



St. Peter Catholic School students wore blue in honour of World Autism Awareness Day. They learned that by increasing understanding and acceptance of people with autism, we can help make the world a little less scary for those diagnosed. We now know that there is no one type of autism but many types under the autism spectrum disorder.

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Photo courtesy of Rosemary Barbera

# Junior Robotics Team at St. Peter

St. Peter Catholic School has begun a robotics team using Lego Mindstorms NXT robots. Students are working in pairs with their own Lego NXT kit. Students are half way done putting together their robots with motors, sensors and accessories. Next, students will be able to program their robots to make them turns, move forward and perform simple jobs.

Photo courtesy of Rosemary Barbera



SHORELINE  
NEWS

ST. PIUS X

APRIL 6,  
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# Passion Play



Photo courtesy of Dino Vilella

As a way to celebrate our Catholic Faith and Holy Week, students in Mrs. Parent's, Mrs. Gilman's, Mr. Kobrynovich's, and Mr. Vilella's classes from St Pius X Catholic School performed 'In Christ Alone – The Passion of Jesus Christ' last week. The entire school community came together to witness the last days of Jesus Christ's life. It was a wonderful witness to our faith during Holy Week and attended by many parents, grandparents and friends. Pictured, from left, are Cooper Jovonovic, Bennet Bilenduke, and Matthew Cartier.

## schools

# Climate Crusaders

## New precipitation data collection program launched



WINDSOR-ESSEX CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

decades, as well as some of the recent flooding we've seen in Windsor-Essex, it is increasingly important that we get as much reliable local data as possible to help us understand trends and better prepare for further weather events," he said.

"Enlisting the help of local students will provide us with more comprehensive data, but will also promote a greater love and enthusiasm for science."

Under the new program, Grade 8 students throughout WECDSB schools will be provided with rain gauges they can set up outside their homes.

They will record precipitation levels and upload their data, which can then be collated by STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Academy)

students for analysis by scientists at the University of Windsor.

"This is a great example of scientific collaboration," said UWindsor Dean of Science Dr. Chris Houser.

"Through our partnership with the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board, we're going to be able to fill a void by gathering more complete information about weather patterns in our region.

"It's going to be a very valuable learning experience for all the students involved at every level, and one that will produce some very useful data."

The new \$1.2 million STEM Academy was launched at Holy Names in September 2017. There's a strong emphasis on robotics and coding as well as environmental sciences, especially for Grade 11 STEM Academy students.

"Some of our students have witnessed the effects of climate change first hand when their homes and schools were impacted by recent flooding, so



they have a very real understanding of the issue," said WECDSB executive superintendent of innovation and human resources Dan Fister.

"This initiative will provide our students with more pragmatic opportunities to learn about fundamental research concepts, but even more importantly, how to use the data they collect to substantiate the need for meaningful action to mitigate the impacts of climate change."

### New STEM Academies coming to St. Anne and Villanova

In September, two new STEM Academies will be launched at St. Anne Catholic High School and St. Thomas of Villanova Catholic High School, which will increase the number of students available to participate in the initiative, Fister added.

Thousands of students throughout Windsor-Essex County will become 'citizen scientists' while supporting a better understanding of weather trends in the area with the launch of a new climate program to be headquartered at the STEM Academy at Holy Names Catholic High School.

Climate Crusaders is a new program kicked off last week with the help of David Phillips, a senior climatologist at Environment and Climate Change Canada and a graduate of the University of Windsor.

"With the rapid changes we've seen in our climate over the last several

# Villanova celebrates over 100,000 cans donated



Before the cans were loaded up in the trucks, the students formed a 100,000 out of them. This is huge accomplishment of the school after five years of collecting.

by Shelby Wye

St. Thomas of Villanova Catholic Secondary School celebrated their donation of over 100,000 cans into their canned food drive on Wednesday, April 11.

The school has been hosting a year-long can drive for the past six school years. This started because of Ashley Paling, the daughter of Andy Paling who is an environmental sciences teacher at the school.

