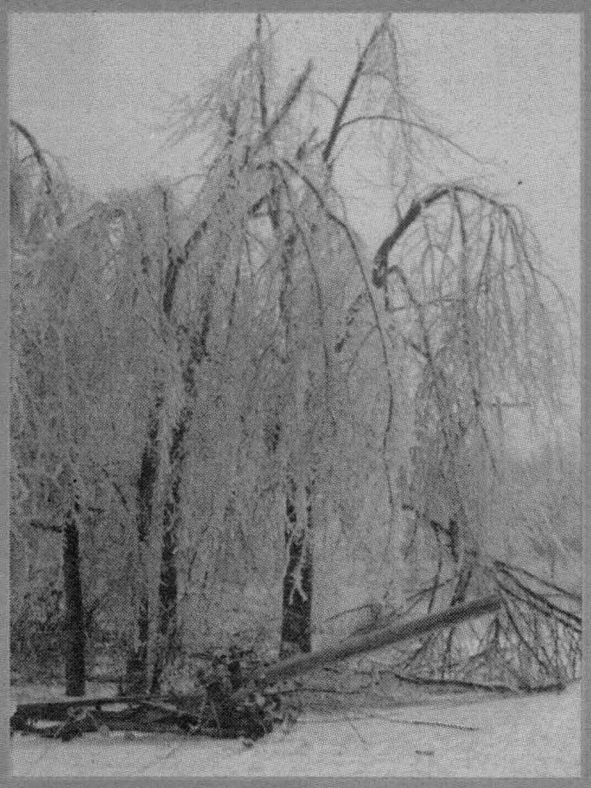

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Prescott's Annual HARBOUR DAYS Sale

Saturday to Monday

May 16 - 18





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- Salty Dog Pub Night
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- Teddy Bear Picnic
- Free Midway Games
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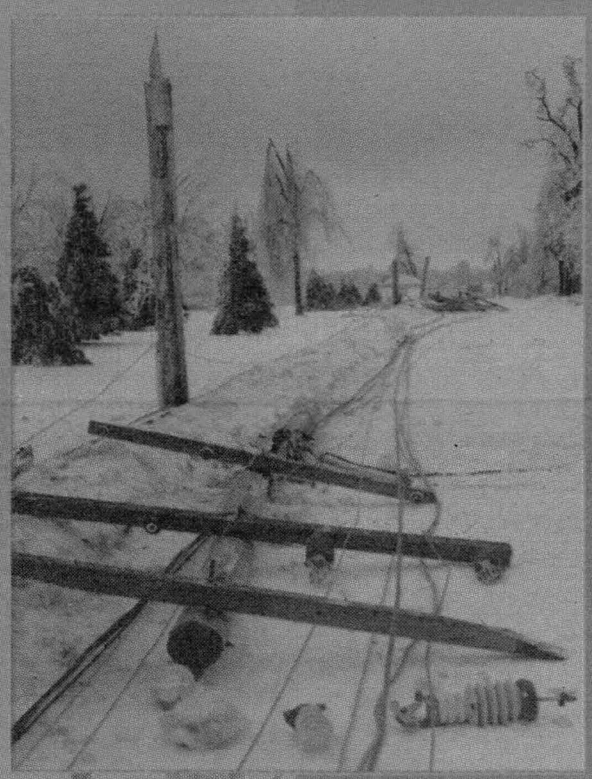

The Prescott Journal

Wednesday, May 13, 1998

Appliances - Electronics - Furniture - Gifts

ALPINE of Prescott

Carpet - Vinyl Flooring - Antiques

2-Head VCR



- 32 key illuminated universal remote control
- MTS stereo/dbx/SAP
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QNXR333GT Gas

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Appliances - Electronics - Furniture - Gifts

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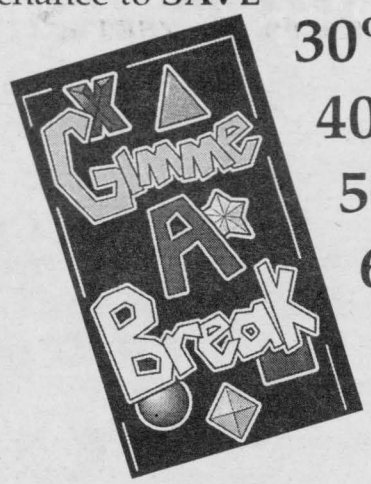

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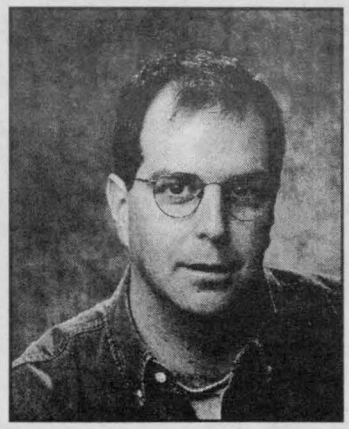
As the entire South Grenville area celebrates Harbour Days and Ice Storm Volunteer Appreciation this weekend, I would like to personally pay tribute to the literally thousands of voluteers who so selflessly gave of their time and energy to assist the people of Eastern Ontario during January's ice storm.

As an Eastern Ontario MPP, I toured many emergency areas and saw first-hand the genuine difference made by volunteers during the crisis. Their efforts in difficult and often dangerous situations were commendable, particularly in view of the fact that many of these volunteers were themselves victims of the storm.

I believe we can all take pride in recognizing that each community had volunteers who stood up courageously to make a difference. Working hand in hand with police, firefighters, military and other public safety personnel, they played an invaluable role in the ice storm relief efforts.

I salute those ice storm volunteers for outstanding service to their fellow citizens.

Sincerely,
Bob Runciman, MPP
Leeds-Grenville



Spring has finally arrived and with it there will be a host of activities and celebrations throughout Leeds-Grenville. One of the first events to occur this spring will be the Prescott Harbour Days this coming weekend.

The people of Prescott will open their hearts to all the visitors this weekend and as the Member of Parliament for Leeds-Grenville I would also like to welcome all who have travelled to partake in these events.

The organizers of Prescott Harbour Days have lined up a weekend packed full of events for all family members to enjoy. I congratulate the hard work of these organizers who all to often are overlooked.

One of the highlights of the weekend will be a ceremonial tree planting with the Mayor of Cobourg and the Mayor of Prescott. The Town of Cobourg is twinned with the Town of Prescott and during the Ice Storm this past winter the Town of Cobourg offered its assistance to Prescott and area.

Now that the storm is long since passed we have to commend the Town of Cobourg and their neighbouring Township of Northumberland for not forgetting us. They put together a radio telethon for the benefit of Prescott and the surrounding South Grenville Townships. Your areas will be the benefactors of over $7,000 worth of maples and white pines as a result of this telethon.

I commend the Town of Cobourg, the Township of Northumberland and their radio station CHUC for pulling together to help the area in our rejuvenation process. Many projects are under way to replant trees, but this large donation of trees will certainly go along way to help beautify Prescott and area once again.

Wishing every one a Happy and Safe Harbour Days.

Joe Jordan, M.P
.Leeds-Grenville

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION PRESCOTT ONT

Sincere Appreciation

Special thanks to all our customer in the Prescott for their patience, understanding and co-operation during the aftermath of the January Ice Storm.

Our appreciation to our 'Twinned Utility' in Cobourg for helping to service our much-needed generators which helped power our emergency services.

To the Utility crews from other municipalities who gave up the comfort of their homes and their families to come to Prescott to give us much-needed assistance ...

our very special thanks.
The commissioners & staff.

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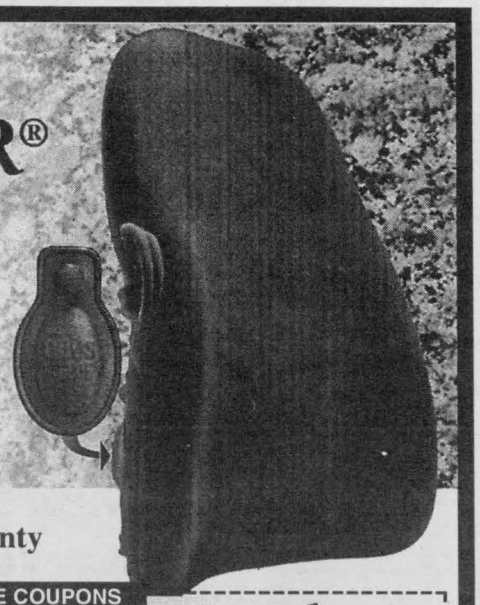

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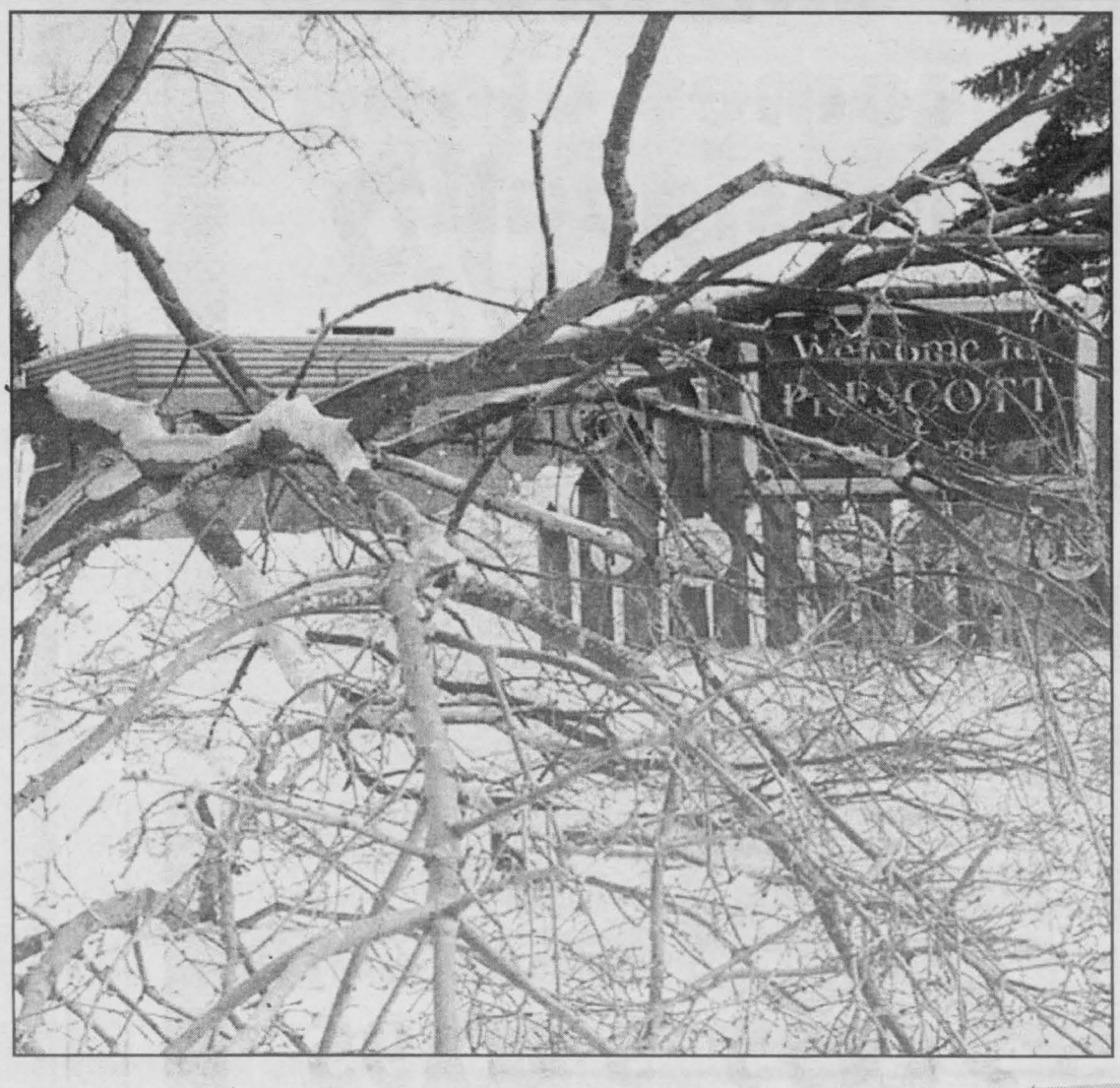
We Survived Ice Storm 1998



