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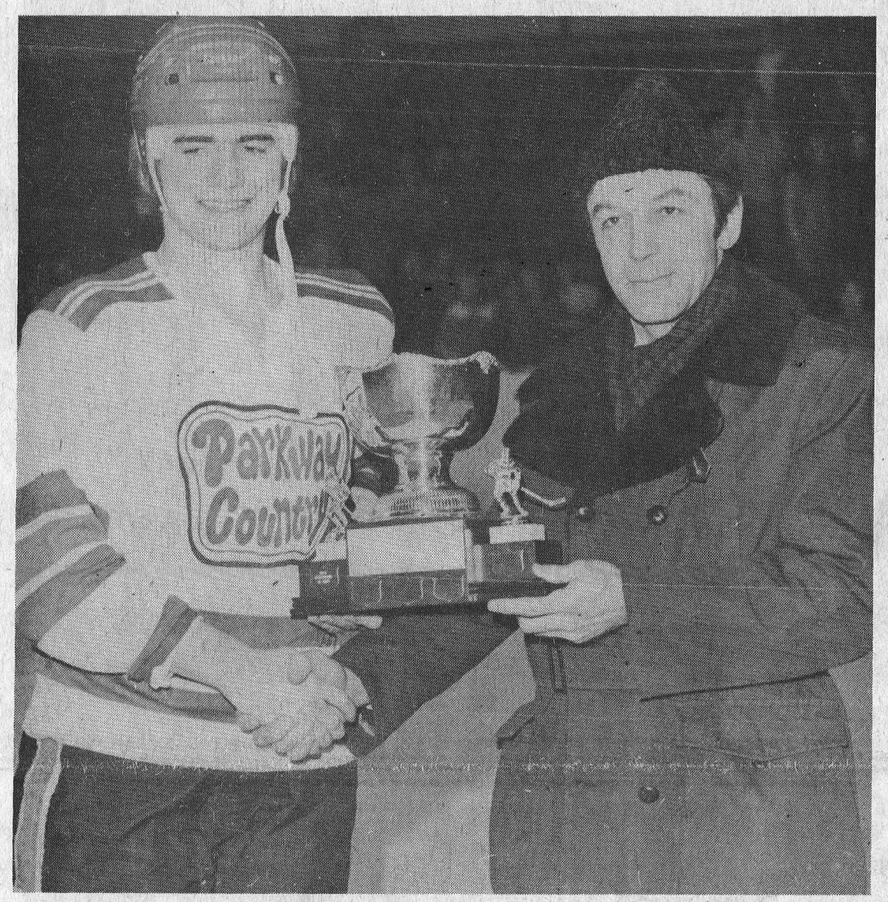
The Iroquois Post

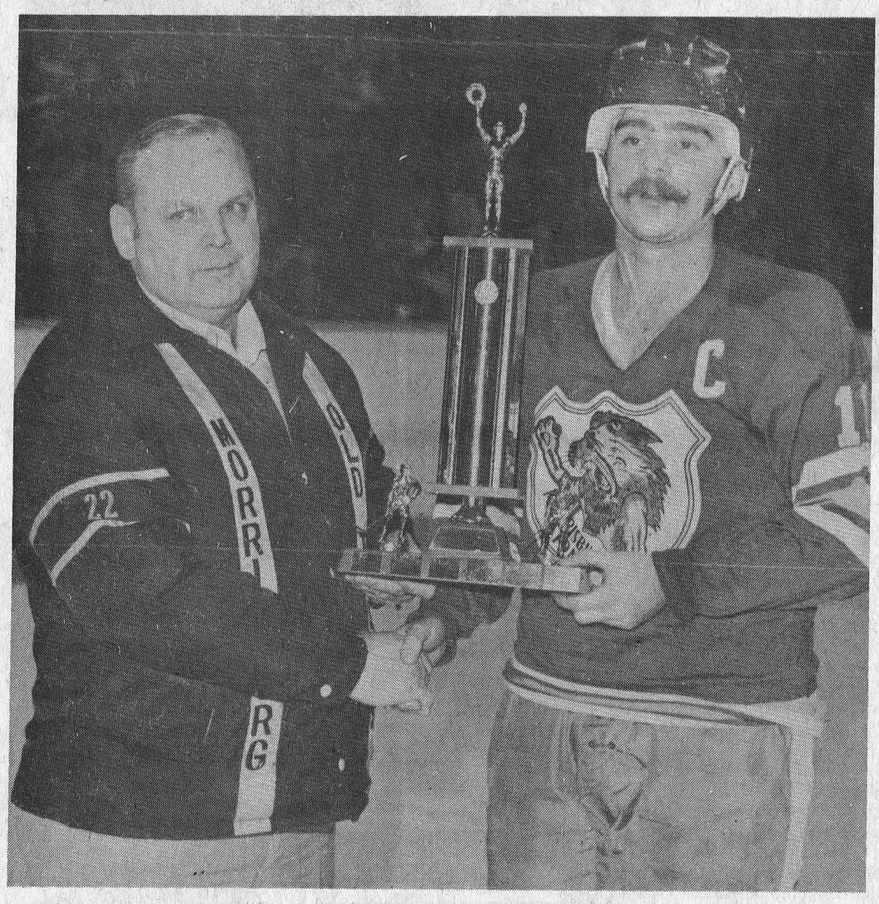
VOLUME LIV NUMBER 28 SECOND CLASS REGISTRATION 1361 DECEMBER 29, 1976

Morrisburg loses by 1 goal

Ottawa team to represent O.D.H.A. at Winter Games



Rob Clouthier, captain of the Ottawa Parkway Canadians accepts the Cy Easterbrook trophy from Mr. Easterbrook. The team will be representing the ODHA at Ontario's Winter Games.



Morrisburg Lions team captain Doug McNairn accepts runner-up trophy from village reeve, Bill Dillabough following the team's 5 to 4 loss to the Ottawa team. Post Staff Photos

The Ottawa Parkway Canadians will be representing the ODHA at the Ontario Winter Games in North Bay in February, following their five to four win over the Morrisburg Lions in the 3rd annual Junior B tournament held in Morrisburg on Monday.

The Ottawa team took home the Cy Easterbrook Trophy and will go on to represent the Ottawa district in the North Bay event.

Morrisburg Lions received the ODHA Junior Council Chairman's Trophy for runners-up, losing out on the first place award by a couple of goals.

Following are the scores in the first round of play in the Monday tournament.

Vanier 72's 7, Cardinal Broncos 3
Morrisburg Lions 3, St. Isidore Eagles 1
Ottawa Canadians 5, Kemptville 73's 2
Carleton Place Kings 3, Gananoque G-Men 1

In the semi finals, scores were as follows:
Morrisburg 4, Vanier 2
Ottawa 6, Carleton Place 3

Morrisburg met the Ottawa team in the final round but lost by a score of five to four.

The Morrisburg Lions led four to two after the first period, with the score being tied 4-4 end of the second. Bill Kilrea put Ottawa on the scoresheet early in the game. Ernie Duvall tied the score with assists by Tim Cassell and Kevin Duvall. Doug McNairn was awarded a penalty shot at 8.40 and he beat goalie Gaetan Desfosses to give the Lions a 2-1 lead, which they held for 3 minutes before Ottawa tied the score. David Tait scored with an assist by Bob McNairn and a power play goal by Bob McNairn with assists from Tait and Doug McNairn for a 4-2 lead. At 12.16 of the 3rd Dave McDonell gave the Ottawa team a 5-4 lead which they managed to hang onto. Don "The Cat" McNairn played in the nets for all three Lions games.

Claire Van Allen of Morrisburg won $130. in the half and half draw with ticket number 8207.

1976 in REVIEW

As the year 1976 draws to a close, we take a look at the 12 months past, in both words and pictures. For all of us and for all of our readers, 1976 was a year of some happiness and some sorrow. As we prepare to greet a new year, we pause to reflect on the year gone by.

January

Senior citizens began filling up the 42 units in the Iroquois senior citizens apartments on Dundas Street with the official opening for the building slated for February.

A license to build a nursing home in Dundas County was granted to John Alguire of Ingleside.

Nancy Cooper of Dixons Corners was chosen Carnival Queen in the Matilda Township Winter Carnival.

The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority filed an application to partially close the St. Lawrence River by building a dyke between the islands of Presqu'ile and Toussaint, just west of Iroquois.

Iroquois village council took the first steps on planning to increase the water pumping capacity of the village, following the December 1975 settlement with Ontario Hydro. The new pumps will give Iroquois a capacity of well over one million gallons per day.

February

Ten year old René Laframboise and 14 year old Cindy Mullin were chosen as prince and princess of the Iroquois Winter Carnival.

