Spring Farm and Garden



Chieftain Photo by Lori Roberts

Plants for Sale

Upper Canada Village hosted their annual Heirloom Plant Sale at the front entrance. Shown here Marilyn deBruijn and Alice Weaver of Winchester are seen purchasing these sturdy tomato plants from Susan Kratzmann. Many other vegetable plants were on sale as well as flowers such as English Lavender, Hollyhocks, Balsam, Jacobs Ladder, Nicotiana and Foxglove.

Adopt-A-Spot in Cardinal well received again this year

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

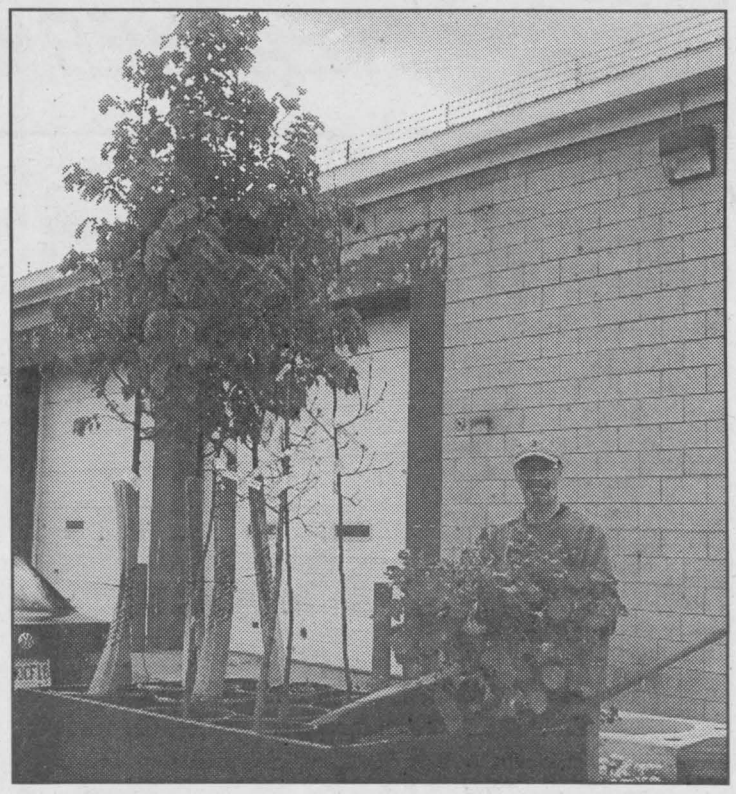
The Cardinal in Bloom Committee had no problem locating and encouraging volunteers to take part in the annual Adopt-A-Spot program.

The idea is to get people outdoors enjoying the weather while they beautify their village. Volunteers were sought to adopt garden plots throughout the village of Cardinal. Their task was then to plant flowers purchased by the Committee, water, weed and provide TLC for the bed they chose. Their maintenance through the summer will create a splash of colour for the community as well as welcoming tourists to the area.

Anyone who did not get a chance to volunteer and would like to do their part can contact Tyler Deschamps at 657-4482, perhaps giving someone a holiday from weeding or watering can be arranged. A terrific idea, Cardinal is a blaze of colour as every flower bed receives a face lift and is nurtured into growth each spring by these people who involve their entire families in the effort. No green thumb required, just enthusiasm!

Trees were also planted in specific areas to green the village further. These were paid for by donations from people in memory

Please turn to page 3



A Helping Green Thumb

Chris Kempffer was on hand at the Cardinal Works Department the other evening. The "Cardinal in Bloom Committee" was busily sorting flowers to be planted in the Village beds. The trees in his trailer are Memory Trees planted in remembrance of loved ones.

Chieftain Photo by Lori Roberts

Local Junior Farmer on exchange to United Kingdom

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

Involved in the Junior Farmers (JF) program for four years during her University experience in Guelph, 23-year old Leslie Weagant of South Mountain sounded very excited on Friday speaking to The Chieftain.

About to embark on a three month trek to the United Kingdom as a member of the Junior Farmers organization, she was busily preparing for her adventure in learning. Most willing to take time to fill us in, she sounds like a marvellous ambassador for this country and in particular farmers.