During the months of March and April, The Prescott Journal invited readers to submit a short anecdote or story about one of the many ice storm heroes in the South Grenville area. Those submissions have been included throughout this special Harbour Days edition:

My Ice Storm Hero

Don Gibson is one of the many unsung storm heroes. The day the storm hit Mr. Gibson was at work and did all that he could from there to help. The next day and for several weeks afterwards Mr. Gibson was dedicated to help get this community back on its feet. He started is work at the PUC command station. Where he worked many tireless hours with the PUC and local fire department. He saw a need in the out lying community and started the generator exchange. Mr. Gibson turned his focus to the countryside. He moved generators all over this county to people that really needed them. You could see him travelling the roads with a generator or two in the back off his truck. Mr. Gibson was so committed to helping his community get their power back that his family hardly ever saw him. He would leave by six in the morning and come home about eleven at night. Mr. Gibson, are a true Storm Hero. Thank-you for all the time you put into helping your community it will never be forgotten. This is one of the reasons it is a honour to call you my dad.

My father is a hero. He put many hours into getting Prescott and the surrounding area back onto its feet. Please add this to the other storm hero stories.

Thank-you,
Sarah Gibson

Camille Beckman
the Products people are talking about
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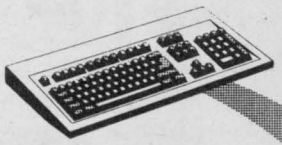

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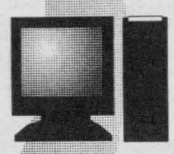

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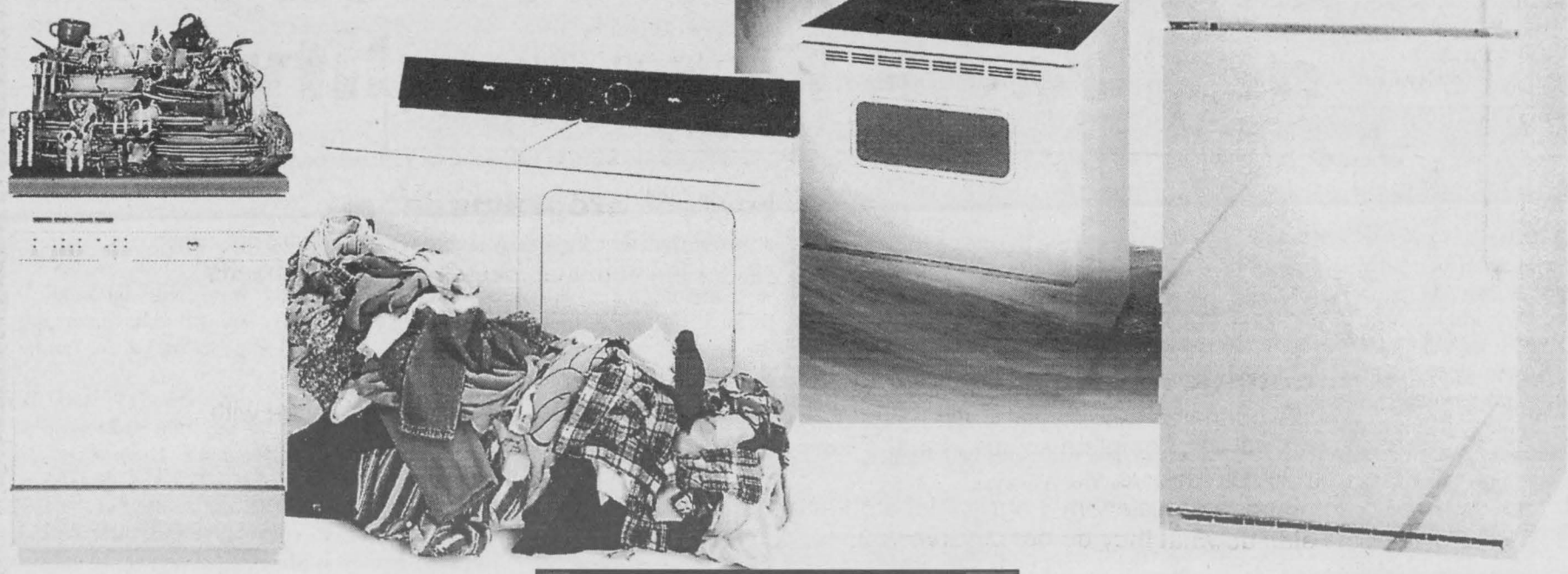

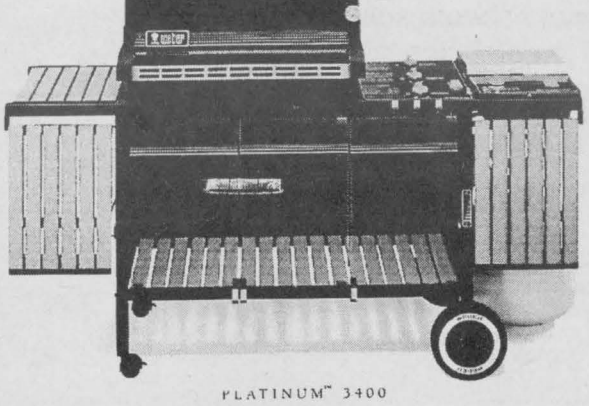

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We Survived Ice Storm 1998

Joan & Don Graham would like to thank Mrs. Marie W. Seymour for the help she gave us during the ice storm. Her kindness will never be forgotten.

Thank you once again, Marie.

For ever grateful
Joan & Don Graham

I feel compelled but hesitate to write about storm heroes mainly because there are so many names and faces to remember and thank.

So I decided to thank people who were the wind beneath my wings and helped me complete the job I had to do. When the storm hit, none of us knew to what extent we would have to help people. I was in charge of food and shelter under social services.

By Friday the enormity of the storm damage was recognized and we were now feeding between 600-1000 people at the Legion. The Legion people were tireless and nothing could have been accomplished without them. John McCarroll and Ted Richards started to cook breakfast for 600 people at 2:00 am.

I must thank my support team, my best friends Mike Boyles, Wendy Robinson, and my daughter Erin King. They were there to help out doing anything until wee hours of everyday without anyone noticing how much time & energy they gave just because that's the kind of people they are so I would like to recognize them now.

When the situation settled down and I had time to digest and think over what we had accomplished in a few days the tears came and I was overwhelmed by the human compassion and giving that I had experienced and witnessed over the last few days.

Thank you doesn't seem enough - forever indebted.

Janice King
Caseworker

My Ice Storm Hero

I would like to thank Mr. Mrs. Hoogwerf of Domville, for allowing myself and my parents to stay at your home during the horrible Ice Storm of '98. Your kindness & generosity is greatly acknowledged, and will never be forgotten.

Love You Always,
The Kelly's

Sincere Gratitude and many, many Thanks to our "Ice Storm Heroes" Chris & Christine Slater. They were very kind to us by bringing us hot water, homemade stew and inviting us into their home to get warm by their fireplace. What wonderful neighbours they are. We will be forever grateful to them for what they did for us during a very difficult and trying time. We survived "Ice Storm 98" because of their kind generosity. Everybody should have neighbours like "The Slaters".

Lillian Durning
Billie & Bert Barton
Emily Grossleg
Lloyd Gilmer
Nelda Stinson

In Appreciation and many kind thanks for all the wonderful meals provided at Royal Canadian Legion. And also for meals delivered to home for those who were unable to get out. We will always be very grateful to them for doing this for us which made us survive "Ice Storm 98". Thanks again.

Lillian Durning
Billie & Bert Barton
Emily Grossleg
Lloyd Gilmer
Nelda Stinson

What?! – an ice storm, power failure, a black-out in Prescott?? Being flat on my back in Ottawa (result of an accident) that entire period, I missed the whole thing – all the miserable excitement, the dark and the COLD! I did wonder, from time to time, if my house was still standing.

However, unknown to me, a lady of compassion and great common sense (a heroine, so to speak) flitted in and out of my home, turning off the electrical switchboard, lighting candles in sinks and tubs, letting taps run appropriately so that when I returned all was normal – no fear, no fire, no flood.

This intelligent and talented lady, creator of stained glass designs, church newsletter editor and Guild member, bonspiel curler, etc. is my neighbor, my friend, Joan Glenn. "Thanks Joan!"

Elizabeth McCuaig Newton

Unlike my neighbours, I didn't have a close relation to pick me up and my apartment was cold, dark and I was alone. My son would have come for me at once from Bellmay Lake but he was completely treed and iced in. My two sons in Toronto phoned Prescott Taxi to drive me to the train in Brockville, but it wasn't running. There were also no hotels or motels open. My heart felt thanks goes out to the lady at Prescott Taxi who suggested Dewar's Isle of Rest Motel. I phoned them and was the only guest as they had no water, hydro or food. But they said I'd be cozy and warm. For two nights I was in a comfortable room on the St. Lawrence river in the dark, but the Dewars couldn't have been kinder to me and I thank the Lord for making this help I received possible. Being warm saved my life.