The reeves of Iroquois and Matilda were among the few who voted in favour of a motion at Counties Council to drop deputy reeves as members of council.

Reverend Dr. Charles McLean was inducted as the new minister of Knox Presbyterian Church in Iroquois.

Snowmobilers from all along the Seaway raised funds for crippled children as the 1976 Snowerama for Timmy was held during one of the season's heaviest snowstorms. Pledges from the Iroquois registrants totalled $2,766, with more money pledged from groups in Prescott and Brockville.

Matilda Township Council proposed an increase in the fees for a dog license in an effort to discourage residents of the township from keeping more than two dogs.

A number of local and area dignitaries were in attendance for the official ribbon cutting that marked the opening of Iroquois' new 42 unit senior citizens apartment building.

Iroquois council proposed the clean-up and revitalization of the park area that surrounds the old locks near the present boathouse area.

Members of the local public library board fear that the Iroquois Public Library may soon disappear in the same fashion as the local school boards did several years ago. Iroquois and Matilda are the only two municipalities in the three United Counties not yet in the system. Matilda Township has signed an agreement for a one year trial of the Counties system.

Talented amateurs from Iroquois and Matilda Township travelled to Ottawa to videotape a "New Faces" program at CJOH TV, for airing in early March.

Students at Seaway District High School did what was considered by Heart Fund officials to be impossible, when they raised a total of $1,400 for the charity during a blitz over the Valentine's Day weekend.

The "Village and the Bush" program at Upper Canada Village headed into its third successful year of operation. Students from area schools were given the opportunity of experiencing a day in Upper Canada Village learning what life was like one hundred years ago, followed by a day on the nature trails learning how the bush was integrated into life in pioneer Canada.

March

Winchester District Memorial Hospital received word that it had been spared from the financial cut-back program suffered by other Ontario hospitals.

Matilda Township roads department took delivery of the new snowplow ordered for the township in the summer of 1975.

A feasibility study has been completed for the Seaway Valley Tourist Council on the issue of a possible theatre at Upper Canada Village and states that a theatre could be a tremendous boost for tourism in the Seaway Valley.

A fire at the Iroquois sewage pumping station on Ann Street destroyed the engine in a pump and did considerable damage to duct work and a window in the building as well.

Spring runoff is causing a severe hardship for several Matilda Township farmers who are faced with the prospect of having to dump their milk if repairs are not made to the road that connects them with the rest of the world.

Freezing rain in the area brought things to an absolute halt for a couple of days as roads were all but impassable. Since the beginning of January, students at Seaway High have missed six days of school due to the weather and the last ice storm forced postponement of the students annual Variety Night for a week.

Chris Gleeson, Kim Rosenquist and Kevin Fader were the winners in the annual public speaking competition at Seaway District High School.

Iroquois and Matilda were faced with the worst Spring flooding in memory as record high temperatures combined with a heavy snowcover to provide torrents of water in all drainage ditches. At least 50 homes in Iroquois experienced flooded basements as pumps were unable to keep up with the volume of water. Roads in Matilda Township were covered and in some places impassable.

April

The Morrisburg Lions defeated the Cardinal Broncos 4 games to 1 to win the Gill Cup.

Flood waters in the early part of the month brought more hardship for Matilda farmers as flooded roads made it necessary to transport milk by tractor or by boat. One farmer is reported to have lost one of his cows when she drowned in the flood waters.

A meeting was held to investigate the possibility of holding a Community Forum for the village. The village of Cardinal is scheduled to hold a Forum shortly and a similar event could be held for Iroquois and Matilda if the interest warranted it.

The St. Lawrence Seaway opened two days later than scheduled on Saturday April 3rd with the Lake Manitoba as the first ship through the Iroquois Lock.

It was announced that the Queen and Prince Philip would be visiting Upper Canada Village as part of their visit to Canada to officiate at the Olympic Games.

Unseasonably hot weather invaded the area over the Easter weekend giving the impression that summer had come early to the Seaway Valley.

The last issue of the Iroquois Post for the month of April featured the new look of the Post as the paper entered the computer age with all-new typesetting equipment.

May

Three people died in house fires in the area during the 1st week of May. A fire on Monday morning at Hulbert claimed the life of a mother and her son while an eight year old boy died in a blaze in Cardinal. Both fires also sent other members of the families involved to hospital with burns.

The Morrisburg Lions have won every trophy possible for a team in their 27 team league. The team defeated the Hawkesbury Hawkes in the 7th game of their playoff series to take the Citizen Cup, the highest honour for the team in the Ottawa District Junior B league.

Figures received from the S.D. & G. County Board of Eudcation have indicated that property taxes for homes in all areas of the Board's jurisdiction will rise by anywhere from $50 to $75 over the 1975 figures. Morrisburg Reeve Bill Dillabough stated that this council would collect only the 1975 figures and an increase in line with the AIB guidelines, stating that the increases asked for by the Board show no responsibility at all.

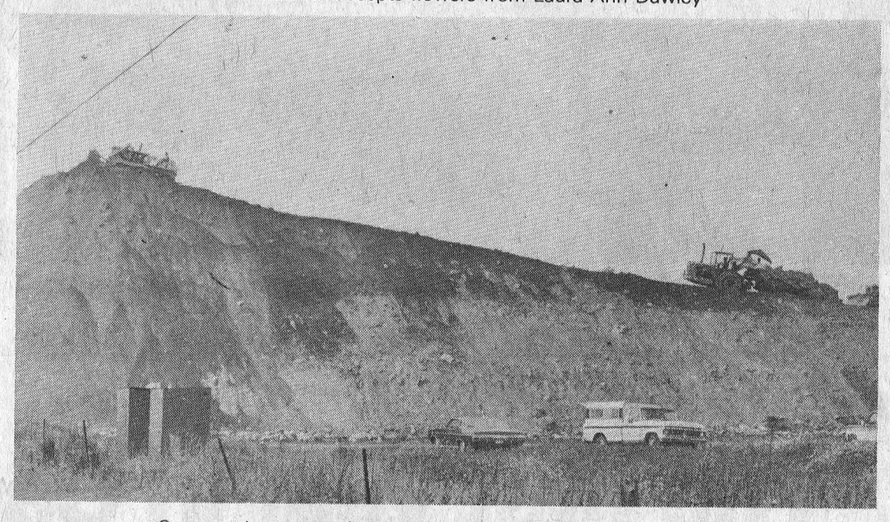
Iroquois village council is faced with the perplexing problem of coming up with a policy on who will pay for the cost of repairs to water and sewer lines on private property and is seeking public opinion on the issue.

Iroquois tax rates were finalized and showed that rates for an average home would rise from the 1975 figure of $360. to $420.

see June P.2



Queen Elizabeth accepts flowers from Laura Ann Dawley



Construction proceeds towards the day of the Carter non-jump



Retiring Reeve Lloyd Davis and wife, Marion were presented with gifts before leaving

Brrrrr....

Furnace problems cool off Post

This week's edition of the Post is being put out under conditions that are a little less than ideal. An early morning explosion last Wednesday knocked our heating system out of commission, leaving Post staff members chilled to the bone. To add to the problems our entire office and printing plant was covered with a layer of soot.

Temporary electrical heaters have been installed until a new furnace is operational, enabling us to put this paper together in temperatures hovering around 50 degrees. Cleaning crews are also on the job removing the soot from equipment and furniture.

We are hopeful that by the time next week's paper rolls around, things will be back to normal, but until that time, we would remind our readers and advertisers that our office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, December 30 and 31st to enable clean-up operations and the installation of the new heating system to be completed.

1976 passes in review

Cont'd from P.1

June

A Matilda Township native, Dr. John McGowan has been appointed to the position of Assistant Deputy Minister in charge of Agriculture Canada's Health of Animals Branch. Dr. McGowan was born at Dundela, the son of Walter McGowan, now of Williamsburg and the late Mrs. McGowan.

Iroquois village council is receiving plenty of reaction from the public in their quest for information and feedback on the issue of who should pay for repairs to water and sewer lines on private property.

An itinerary for the 1976 Royal visit has confirmed that the Queen and Prince Philip will be passing through Iroquois Locks aboard the yacht Britannia on their way to visit Upper Canada Village.

Iroquois took delivery of its new Dodge snowplow, ordered in mid-winter at a cost of $27,820 dollars.

Arrangements were completed for the presentation of a live play in Iroquois in February of 1977. The N.D.W.T. Theatre company has been signed to perform the play Balledoone in the Seaway High auditorium on the 12th of February.

Members of the Iroquois Volunteer Fire Department took delivery of their new uniforms in preparation for the annual parade and field day for the forces in the area. They went on to win the "Best in Parade" category.

Morrisburg Chamber of Commerce officially opened their new Tourist Information Centre in the Morrisburg Shopping Plaza.

