

CANADIANS

Three soldiers die in Afghanistan

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Killed were Warrant Officer Denis Raymond Brown from The Lincoln and Welland Regiment, Corporal Dany Olivier Fortin from 425 Tactical Fighter Squadron at 3 Wing Bagotville, and Corporal Kenneth Chad O'Quinn from 2 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group Headquarters and Signals Squadron.

Two injured soldiers were evacuated by helicopter to the Role 3 Multi-National Medical Facility at Kandahar Airfield. DND reported they are in good and fair condition, and their names will not be released.

The deaths bring to 111 the number of Canadian soldiers to die in Afghanistan since the mission began in 2002.

Following the repatriation, a cortege carrying the soldiers' bodies and loved ones will travel along the stretch of Highway 401 known as the Highway of Heroes to Toronto, where autopsies will be performed.

LOTTERIES

Last night's winning lottery numbers were unavailable at press time.

Visit the OLG website at www.olg.ca/lotteries/index.jsp to find out if you're a winner.

Good luck!

The Weather

Today



60% chance of evening showers.

High 2.
Low -6.

Friday



70% chance of rain.

High 11.
Low 2.

POT SEIZED: Four hundred plants found in 'sophisticated grow operation'



PETE FISHER Sun Media

Northumberland OPP Constable Dave Powers shows growing equipment and some of the 404 marijuana plants seized yesterday from what Detective Constable Neil Browne of the Central East Drug Unit described as a "sophisticated grow operation" on Riverside Road on Meyer's Island in the Municipality of Trent Hills. The majority of the setup was a "true hydroponics grow operation," Browne said. Equipment for the grow operation is valued at more than \$20,000. The building inspector was called to the scene. Browne said the house contained mould because of the lack of ventilation. Some of the plants were more than two metres high. Though no one was home at the time the warrant was executed, police anticipate arrests.

TRAIL

Public meeting set for March 26

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groups while preserving the ecology and integrity of the forest, Delanty said.

During yesterday's county council session Delanty told councillors that most of the groups had compromised in order to create the proposal that will be the subject of a public meeting March 26 at the Baltimore Recreation Centre from 2 to 8 p.m.

"It's an opportunity for people concerned about the forest," he said.

Meetings between county represen-

FIRE

300 plants seized

FROM PAGE 1

Two vans parked in the driveway near the home were pulled away by firefighters. The front portion of one van was scorched by the flames.

The home sustained major damage from the blaze.

Yesterday, an OPP officer guarded the taped-off scene until police drug enforcement officers obtained a search warrant.

Brown said approximately 300 marijuana plants at various stages of growth were found in the basement.

Of those, there were approximately 150 plants just over one metre in height, 150 clone plants and eight mother plants, which are cut to make the clone plants.

The street value of the pot is estimated at \$150,000.

Police say they believe there are no other occupants of

'MATERIAL' GIRLS: Show at Upstairs Gallery

Art exhibit opens today

BY TED AMSDEN

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Local textile artists Veronica Derry, Judith Kreps Hawkins and Alice Vander Vennen will be showing their work at The Upstairs Gallery in Port Hope from today through April 12.

The three have exhibited as part of a group before, as they are members of the Colborne Art Gallery collective, but this is the first time they have shown as a trio.

The women combine found objects with other materials, with the resulting works presenting an entirely new context.

Vander Vennen's work is assemblage. As she takes work from one context, she says, and puts it in another, "a story arises" and a new visual entity is created.

She is presenting three large pieces that measure 18 by 50 inches, using willow branches, copper and fabrics. One of her sources of art parts is a deconstructed piano. Putting the elements together using some of the piano pieces "is like a song, like a melody of some sort."

Kreps Hawkins says she is presenting a mix of new and old work, with some pieces that have been reworked.

She likes to use cast-off materials and bring them together in non-traditional ways.

"I like to tell a story about our affinities with materials and how they affect us and our environment . . . how they serve us, building us up and destroying us at the same time . . . Things are not what they appear on the surface."

Derry will be showing 10 pieces, three of them recently completed. They are figurative-based.

Once she starts working with materials, she says "they speak to me."

She considers inner issues as she works. She uses "fabric as an expressive medium."

Derry says she is "really excited" about the prospect of showing with Kreps Hawkins and Vander Vennen and seeing their work together.

An opening reception, with the opportunity to speak to the artists, takes place Saturday, March 7, between 2 and 4 p.m.