"She asked me, after the Christmas Can Drive, what food banks do for the rest of the year," said Paling. When they looked into it, they found that the food banks in the area faced struggles once the holiday giving period was over. So, they

began a monthly can drive, asking students to bring in donations on the first of every Friday.

They began tallying the count once they were already a year in, so Paling explained that while this is "officially" their 100,000 can, they technically hit that number long ago.

Their canned food drive supports around 10 food banks in the Essex County and Windsor community. It also goes across borders, being sent to Costa Rica with their senior science students as a part of their Destinations program.

The school also has a partner in the community that stretches their helping hands even further. The

Windsor Port Authority matches each can for the dollar amount twice a year, generally amounting to \$5,000 to be donated to St. John's Church each year to support the food bank program.

"It's a great program for the community it's good support for our team and our staff in our local area. How can you say no to the need when the need is there? You have to respond to it," said Christine Pare, controller with the Windsor Port Authority.

Paling said this program helps their students learn more about how easy it is to support and help the community.

# Cardinal Carter's innovative Rain Regents headed to California for FIRST Lego competition

A group of students from Leamington's Cardinal Carter Middle School who call themselves the Rain Regents will be travelling to California in June to participate in the FIRST Lego League Global Innovation Awards semi-finals.



CHRIS THOMPSON, WINDSOR STAR

APRIL 24, 2018

The Rain Regents have created a bird spa that is self-washing and self-replenishing and is fed by rain barrels.

By replenishing and washing itself with rainwater the bird spa eliminates the growth of bacteria, algae and mosquitoes.

The team will travel to San Jose, Calif., from June 19 to 21 to present their project, selected from entries from more than 20 countries.

The award teams are required to consider possible barriers to implementation, document the evaluation of their invention, and validate their design with professionals from the STEM fields (science, technology, engineering and math).

Past winning teams have focused on solving global problems, from a device that allowed a toddler with a hand difference learn to write, to a chemical process to recycle polystyrene into active charcoal for filtration.

Past finalists have brought their inventions to market, received patents and incorporated as businesses.

The competitors will participate in a two-day, hands-on innovation event at the San Jose University Students Union and will see the awarding of a top prize of US\$20,000 prize while two runners-up will take home prizes of \$5,000 each.

The FIRST Lego League is an international program for kids aged nine to 16 formed in 1998 to get kids excited about science and technology and teach them valuable career and life skills.

The team of seven students and three coaches from Cardinal Carter learned of their good fortune last week.

The Global Innovation Award is sponsored by Booze Allen Hamilton, John Deere, Lego Education, PWC, Rockwell Collins Society of Cable Telecommunications Engineers and XPRIZE and in cooperation with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.



Cardinal Carter Middle School members of the Rain Regents are headed to San Jose, California, to attend the FIRST Lego Global Innovation Competition. WINDSOR STAR

