

Humanity Tour Visits St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School

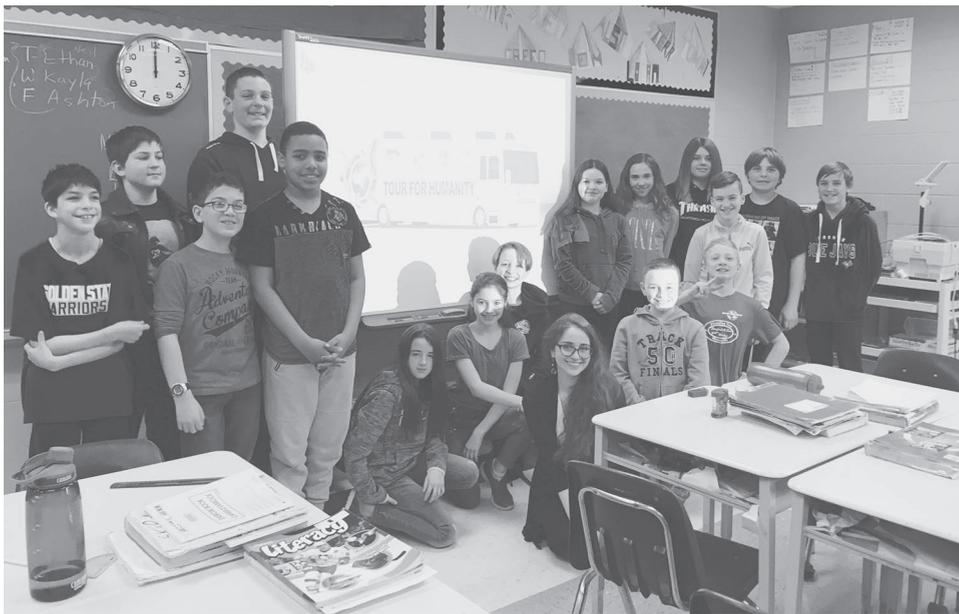
by Allison Brown
Students at St. Anthony Catholic School were among one of the Windsor and Essex County stops for the Tour For Humanity from the Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies (FSWC).

The Simon Wiesenthal 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 Kingsbury.

"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 Wiesenthal'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 their 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.

Council proclaims Communities in Bloom Week

At their Regular Meeting on Monday, April 16, Essex Town Council officially proclaimed the week of May 7, 2018 as Communities in Bloom Week.

The proclamation celebrates the ongoing success of the Town's Communities in Bloom efforts, which began in 1999.

Communities in Bloom is a national non-profit organization which fosters civic pride, environmental responsibility and beautification in local communities. Every year, the Town participates in the national competition and encourages residents to take part in the Front Yard and Balcony Contest.

In 2015, the Town won the Communities in Bloom National Award for municipalities with a population fewer than twenty thousand people. In 2017, the Town was the Finalist for the Class of Champions National Award, a competition which pits the highest performing Canadian municipalities against each other.

"The Town and our Communities in Bloom committee have worked hard since 1999 to help promote civic pride in our community and this week is a celebration of those efforts," said Doug Sweet, Director of Community Services. "The Town of Essex is truly a blooming community."

Sweet added that the week of May 7 will also serve as a kick-off to the upcoming season of Communities in Bloom projects.

For more on the Town of Essex and the Communities in Bloom committee, or how you can participate, please visit www.essex.ca/CiB.

Essex Community Services

Wine tour. Mark your calendar. Essex Community Services' 5th Annual Wine tour June 9th. Enjoy tastings at 4 local wineries, with dinner and entertainment afterwards. To register, please call 519-776-4231, email ecs@essexcs.on.ca, or drop by 35 Victoria Ave, Unit 7, Essex. We look forward to a fun-filled day.

Harrow Community Book Sale

Knights of Columbus Hall • 62 King St. E

May 4, 4 – 8 pm • May 5, 9 – 5 pm • May 6, 9 – 1 pm

PROCEEDS TO MEALS ON WHEELS (HARROW) AND NUTRITION PROGRAMS AT HARROW PUBLIC AND ST. ANTHONY SCHOOLS

Books can be dropped off in town until May 3 at Harrow News, Harrow Massage Therapy, Harrow Dental, Libro Credit Union.

Call for pickup of large amounts: Skye 519-300-6896 • Allison 519-560-1854



Spring
BLOWOUT
Friday, May 4 • 12 – 7 PM
BIGGEST SALE EVER!
50% OFF FRAMES

Dr. R.D. Mastronardi • Dr. J. O'Connor
OPTOMETRISTS
59 Main St. E., Kingsville 519-733-7644
Let Our Family Focus On Yours!

HARROW HEAT
ELECTRIC EELS
AQUATICS TEAM

2018 REGISTRATION OPEN
Registration deadline May 15

New spots will be filled in this order:

- siblings of returning swimmers
- Harrow/Colchester residents
- out of district residents

recreational summer swim team for kids 5-18 years old

\$120 per swimmer
\$100 each additional sibling
www.harrowswimming.com
for registration form and more information