

THE REVIEW

Vankleek Hill, Ontario

Wednesday, October 3, 2007

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Founded 1893

A locally-owned,
independent
community newspaper
published
every Wednesday
for Eastern Ontario
and Western Quebec.

To buy our text-searchable
DIGITAL EDITION, visit
www.thereview.on.ca

Publisher:
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www.thereview.on.ca

Member of:
The Canadian Community
Newspaper Association and the
Ontario Community
Newspaper Association



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I S S N 0834-L728X
Publications Mail
Registration No. 07872
Agreement No. 1383272

"We acknowledge the financial support of
the Government of Canada through the
Publications Assistance Program
towards our mailing costs."

Canada

Body discovered in ditch

RIGAUD – A man walking along the road on Montée Baie St-Thomas, halfway between Rigaud and Pointe-Fortune, made a grisly discovery at 11 p.m. on Sunday September 30. The badly-decomposed body of a sixty-year old man was found in a ditch. Preliminary autopsy results reveal he was shot to death. Because of the state of the body, he could not be identified. Full autopsy results are still pending.

Quebec patients keeping Ontario doctors busy

By Dominique Millette
Having trouble getting a doctor's appointment? You're not alone: wait times at some clinics average four to six weeks and can go up to three months. And new patients? Forget it... The Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons survey "Small Triumphs, Big Challenges" indicates the K postal code region as a whole has the lowest proportion of doctors accepting new patients, with only 4.1 % in 2006, less than half the provincial average of 9.6 percent and down from 4.7 % in 2005.

This is precisely the region into which Québec residents are surging to take up appointments with Ontario doctors. As one medical receptionist explains, "Québec patients find this (four- to six-week wait time) normal and even an improvement, but Ontario patients aren't used to it."

Over one-third of Québec residents do not have a family doctor, even though there are more doctors per 1,000 population there than in Ontario. In May 2002, for example, the Canadian Institute of Health Information (CIHI) released statistics indicating that Quebec had more physicians per capita than any other province: 214 per 100 000, compared with 180 in Ontario and 166 in Alberta.

>> 25.



Hawkesbury councillors André Chamailard, Gilbert Cyr, Gilles Roch Greffe, Sylvain Dubé, Michel A. Beaulne and Gilles Tessier say they want to work with Mayor Jeanne Charlebois, but she is giving a rough ride to whoever does not share her opinions. See story on page 3.



At this point in the meeting, there were only three candidates sitting at the table during a debate held in Alexandria Monday evening. Lalonde joined the debate after staunching a nosebleed. See pages 10 and 11 for coverage of this meeting. (photo J. Sarrazin)

Lachute Hospital expansion will cut into park

LACHUTE – A planned expansion of the Hôpital d'Argenteuil will lead to the loss of at least some of Horace-Lamarche park in Lachute, mayor Daniel Mayer confirmed during the October 1 council meeting. Earlier this year, the city invested \$150,000 in the park. "It's unfortunate," he commented. "We can't know everything ahead of time." However, he added, the addition of 50 new jobs in Lachute as well as the infrastructure necessary to service the population's health needs means the city will have to sacrifice the \$150,000 investment.

When questioned as to whether the heavily-used park would disappear completely, the mayor answered that "we will try to keep a part of it. We'll know more when the hospital informs us of its final plans." No timetable could be established for this, he asserted.

Where there's smoke ... there's a smoking area

By Matthew Talbot

ALEXANDRIA – North Glengarry council rekindled a dead issue after it voted 4-3 on September 26 to extend St George Street East onto Le Relais Catholic High School property and "create an area for students to congregate."

There has been controversy surrounding this pending decision, with opponents asking why council felt the need to create an area for students to gather when the school already has abundant property for recreation.

The answer lies in the smoke of cigarettes. Beyond the obvious, there are differences between students who smoke and students who don't.

At high schools across Ontario, that usually means where those students can hang out, because the provincial Smoke Free Ontario act makes smoking on school property illegal.

>> 16.

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INSIDE

Weekend Pick!

A Country Harvest hand-made pottery sale takes place this Thanksgiving weekend on October 6, 7 and 8 at Marlin Orchards, on Highway 2, 7 kilometres east of Cornwall. Check pages 14 and 15 for fire prevention activities taking place in your community!

Prescott-Russell ARTour,
Apples & Art
Art tours
in the
region

>> 9
& 19.



Secret Lives
Playing
with
big
names
in
music

>> 8.



Lachute
goes wireless

>> 16.

Giant
pumpkins
invade
Vankleek
Hill

>> 26



Happy Thanksgiving!

The Review offices will be closed on Monday, October 8 for the Thanksgiving holiday. The deadline for advertising for the October 10 issue is Friday, October 5 at noon. The Review staff takes this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving weekend. Drive carefully and wear your seatbelts.



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