Becoming involved in the Junior Farmers in Guelph while attending university there, she went to a meeting with some friends, liked what she saw and heard and so joined, worked on the executive and served as president for a year.

Junior Farmers is an Ontario youth organization some 700 strong. Open to anyone between 15 and 30 years of age, Leslie admits to being late in joining. "I thought that JF was only for people living on a farm, and since I did not I never enquired about becoming a member. She stresses that Junior Farmers is open to anyone, although most members still come from rural communities." The focus for the organization is to get young people involved in their communities. Using the Dundas County Junior Farmers as an example, she tells us that they raised money which was donated to the Winchester District Memorial Hospital, giving back to their community.

Five member international and inter-provincial exchanges per year are offered by the Junior Farmers. Making it through an application and interview process, she was interested in the overseas exchange. Having worked all over this country in her job with

Please turn to page 6



Good selection available at Farmer's Market located at the Carman House Museum

Carman Farmers' Market

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chiefatin Staff Reporter

Running every Saturday from May 10th to Thanksgiving as well as Tuesdays in July, August and September, the Carman Farmers' Market has sprung up on the north lawn at the Carman House Museum in Iroquois just as spring arrived.

The Craft Show and Sale featured this weekend, on Saturday, June 7 will be a real crowd pleaser. A fine display of stained glass, woodcrafts, tole painting and more will delight those shoppers who drop by. Local artisans will have quality crafts for sale from 9am through to 5pm and coffee will be available.

Circle the 21st of June on your calendar since that is when the Official Grand Opening of the Carman Farmers' Market will take place. An antique tractor show will be the added special feature that Saturday as the "Antique Wheels in Motion" arrives. The grounds at the historic Carman House will be alive with people as the Farmers' Market will bustle with activity. Come and see how your forefathers dealt with the harvest, check out the Market and enjoy history as it comes to Iroquois and bargain for some veggies, plants and other farm produce grown right in our community.

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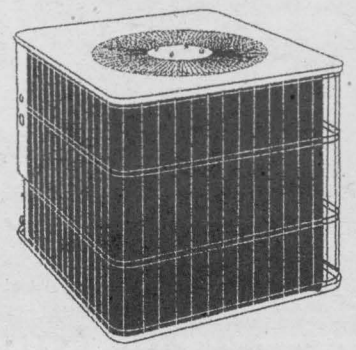

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Spring Planting

Farmers have been able to get on the land this season between down pours. Here a local man seeds his field. Things can't grow until the crop is in the ground and then the rain and sunshine can encourage things to grow.

Chieftain Photo by S.L. Johnston

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Cardinal

Continued from page 1

of loved ones. Their growth will be an everlasting reminder of someone near and dear to Village residents.

It is amazing what a community can accomplish when they pull together for the common good.

The flowers and trees were picked up last week from the green houses who won the tendering process, Windmill Gardens and Green Things and the planting accomplished as those hearty volunteers arrived at the Cardinal Works Department to gather their bursting blooms and get them into the soil. Everyone wins in situations like this, as the colourful displays add a feeling of joy and fun to the community as the Cardinal in Bloom committee has a large number of residents involved in colouring their own yards with flowers in creative and imaginative ways. Involving the whole family from the youngest to the eldest members, this project gets an entire community working together in a friendly competition. Watch for a yard near you jumping with colour as the flowers buds burst open. Like a huge paint brush being wiped across the village, this activity brings colour to the whole community...many hands do make light work!

