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Santa's an Oddfellow

Santa Clause, a.k.a. Gerry Wardle, on his way down to the main drag in South Mountain on the I.O.O.F. float. A nice local parade, at least no drops of rain came down on this one — unlike so many of the others in neighbouring communities! Santa stopped by the Agricultural hall at the fairgrounds, where youngsters enjoyed the presence of the merry gentleman. The South Mountain I.O.O.F. has provided Santa, and helpings of hot chocolate, for the past 15 years.

Chieftain photo by N. H. Zandbergen

Tindall home could go to township, DIAMONDS

by Nelson Zandbergen
Chieftain Staff Reporter

The Tindall home could be saved from the wrecker's ball in a deal that would see the former lock master's house at the Iroquois point flipped over to the township for $1.

Situated across from the Iroquois dam on the north embankment of the Iroquois lock, the property would be operated by the DIAMONDS Land Trust as a tourism and heritage information centre. It would focus on the seaway project.

The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation, which owns the building, had until recently insisted the old Victorian be demolished or at least moved off its spot overlooking the Iroquois Locks this fall.

But that position apparently softened after a mid-October meeting between corporation officials and Don Graham, president of the DIAMONDS Land Trust. The potential deal, following further discussions with Graham, township staff and corporation officials, was made public at last Thursday's meeting of South Dundas council.

Final details of the proposal still need to be worked out before council actually votes on the matter. No decisions were made Thursday, though council members seemed impressed with what they saw during a walkabout of the property after their meeting at the Iroquois Civic Centre.

The township would actually own the house, purchasing it from the Corporation for $1. The surrounding yard would remain in Corporation hands but leased back to the township for $100 a year for 15 years.

Coun. Audrey Rooney commended Graham for turning the situation around.

"I would like to congratulate Don Graham. Don took the ball and ran with it," Rooney said, noting she personally "got nowhere" when she first contacted officials about stopping the impending demolition, after rumours surfaced last summer.

Jean-Paul Bernier, the previous canal manager at the Iroquois Locks who retired in 1997, moved out of the house in September. His replacement, Luc Lefevbre, preferred to stay in Cornwall, so the Corporation decided to get out of the housing business.

Demolition, in the bureaucracy's estimation, was the surest way to meet risk-management objectives. Graham persuaded them there was another option.

"What they don't want is a headache," DIAMONDS spokesman Jacques Asselin explained.



Nice place, nice price

... but will it cost anything down the road? Don Graham (far right), president of the DIAMONDS Land Trust, assured council members that the Trust could operate the former Tindall farmstead in a self-reliant manner. The township could purchase the beautiful property from the Seaway for $1 and a $100-a-year land lease. The home had been slated for demolition.

Chieftain photo by N. H. Zandbergen.

"The property stays nice and clean and there is risk management," he said of the proposed deal.

The Iroquois-based realtor is one of 10 members on the trust's board of directors. He was pinch-hitting for Graham, whose sore back kept him from attending the meeting.

A few stipulations by the Corporation are on the table so far. A chain-link fence would be required, on the east, west and south boundaries of the property. Proper liability insurance would need to be in place. (Clerk Bill Horner noted the property could be assumed under the township's public policy.) Also, nobody would actually be allowed to live in the house.

The house is in a prime location to take advantage of the "captive audience" who visit the locks every season, Asselin said. "Thousands of people go to see the ships... this will give them a chance to learn a little more about our community.

"It presents a unique opportunity in tying up the past with the future."

He added that M.P. Bob Kilger's office is on side. "They see that as a heritage house more than anything else ... It's less competitive to get money from a heritage point of view."

And money, as always, was an issue. But there was a tone of optimism that DIAMONDS and the community could get it done without township bailouts.

"I think this is a very viable thing. We can get a lot of people that will contribute to this," Coun. Rooney said.

Coun. Cam Martel was equally enthusiastic.

"DIAMONDS itself can position itself as a vehicle to attract funding," he said.

"We know the township has has too many buildings right now," Asselin offered candidly, but adding, "I think the township should work with us."

Though details are still very much in the planning stage, the home would become a display area to commemorate the St. Lawrence Seaway and hydroelectric project of the 50s. The history of the Galop Canal could also be emphasized, Don Graham said later.

The Tindall home lies in the thick of all of it. Once the site of the Tindall family orchard, apple trees made way for the Iroquois lock — a chasm just a stone's throw from the front porch — during the Seaway project. That same porch watched as Point Rockway, New York, disappeared behind an imposing mountain of concrete as the control dam rose up from the river 40 years ago. To the north remains an elevated view of the old Galop Canal.

"It's probably the only area that offers past and present in such an ideal nucleus," Coun. Martel remarked.

