

**FREE** Volume 4, Issue 28 Wednesday, August 7, 2013 www.southpointsun.ca

Wednesday, August 7, 2013

The Southpoint Sun - 19

## Wheatley Idol reaches 10th year

The success of a local outdoor talent show has been a full decade in the making.

The 10th annual Wheatley Idol, the largest Sunday attraction for the annual Wheatley Fish Festival, was once again well-attended and made up of a lengthy list of talented vocal performers representing four age categories. The Wheatley Optimist Club-sponsored event was led by organizer Darla Janzen for the eighth consecutive and final time, as the local volunteer will hand the reins over to Susan Fulmer — one of her assistants this year (which also included Melissa Paine) - for next year's installment.

For her final year as the event's lead organizer, Janzen was greeted by approximately 400 spectators and 30 high-calibre vocal acts.

"It's looking really good this year," Janzen said at about the midway point of this year's Wheatley Idol, held Sunday, Aug. 4 and again hosted by the Two Creeks Conservation Area. "We've got all kinds of ranges with our performers."

This year's competition was judged by local celebrities Nicole Barron — herself an accomplished musician — radio personality Cordell Green, and Amber Dubois — the overall winner of the 2012 and ninth annual Wheatley Idol. Once again, the event's registration reached maximum capacity within 24 hours of officially opening the doors to competitors.

This year's winners were selected by the panel of three judges as follows:

- six- to nine-year-olds Emma Wright (Meadford), first place; Hayley Doucet (Tilbury), second place; Larissa Porteous (Harrow), third place;
- 10- to 12-year-olds Summer Ellis (Essex), first place; Kassidy Tiessen (Leamington), second place; Melissa Martens (Ruthven), third place;
- 13- to 16-year-olds Chelsea Malott (Leamington), first place; Hannah Renaud (Kingsville), second place; Maddy Vasey (Chatham), third place;
- 17- to 29-year-olds RJ Latter (London), first place; Amy Papineau (Woodslee), second place; Nick Tiessen (Leamington), third place.

Latter, who had recently returned from performing at the CMA Festival in Nashville, was chosen as the overall winner of this year's Wheatley Idol, an honour that included a lengthy list of prizes including studio

recording sessions at SLR Studios in Windsor, a makeover, new clothes and a photo shoot for the CD's inside jacket. "It feels amazing," said Latter of winning this year's top prize. "Ever since I was a kid coming here, I've always wanted to win it. I've watched the winners from past years and said to myself 'I want that to be me'. It's awesome to be recognized

like this, especially with the amount of talent that was here today.'

Malott was selected as this year's overall runner-up, for what has been dubbed the 'Rising Star' award.

"I'm just shocked," she said. "I rehearsed for this for a long time, but I had no idea this (finishing second overall) was coming.'

Several of this year's contestants made a short trip to Two Creeks this year, including Hayley Doucet, Rebecca Murphy and Onisha Labonte from Tilbury, Melissa Martens from Ruthven, Kassidy Tiessen, identical twin sisters Mackenzie and Madison Grineau, Mykayla Tiessen, Chelsey Malott, Eriana Verissimo, Nick Tiessen and Melissa Scott from Leamington, Jessica Desantis and Hannah Renaud from Kingsville and sisters Julia and Leanna Bueckert, Corrine Jackson, Judy Wiebe, Jeremy Blatz and Nicole Shanks from Wheatley.

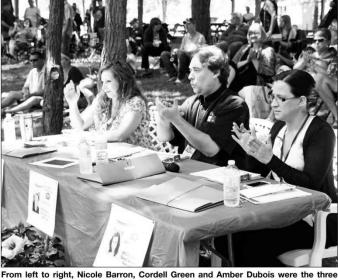
Between age groups, the organizers and behind-thescenes volunteers were recognized, from a team of junior emcees up to Janzen.

"She's been pretty well a one-lady show," Wheatley Optimist Club president Larry MacDonald said of Janzen. "We've (the Optimist Club) just been in the background. She's done a great job of getting sponsors to make this happen over the years."

Wheatley Idol was once again supported by a list of local sponsors who donated time, equipment, funding and door prizes to this year's widely-anticipated event.

More pictures on page 20





celebrity judges of the 2013 Wheatley Idol competition, held Sunday, Aug. 4 at Two Creeks Conservation Area.









It's illegal to leave children in the car unattended at any time. Temperatures inside automobiles quickly increase to deadly levels.

> Helen Emerick, Client Account Manager





**Lunch Specials** 





Volume 4, Issue 28 Wednesday, August 7, 2013

www.southpointsun.ca

FREE

Wednesday, August 7, 2013

20 - The Southpoint Sun







Clockwise from top left: From left to right, first to third place finishers of Wheatley Idol's 13-to 16-year-old division were Chelsea Malott of Leamington (also overall runner-up), Hannah Renaud of Kingsville and Maddy Vasey of Chatham.

From left to right, first place Summer Ellis, second palce Kassidy Tiessen and third place Melissa Martens accept their prizes in the 10- to 12-year-old division of the 10th annual Wheatley Idol.

RJ Latter of London was chosen as the 17- to 29-year-old category and overall winner of the 10th annual Wheatley Idol.

From left to right, winners of Wheatley Idol 10's six- to nine-year old category were Emma Wright of Meadford in first, Hayley Doucet of Tibury in second and Larissa Porteous of Harrow in third.



At Windsor Family Credit Union (WFCU), we've built our business by taking care of our members. WFCU prides itself on developing innovative products that are designed with the needs of our members in mind.

Along with an amazing rate of **3.29%** on a five year term, WFCU offers flexible payment and pre-payment options that help you pay off your mortgage faster. It's WFCU's same great mortgage, with all the bells and whistles and a fantastic low rate, keeping money in your pocket.

should something happen to you. WFCU offers peace of mind with optional group mortgage protection life insurance coverage, critical illness or loss of employment insurance coverage.

Now's the time to take advantage of a low five year rate, it's the perfect mortgage. Don't wait; WFCU's dedicated, courteous and professional staff is here with the solution to your mortgage equation, that will keep money in your pocket.

For more information or to book an



