

Colborne kids march to their own beat

First regional competition at Keeler Centre

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COLBORNE — The first Eastern Ontario Regional Drumline Competition proved Northumberland students have got the beat. Five drumline groups converged on the Keeler Centre on April 20 for the first competition sanctioned by the Ontario Drumline Association for eastern Ontario, said Chad Morford, Colborne Public School Grade 7 and 8 teacher and music teacher. Students brought their best drum and marching routines, filling the centre with a pounding of drums in the afternoon.

Two drumline groups from Colborne Public School entered the competition. The Col-



COLBORNE — Port Hope's Trinity College School Grade 10 students Theresa Engelhardt, left, and Kristelle Abueva participate in concert senior division of the Eastern Ontario Regional Drumline competition at the Keeler Centre in Colborne.

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borne marching junior drumline placed first in their category and the Oak Ridge Percussion group, also from Colborne, placed second in the concert senior category. Port Hope's Trinity College School placed first in the concert senior category. Two groups from Toronto's St. Michael's College School also placed well in the competition.

For the past five years, Colborne Public School students have had the opportunity to participate in drumline, said Mr. Morford. Yamaha artist Michael Beauclerc leads workshops across the province and drumline has become more popular in recent years, Mr.

Morford said.

"It has been gaining momentum," he said. Colborne drumline groups enter competitions and join local parades, he said. Drumline doesn't require a lot of musical skill and at its most basic level songs can be learned by rote or repetition.

"It doesn't matter your age or level, it can be enjoyable," said Mr. Morford.

As part of the event on April 20, Mr. Beauclerc led a drumline workshop for local public school students.

Mr. Morford, Mr. Beauclerc and Nathan Haynes founded the Ontario Drumline Asso-

ciation (ODA) in the summer of 2011. The new organization will be the sanctioning body for drumline competitions in Ontario. Member drumlines of the ODA compete with each other in events specifically designed for marching percussion. A new drumline scoring system has been created and the ODA will also provide qualified adjudicators with experience in marching percussion. There are classifications for both concert (stand still) and marching ensembles, including junior (up to Grade 8), intermediate (up to Grade 10), senior (up to Grade 12), and alumni (all ages groups).

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THE LOW DOWN ON DIRT

CRAMAHE TOWNSHIP — What to do with a massive pile of soil? Give it away.

That's what Cramahe Council decided on April 17 after hearing it would cost \$15,000 to haul the soil away. The soil has been piling up at the Colborne Creek subdivision and soon will be in the way of construction in Phase 2.

Director of operations Dan O'Brien hoped that someone would be interested in paying to take the 15,000 cubic metres of soil and screen it for re-sale. But there were no takers. His other option was to pay for haulage of an estimated 1,250 tandem truck loads. AMPCO, a consortium of local contractors had the lowest bid. Don Oliver quoted \$18,725 and Dekeyser Excavating would do the work for \$65,000.

No one on council wanted to give the soil away without giving residents first grab at it. So council agreed that residents can show up on any of the first three Saturdays in May and their vehicles or containers will be filled. The township will provide the front-end loader to do the heavy work.


Contractors will be given two yet-to-be-determined weekdays to bring in their own equipment and haul earth away. It's not expected that the giveaways will reduce the cost incurred by the township. In fact, it will increase the cost because staff will be required to work the Saturdays. But it was agreed that residents should get a chance to stock up.

— Bob Owen

Perrytown.

Birthday

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Happy
90th Birthday
April 30th
Joan Barth
Love from Ross,
Susan and families

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