Mrs. Valerie Clark
Spencerville

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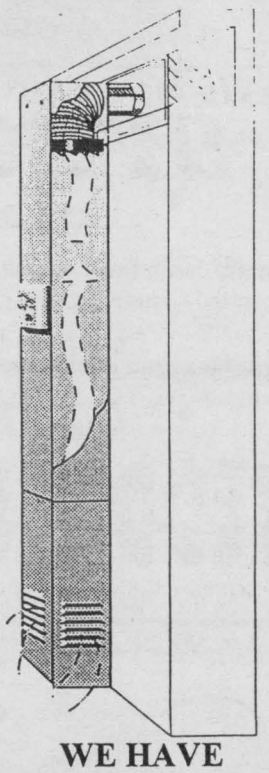

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Saturday May 16
OUTDOOR AUTOMOTIVE & BOAT SHOW
ALL-DAY King St., Prescott
Prescott and Brockville Car, Truck & Boat Dealers will have the latest 1998 models on display in our giant downtown display room.

CHOW DOWN with ROTARY!!
8:00 - 10:30 am at the ROTARY CLOCK TOWER
$3.00 *Pancakes & Sausage*
Coffee, juice, syrup .... MMMMMM Good!

Prescott presents

WE LOVE OUR KIDS
Monday, May 18 **Over 400 FREE PRIZES**
ICICLE DAY

We have set up a
SPECIAL DAY
for all the little ones

in the community who went through the ice storm with their parents. This day is just for you.(Come down to the town dock area with your parents ... and enjoy this FREE FUN and ENTERTAINMENT)

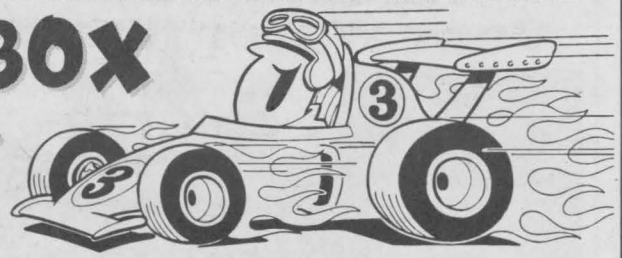
10:00 am to 4:00 pm
PETTING ZOO - PONY RIDES
KIDS CARNIVAL
including all types of games, air balls, Merry-Go-Round & more, compliments of DuPont Canada Ltd., Maitland Works and Dorothy & Brian Sealy's March Midway.

11:00 - Noon - Town Dock
TEDDY BEAR PICNIC
Bring Teddy to the Kinsmen Outdoor Theatre for a **FREE MEDICAL** Check-up by the experts from **Grenville Pharmacy** to see how Teddy survived the Storm, as well as a **complimentary carnation from Prescott's House of Flowers.**



FREE FACE PAINTING by Youth Care Life. children's entertainment - **Karaoke Krazy's Special Kids Show**

SOAP BOX DERBY
10 am



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FREE SUPPER *for kids*
4:00 pm Town Dock Area
FREE Hot dogs, Chips & Drinks (Adults $2.00)
Sponsored by **Giant Tiger, Prescott**

We Survived Ice Storm 1998

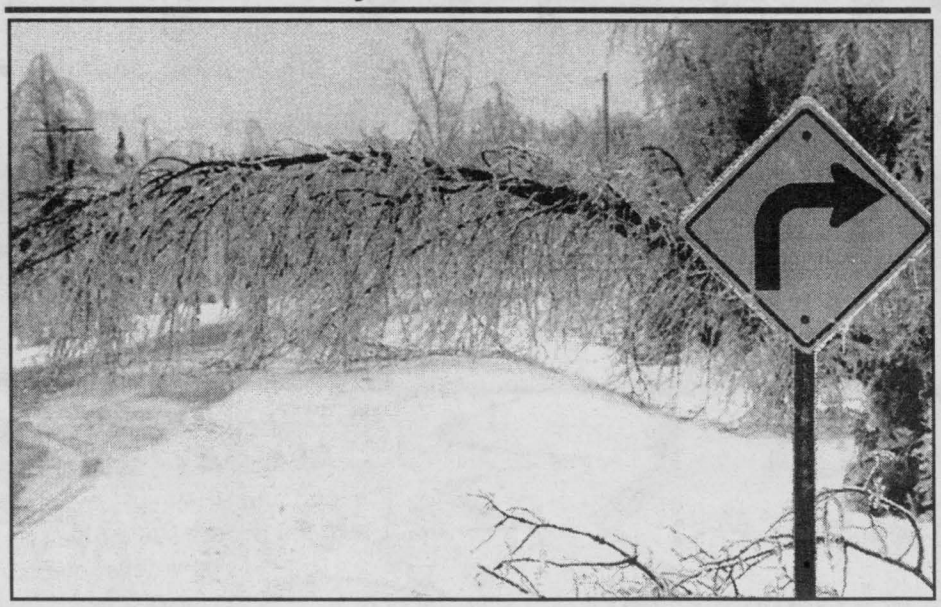
On January 8, 1998, all of southern Eastern Ontario was hit with a vicious ice storm. The village of Algonquin was in the midst of it. On that early morning the trees, hedges, power and telephone lines looked lovely with the morning sun glinting on them. Such a pretty sight to see.

Then the next morning about eight, all the hydro poles had fallen many split in two owing to the heavy ice load. Hydro and telephone lines were strewn across the roads to make it impassable for any kind of movement whether by vehicle or pedestrian. Along County Road 15, which runs through the Village of Algonquin, there were 130 hydro poles down between the village of North Augusta and Stones Corner at the Third Concession. The Village was without lights and telephone for fourteen days plus another four before full telephone service was restored.

Most homes were without hear, water supply and of course lights. Many villagers came to give support and help to those who really needed the help. We were one of the homes without heat, water and hydro. My wife is an invalid who cannot walk without the support of a "Walker" and owing to a blood condition feels the cold more than others.

I would like to express our thanks to two "Storm Heroes", our daughter, Nancy and son-in-law, Rick Oliver.

My Ice Storm Hero



When the storm hit, they came over to our home immediately and helped us out of our cold, dark residence and transported us to their home which is in the same village. They were also without light and water supply. They did have an air-tight wood stove which kept the house warm and comfortable. We stayed with Nancy and Rick for fourteen days. We cooked all the meals on top of the air-tight stove and heated large pots of water on top as well. We were well taken care of and appreciated our stay.

Besides taking care of us, Rick bought a generator which gave us lights and television each evening. However each morning, Rick would unhook the generator and take it to several homes in the village to heat for several hours and keep the pipes from freezing. At the end of each day, Rick would unhook the generator and take it back for our enjoyment each evening. Rick repeated this every day during the fourteen days of the "Black-out". He drove up to a neighbor's farm (Keith Matthie) each day for fresh water. He went up on a roof to remove heavy ice that caused leaking in a home. What ever errands had to be run, Rick did it. I was useless as I was recovering from a serious operation and found it hard to get around.

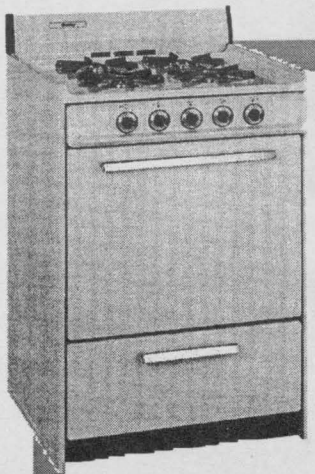
Rick and Nancy took good care of us. When the lights came on, Rick and Nancy made sure our home was warmed up and they moved us back in. They both gave help and consideration to several families in the village. They helped to "Crack Open" a magnum of Champagne with the Hydro Crew when the power was turned on at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, January 21, 1998.

Mark Darrock, Algonquin

(P.S. I'll be eighty-two years old next month and have lived in the Village of Algonquin for fifty-three years and have never seen such a devastating storm that hit us on the eighth of January, 1998.)

Pastor Al Litchfield and his wife Joan live on Boundary Street in Prescott. They were without hydro during the ice storm, however, they use a gas stove for cooking. They cooked 130 meals, and Al delivered these meals. They also supplied hot water in available thermos bottles as well as cold water in five gallon containers. He and his wife were an encouragement and help to many people.

Harry and Doris Dulmage
Johnstown



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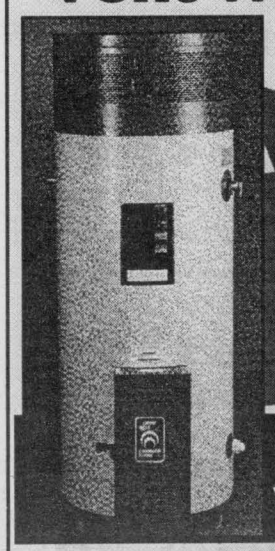

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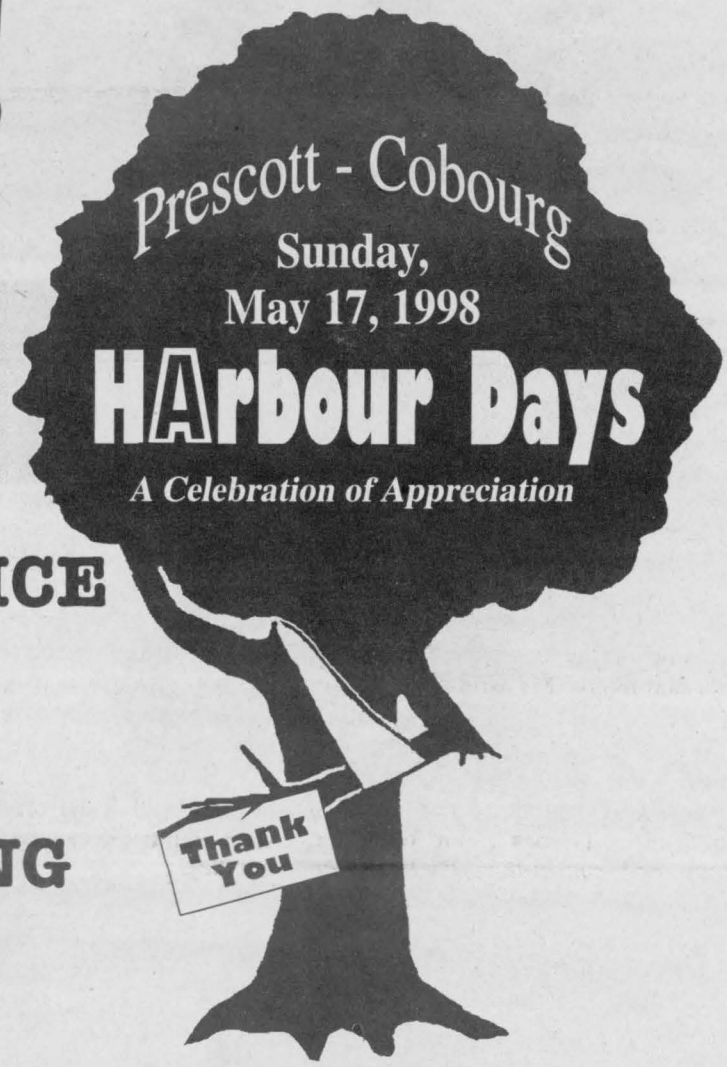
Celebration of Appreciation!