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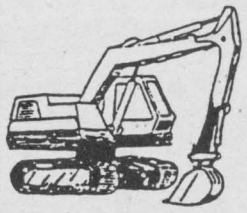

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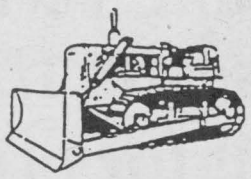

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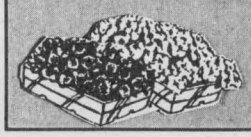

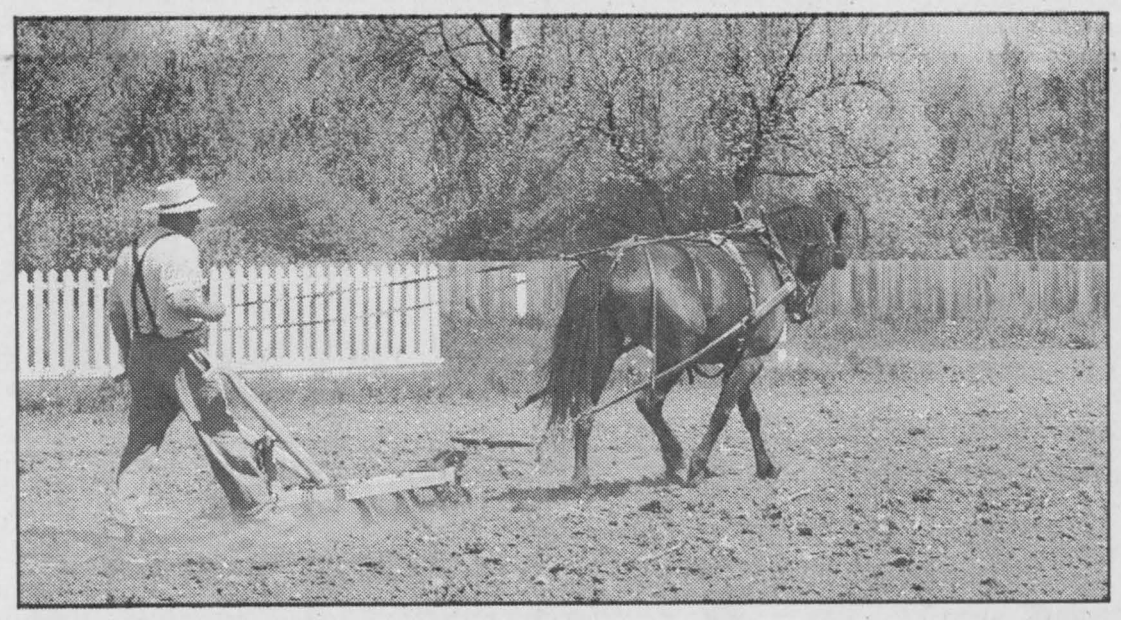

Ploughing at UCV with a Canadian horse

Energy cost update for farmers

All farmers with a Farm Business Registration number or a religious exemption in Ontario should be paying 4.3 cents per kwh for the electricity they use on their farms, regardless of the amount used.

The rate became official last November with an announcement by Premier Ernie Eves, and was made retro-active to May 2002. Since that time, farm customers have been credited with rebates to reflect the set energy rate of 4.3 cents per kwh.

Hydro One farm customers using more that 150,000 kwh per year should have received a letter asking if they were a "designated customer". The original "designated customer" form didn't mention farmers. Nonetheless, farmers should complete that form, include their Farm Business Registration (FBR) number, and mail it to Hydro One's Markham address or fax it to 905-944-3308.

Farmers who receive their electric energy from a PUC or Local Distribution Company are eligible for the 4.3 cents per kwh rate also. Because few PUCs have separate class for farm customers, it is up to farm business operators to notify their PUC of their FBR number and request the "designated customer" form if they are using 150,000 kwh per year or more on their farming operation.

To be eligible for the credit on power used since May 2002, farmers are required to return their "designated customer" form to their supplier (Hydro One or their local PUC) by September 30, 2003. Credits are typically equal to about five weeks of power use.