Cornwall Gravel, successful bidders on this year's paving contract for Iroquois streets, moved into the village in late June to apply pavement to a number of streets, following a delay of several weeks due to wet weather.



J.P. Murray wades through knee-deep water at the height of the Spring flood.

July

Caldwell Linen Mills unveiled plans for a 3.6 million dollar modernization program that will make the Iroquois plant the most modern towel production facility in the world. The firm has ordered 62 Swiss-made Ruti looms, to be in operation within a year.

Iroquois Lions staged a successful horse show at the grounds of St. Lawrence Stables in Iroquois. Despite a day of wet weather, the show went on to be a flying success.

Matilda Township passed a by-law governing the location of mobile homes within the township. Acting on a suggestion from the South Dundas Planning Board, council made it illegal to set up a mobile home anywhere but in a mobile home park.

A 23-year-old Matilda resident, Gerald Bylsma drowned in Fetterly's quarry.

The Seeley's Bay Selects came out the winners in a ball tournament hosted by the Iroquois Branch of the Legion as part of the 1976 Iroquois Summer Carnival.

The Olympic flame passed through Iroquois on its way from Montreal to Kingston, site of the rowing and sailing events.

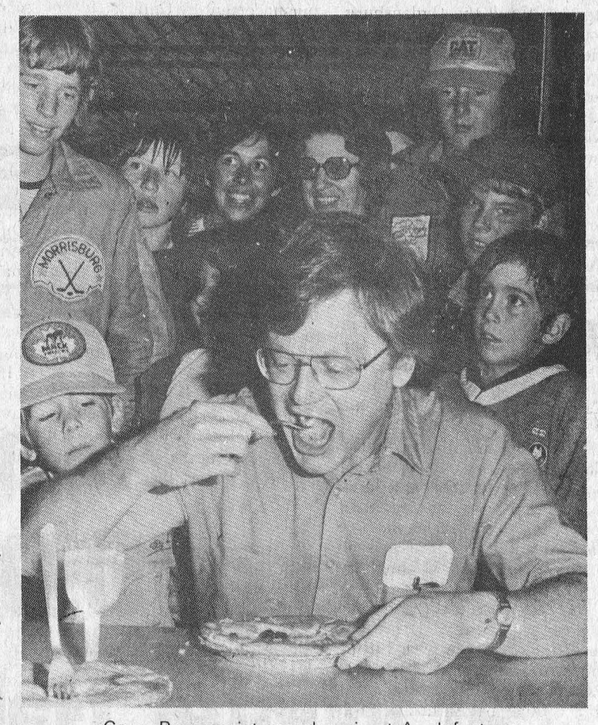
Iroquois council heard plans for the conversion of the old cold storage plant into a meat-packing plant that will eventually employ 25 to 35 people.

An unexpected change in plans enabled local residents to have a better look at the Queen and Prince Philip as the Royal Couple left the Britannia to travel to their respective destinations. Queen Elizabeth left the yacht in the Iroquois Locks and, accompanied by her son Prince Andrew travelled by limousine to Upper Canada Village. Prince Philip left for the Olympic riding site at Bromont by helicopter from Iroquois.

August

Friends in Iroquois and area learned with shock and dismay of the death of Kevin Kirkby, formerly of Iroquois, but recently a resident of Cardinal who was killed in a tragic accident on Highway 43 not far from Alexandria.

Williamsburg-Brinston Pio-



Post Staff Photo

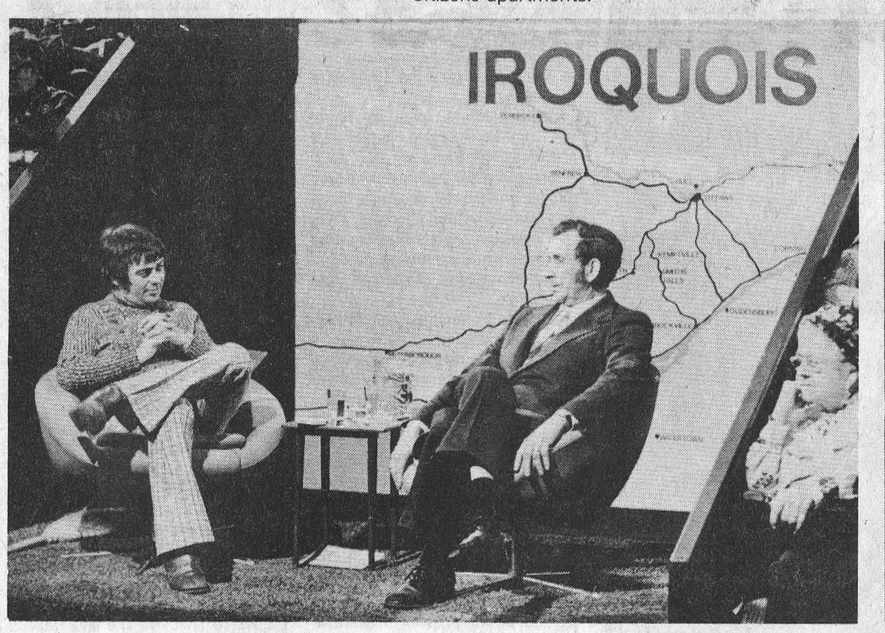
Gerry Rosenquist samples pie at Applefest.



Dignitaries from every level of government were present at the opening of the new Senior Citizens apartments.



Morrisburg Lions accept Citizen cup, top honour for an ODHA Jr. B team



Acting Reeve, Frank Rooney chats with Max Keeping on "New Faces"



Retiring Reeve and Councillor Lloyd Davis & Jack Fetterly

Looking back on

The first year in Canada

Mrs. Letty Hobart of Cardinal is a relative new-comer to Canada and is an occasional contributor to the Iroquois Post. In this short essay she sums up her thoughts at the end of the first year

It was an agonising decision to have to make. Here I was, within kissing distance of my allotted span, three score and ten, actually considering giving up my home in England and starting a new life in Canada. Dire predictions showered about my head "You'll be sorry", "You'll never survive the culture shock", "They don't like immigrants", etc. etc. But I looked around me at once Great Britain, now in the hands of the rabble-rousers; her destiny lying in hands probably very good at coal-heaving or dock-working, but totally unable to cope with the power bestowed on them by a Prime Minister who then neatly slithered out from under, and contrary to his declared principles, entered the House of Lords, leaving the hob-nailed boots to tread the corridors of power. The predictable result, a beggared Britain, the laughing-stock of the world held little charm for me, and I made my decision. I flew across the Atlantic, I found a house in a little town on the banks of the beautiful St. Lawrence River, and sallied forth to become part of my new environment.

My first impression was one of **vast space, wide straight roads, attractive detached houses of different shapes, and always the fascination of the mighty river.** Next, the almost overwhelming friendliness; "Hi, how are you today?" from complete strangers was startling to my rigid British reserve, but how delightful! The alert and courteous service in the shops, the ubiquitous "You're welcome", the lack of formality the evident interest of all ages in current affairs, the smart appearance and good grooming of the older folk; the general "alive"-ness of the whole place intrigued me.

My mind went back to the tiny, timeless village I had just quitted, having retured there after a long, active and busy life, spent mostly in London. So remote was this tiny place that the big event was the 'bus that came once a month - yes, that's right, once a month - to take us to market. My cottage was 3-400 years old, with sturdy cob walls and a thatched roof; "Granny's hay house" to city-bred grandchildren). But life in that village is another story in itself; the lanes bright with primroses in the Spring, sweet with honeysuckle and wild roses in Summer. The huddle of thatched cottages, the grey church steeple like an admonishing finger in the midst, and inside the church the narrow, high-walled pews, the ancient studded vestry door the 12th century wall, and the cushioned Squire's pew. The hand-written records, dating back to the reign of Charles II in beautiful copper plate on yellowed paper: "Six Pence to **** for Boots" "Four Pence for bell-ringing", and, regrettably often, "One shilling to **** for her base-born child". It seems that the production of an illegitimate infant was not, in those days, the status symbol it has currently become among the higher echelons. It is hard to credit, even though I lived among it, in the 70s! that women called their husbands "T'Maister" and reserved the chair with arms for him; that some villagers regarded the "new-fangled" piped water and electricity with suspicion, and used their wells and oil-lamps; that diseases were "charmed" away, and the whole place so superstition and taboo-ridden that the slightest action carried dread results.

I called my mind back to my new country, and looked out at the apparently endless ice and snow of a canadian winter. Sun on snow, moonlight eerily beautiful on ice, while I enjoyed the unheard of luxury of having every room warm, not just a fire in one which scorched my front and froze my back. Then, the loveliness of the leafing trees, the rapid growth of flowers and crops, the hundreds of strange and beautiful birds, and the joy of meals outdoors. Finally, and incredibly, the glory of the autumn colours of the trees.