# Humanity Tour Visits St. Anthony

HARROW  
NEWS

## Catholic Elementary School

by Allison Brown

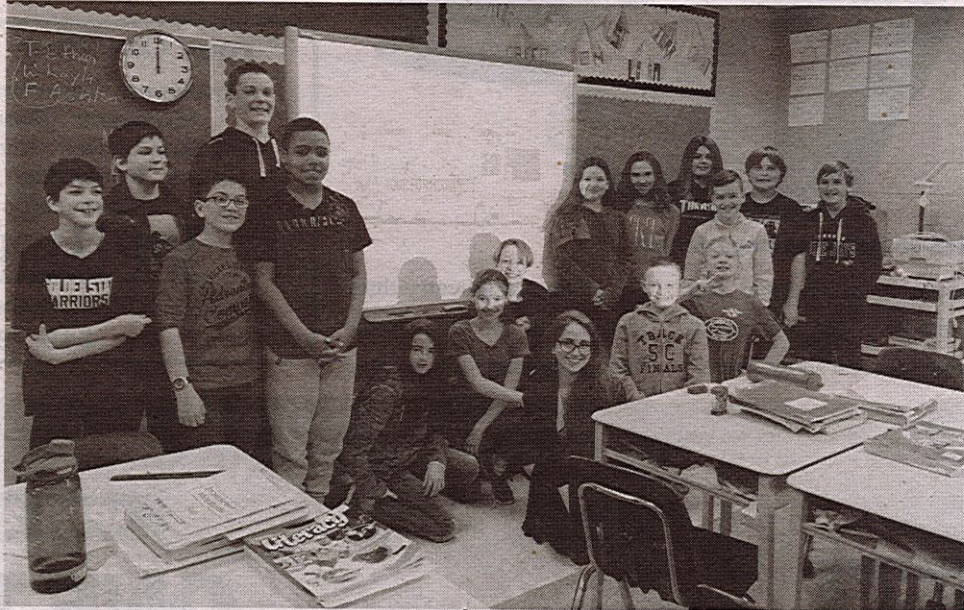
Students at St. Anthony Catholic School were among one of the Windsor and Essex County stops for the Tour For Humanity from the Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies (FSWC).

The Simon Wisenthal Center is a non-profit human rights organization dedicated to countering racism and anti-semitism and to promoting tolerance, social justice and democratic values through advocacy and education. The Center's headquarters is located in Los Angeles, California; but it operates offices at various locations across the globe, including Toronto. Simon Wiesenthal was an Austrian Holocaust survivor celebrated for his work in bringing Nazi war criminals to justice.

The Tour For Humanity is a 30-seat mobile human rights education bus that has been touring across Canada since 2013. The bus was scheduled to arrive at St. Anthony's on Wednesday, April 18, but due to windshield wiper motor failure it was in the shop being repaired that day.

FSWC Education Associate Elena Kingsbury was undaunted by this change in plans and brought her presentation directly to the classrooms along with her enthusiasm to educate students about human rights.

"As an organization,



Elena Kingsbury, Education Associate with the Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies as part of the Tour For Humanity. The Tour Bus was 'in the shop' the day of the presentation and is expected to be back on the road soon.

our foundation is halocaust education and looking at that piece of history, and connecting that with other issues that are relevant to other forms of injustice and intolerance" said Kingsbury.

Presenting such heavy subject matter to elementary school students can be challenging.

"That is the constant balancing act, to teach students about the dark chapters in our history in a way that doesn't overwhelm them," said Kinsbury.

"We want to be cautious about how we approach it. With grade sixes we don't show them the video that's a summary of the Holocaust, we talk about it but we don't show them the graphic images. We talk about the fact that lots of people died, we

don't want to gloss over what it really was".

"We're not focusing on the millions of people that were murdered, we're focusing on how this was a moment where people could have stood up and not been bystanders to what was happening," said Kingsbury.

Kingsbury delivered an hour-long presentation to Mr. Lee's grade six class that included interactive activities about cultural perceptions, and discussion was sparked by many of the students. The students watched a video telling Simon Wisenthal's story of survival during the Holocaust, which also featured information about activist for education Malala Yousafzai, Holocaust diarist Anne Frank and more. Kingsbury emphasized to the students you don't have to be an adult to make change happen.

The students were profoundly engaged by the presentation and shared thier own insights with the class.

Grade six student Landon Dumouchelle learned about history, about Germany and some of the people who did great things and fellow grade sixer Ethan Moore learned about Simon (Wisenthal) and what the organization is about and the history of Germany and the Nazis.

Kingsbury and the Humanity Tour spent two weeks in the Windsor-Essex region visiting a different school every day. She said that one of her favourite parts of her work is traveling to different parts of Ontario.

"It's interesting to see the different conversations that are happening in different communities around these

issues," said Kingsbury. She recognizes the efforts of amazing teachers out there that are already having these conversations with students, and she is often surprised by the knowledge students already have when they attend her presentations.