Sunday, May 17, 1998



8-11 am
LEGION BREAKFAST $3.00
Eggs, Hash Browns, Baked Beans, Ham or Sausage, Toast and Coffee.
LEGION HALL, Henry St., West EVERYONE WELCOME

10:30 am
ECUMENICAL CHURCH SERVICE
Conducted by Rev. Gerald Ring, St. John's Anglican Church
KINSMEN OUTDOOR HARBOUR FRONT THEATRE
Followed by The Blessing of the Boats
Coffee and Donuts, complimentary of **Tim Hortons Donuts.**

1:00 pm
CEREMONIAL TREE PLANTING
Prescott Centennial Park

2:00 pm
FREE TREE PICK-UP
At Prescott Tennis Courts In Centennial Park. (List of recipients in this supplement.)

Saturday Night Special
"SALTY DOG"
Sponsored by Canadian Tire, Prescott
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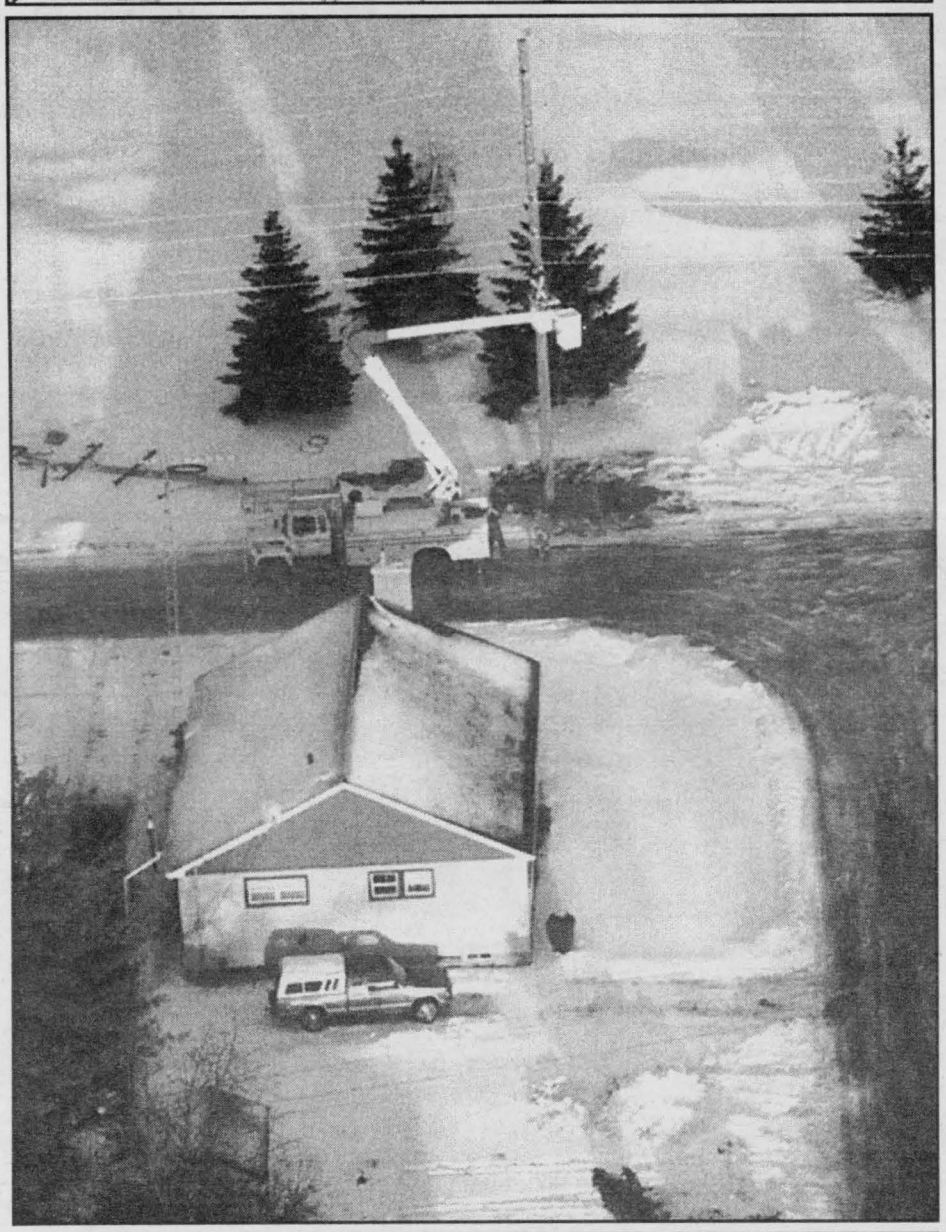
FREE ADMISSION
Licensed Event -
Community Centre
Adults only 7:30 - 11:30 pm

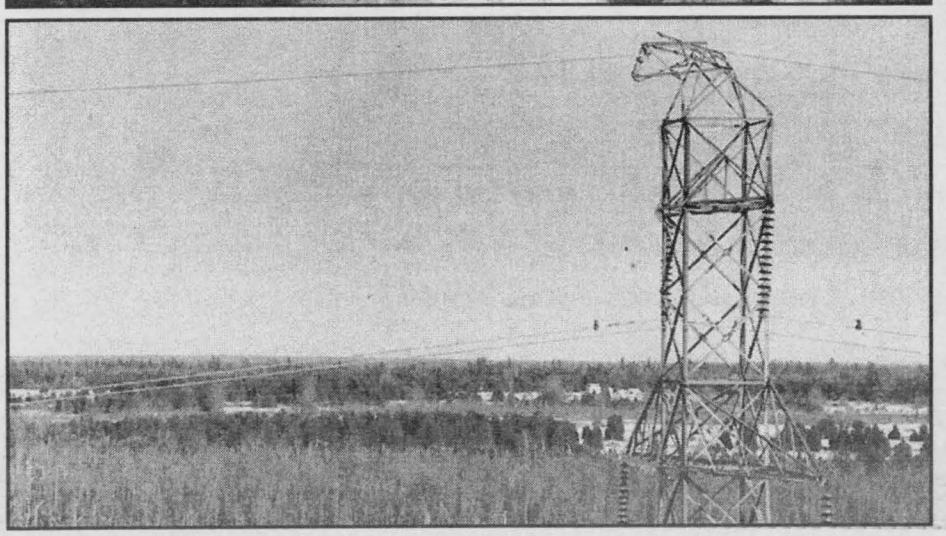
PRESCOTT HARBOUR FRONT

1:00 - 7:00 pm - REFRESHMENT TENT *sponsored by Lions Club*
2:00 - 4:30 pm - SOUTH GLENGARRY HIGHLAND BAND, Kinsmen Outdoor Theatre, *sponsored by Legion Branch 97, Prescott.*
3:00-3:30 pm - BROCKVILLE HIGHLAND DANCERS, Kinsmen Outdoor Theatre
4:30 - 5:30 pm - PARR CHRISTIE SINGERS from Kingston, *sponsored by Prescott & District Chamber of Commerce*
5:00 - 7:00 pm - CHICKEN BARBEQUE - Marine area, 1/2 chicken dinner $8.00. Tickets must be bought by NOON FRIDAY.

This celebration of community fellowship sponsored by
The Municipality of the Town of Prescott, Prescott and District Chamber of Commerce, Prescott BIA, Tourism Prescott, Prescott Public Utilities.







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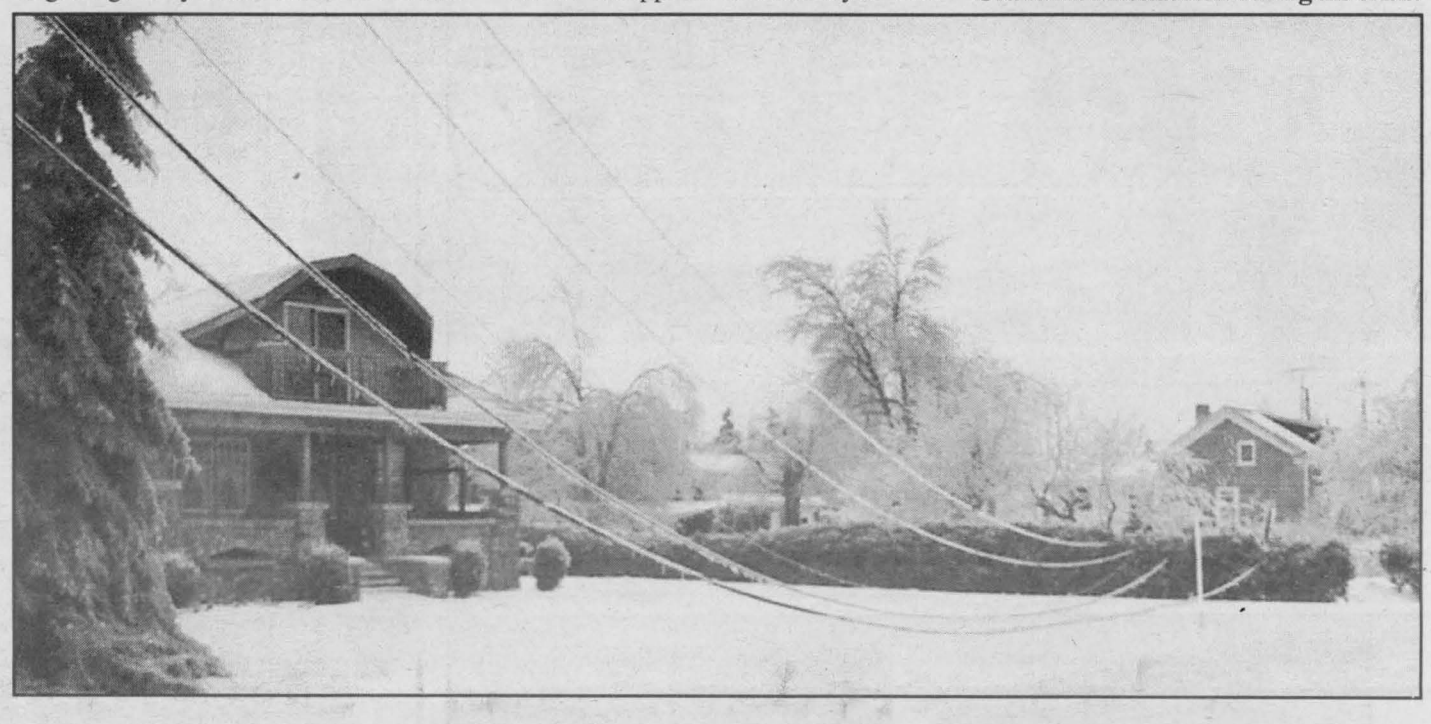
We Survived Ice Storm 1998