Now, at the end of my first year, I know crowds of people. We exchange visits. I know, and I am known. The children, I strongly suspect, talk to me in order to hear my "funny" accent in reply. I am a part of my town, I take my share in her affairs I BELONG. Thank you, Canada.

Marie Emma Tyo moumed

Mrs. Marie Emma Tyo, an elderly resident of R.R. 1, Morrisburg, where she made her home for the past 10 years, died at her residence on Wednesday, December 8th, following a lengthy illness. She was 88 years of age and before moving to the Morrisburg area had been a resident of Harrison's Corners.

Born July 3rd, 1888 at Cornwall she was a daughter of the late Alexendre Primeau and his wife Rose Leduc. She was twice married; first to Henry Roderick who predeceased her in 1932 and later to George Tyo who predeceased her in 1956.

She was a member of St. Columban's Church in Cornwall and her funeral service was held at St. Mary's Church, Morrisburg, with Father F.M. O'Connor officiating. Interment was made in St. Lawrence Valley Union Cemetery at Ingleside.

Pall bearers were: Bobby Rodderick, Charles Sypes, Cecil Tyo, Henry Froats, Billy Sypes, Raymond Roderick.

Surviving are two daughters and three sons: Maud (Mrs. Jessie Duvall, Morrisburg; Archie Roderick, Cornwall; Lawrence Roderick, Ingleside; William Roderick, Williamsburg and Emma (Mrs. Peter Sypes), Morrisburg. She is also survived by a half-brother, Alexander Primeau of Cornwall, as well as by 43 grandchildren and 75 great grandchildren.

Eileen Norton passes

The community of Williamsburg was saddened on Thursday last by the sudden death of Mrs. Eileen Norton, a well known 30-year resident of the Township who passed away at Winchester Memorial Hospital at the ate of 62.

Born in Cornwall Township on September 3rd, 1914, she was the daughter of Walter Charles Reddick and his wife Nora Bowman, both now deceased.

She received her early education at Newington schools.

On October 10th, 1934 at Dickenson's Landing she was united in marriage to William S. Norton who survives with three sons and one daughter: Emmett, of Morrisburg; Elsie (Mrs. Ervin King) of Iroquois; Raymond of Williamsburg, and Harry of Iroquois. There are four grandchildren.

Other survivors are a brother, Dwain Reddick of Streetsville and a sister, Kathleen (Mrs. Harold Murphy of Long Sault. Another brother, Keith Reddick, predeceased her.

Mrs. Norton was a devout member of St. Mary's Church, Morrisburg, where Father F.M. O'Connor offered the funeral Mass on Saturday at 10 a.m. Interment followed in the parish cemetery.

Pall bearers were: Orval Crowder, Ernie Bothman, Roy Barkley, Martin Byvelds, Doug Gow, Stewart Saddlemire.

BIRTHS

December 16, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Kenney, R.R. 2, Kemptville, A Daughter.

December 18, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Robertson, R.R. 1, Iroquois, A Son.

December 18, Mr. and Mrs. Oswald Linton, R.R. 1, Chesterville, A Daughter.

December 18, Mr. and Mrs. Andre Martel, R.R. 2, Chesterville, A Son.

December 18, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cross, R.R. 1, Chesterville, A Son.

December 19, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Swerdfeger, R.R. 2, Iroquois, A Son.

December 19, Mr. and Mrs. Brian Smith, R.R. 1, Chesterville, A Daughter.

December 20, Mr. and Mrs. Dale Gibbons, South Mountain, A Daughter.

Birth Announcement

DAWLEY - Les and Helen (nee Waddell) are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Janice Lynne, on December 15, 1976, at the North Bay General Hospital. A sister for Jeffrey and Kevin. 28-1p

Iroquois & District Hockey Scores

UPPER ST. LAWRENCE BANTAM

December 21, at Cardinal
Iroquois 5, Morrisburg 0
Iroquois goals scored by:
B. Armistrong 2
Assisted by K. Brown, D. Bueley
K. Brown 1
Assisted by B. Armstrong
R. Casselman 1
Assisted by K. Whitteker
K. Whitteker 1
Assisted by R. Casselman
Kent Smith recorded the shutout.

Iroquois Lions 100 Club Winners

Final Winners
300.00 Faith Banford
200.00 Gary Hall

neers captured the Ogdensburg Double Elimination tournament. They went undefeated in the 2 day tournament, returning home with $400., a trophy, and the Most Valuable Player Award (which went to Big Doug Casselman).

A full Ontario Provincial Police funeral was held to honour Corporal Donald William Prentiss of the Morrisburg detachment who died suddenly following a hockey game at Brockville.

The Youth for Action Club, which has operated all summer in the Store Number 12 in the Irqouois Shopping Plaza has been granted permission to remain there until at least the end of September.

A delay by the Ministry of the Environment could mean Spring flooding as work is being held up by approval from the provincial body. No more work can be done on modification to the sewage pumping plant until ministry approval is received.

The second annual charity ball game for Muscular Dystrophy was played on the 29th raising close to $400. for chairty. Cold weather kept down attendance at the game, but enthusiasm was high among those who did come out.

September

Williamsburg's Picadilly Theatre opened on the 11th of September, brought back to life by a group of young film buffs from Ottawa who have rented the building and cleaned it from top to bottom and put in all-new projection equipment. They plan to feature older films, and films that might not be available to patrons in a rural area.

New pumps were installed in the Iroquois water pumping station, tripling the village's water pumping capacity.

Plans were unveiled for several subdivisions in the village of Morrisburg with an eventual total of 1,700 homes. Plans also were presented for the renovation of the former dairy building into a commercial complex.

The Morrisburg Lions Club and Fire Department fathered a new institution in the Seaway Valley -- an annual Applefest, celebrating the harvest of the apple crop.

Upper Canada village brought back the old Fall fair with a two-day exhibition of agricultural produce and skills on the grounds of the village.

Sunday November 21st was chosen as the date for the Iroquois Matilda Community Forum.

Iroquois Lions Club hosted the Royal Brothers circus in the grounds of Central Park in Iroquois, for two capacity crowd performances.

Daredevil Ken Carter announced an indefinite postponement of his plans to jump the St. Lawrence River in a rocket powered car. The jump was scheduled for Saturday the 22nd of September from a ramp in Matilda Township, just west of Mariatown.

Morrisburg Chamber of Commerce hosted their annual Trade Fair in the Morrisburg Community Centre.

Local School Board Trustee, Lorne Mellan announced his decision not to seek re-election to the board.

Two major water main breaks within 24 hours kept village crews busy and left parts of the village without water for a day.

October

Iroquois Reeve, Lloyd Davis announced that he would be retiring from municipal politics at the end of 1976. Mr. Davis has served a total of 26 years as reeve of the village.

Iroquois Business Association held its organizational meeting with an enthusiastic turn-out of people from all areas of the business community.

It was announced by the United Counties Health Unit that innoculations for an anticipated outbreak of Swine Flu will begin on November 12th for elderly persons.

Construction of a development road running west from Brinston is expected to start next summer according to Matilda Reeve George Cooper. The work will include widening the road, and installing curbs, gutters and sidewalks in Brinston.

A 14-year-old Cardinal girl, Julie Towsley died when she was struck by a car while walking along the Shanly Road, just north of Cardinal.

Iroquois council passed a by-law making legal a policy on the issue of repairs to sewer and water lines on private property. Essentially the policy states that any repairs that become necessary from the passage of time will be carried out and paid for by the village. Only where examination reveals that the line has been damaged by some careless or negligent act of the occupant or owner of the property will the cost of repair work be billed back to the owner.

Hydro rates will be taking a jump for 1977, following an announcement by Ontario Hydro that bulk power rates will be rising by 30.3 per cent.

Ontario Provincial Police report a relatively quiet Hallowe'en with only a couple of trouble spots to mar an otherwise uneventful evening.

November

Morrisburg Village Council gave a cool reception to the idea of leasing the village wharf from the federal government and then charging people to use it.

Bonus Buck Auctions returned to Iroquois after an absence of 15 years. They were revived by the newly formed Iroquois Business Association.

The traffic past Stampville Public School will be slowing down considerably following installation of rumble strips on County Road 2 just north of the school. The issue of speeding traffic came to a boil when a loaded sand truck failed to make the corner and rolled into the school yard when children were outside.

Matilda Township Council was given the green light to proceed with plans to close the road to Fetterly's Quarry. The closure comes as a final attempt to put a stop to vandalism, theft and general destruction at the quarry.

Vandals in Iroquois did damage estimated at over $4,000. to two telephone booths and a beach house.

Iroquois is assured of an election for reeve, with Jack Saver having thrown his hat into the ring for the position, opposing Frank Rooney.