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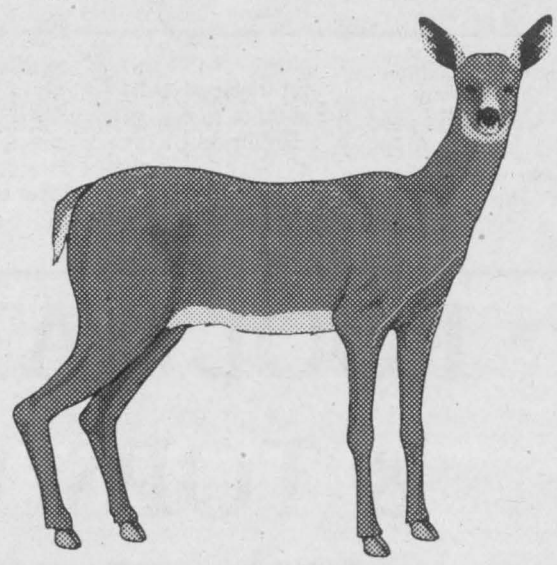

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Junior Farmer

Continued from page 1

the government, she recounts stories about travelling to small rural fairs. She has also been in Europe. A trip with friends after graduation, she toured Scotland and England for a couple of weeks, a whirlwind of sorts. "This trip will be a nice change, I'll get the time to experience life in each country."

Leslie explains that she will travel to England, Scotland and Northern Ireland, staying one month in each country. Young farmers families in each country will be her hosts for a week at a time. Her BSc in Animal Biology from the U of G and her work throughout rural Canada have provided her with a fair amount of knowledge as far as agriculture is concerned and she is anxious to share it with people she will meet abroad.

"This came along at the perfect time in my life. I hope to learn a lot through this adventure. I will meet new friends and make contacts throughout the entire area. I look forward to learning about their agricultural practices, what they grow, and how, as well as the differences between their methods and ours."

Leslie had to raise the funds needed for the trip. Junior Farmers will provide her with a small amount of money when she gets home as long as she fulfils their requirements which include a written report on her trip, which she says she looks forward to accomplishing anyway. "I did not want to ask for financial assistance, so instead I asked for gift donations. I will give these gifts to my host families and people I meet on my trip," said Leslie as we spoke.

She was all but ready for her 8pm Saturday morning departure. She returns to Canada August 30 and if her anticipation is any indication, she will have a terrific time.

Upon her return she looks forward to becoming more actively involved in the Dundas County Junior Farmers. A small group of only seven members who meet in Chesterville, the DJF hope to encourage more young people to join, anyone can and it is well worth checking out. The next meeting is scheduled for this month. She hopes as well to find work in her chosen field of agriculture, not on a farm, but a feed mill, breeding site or some related position.

A wonderful way to learn, to travel and to see how others accomplish similar tasks in far away lands, Leslie is certain to come home better for her experiences.



Greening Up Cardinal

Chieftain Photo by Lori Roberts

Volunteers could be seen at Benson Public School last week digging, planting and watering to help with the "Greening the Community" project. Shown here students Amanda Riddell, Julia Patrick and Jeremy Groulx with the help of Jack Henry (volunteer) help plant trees in the school yard. Plants and trees were purchased through the Land Stewardship Committee.

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Beef farmers do not support regionalization

The position of the Ontario Cattlemen's Association and the Ontario Federation of Agriculture contradicts comments attributed in the media to Ontario Minister of Agriculture and Food, Helen Johns regarding the possibility of zoning Ontario and closing borders to imports.

Zoning is a strategy being explored by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) for future outbreaks of contagious foreign animal diseases like Foot and Mouth Disease. Zoning in this instance would have absolutely no impact on disease containment. It is also highly unlikely that zoning would lead to a partially open border with the US market and would also send a signal highly contrary to the fact that our Canadian beef is safe.

Mike McMorris, Executive Director of the Ontario Cattlemen's Association said that zoning isn't being discussed by any of the provincial or national beef organizations-and in fact added that the provinces have been working closely together to try and resolve the situation.

Said McMorris, "What affects a beef rancher in Alberta right now equally affects one in Ontario-or in any other province."

OFA President Ron Bonnett added that these are extremely stressful times fort the entire industry's producers. Said Bonnett, "It's unfortunate that a bad option made it into the press. because there is so much on the line, we need to look at all options-many of which are ruled out immediately".

These concerns have been shared with Minister Johns by OFCA, OFA and other industry representatives over the last week.

