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Purposed partnerships strengthen SD schools

by **Matthew Uhrig**
 Press staff

IROQUOIS – What a difference a year can make.

It was early fall in 2016 when Municipality of South Dundas residents were sent into a frenzy at the prospect of losing two of its three public schools at the

hands of consolidation efforts by the Upper Canada District School Board.

On Fri., Sept. 29, however, it was a much different scene.

Seaway District High School staff was joined by school board administrators and South Dundas councillors, as well as other community supporters, to officially

launch a partnership with both Ross Video and Code Heroes.

“Today’s partnership is an exciting development for our program... It is fantastic to work together to help inspire a new generation of innovators and creators,” Code Heroes’ Kelly Bergeron said.

The Cornwall-based program is designed to engage young adults to

innovate and learn through various opportunities. Workshops include digital literacy, coding, graphic design, game design, and digital marketing.

Renewed and enhanced partnerships such as this one will provide additional support to strengthen technology programming in the township, a prospect thought im-

possible last year during the pupil accommodation review.

South Dundas’ pitch to review panel members and school board officials was that the municipality would ensure partnerships like this one were made to keep both Seaway and Morrisburg Public School viable.

• see **PARTNERSHIP** on page 2



Runs like a Deere

Mico Multari climbed aboard a vintage John Deere tractor during the Metcalfe Fair’s Sat., Sept. 30 activities. The 161st annual event consumed the village for four days, and successfully closed

out the region’s fair season. For more coverage, see page 9, and for results from various fair activities, see next week’s *Winchester Press*.
 Photo – Uhrig

UCDSB tackles fall heat wave, critics cry foul

WINCHESTER – Temperatures hit all-time September highs last week, and the issue turned political in provincial schools.

While teachers and students suffered in the sweltering heat, Premier Kathleen Wynne told her Queen’s Park colleagues she, too, was feeling it.

In an address, she noted that not all of her legislative offices have air conditioning, nor does her home.

The hot conditions in many schools came after temperatures sat in the low 30s, but the humidity pushed the feeling much higher.

Ontario PCs and teachers’ unions called on the province to come up with heat-relief plans.

Party leader Patrick Brown made repeated calls for maximum temperatures for schools to be instituted.

“This isn’t just a Toronto problem – the extreme heat is impacting students across Ontario,” he said in a statement issued last week. “Why won’t the premier show leadership and mandate a maximum temperature for schools... The Liberals have said this is a decision for local school boards, but that doesn’t sound like leadership to me.”

• see **SCHOOLS** on page 2

An immigrant’s story

Foodland manager stars in Sobeys video

by **Alicia K. Gosselin**
 Press staff

WINCHESTER – This year, Sobeys partnered with the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 to celebrate Canadians from all over the world who have helped build the grocery business in this country.

Locally, Winchester Foodland’s deli manager Archel “Archie” Imperial – born and raised in the Philippines – was chosen to star in a short video created by Sobeys telling her story of immigration to Dundas County.

A group of teary-eyed community

members, colleagues, and friends viewed the video for the first time Fri., Sept. 29 on two large screens set up in the store’s produce section.

It was the second time the video had been viewed publicly, with the first time being in front of 300 people at the Sobeys corporate location in Nova Scotia for the company’s 110th anniversary.

Imperial, along with her son, and storeowner Dan Pettigrew spent three days on the east coast for the celebration.

“It has been such an honour to have the opportunity to tell my story with the Sobeys/Foodland family,”

said Imperial, who recently celebrated her fifth year at Foodland “It’s been a nerve-wracking experience, but I’m so overwhelmed with support from everyone.”

According to Pettigrew, Imperial has become a hero of sorts at the local franchise.

“Nobody cares more about, not just their job, but our people and our environment than Archel does,” he said. “She’s got the biggest heart of any person that I’ve ever met. She’s honestly my hero. The things that she has accomplished, I could never have done.”

• see **IMMIGRANT’S STORY** on page 2

Dollarama opens Oct. 12

WINCHESTER – The opening date for the next tenant at the Winchester Crossing plaza has been set.

Dollarama will open for the first time Thurs., Oct. 12, setting up shop in the west end of the Main Street facility.

The retail store joins Foodland, Pharmasave, and Pet Valu in the collection of shops in the former home of Mike Dean’s Super Food Store. A fifth space is currently for lease, while the building’s owner, Sobeys, is believed to be looking to sell the property once it is fully occupied.

Founded in 1992, Dollarama today operates more than 1,000 stores across Canada, with the bulk being in Ontario.

Locally, Dollarama stores can also be found in Kemptville, Embrun, and Casselman, as well as several throughout Ottawa.



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