Iroquois will soon have the finest air strip between Brockville and Summerstown all at no cost to the taxpayers of the village. Work is almost completed on the half mile strip which will be paved

Matilda Township has decided to join the United Counties Library System at the end of their experimental year with the system.

Iroquois-Matilda held one of the largest Community Forums ever to take place in Canada with more than 400 people involved. A number of proposals and suggestions for the two communities came out of the day-long event.

December

Large crowds turned out for all-candidates meetings in both Iroquois and Matilda as municipal elections draw closer.

Iroquois honoured retiring reeve Lloyd Davis and his wife Marion with the presentation of an engraved wristwatch for Mr. Davis and a birthstone ring for his wife.

Swine Flu innoculations were held for the elderly and chronically ill with a program later in the month for the rest of the population.

Municipal elections drew a record number of voters to the polls on the 8th. Frank Rooney was elected reeve in Iroquois while all other area reeves acclaimed to their jobs. A new council was elected in all municipalities with a surprising number of upsets as old councillors were replaced by new blood.

Winchester was announced as the site of the new nursing home for Dundas County to built by Ingleside businessman, John Alguire.

Unseasonable cold weather brought an early winter to eastern Ontario with plunging temperatures and soaring heating bills.

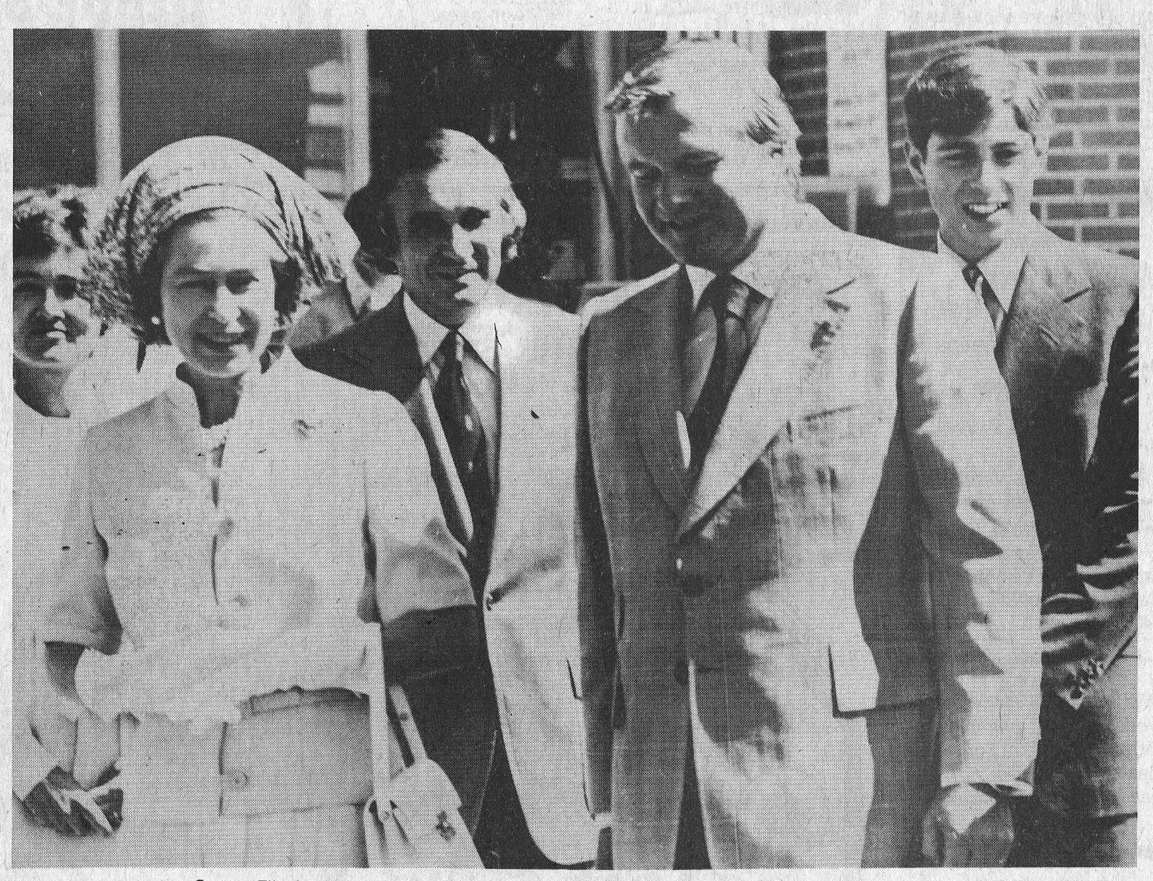
Matilda Township is faced with the problem of deciding whether to re-build or renovate the community hall at Brinston. The township has received a LIP grant to be used this winter on the hall.

Hydro rates in Iroquois will be rising by 22.3 per cent on January 1st with the rural rate for Matilda going up by 25.6 per cent.

Santa Claus arrived in Iroquois for his annual parade on December 11th under ideal weather conditions.

Village council continues to negotiate with the firm of Eastern Ontario Packers and Procesors Limited on the issue of sewage from the plant that will have to be handled by the village system. As soon as the question is resolved the firm is hoping to be granted a building permit to start construction of the addition to the building.

The St. Lawrence Seaway was about 4 days late in closing due to the abnormally cold weather that caused the formation of ice in the river and slowed traffic.



Queen Elizabeth and Prince Andrew tour Upper Canada Village with Premier Davis.



Iroquois firemen took "Best on Parade" trophy at annual field day.



Retiring Reeve Lloyd Davis presents photo of first council meeting in new town to Frank Rooney, incoming reeve.



NEW YEAR GREETINGS!

Wishing our many friends a harmonious and spirited New Year.

Ken and Shirley Kirkby



As you greet the New Year in the shared warmth of your family and friends, we wish that yours will be filled with all the meaningful pleasures.

S.A. Thompson & Son

Iroquois



We celebrate the joy of living as we exuberantly greet the New Year! It's time too, to say thanks for your support in the year just past.

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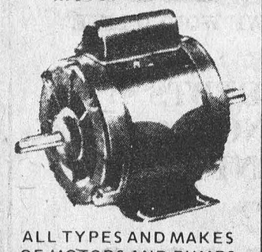

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Ken Kirkby
Iroquois Representative
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My sincere thanks to friends, neighbours and relatives for flowers, gifts, cards and visits while I was a patient in Winchester Hospital.

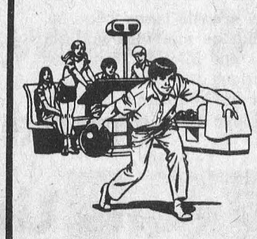
Special thanks to Dr. Houze, Dr. Chande, Miss Woolford, nurses and staff on first floor and one east for all their kindness and good care.

A sincere thank you also to the clergy who called.

These acts of kindness are deeply appreciated and will always be remembered.

Muriel Mullin. 28-1c

Let's Go Bowling At Sutton's



The popular Winchester lanes, located at the Main Corner, recently installed completely automatic pinsetters on all four lanes.

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Ontario
Legislative Assembly
Select Committee on
Highway Transportation of Goods

The Committee presented to the Legislature an interim report dated September 30th, 1976, which dealt with certain aspects of the transportation of goods on Ontario highways.

Matters relating to the dump truck industry are yet to be dealt with. Hearings to consider these matters will be held in Toronto during the latter part of January, 1977.

Individuals and groups wishing to make presentations to the Committee are asked to contact Brian B. Caldwell, Director of Research, at the Committee office not later than January 14th, 1977.

Select Committee on Highway Transportation of Goods
Rm 440, Main Parliament Building, Queen's Park
Toronto M7A 1A2

Bud Gregory, M.P.P.
Chairman of the Committee
David Callfas
Clerk of the Committee
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Dundas County Continuing Education Registration Dates
Winter 1977

SOUTH MOUNTAIN
January 10

IROQUOIS
January 11

NORTH DUNDAS DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL
January 11

MOREWOOD
January 13

MORRISBURG
January 12

UPPER CANADA VILLAGE
Registration By Mail

WATCH FOR COMPLETE DETAILS IN NEXT WEEK'S NEWSPAPER.

ST. LAWRENCE COLLEGE SAINT-LAURENT

Ontario
Legislative Assembly
Select Committee on
Highway Transportation of Goods

The Committee presented to the Legislature an interim report dated September 30th, 1976, which dealt with certain aspects of the transportation of goods on Ontario highways.

In preparation for its final report, due to be tabled February 28th, 1977, the Committee is inviting WRITTEN submissions from interested individuals and groups. These should be received at the Committee office not later than Monday, January 10th, 1977.

