through that program but we find out after awhile that it wasn't possible for us to have access to that tax refund program," said Dugas. The MRC was hoping to borrow money to repair the road and work with a forestry company to do the repairs. The MRC would then get the money back when the forestry company got the credit later on, said Vowles. Please see ROAD page two

One of six fires still burning in Pontiac

Since Thanksgiving weekend, six fires began raging in the Pontiac area. Melanie Morin, an information agent from Society for the Protection of Forests Against Fire (SOPFEU) said it had been very dry in the region which helped to spread the fires. Currently, all fires have been extinguished except for one. "At this time of the year it doesn't take a lot of sun for the leaves to dry up and there's a lot of hunters in the woods so we do often get fires at this time of year," she said. "Two of the six fires were caused by lightning, three were caused by hunters and one began because a hunting shack caught on fire in the woods." The biggest fire was by Picancoc Road near the Coulonge River. SOPFEU workers believe it was caused from a cigarette being left unattended by someone hunting. The fire started beneath a hunting cover used to hide hunters. "We do believe the hunters threw a cigarette down and it started," said Morin. The fire now is 11.9 hectares in circumference. It started on Oct. 11 around 5:30 p.m. and is expected to be extinguished within a few days. There were about 30 firefighters and auxiliary firefighters that were working to fight the fires in Pontiac as well as two other fires in surrounding areas that ignited on Friday. SOPFEU is based in Maniwaki and covers the entire southwest part of Quebec including Pontiac, Gatineau and the Laurentides. Morin said this year has been busier than other years with an excessive amount of fires. She said fires don't burn every year during the hunting season, as it can depend largely on what the weather is like. "It's not necessarily normal, it doesn't happen every year but it does happen every few years where if we have a dry fall, we do see fires at this time of year. It's not abnormal it just doesn't happen every year because some falls are much rainier than others," said Morin. She advises everyone to be prudent, saying that people really don't realize that at this time of year it can be dangerous. "It's important to remember to properly extinguish cigarettes and properly extinguish campfires. Some of the fires were started by hunters who made fires to warm up or to cook food," said Morin. "When it's rainy it's not dangerous but when it's sunny enough, after only a few hours of sunlight, the leaves and dry branches catch that sort of thing dry very quickly. There's much less leaf coverage in the forest because all of the leaves have fallen to the ground. The sun penetrates the forest much easier so the leaves dry up," said Morin.

Playground competition heats up between Pontiac towns

Residents of at least two communities in Pontiac have entered a competition to receive money that would fund improvements to their parks. Both Waltham and Otter Lake Recreation Association (RA) says she hopes one of them will be in her hometown. To date the Waltham RA has raised \$10,000 for a play structure for youth aged five to 12 but says they still need approximately \$16,000. "That's why we entered into this so we just want a sense of belonging in our community and something for our children to do. We don't have a lot to do here in Waltham," says Roman. According to Mayor Garry Marchand, an outdoor rink and new play structure would be a step in the right direction for the community in Otter Lake. In her appeal to the community and the rest of Canadians, Dubeau writes, "Please help us revitalize the park, our children need a place to run and play, a place they can meet - our friends can get together, no dance really the only thing that can get them so going to communityfund.org visit an idea or vote for the competition. The deadline is 26 is slated for noon."

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Kahnawake Mohawk Territory • www.easterndoor.com
October 7, 2011 \$2.00
A place to remember Tiffany
A number of community members came out to pay their respects to Tiffany Morrison, including this little girl. Read the full story on page 8.
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Council steers tobacco regulations

RICHARD TARDIF
The Eastern Door
Kahnawake's tobacco industry took a committed step toward regulation last week, opening the doors to a new beginning that these present hope will lead to a tobacco law. "I always thought regulation was the only way to go," said Kahnawake Tobacco CEO Robbie Dickson. Dickson and five other tobacco manufacturers sat down with the Mohawk Council of Kahnawake (MCK) and created an interim regulatory board. The board is hoping to present to the community regulations pertaining to the tobacco industry. No dates were mentioned to complete the task, but a timeline of four to six months is expected to bring about a regulation draft. "My idea is that the federal duty paid market is the only way this industry is going to sustain itself over the long term," said Dickson, who also advocates that the MCK could possibly get a license from the federal government in order to purchase tobacco legally for the wholesalers in town. "You have to give a little bit if you want to sustain the industry." Selling duty paid cigarettes, which is how Rainbow currently operates, is a temporary measure. Continued on page 4

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