

Showcase offers culture at Western Fair

- Cultures represented include Irish, Italian, Korean and Egyptian
- Representatives offer up everything from food to language lessons



► The Oneida Nation Dancers perform a traditional dance yesterday during Western Fair. The Oneida Nation of the Thames was featured yesterday in the fair's Cultural Showcase.



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There's more to Western Fair than livestock, wild rides and deep-fried food.

Each of the fair's 10 days has a cultural component offered up by people living in and around the Forest City.

Dubbed the Cultural Showcase, the daily exhibits are designed to give people a taste of the many cultures the area has to offer. The showcase is in its second year.

"It's an opportunity for people who might not (be exposed to other cultures) ... to come in and see it, hear it and taste it," said Jenny von Ruzicka-McGill, event manager at the Western Fair District.

Representatives from the Oneida Nation of the Thames — located between Delaware and Lambeth — were at the fair yesterday, teaching people about their heritage through everything from corn soup to bingo games played in the nation's traditional language.



TALENT SEARCH FINALISTS NAMED

Fifteen kids have been named finalists in Western Fair's Junior Youth Talent search.

The finals will be at 11:30 a.m. Saturday on the Anne Eadie Park Stage at the Western Fair District grounds.

The finalists, among them musicians, dancers,

singers and entertainers, are: Alleigha Wagenaar of Brantford, Andera Novak of Delaware, Augusta Campoli of Richmond Hill, Brontae Hunter of Kincardine, Emma Lim of London, Evelyn Walsh of Egmondville, Karly Green of Windsor, Kristen Walsh of Egmondville,

Lauren Hastings of Cambridge, Kurtis Eilser of Mitchell, MacKenzie Kilough of St. Thomas, Maddison Eby of Waterloo, Maddison Martins of Brantford, Megan Russell of St. Thomas and Savannah Crittenden of London.

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To learn more ...

The Cultural Showcase tent is across from the Anne Eadie Park Stage in Kiddieland. For details about upcoming exhibits and the rest of the fair schedule, visit westernfairdistrict.com

BLITZ

OPP target distracted driving

Ontario Provincial Police are launching their latest blitz on drivers phoning and texting behind the wheel. This week's campaign is called Phone in One Hand, Ticket in the Other.

Police say distracted driving has been identified as a factor in almost 5,000 collisions on roads

and highways patrolled by the provincial force so far this year. Officials say hundreds of people have close calls every day, but drivers continue to use cellphones while driving.

During the first seven months of this year, the OPP handed out more than twice the number of tickets for distracted driving compared with the same period in 2010. The fine for talking on a cellphone or texting while driving is \$155, while watching an entertainment device while driving carries a fine of \$110. **AM980/AM980.CA**

Students give cash for centre

At a ceremony yesterday morning at King's University College, student council president Barshan Quadry announced a \$2.4-million contribution to the Darryl J. King Student Life Centre on behalf of the student community at King's.

Scheduled to open fall 2013, the 41,000-square-foot facility will integrate a learning commons, student services, and social, spiritual and recreational space. It will be connected to the Cardinal Carter Library. ● METRO

Weapons drawn after crash: Cops

London police continue to investigate after a violent road-rage incident.

Just before 3 p.m. yesterday, a Toyota and a cement truck collided in the intersection of King and Talbot streets.

Police say one person pulled out a large knife while the other driver reached for an aluminum baseball bat.

One person was arrested, Sgt. Steve Cochrane said.

One person suffered non-life-threatening injuries. **AM980/AM980.CA**

Tory. Rally



► Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak rallies supporters yesterday evening during a campaign stop at the Four Points by Sheraton hotel in London.

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Hudak on the attack

Tim Hudak called the Liberals' proposed subsidy for companies that hire skilled immigrant workers a "\$10,000 affirmative-action policy."