Select Committee on Highway Transportation of Goods
Rm 440, Main Parliament Building, Queen's Park
Toronto M7A 1A2

Bud Gregory, M.P.P.
Chairman of the Committee
David Callfas
Clerk of the Committee
416-965-1060

IROQUOIS HYDRO RATE CHANGE

The Ontario Energy Board approved a 30.3% increase in the wholesale rate of power supplied to electrical utilities, however the cost of power supplied to the Iroquois Hydro System will only increase 28.7%

The increase to customers in Iroquois in Iroquois will be 22.3% residential, and 28.4% for commercial and industrial, effective January 1, 1977. This will result in the following monthly rates:

Residential	Present Rate	Rate effective January 1, 1977
First block - 50 kwh	5.5 c	6.0 c
Second block - 200 kwh	3.0 c	3.0 c
Third block - 500 kwh	1.6 c	2.25 c
Balance	1.7 c	2.25 c
Minimum bill	$3.50	$3.50
Commercial & Industrial		
First block - 50 KWH	5.5 c	6.0 c
Second block - 200 KWH	3.2 c	3.2 c
Third block - 9750 KWH	2.2 c	2.7 c
Balance	1.05	1.5 c
Minimum bill	$3.50	$3.50

Classified Advertising Rates

All classified advertisements are accepted on a cash basis only

GENERAL CLASSIFIED: All classified advertising such as For Sale, For Rent, Services, Lost & Found, Cards of Thanks, Coming Events, Birth Announcements, Engagements, etc. are on a CASH BASIS ONLY and are charged at a rate of 5c per word ($1.00 minimum) for each insertion. The use of a box number for confidential replies is 50c extra per insertion.

IN MEMORIAMS: are charged at $2.00 minimum including a four line verse. Each additional line of verse is 25c.

ANNIVERSARY & WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS: when accompanied by a photograph are charged at $4.00 per photo and written copy may be edited for style and length.

DEADLINE FOR MATERIAL: All material for Classified Advertising must be in our office by 11:00 A.M. on Tuesday of the week of issue.

Recognized Companies and Service Clubs with an account at the IROQUOIS POST may charge classified ads at an additional 25c per insertion. Dilinquent accounts will be refused additional advertising privileges untill the account is paid in full.

Morrisburg Knox Presbyterian Women enjoy Christmas Pot Luck supper

Members of Knox Women's Club and Women's Missionary Society of Morrisburg were guests at the home of Dr. and Mrs. L. MacLellan for their annual pot luck supper.

A delicious supper was enjoyed by all. During supper a recording of the Sunday School Pageant was played, thus enabling folk who could not attend to hear it.

A sing-song of familiar carols, with Mrs. Marion DeGray at the piano was enjoyed by all, followed by the exchange of gifts.

Mrs. Joan Farlinger gave the devotions, basing her meditation on Luke Chapter 1, verse 30, Matthew, Chapter 1, verse 20 and Luke, chapter 2, verses 10 and 20. Mrs. Farlinger pointed out that the Christmas season has more drunkeness and suicides that any other time of the year, thus clearly indicating our need to return to the true meaning of Christmas and God's great gift for us, "His Son."

Mrs. Farlinger closed her meditation with prayer. The offering was received by Mrs. Jo Mott and dedicated by Mrs. Margaret Reynolds.

Dr. L. MacLellan then installed the officers of both organizations for the ensuing year.

Women's Club officers for 1977 are: President - Mrs. Joan Farlinger; Vice-President-Mrs. Marion DeGray; Secretary-Mrs. Catherine Scott; Treasurer-Mrs. Margherita Baker; Catering Convenor-Mrs. Catherine Scott; Pianist-Mrs. Maude Farlinger; Church Historian-Mrs. Margaret Reynolds.

W.M.S. officers for 1977 are: President - Mrs. Jo Mott; 1st Vice - Mrs. Elizabeth MacLellan; 2nd Vice-Mrs. Ruth Kirkwood; 3rd Vice-Mrs. Eileen Beckstead; Secretary-Mrs. Ruth Kirkwood; Pianist - Mrs. Marion DeGray; Corresponding Secretary-Mrs. Catherine Scott; Treasurer-Mrs. Beth Magee; C.O.C. Leader-Mrs. Barbara Barkley; Explorer Leader - Mrs. Wilma Smith; C.G.I.T.-Miss Anne Marie Smith.

The W.M.S., with Mrs. Wellwood Adam, President presiding, held their business meeting. The roll call was answered by a Christmas verse. Mrs. Marion DeGray read a letter from Miss Joy Randall, a Missionary in Taiwan, with whom the W.M.S. keep in close touch. Miss Randall's letter was most informative of the work being done there. Because of her father's illness, she is presently on leave to be with her family here in Canada.

Reports of the various officers were given for the year. At the conclusion of the business, Mrs. Marion DeGray thanked Mrs. Adam for her year of leadership and presented her with a Life Membership to the Knox W.M.S.

The business of the Women's Club with Mrs. Margaret Reynolds, President, presiding was held. It was decided to send a donation to the organization being formed to set up workshops for the mentally retarded in this area. It was moved by Mrs. Marion DeGray and seconded by Mrs. Joan Farlinger that money be given to the Board of Managers.

Mrs. Reynolds thanked the MacLellans for their gracious hospitality. A welcome was given to all guests present. Mrs. Reynolds thanked all for their co-operation during her term as President. Mrs. DeGray in turn thanked Mrs. Reynolds for her excellent leadership.

The meeting closed with the Mizpah benediction.

Hydro seeks input

As part of the broad public involvement program, representatives from Eastern Ontario communities have been asked for form citizen working committees with Ontario Hydro planners to contribute to the planning process for the possible location of future generation and transmission facilities in the area.

Among the goals established for the committees are:

To contribute to the eventual selection of acceptable transmission routes and generating station sites that may be deemed necessary in Eastern Ontario.

To ensure that community interests and concerns are fully considered in Ontario Hydro's planning.

To ensure that the people of Eastern Ontario are informed about the transmission route and generating site selection programme.

To prepare for working group participation in any later stages of the study.

Three initial meetings have been held with representatives of special interest groups (i.e. environmental, historical, recreation, agriculture, etc.) in October and November. Further meetings are planned beginning in January 1977.

Representatives of special interest groups who wish to know more about the planning study underway should call (collect) or write: Dennis Wilkinson, Ontario Hydro, 700 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M5G 1X6, Phone: (416) 592-3954 or Dennis Jackson, Ontario Hydro, 700 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M5G 1X6, Phone (416) 592-3956.

Seaway High students visit Queens University

Visit to Queen's - December 9, about 30 grade 13 students from Seaway travelled to Queen's University to spend the day. The trip was designed to allow students to experience a day at university. The students attended first year lectures and seminars, visited the residences and various buildings. Since applications to Ontario universities must be in by December 31, this trip gave students a chance to decide if Queen's was one of the universities to which they wished to apply. It was a very informative day, enjoyed by all who attended.

Library Open House - A Library Open House was held December 16 and 17; the first day was devoted to teachers, and on the second day students were invited to view new materials.

On display were books intended for classroom use, such as **Canada on the Pacific Rim** by J. Arthur Lower, **Gabriel Dumont** by George Woodcock, **Stress Disease** by Peter Blythe, and **Modern Japanese Haiku** by Makoto Ueda.

Books intended for recreational reading were also viewed. These included such titles as **Ken Dryden** by Fred McFaden, **Understanding POP** by Tony Jasper, **The Fire Eaters** by Gwendolyn MacEwan, and **Folklore of Canada** by Edith Fowle.

The Open House was enjoyed by all. Miss Crozier gave candy canes to the students. We thank the Library Club members who helped decorate the library and organize Open House.

Care of Christmas Cyclamen plant

One of the most colorful and popular plants at Christmas time is the Cyclamen.

R.A. Fleming, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food horticulturist, says Cyclamen, like most Christmas plants, grows best in cooler temperatures of 12 to 15C and high humidity.

He suggests the plant be placed in a south, west or east-facing window for optimum light.

"To keep Cyclamen in good condition for the holiday season," he says, "water slowly and thoroughly with lukewarm water when necessary until a few drops come through the drainage hole at the bottom of the pot."

Cyclamen plants should be kept away from hot air registers, radiators or hot bright lights during the evening.

To help prolong the life of the plant, place it in a cool room when it is not required for decoration.

With proper care the flowers in pink, mauve, red or white, will bloom well into March, says Mr. Fleming.

He suggests the plant be taken out to a shady spot in the garden near the end of May. Sink the pot into the garden and care for it until early July when nature will take over for the summer.

If the plant is in good condition at the end of August, Mr. Fleming says, it should be repotted to come inside for the winter and it should begin flowering again.