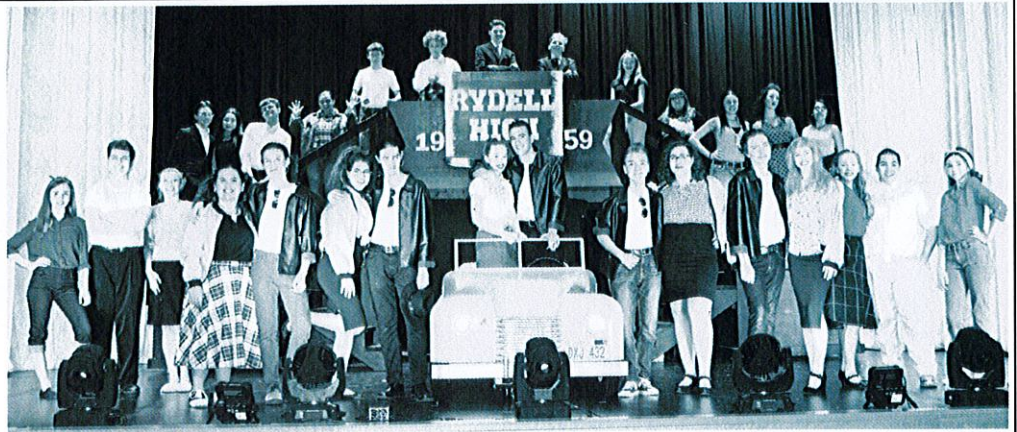
# "Grease" wows audiences; sold out finale!

*By Pat Bailey*

Grease was the word last week at Cardinal Carter Secondary School. The school brought the classic musical 'Grease' to the CC stage on April 18, 19 and 20. Over 60 students were involved in the production, including onstage actors as well as the backstage crew and the tech crew.

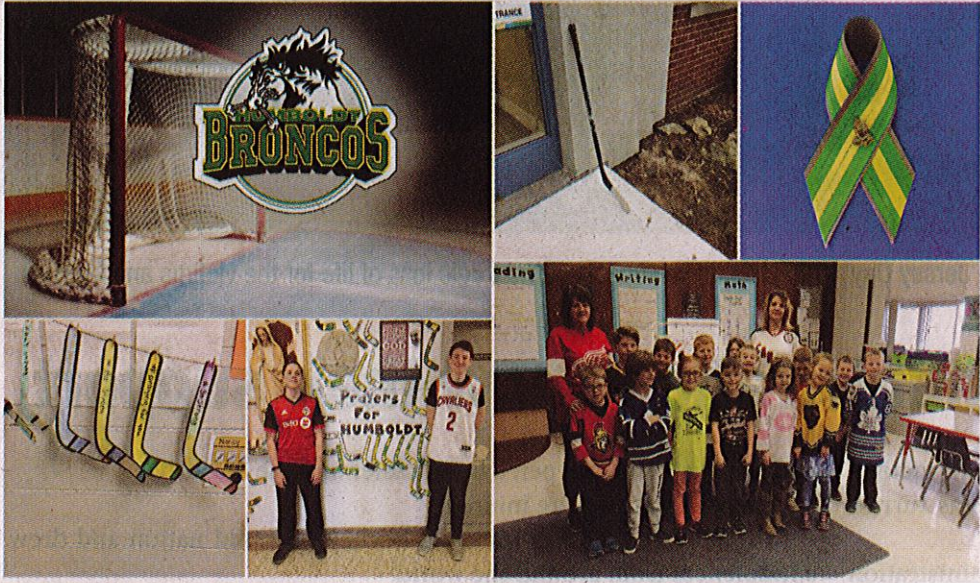
Students and teachers have been rehearsing since October for the performances which paid off, receiving accolades from the enthusiastic audiences including a sold out show for their finale.

Lindsay Longpre and GERALYN O'Brien dedicated their time as directors of the production, while Melissa Ciotoli served as musical director and MIA DiCiocco was choreographer.



The cast of "Grease"

# OLOA is #humboldtstrong



Students at Our Lady of the Annunciation said prayers, wore jerseys and hung hockey sticks for the Humboldt Broncos last week at the school in Stoney Point.