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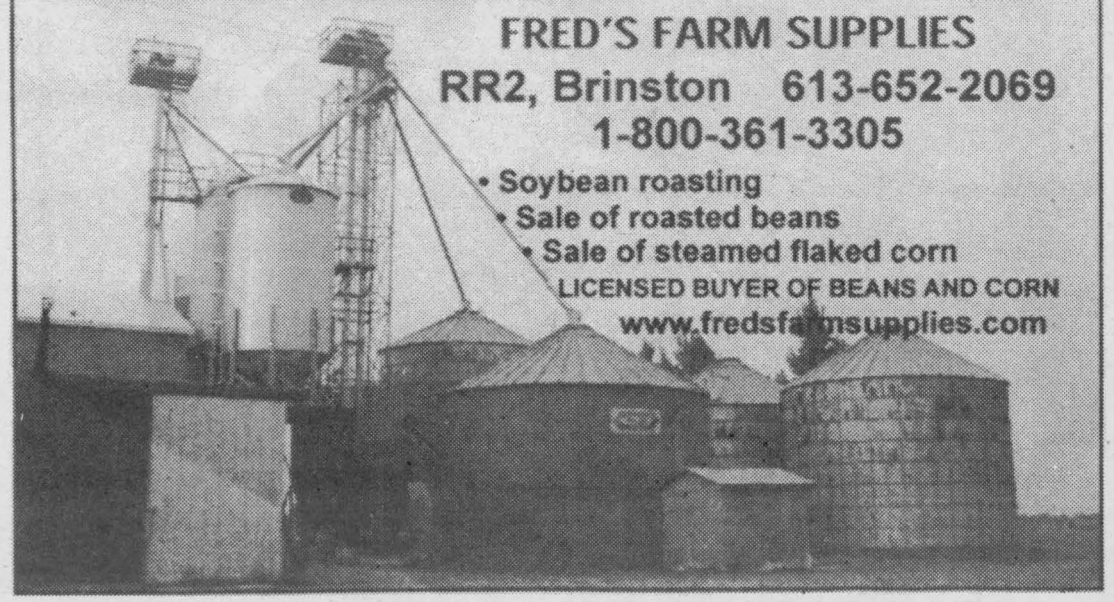

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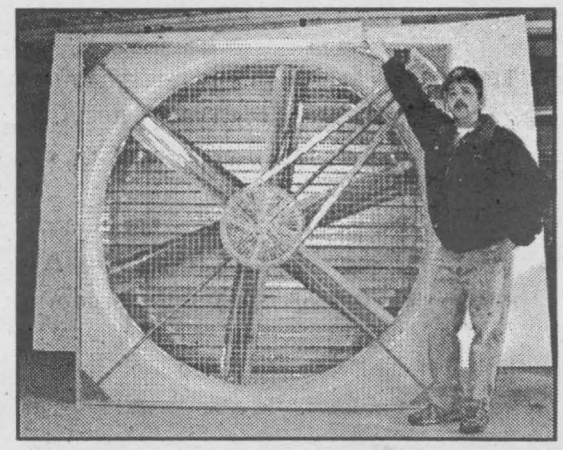

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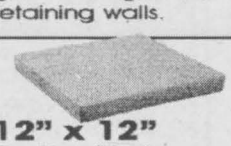

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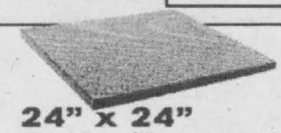

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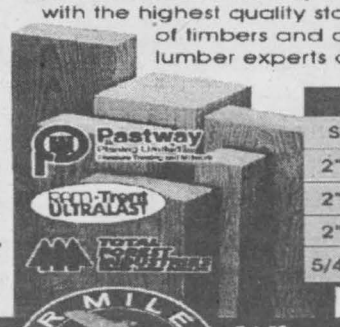

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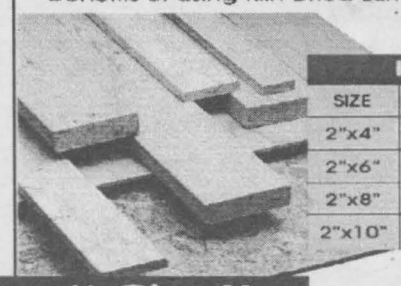

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