Quiet holiday for OPP

Ontario Provincial Police at Morrisburg report an extremely quiet Christmas weekend in the area. There were a number of minor accidents last week due in most part to the freezing rain, but only one resulted in any injury.

The promotional campaigns against drinking and driving seem to be having an effect with officers reporting only two liquor seizures from a motor vehicle over the holiday period and no arrests for impaired driving.

Police urge drivers to exercise caution and common sense in their operation of motor vehicles over the New Year's weekend. As they say on TV, "Make it none for the road."

Seaway Services Christmas meeting

Members of Seaway Services Committee met for their Christmas dinner-meeting Monday December 20 at Knox Presbyterian Church in Iroquois. A bountiful repast has been prepared by the ladies of the Executive, and was enjoyed by all.

The Reverend Dr. Lester Joyce of Brinston, representing Dundas County Ministerial Association, offered the table grace. Mrs. Fred Zandbergen, President, chaired the business session that followed. The secretary's report was given by Mrs. Geraldine MacKinnon, vice president, in the absence of Miss Candance MacKenzie, for whom it was a working day. Mrs. Reid Peppers, treasurer, gave the financial report.

Representatives were present from Environment, St. Lawrence College extension department, Manpower, Industrial Opportunities. The Reverend Dr. Charles H. MacLean was host. The Reverend E. Earle Eaton of Chesterville, public relations representative, covered the meeting for the Post, Matters for discussion included goverment grants, LIP, LEAP, etc., recycling, cooperatives, works projects, relief and programming.

Sunday In The Churches

ST. CECILIA'S CHURCH
Rev. F.M. O'Connor, Parish Priest
St. Mary's Church, Morrisburg
New Year's EVE Mass, Dec. 31 8:00 p.m.
New Year's Day Mass, Jan. 1 - 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Mass, Jan. 2 - 11:00 a.m.
St. Cecilia's Church, Iroquois
New Year's Day Mass, Jan. 1 - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Mass, Jan. 2, 9:30 a.m.

THE PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLIES OF CANADA PHILADELPHIA
PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE
Dundas Street, Cardinal
Rev. Lorne I. Trimble, Pastor

Sunday Morning - Study and Worship — 10 o'clock through 11.30. Adults and Teens in the Church. Pre-Teens in the Church Hall.

Sunday Evening at 7 o'clock is a Service of Evangelism.
Wednesday Evening at 7.30 is Bible and Prayer Group in the Church Hall.

CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
Williamsburg, Ont.
Rev. L.T. Schalkwyk,
Telephone 535-2598
Morning Service: 9:30 a.m.
Afternoon Service: 2:30 p.m.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA
Rev. Charles H. Maclean C.D., B.A., D.D.
KNOX CHURCH - IROQUOIS
Mrs. M. Casselman, Organist
MINISTRY OF WORSHIP EDUCATION AND OUTREACH
Midweek Youth-Adult Program
SUNDAY
Church School ..... 9.45 A.M.
(Kindergarten thro. Grade 12)
Worship Service ..... 11 A.M.
(Adult Nursery Supervision for Children 4 years and under)
VISITORS AND NEW CHURCH FAMILIES WELCOME

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH
South Mountain
Mrs. Arnold Shaver, Organist
SUNDAY
9.30 A.M. .... Service of Worship
(Adult Bible Class Following)
YOU ARE MOST WELCOME!

UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
Matilda Pastoral Charge
Rev. L.D. Joyce, M.A., Ph.D., Th.D.
9:45 a.m. Brinston
11:00 a.m. Hainsville
8:00 p.m. Hulbert

IROQUOIS PASTORAL CHARGE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
Rev. W. Brian Gee, B.A., B.D., Thm.
11.00 A.M.
Worship and Sunday School

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA
Parish of Iroquois and Morrisburg
Rev. Francis N. Gooch, B.A.
Telephone 543-2867
January 2
St. John's Iroquois
9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
St. James, Morrisburg
8:00 and 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Holy Trinity, Riverside
No Service til January 9.
For full details please refer to Parish News Letter or telephone 543-2867.

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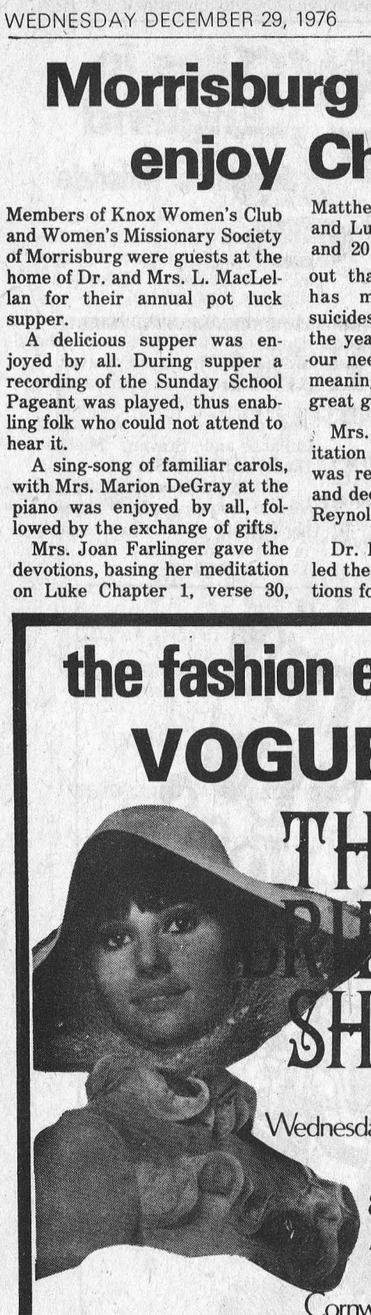
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NEW JOBS FROM COMMUNITY PROJECTS. THINK ABOUT IT.
Canada Works
Young Canada Works

Canada Works is a new job creation program that will be launched in January.

This new year-round program is designed to get needed work done by people not employed in the private sector.

Canada Works will accept applications from groups and organizations including private businesses who wish to develop, sponsor and administer worthwhile community projects. Funds will mainly be allocated to areas of high unemployment and projects will be tailored to special employment needs of your local community.

Canada Works will generate employment for more than 60,000 Canadians who are presently unemployed. Applications will be considered twice a year - in Winter and Summer.

Think about your projects now! Early in the new year, your local Canada Manpower Centre will have application forms and a Canada Works "Guide to Applicants," with full details on the program. Canada Works for your community. Make your worthwhile projects work next year!

A second program is for students. Young Canada Works will create jobs for more than 20,000 students next summer. The emphasis will be on projects of solid community value. It has many of the same features as the year-round program, except projects will be limited to 14 weeks during the summer months.

At the same time, Young Canada Works will enable students to gain valuable work experience and test their career aspirations.

Like Canada Works, your Canada Manpower Centre will have application forms and a Young Canada Works "Guide to Applicants" early in the new year.

So, think about what your organization would like to do for students. Young Canada Works for students in your community.

Manpower and Immigration — Bud Cullen, Minister
Main-d'œuvre et Immigration — Bud Cullen, Ministre

IT'S GOING TO WORK FOR YOUR COMMUNITY.
VB 1003C

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TV RADIO NEWS

by Ross Mutton

Tuesday night is the big night in ratings for Canadian television. The number one shows in ratings (according to the A.C. Nielson Co.) occur on Tuesdays at 8 p.m., back to back on CTV and CBC. CTV's number one show is **Bionic Woman**, starring Lindsay Wagner, while over at the CBC the top-rated show is **Happy Days**, starring the popular Fonz, Henry Winkler. Canadian shows to make the top ten of either network were: **Stars on Ice** on CTV **King of Kensington** and **The Tommy Hunter Show** on CBC.

Ch. 68, the repeater of the ABC station in Utica, has been broadcasting from Ogdensburg now since the fall. I am informed that it is sputtering its way into some homes, so highlights refering to Ch. 68 will start cropping up from time to time in this column. The transmitter must be very low-powered and directional (probably aimed at Ottawa cable's receiving antenna in Spencerville), resulting in spotty reception in this area. Anyway, if the wind is blowing the right way, you may want to try sampling some of ABC's programming.

Speaking of ABC, they have cancelled both **Holmes and YoYo**, and the **Nancy Walker Show**. Nancy Walker will not disappear from the screen, however. She will appear in **Mrs. Blansky's Beauties**, one of the mid-season replacements.

WHAT'S COMING

On Wednesday night at 8:30, Ch. 13 runs the 1951 Musical, **Show Boat**, starring Kathryn Grayson, Howard Keel and Ava Gardner. At 9 p.m., Ch. 7 carries **Smile**, a '75 satire on American middle-class values. Also at 9:00, **Musicamera** features the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra in a program of light concert music for the holiday season. At 10 p.m., the program shifts to a ballet look at winter, **Winterpeg**. That's on Ch. 4. Gordon Sinclair is among the guests on **90 Minutes Live** at 11:35.