We lost our power around here on Thurs. morning of the storm. Pat & Khaled Sobhie, owners of Grandma's Restaurant, kicked into action to accommodate anyone and everyone who walked through their doors. They continued cooking, keeping their complete menu available as if nothing was amiss, never shutting their doors for a moment. In fact, they extended their hours, allowing clients to come in for warmth, a bite to eat, a warm coffee or tea, and what some needed mostly, a friendly smile and quiet conversation before heading home to a dark, cold, lonely house for the night. Some folks were quietly consoled when in fear of the unknown. Upsetting calls were received from some in stress and in turn, the restaurant ensured that the police/fire department were called and sent out to these individuals. Furthermore, followup calls were made by the restaurant to ensure that they had been attended to. Since folks could not get to banks and as cash supplies dwindled, Khaled & Pat altered their policies and began running tabs for individuals, (which in fact were all gratefully paid). They worked tirelessly by candles and lanterns in the kitchen, making pots upon pots of coffee by hand. As supplies also began to dwindle they were still able to accommodate clients with their honesty and upfront, friendly attitudes. Everyone left there happy and knowing they had a place to come back to for warmth and friendly faces and for breakfast in the morning. When all quieted late at night the dishes still had to be done. Kettles of boiling water were started and the process of washing, rinsing and sterilizing began again by hand. Staff and clients alike all contributed to the success of this "shelter" in one way, shape or form. Yes, I did say shelter, as for some, that is exactly what it was and I believe it is high time that Khaled and Pat Sobhie of Grandma's Restaurant should be recognized for their selfless efforts and contribution to the crisis this town suffered in the Ice Storm of '98. We all applaud and thank you with all our hearts for everything.

Joanne Crack, Amanda, Kristina, & Gordon Godwin, John Urquhart, Jason Gautier, Jeffrey Jessome, Ken Sine, Darryle & Georgina Mellon, Jim Smith, Christine & Tanya Rust, Deanna & Peter Karson, Barbara & Alex Cumming, Tom & Marilyn McClelland, Marva & Jim Brown, Bruce Woods, Larry & Bonnie and on behalf of all others that passed through the doors of Grandma's Restaurant during the crisis.

My Ice Storm Hero





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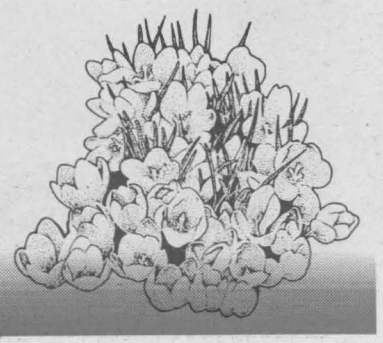
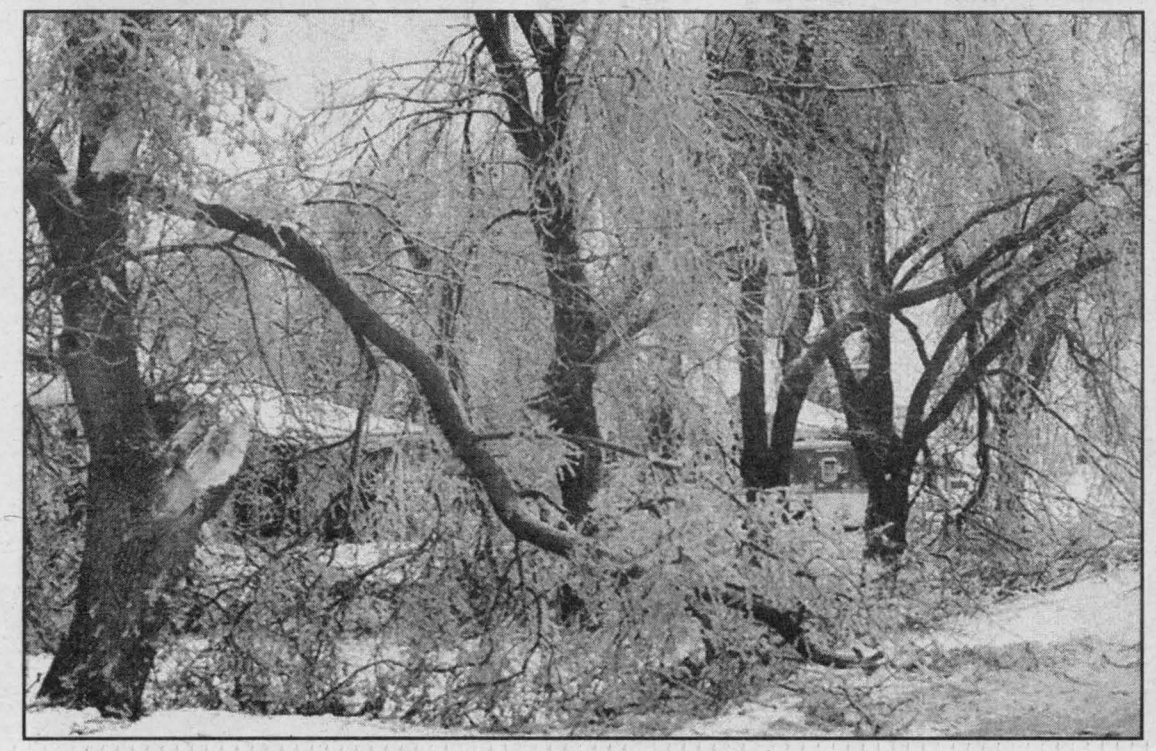


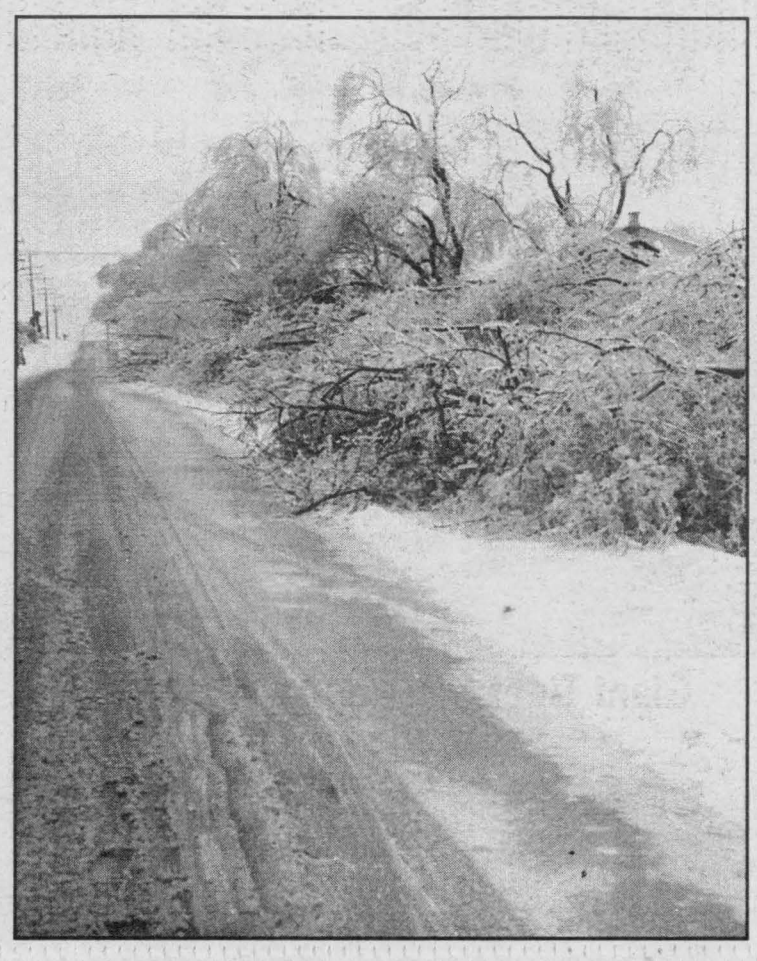
We Survived Ice Storm 1998











Clockwise: House on the Johnston Road in Augusta was completely destroyed by fire; 30 hydro poles lay broken on Boundary Street in Prescott; mangled trees on the Blue Church Road; more broken trees in Maynard; and the volunteer cooks at the shelter located at the Prescott Legion.

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We Survived Ice Storm 1998

EXTRA! EXTRA!

Local students use interviewing skills to assist with Queen's University Ice Storm study

PRESCOTT – A group of students at St. Joseph Catholic School have joined forces with researchers at Queen's University to help document Ice Storm '98 for future generations.

Dr. Stewart Fyle, a political scientist at Queen's received $74,000 from the federal government to document how Kingston and area responded to the January ice storm.

Researchers are interviewing up to 200 people including armed forces personnel, staff at social services agencies, hospital workers, utility crews and the media to collect information for it's archives.

"The documents will be put in our Archives for historical research that may be done in the future and to evaluate the response to the disaster so we can do a better job next time," explained Mary Purcell, project manager.

Fifteen students from Grades 4, 5, 6 and 7 have completed interviews with local people to include in the Queen's study.

Some of these interviews have been included in this special tab:

Ice Storm Interviews

Ice Storm Interview With Patrick E. Griffen

I was with my daughter in Montreal on the weekend of January 4th. We were visiting some relatives at the time the Ice Storm hit Montreal. The Media made it clear that it was going to be a terrible storm. We decided to head for home. I could not imagine at that time, the Ice Storm would have such a severe effect of our lives.

When we arrived in Cardinal we listened to the weather forecasts. It was Tuesday and by observing the outside weather conditions I knew we were in for a bad storm. It hit us on Wednesday evening. We woke up on Thursday morning to find everything coated with ice and almost every one of our trees damaged. Our first thout was to settle down and prepare to live through it. But after a few days we recognized that this was not practical and we would have to do something!

We had no heat or water and the temperature in the house was falling rapidly. The only "weapon" we had to fight the Ice Storm was a wood stove in the family room. My daughter feared for our safety and would not let me light it. It had not been used for a long time and she was worried about a fire.

We bundled up with layers of clothes and slept with half a dozen blankets on each bed. Our neighbors called a few times inviting us to come over and warm up, but we dicided to hold off, thinking that the crisis would soon be over.

Our telephone still worked so we occasionally phoned the Kelly's for updates on power line repairs and any other news. We did not even have a battery powered radio.

It was not until I woke up and found the tip of my nose was frozen that we realized we needed a new plan. Fortunately at this very time good friends in Ottawa called to see how we were doing and INSISTED that we come to Ottawa until the storm was over and power restored.

We didn't know how long we would be away from home and had some concern about the water lines freezing due to the temperature dropping to below zero levels. We decided to return home, drain the pipes and checkup on the house, this was our peace of mind. Our stay in Ottawa ended up lasting almost one week.

Money was not a concern at that moment. I was concentrating on our health and safety.