Walkabout

Under blue skies and balmy weather — perfect conditions for a sale, Asselin joked — four

Please turn to page 5

Cardinal Skaters present Traditions of Christmas

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

The excitement grew as youngsters began filling up the changerooms. Moms and grandmothers were busy tying up skates, straightening costumes and providing words of encouragement for stars on ice.

The atmosphere at the Cardinal Community Arena on Friday evening was one of anticipation as relatives piled into the bleachers, setting up movie cameras to capture that spiral or that first moment on the ice with the spotlight on their family member.

The ice was ready, the decorations in place and everyone was set. Last minute checks were made and the behind the scenes folks were on top of things. It was almost "Show Time!" After Oh Canada was played, the show began.

Traditions of Christmas was a fun theme. First on the ice were Effie Theodosiou, Charlotte Wood, Cole Burchell, Troy Tousignant, John Wood, Kyra Dumm, Devin Johnston and Megan Buckland. What brings the spirit of the season to life more than that tree which will grace your home? These young skaters were skating to the theme..."Decorating the Christmas Tree" they were cute as could be. Lights twinkled and garlands were hung. These were the greatest trees ever!

Then Krista Schrader skated a solo much to the delight of the audience. Her black and white outfit reflected the spotlight and she did a great job, showing the younger skaters what they can aspire to.

A "Visit from Santa" is on everyones' list for Christmas. Dressed in that red suit complete with white beards, this was the cutest group of Santas ever! On the ice in suits of bright red were; Michael Tracey, Nathan Hamilton, Natalie Marchand, Anne McNarin, Brittany Myers, Emma Patrick, Jenna Toupin and Curtis Tousignant, Ho! Ho! Ho!

Jenna Shay a South Dundas gal who resides on the third Concession in Matilda Ward was up next to skate her solo. Watching her warmup back-stage it is evident she is progressing well. She was confident as she broke through the curtain and began her routine.

Then it was 13-year old Sara Rust, a skater who calls the Nepean Club her base now demonstrated that all her hard work paid off. This gal is a pre-novice skater working on her Novice level. She passed her Gold Free Skate last March. Placing fourth at a Limberup Skate in Kingston and fifth out of 14 skaters at the Eastern Ontario Sectionals. She was terrific. Sara lives in Cardinal and skated this show as a guest skater, for the club that gave her start. She hopes to one day coach other skaters. She skated to "Let it Snow" as well as a Hungarian folk dance.

True Christmas memories are

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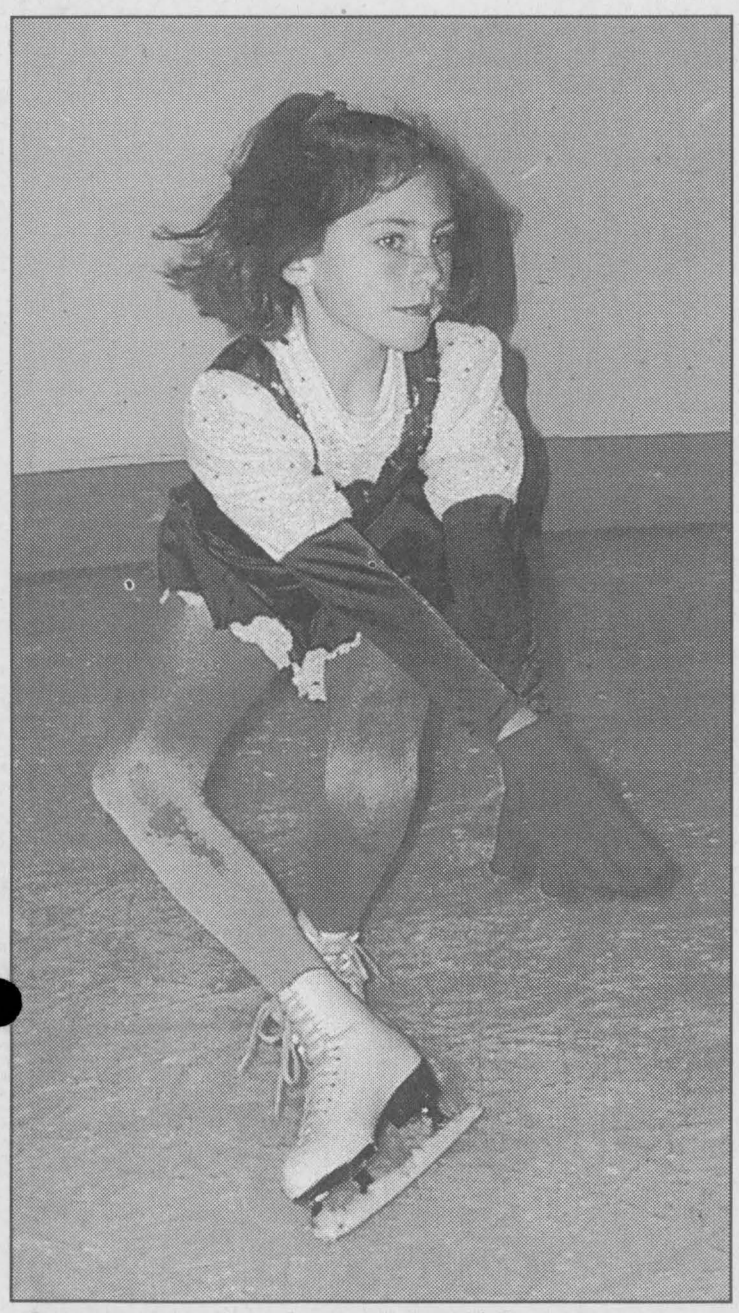