On Thursday at 9 p.m., Ch. 24 presents **To Know How to See**, a documentary about the life and art of Leonardo da Vinci. At 9:30 **MacLear** looks at the film and television industry in Hollywood. That's on Ch. 13.

If it's mad-cap comedy you're looking for on Friday night, catch **It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World** on Ch. 7 at 8 p.m. It features an all-star comedy cast. Also at 8 p.m. on Ch. 5, the **Orange Bowl Parade** is broadcast live from Miami. Ragtime music is featured on **Hometown Saturday Night** on Ch. 18 at 9 p.m. Global carries the **Provincial Lottery** draw at 10 p.m. Certainly a great way to usher in 1977. Also at 10 Ch. 18 presents a figure skating spectacular. There are two choices for ringing in the New Year on television. the traditional Guy Lombardo bash from the Waldorf-Astoria is broadcast over Ch. 7. If you want to rock in '77, Frankie Valli hosts a pop music show on Ch.'s 11 and 68. Guests include BTO, K.C. & The Sunshine Band and Donna Summer. Both shows get under way at 11:30 p.m.

On New Year's Day, the traditional **Rose Bowl Parade** and game is carried on the CBC. At 8 p.m. on TV Ontario, the movie theme is **Special Effects** in the Cinema. The films - **One Million BC, The Lost World** and **The last Days of Pompeii.**

That's it for 1976. May I extend to you best wishes for the New Year.

Swedish hockey

Morrisburg Minor Hockey Association in co-operation with the Morrisburg Lions Club presents the First International Midget Exhibition Hockey Game held in Morrisburg. If Cobran, Sweden versus Morrisburg Midgets, Saturday, January 1st 1977, 8 p.m.

The Swedish hockey club was founded in 1955; the team has advanced from the lowest club to the 2nd division where they play to-day.

The main goal of the club is to give as many young people as possible a meaningful occupation when off from school and work.

The members of the club have played hockey together since they were 8 years old. The team is one of Stockholm's top teams in their age group.

If Cobran is very happy and grateful for the opportunity to visit Canada and they believe that this type of exchange is extremely valuable for the future development of their players.

Between the 1st and 2nd periods, there will be a figure skating exhibition by 11 year old Miss Lena Holmberg of Sweden.

At the end of the game players will line up on the blue line. At this time awards will be presented to the most outstanding player on each team. Following this, both teams will exchange gifts presented by the town and The Lions Club.

Morrisburg Sunday School presents Christmas pageant

Members of the Sunday School at Knox Church, Morrisburg presented the old but ever new and beautiful Christmas Story on Sunday December 12th at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary, under the direction of Mrs. Marina Simpson Superintendant. The Junior Choir was under the direction of Mrs. Marion DeGray.

Readers for the pageant were - Jeff Reynolds, Ruth Baker, Karen Weegar and Bonnie Guse. Mary was portrayed by Ann McGillis; Joseph - Robbie Simpson; Inn Keeper - Marilyn Bern; Star - Isabella Farlinger; King Herod - Nancy Smith; Soldiers - Carol Ann Guse, Heather Wood; Shepherds - Jamie Jones, Shawna Yerxa, Chris Eamon, Michael Farlinger; Wise Men - David Mott, Peter Mason and Kevin Dalrymple.

Members of the junior classes were angels. Special music was intermingled with readings as well as many old familiar carols.

Prior to the pageant, the junior choir entertained with several carols. Eric DeGray sang "What Child is This." Special pieces rendered by the choir were "Little Drummer Boy", "The Friendly Beasts" and "Christmas." A trio of Sharlene Dikland, Brenda Dikland and Eric DeGray sang "Mary and Joseph".

The 2 youngest members of the Choir, Alison Dikland and Barry DeGray delighted all with the duet "Glory to God". Karen Weegar sang a beautiful rendition of "Rise Up Shepherds."

Prior to the benediction by Dr. W.L. MacLellan, Eric DeGray sang "O Holy Night" to bring to a close a most meaningful presentation of Christ's birth.

On Saturday evening prior the teachers and children presented their pageant at Glen-Stor-dun Lodge, Cornwall for the folk there, an effort which was much appreciated by all.

After the pageant, the Annual Christmas Party was held in the Lecture Room with Santa Claus dropping in for a visit with both the young in years and the young at heart.

MP Walter Baker reports on conference

It was Winston Churchill who said that "Democracy is the worst form of government, except all those other forms that have been dutied from time to time." Nowhere has this axiom more specific application than Federal-Provincial Conference in general and this latest one in particular. For two days the premiers of nine provinces debated, reasoned, argued with the Prime Minister in an effort to roll-back the federal government's fiscal brinkmanship tactics.

In part, the premiers were successful in preventing the Prime Minister from handing Rene Levesque exhibit 'A' in the case his government is amassing against Confederation. Despite the intransigence displayed by the federal government at the abortive Fianace Minister's meeting last month, Mr. Trudeau was persuaded to make a number of compromises.

These concluded:

- the government's agreement to cushion the impact of removing the guarantees against loss of revenue resulting from the 1972 "tax reforms". The provinces had asked for four percent - the federal government had originally offered nothing.

- the federal government's increase in provincial share of tax revenue more closely reflects the added costs they will face in assuming hitherto "shared cost programs" such as Medicare, post Secondary Education and Welfare. The federal government will allow the provinces to take an additional 13.5 percentage points of income and corporate tax revenue (worth about $6.58 billion), which will finance half of the new burdens. The other half will be met by an "unconditional" cash grant which will rise as the GNP goes up.

- the federal government abandonment of plans to modify the equalization payments. These payments which help poorer provinces maintain national standards in major social programs will remain for at least five years with only minor modifications.

Despite these concessions the provinces are still far from being as well off under the new fiscal arrangements as under the existing ones. Rich provinces such as Ontario will soon be able to use buoyant tax revenues to compensate for these revenue losses, but for the "have-not" areas of Canada it is a different story. Here the present arrangments could well widen the present disparities as the provincial economic performance upon which the formulas are based creates an ever widening gap which cannot be filled by the equalization payments scheme.

Despite the draw-backs which are all too apparent, agreement represents a long overdue turning back from the Trudeau government's policies of over centralization. If the fruit of the revelation of colossal federal government mismanagement of our social programmes is a realization by the Prime Minister that Ottawa cannot solve everybody's problems, perhaps something has been achieved. If it is just one more false start then the Liberal goverment and Confederation is in for some rough times. We shall see how the Universe unfolds.

Dies in England

Joseph L. Ridsdale

Relatives in Iroquois received word of the passing on Christmas eve of Joseph L. Ridsdale, aged 59, at his home in Birkenhead, England. Mr. Ridsdale is survived by his wife Mary and daughter Julia and was the brother of Mrs. Jean Shaver of R.R. 2 Iroquois. He also leaves to mourn a niece, Sandra Johnston, and nephews Jim and Doug Millard and Steven, Michael, David and Mark Shaver.

Mr. Ridsdale and family had visited Iroquois several times in the last few years, most recently in July of this year.

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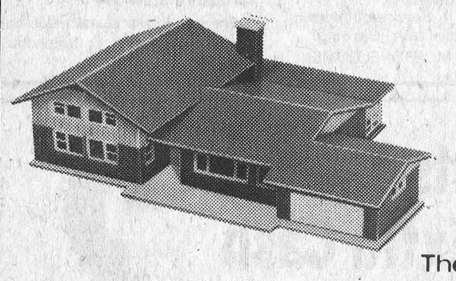
Seasons Greetings





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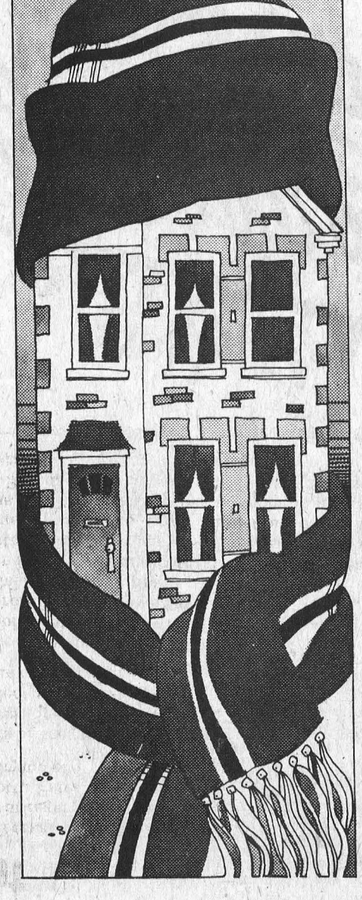

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