I have already purchased a generator to provide me with some heat and water and electricity in case an event like this happens again. We read up on emergency procedures and I also now have a battery powered radio and a supply of batteries and flashlights.

We were aware that an overnight shelter had been setup in Cardinal, but decided to go to Ottawa.

I had no contact with the media, but was kept informed by telephone messages from friends and neighbors.

It was a very stressful situation, but having no choice we lived through it and enjoyed the hospitality of our good friends in Ottawa on the Hill.

It was a time I shall not forget. Aside from all the frustration, I had remarkable and interesting experience's and conversations. People came together to help one another.

Interviewed by Joshua Kelly, Grade 6, St. Joseph Catholic School, April 10th, 1998.

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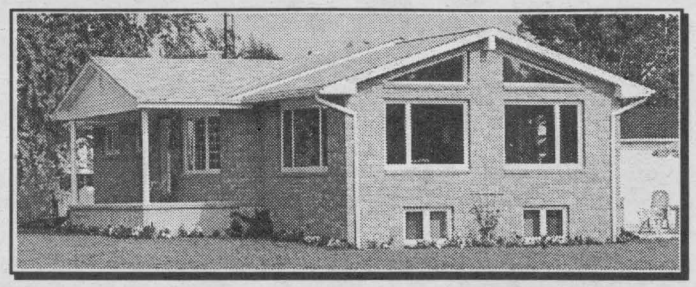

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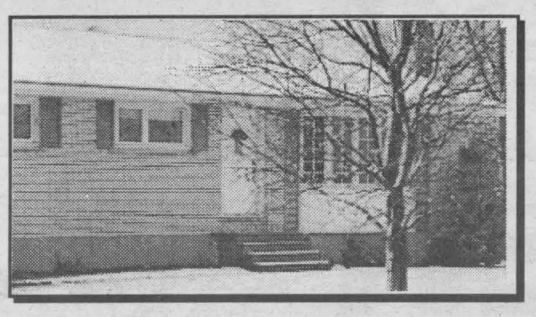

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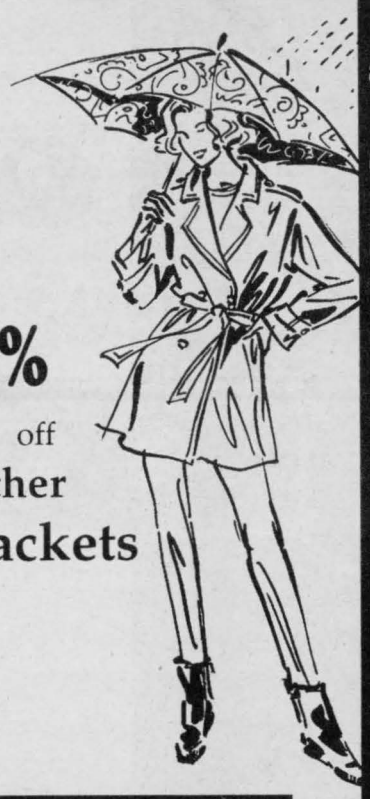

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1:00 pm to 10:00 pm

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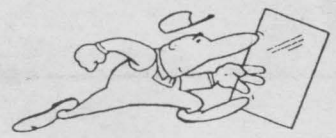

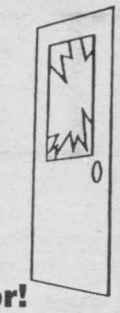

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We salute our "ICE STORM HEROES"

OUR appreciation goes out to every resident of The Township of Augusta who had to cope with the aftermath of the January Ice Storm. Like the great community that it is, Augusta pulled together to combat the inconveniences, some of them life-threatening through the absence of electricity, water and heat and the lack of facilities to prepare meals.

We are proud of the way residents of Augusta helped neighbours, friends and strangers during the 5-21 day period of power outage.

Special thanks goes to the members of our Volunteer Fire Department who took charge of emergency operations, township-wide, and who served our residents unselfishly until circumstances returned to normal. Also sincere appreciation to all of Augusta's corporate, institutional and industrial partners for their compassionate services, and to the Canadian Military personnel stationed in the township during the storm. Everyone in Augusta Township was an "Ice Storm Hero" and we thank them for their many acts of kindness.

Council of the Municipality of Augusta Township:
Reeve: Adrian VanSchie Deputy Reeve: John McCrea
Councillors: George Vail - Doug Barton - Jane Fullerton
Administrator and Clerk-Treasurer: R.N. Gilmour

We Survived Ice Storm 1998

Ice Storm Interviews

Ice Storm Study Interview with Patty Arcand

On Thursday January 8th 1998 a terrible thing happened. Mother nature took revenge on Southeastern Ontario, Western Quebec, and Northern New York. They were without power for up to 2 weeks!

Hi my name is Jessica Arcand. I had an interview on the recent Ice Storm with my mother Patty Arcand. Patty works at the Prescott Family Medical centre in downtown Prescott. She is a volunteer with the 3rd Prescott Brownies. There she is known as Brown Owl. Here is her story of January's Ice Storm.

* * *

I was at my house, not doing much when the power went out. At first I thought there had been an accident somewhere, and the pwer would come back on soon. After a while when the power still had not come back on, I started getting worried. It was cold outside and it would soon start getting cold in the house. Around suppertime we decided to go to my mother-in-law's house to keep her company. She lives out in the country in a big house all alone. She has a wood stove and we knew there would be a lot of heat in house. So we packed a few necessities and moved up to "Nanny Gladys'". We would stay there until the power came back on. While we were there, we ate a lot of things we could heat up over the stove. We read books and played cards. We listened to the radio pretty well non stop. They were a big help. On Monday we finally got our power back on. I think the first thing we did when we got home is go grocery shopping.

On the radio we had heard about a family who's house had burned to the ground. They had 2 children. We packed up some clothes, some books, and some toys for the family. We called the number that they were saying on the radio to tell the people that we had some clothers for them that they could come and pick up.

Done by: Jessica J. Arcand, age 12, Grade 6, St. Joseph Catholic School.

Ice Storm '98 Interview with Bill Lawrence

We decided that this was a major event on Monday when it started for them. But by Wednesday they knew it wasn't going to quit.

They knew the nature scale of the event because they listened to the radio and the neighboring communities.

At the beginning they worked non stop 24 hours a day with 3 people.

They communicated by using telephones, two way radios to talk to the police and fire department.

Money was not a concern they knew what had to be done and did without worrying about money.

What he said worked well was people who were trained good and worked well with each other. What didn't work well was people who didn't know enough.

He said that their biggest problem was that the rain wouldn't quit. Also there was a pole line down on Boundary Street 15 poles down and Ontario Hydro couldn't provide them with the power.

They wouldn't do anything different next time. He said everything went smoothly.

As a result of the ice storm he lost two weeks of his life and it (the Ice Storm) pointed out who the good trustworthy people were which is a good thing to know in a time of emergency.

They had an emergency plan they just needed to expand on the existing plan due to the scale of the event.

He said that he had emergency training at the College of Emergency in Arnprior, but not for a storm of that scale.

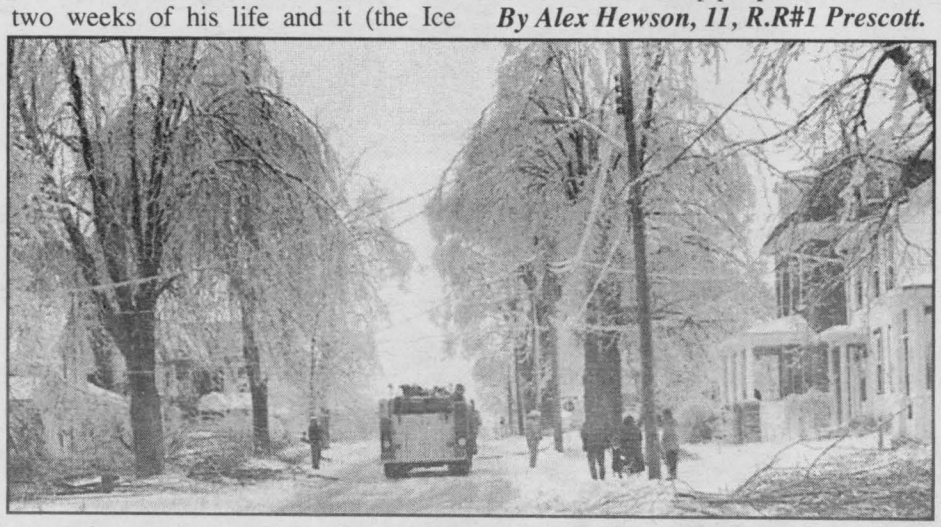
They did not require assistance fron the Federal Government at that time.

Stress was a concern for the workers. Mostly because of lack of warm clothing, food, and enough rest.

Mr. Lawrence hopes it does not happen again but believes it will though.

Our first priority was retirement homes and handicap people also shelters.

By Alex Hewson, 11, R.R#1 Prescott.



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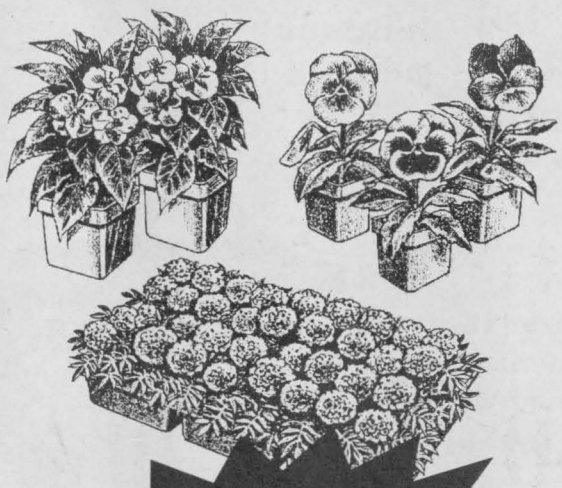

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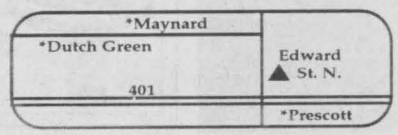

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We Survived Ice Storm 1998

Ice Storm Interview with Adrian Wynands

I knew it was a major event on Thursday morning. I left the farm because our hydro was out and our phone too, so I left to see if I could use the neighbors phone. Our road was closed due to trees and hydro lines down, so we went another route. There was more hydro lines down on County Road 21 as well.

I knew the emergency was an ice storm as the result of no phone or hydro.

I figured I had the authority to do what I had to do to keep the farm running and to help the neighbors.

Yes, money was a concern to me because the banks weren't open and credit cards wouldn't work.

We made decisions on what was best for the farm. I communicated by a cell phone.

People helped each other. I shared a generator with my neighbors. What didn't work well was to get all of the chores done on time.

My biggest problem was not getting enough restful sleep.

One change that I have all ready made is I ordered a generator to run the farm.

We did not have an emergency plan but it would have been useful.

The only contact I had with the media was listening to the radio station which was a big help because it let you know that everybody was in the same condition or worse than you.

Stress was not a concern because we just did what we had to do and never thought about the after effects.

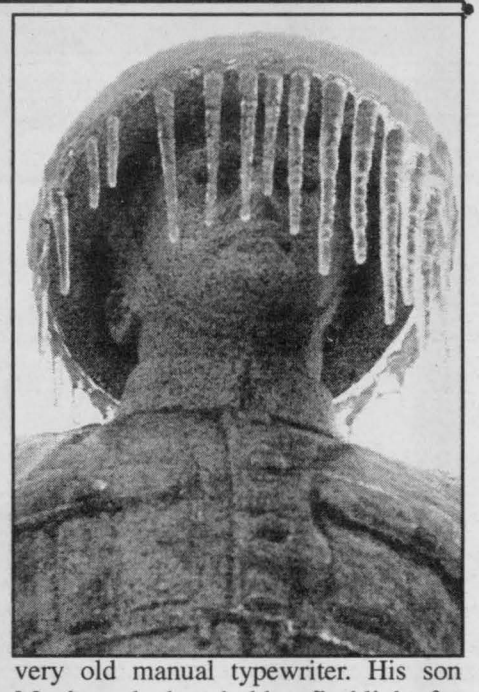
On the fourth day of the ice storm Steve (the person who works for me) and I were at Wegants Farm Supplies waiting for a generator to come in. While waiting along with Wegants staff and the OMFRA staff they asked if anybody would go for pizza and we said we would go. We walked in to a Tincap restaurant in our farm clothes after not changing or sleeping much for four days. As we were leaving the restaurant one person said those farmers sure look tired I turned around and asked, "how could you tell we were farmers?" then we burst out laughing!!

By Ryan Wynands, 10, North Augusta.

Ice Storm Interviews

Ice Storm Interview with Hugh Gallaugher

During the Ice Storm, Mr. Gallaugher decided it was an emergency when the power went out and he heard that there wouldn't be power again for days. He realized the nature/scale of the emergency by listening to the radio, looking outside and driving around Prescott. At home, he had to have dry wood in order to get the wood stove running. He also had to check the meat in the freezer. "I had to go down to our pharmacy to check and make sure everything was all right," he explained. He was concerned that people would need their medication. As owner of the pharmacy, it was his responsibility to try to help them. Money was not a concern. He made his decisions based on the need of the person. He communicated with customers mostly by the telephone. He gave his home phone number (the phones at the pharmacy were not working) to the radio station and police department. People were able to call him and arrange a time to meet him at the pharmacy. His biggest problem was that none of the computer systems were working, so that he could not get information from the customers' files. "Next time, I would try to get a generator for the pharmacy," said Mr. Gallaugher. He had no Emergency plan and no Emergency training. He had no contact or help from Provincial or Federal Emergency Measures. "The only contact with media occurred when I called the radio station to give them our number," stated Mr. Gallaugher. Stress was a concern during the storm. While he was at the pharmacy, he had to use a very old manual typewriter. His son Matthew, had to hold a flashlight for him so that he could see to type labels and count tablets – the pharmacy was very dark without electric lights. After 4 p.m. it was too dark to do anything at all. A lot of people came into the pharmacy for batteries and soon he was sold out. He also supplied baby formula to a number of families.



Mr. Gallaugher hopes that it will be another fifty years until an Ice Storm hits again.

By Gina Gallaugher, 10, Prescott.

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HISTORY - PROGRESS

To all residents of the municipality of the

Township of Edwardsburgh

WE would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every resident of our municipality for the manner in which they all pulled together to help each other during and after the disastrous ice storm that struck our area in January 1998.

Because of this attitude of caring for your neighbours which is prevalent in communities such as ours, the hardships and adversities caused by the storm were dealt with by unequalled community spirit.

Special thanks goes out to our valued volunteer fire department, to the men and women of Spencerville Legion Branch 604 and to our township employees for their special efforts in taking charge of the care and comfort of so many of our Edwardsburgh residents.

We are proud to be your Municipal Council,
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Councillors: George Dick - Peter Martin - Marie Thomson
Clerk-Treasurer: Richard Bennett

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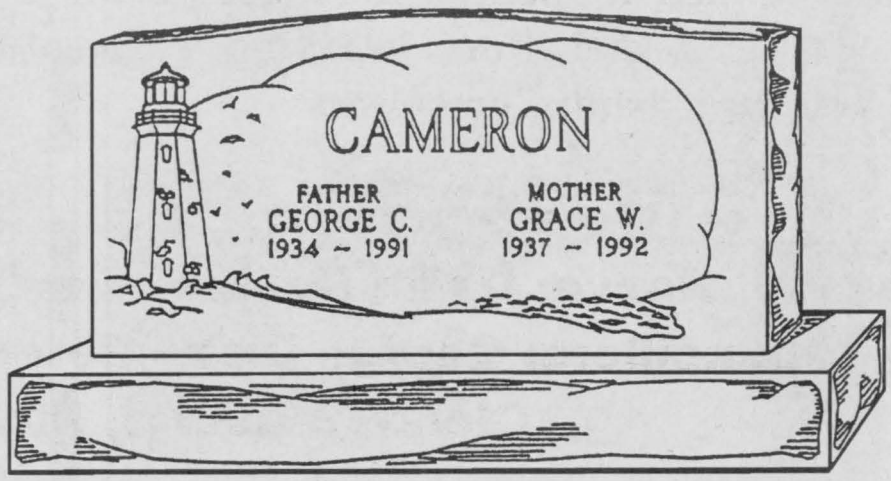

We Survived Ice Storm 1998

My Ice Storm Hero

These are my memories of Ice Storm Heroes who helped a "Newcomer" feel part of this special community.

Just when you think it's safe to retire (and perhaps to hibernate), along comes the ice storm of the century to complicate so many aspects of life and challenge one's ability to survive winter conditions. There, but for the grace of the following thoughtful people, went I. (This occurred 4 weeks into early retirement during the several adjustments such as reduced income, idleness, mourning and celebration and, of course, post-holiday blahs.)

To **Ross and Mona**, the neighbours with the immaculate, pet-free zone which they call home (not a pet hair in sight!), a HUGE thank you for taking in not only this somewhat panicking, very blue in the face with cold, woman, but also for accommodating without hesitation little Odie, the American cocker spaniel who sheds indiscriminately and follows every human who dares to go within a country mile of the kitchen with a cupboard love unmatched in canine history. But who could resist those big, coaxing spaniel eyes? Ross really should learn how to use them with discretion – the dog never had a chance! To witness Mona giving a whole new meaning to the phrase, "Where's the beef?" and rising faithfully at 3 a.m. to light the stove so that her one and only true love may come home from work or awake to a warm, cozy home. No wonder they've reached an important milestone together! Thanks for making a RUFF time so much more comfortable.

To the **Cole family**: Raymond, John and Sue for responding so quickly to what may have become a much more serious accumulation of ice and its consequences. Especially to Sue for her consistently professional, understanding and enthusiastic voice at the other end of the phone, with the patience of Job, doing her best to quell a near hysterical me. Glad to hear you received such a generous and well-deserved raise! Merci beaucoup!

To my cousins, **Valerie and Thom** in Brockville, for offering their home and woodburning fireplace, for calling often to check whether we were still OK and for helping after the storm in ways too numerous to mention. Thanks for being there (as always).

To the others who called from across Ontario, particularly Toronto and Mississauga – **Didi, Gale, Angela** and my sister, **Carol** who achieved some creative banking to save the day when the first pension cheque was delayed by several weeks. Never have the calls meant so much and the support been more appreciated. And that was BEFORE 10 cent a minute dime time, etc. Particularly, to Didi Gilker, who had the wisdom, insight and consideration to call daily for at least a few weeks AFTER the storm and power restoration. She understood that a crisis does not necessarily end when the crisis is officially over. Your efforts are truly appreciated and remembered. For a short while, I experienced the excitement of a teenager again, just at the sound of a telephone ringing.

To **Anna Mae** for always being there for me, my personal gratitude.

To **Bruce and the other staff on Brockville radio** for a superhuman effort and voices which at times were just a little reminiscent of Mr. Churchill's during a community's darkest, but finest, hours. You offered the best proof that the media tryly do perform public service. Many thanks.

To the **Ottawa Citizen** staff who wrote with compassion and accuracy throughout the crisis. It is noteworthy that at no time did the devastating loss of the editor's home to fire have any noticeable, negative effect on the paper's publishing. One of the best articles published was that which offered psychological support by listing the most common symptoms of human crisis response and stressing that such reactions and behaviour were normal, therby validating some foreign emotions for those who have been conditioned to feel guilt and weakness, if not failure, first. And, yes, you're right: the storm was a timely reminder to fortunate Canadians that no one is exempt from the perils of nature and it was a gentle nudging of our sometimes complacent selves that this is how it feels when our international neighbours are hard hit with floods, earthquakes, tornadoes, etc. This time, it was in our faces rather than in easily ignored newsprint or voices and peictures within the various other media. We had to pause a little before making deposits to the blue box for a few weeks, at least. Thank you for that.

To the **Swann family** for faithfully delivering the Citizen in the wee hours of the morning every day and allowing neither rain, snow, sleet, freezing rain, cranky clients nor seemingly impossible driving conditions to prevent them from fulfilling their duties. The risk of injury during the many teks, in poor light, from car to home delivery doors must have ben very high. Thanks for bringing a brighter start to dark days. You really do help to keep the newspaper in business!

To the **Hydro workers, township staff, clean-up and road crews and the myriads of volunteers**, one more "Thanks".

To the **local businesses** who were open, or tried to be, much appreciation for keeping us fed, clothed, informed, comforted and well supplied with the "essentials".

To the residents of our "sister" town, **Cobourg**, thanks for all the support.

To the **Prescott Journal** for requesting these stories and gently (well ... sort of) reminding us that follow up is essential to a happier ending and, hopefully, closure – and that communities don't just happen, they're created and maintained by ongoing efforts. Your current work in publicizing and encouraging fund-raising events to assist with providing funding for storm victims is clear evidence of your dedication to continuing this theme.

Thanks for serving the community so well!

Judy Paulsen
Prescott





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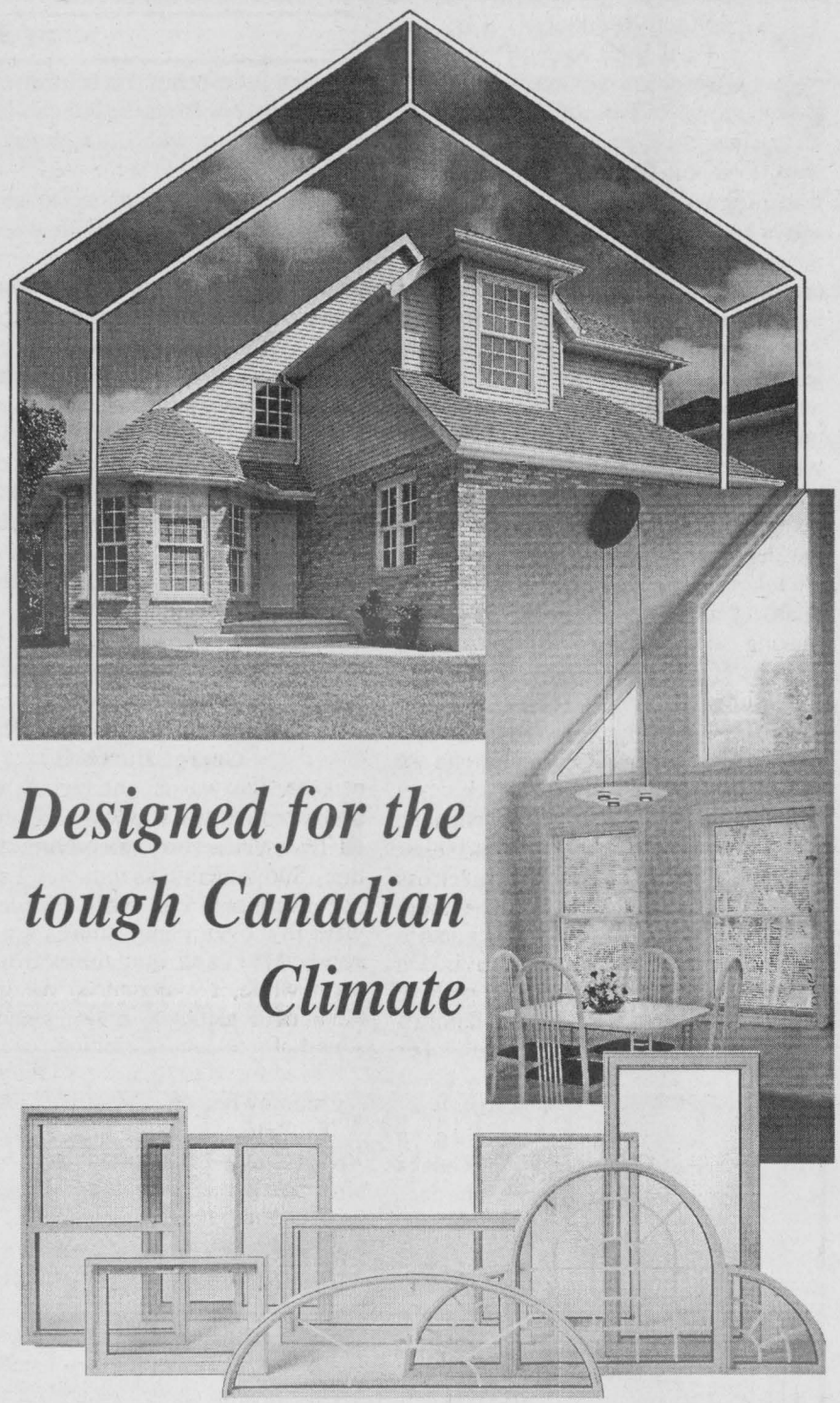

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We Survived Ice Storm 1998

Ice Storm Interviews

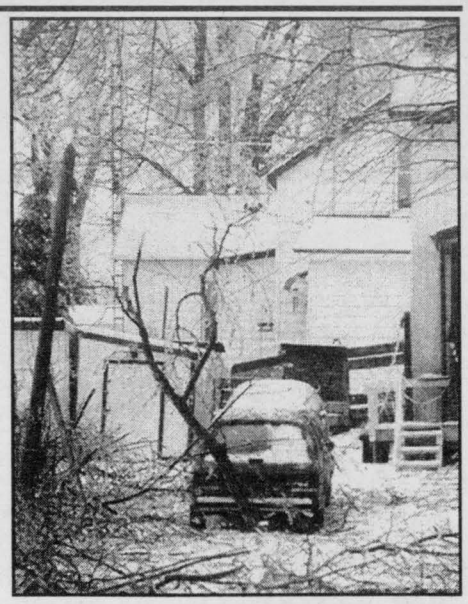
Ice Storm Interview with Paul John Arcand

Paul Arcand is a volunteer fireman in the town of Prescott. On Thursday, January 12, Paul was called from work to report to the firehall. There he was informed of the situation and told it was a state of emergency. He said he'd never seen so much devastation and destruction with the amount of ice, broken branches and trees and hydro lines. At the firehall the men were split into teams with various jobs to be covered around the clock. Paul said their first priority was the old age homes and shelters where the generators needed to be fueled and kept running. Paul remembered that before they could get started he and half the department responded to a fire call. He told me how they took turns standing guard at all the entrances to the town, making sure strangers didn't come in because of the added dangers in the darkness with no lighting and to prevent stealing or more damage to property. He said they took turns on call and patrolling the streets in shifts so everyone could get some much needed rest. Paul laughed when he told me how he and a buddy, Robert had spent the night in a jail cell to sleep because all the cots upstairs were taken. On Friday, Paul was assigned to work with Belleville hydro. He said it made it easier for the crew because he knew his way around town. Paul reported how he cut branches and helped with the hydro hookups from the ground. He had to communicate with Bill Lawrence, the fire chief and foreman for the P.U.C., by portable radio or telephone to go from job to job. He worked with the hydro crew for the duration of the storm until every house in Prescott had their power restored and then returned to his regular job at Casco. When asked what he remembered most, Paul recalled how everyone worked well together to get the job done, no one concerned themselves with stress or money they just concentrated on the task at hand. Paul told me if it happened again he wouldn't do anything differently, he could have used a little more rest but when there's a job to be done you just do it.

By Kelly Jean Cole, Grade 4

Ice Storm Interview with George Burchell

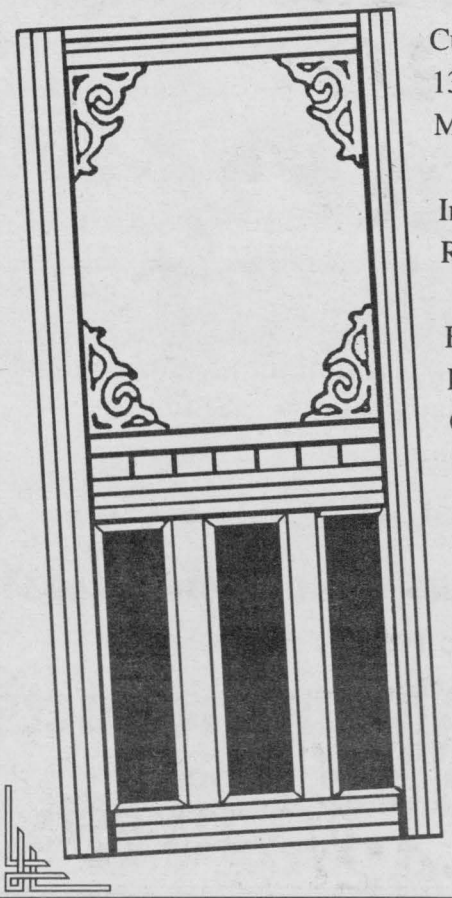
I knew this was an emergency when I looked out the window and saw that my electric box was lying in the ditch. When I first saw the ice I said to myself uh-oh!! I'm in big trouble. So I went to the barn and started to milk by hand. My authority came from the provincial government. My community helped me with the milking and they



brought in food. I had one night 8 to 10 people in the barn milking with only two lights. On a day with the machines it would take one hour to milk, but by hand it would take five to six hours. One thing that didn't work was that they didn't want to be milked by hand. So we left the ones that we couldn't get the milk out of we left them alone. Our biggest problem was the cows kicking. Next time I would be a lot faster to get a generator. If I would be able to change one thing it would be to get a generator. I have some thoughts in my head, but I haven't put them into work. I phoned the Ministry of Agriculture, they phoned a couple of times to see if I had a generator. The police and fire department came to see if I was alright. A lady came with groceries. I had a newspaper called "Country Roots" who came to interview me. I was very stressed out through the ice storm. All I got for sleep was three to four hours. Two stories stick out in my mind: one is milking at night with only two lanterns. The other is that when we blew a fuse in the generator. Mike Machismos was checking it and had it plugged in and he touched the fuse and got a big shock. I started to laugh and could not stop. Mike Longtin took his rototiller engine and hooked it up to the vacuum pump. So that took us about one and a half hours to milk. I lost about $9200 with out the $2000 I got from the government. The milk trucks came after we had the generator hooked up, so that we could cool the milk. I lost about $100 of food. I kept my food cold by putting it in the porch. One night we had a turkey for supper and we were going to have soup off it tomorrow. The cats got into it and had a party that night. For us to make a meal it would take us half a day to cook it. I was out of power for sixteen days. One night we had everyone come in and have a drink and supper.

By Kelly Longtin, Spencerville

Country Pine & Whatknots



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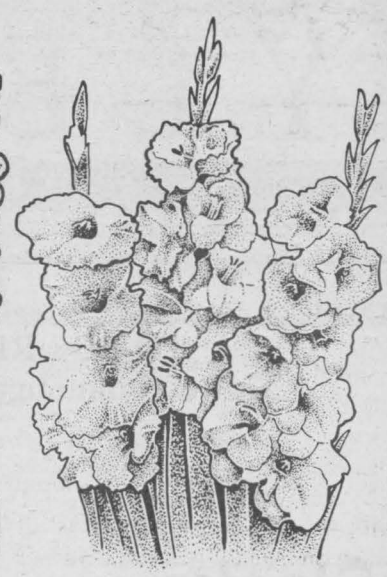

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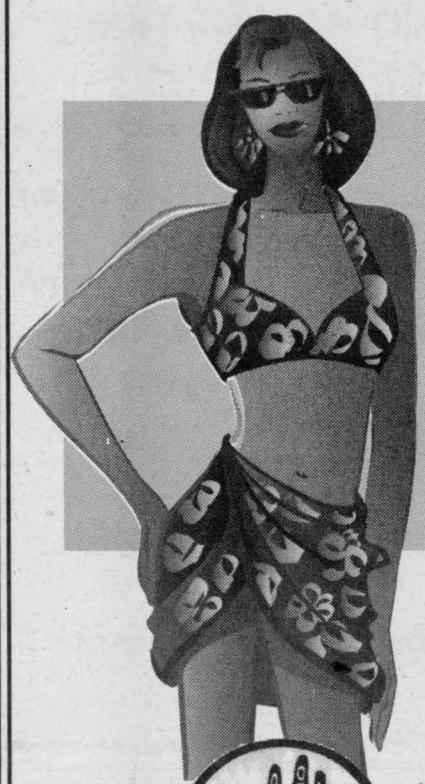



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