Guest Skater from Matilda

Jena Shay who lives on the 3rd Concession in Matilda Ward in South Dundas and skates in Cardinal was a guest soloist at the annual show, Traditions of Christmas. She does a mean spin for sure. A delight to watch as she glides across the ice, this young lady could go far.

Chieftain Photo by S.L.Johnston

Tulips to extend Bank Street to Morrisburg

by Nelson Zandbergen
Chieftain Staff Reporter

County Road 31 could be renamed Bank Street all the way out to Morrisburg under a plan initiated at a local conference.

Thirty-one is already officially recognized as Bank Street to the border of Ottawa-Carleton in Vernon and extending the name southward could help boost tourism, Councillor Cam Martel told the last meeting of South Dundas Council on Thursday.

"The whole objective is economic development to capitalize on the Ottawa connection," he said.

The immediate marketing connection involves the standardization of signs and the Canadian Tulip Festival committee in Ottawa, which is prepared to send some of the flowers this way if a deal can be reached. Martel said 2,000 tulips could end up in front of the Upper Canada Playhouse and another 300 at the corner of 31 and County Road 2.

"They were kind of excited about it," he said of the Tulip Festival representatives who attended the Dec. 6 conference at the McIntosh Inn.

At the Dec. 5 meeting of North Dundas council, Mayor Claude Cousineau mentioned that tulips could also dot the landscape at locations on his turf.

Cousineau was among the local politicians, officials and interested citizens who attended the Morrisburg conference. Coun. Martel, Mayor Johnny Whitteker and Osgoode Mayor Doug Thompson were there as well.

Under the plan, village signs along the artery in both townships would be replaced and standardized with the bold graphical design seen in the hamlets of Ottawa-Carleton -- Vernon's is a good example. Tourists headed north from the 401 would read that they are heading along "the Gateway to the Nation's Capital and the Ca-

Please turn to page 14

Christmas in the air

Christmas approaches ever nearer with various celebrations and occurrences to chart the imminent arrival of the big date:

- Tonight, Wednesday, Dec. 15, Seaway District High School features a musical salute to the season as the students present their annual Christmas concert tonight. It starts at 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, Dec. 17, Legion Branch 370 Ladies Auxiliary host their third annual Christmas dinner at the local Legion. For only $6, you can enjoy a delicious, traditional meal. Call in or take out. Meals get under way at 11:30 a.m till they run out!
- Monday, Dec. 20, the Angel Tree will be bare of angels at the Bank of Montreal in Iroquois as the gifts get taken to the Morrisburg Legion, where volunteers will sort and distribute food baskets and presents to the less fortunate.
- Tuesday, Dec. 21, Benson Public School will be abuzz with the sounds of Christmas at its annual concert, beginning at 7 p.m. Those who can are encouraged to attend on Monday, Dec. 20 at 12:40, when the dress rehears. l is held.

A Carman House Christmas

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

It was like stepping back in history as you opened the door to the Carman House. The front parlour was filled with Christmas crafts by Mrs. G. Cromie. From her stuffed Santas to her crocheted doilies, from the sweet angels to the table runners in their festive gay colours they seemed at home here.

The house seemed to burst into life as it filled with visitors. The Carman House Museum Committee hosted a Christmas luncheon, of steaming vegetable soup, hot cider, homemade biscuits and homemade jams and invited their friends and neighbours. Sitting at the antique table enjoying the warmth, the meal and the company, it was like being in another era. A time when life was simpler and slower and people took time to enjoy the season.

The fire crackled and snapped in the kitchen hearth as folks enjoyed their meal, and laughter and cheery sounds emanated from the room.

Christmas ornaments and Christmas cards along with writing paper, all hand made in gay seasonal tones was on sale as well.

Decorated with fresh pine boughs and holly berries, window wells and the mantle made the House resemble a welcome oasis in a cold and barren land. A brightly, if sparsely decorated Christmas tree stood in the window well of the kitchen. Red bows and ribbons adorned it and all that was missing were the garlands of popcorn and berries that would have been popular in the early 1900s when the Carman family would have gathered to celebrate the season.

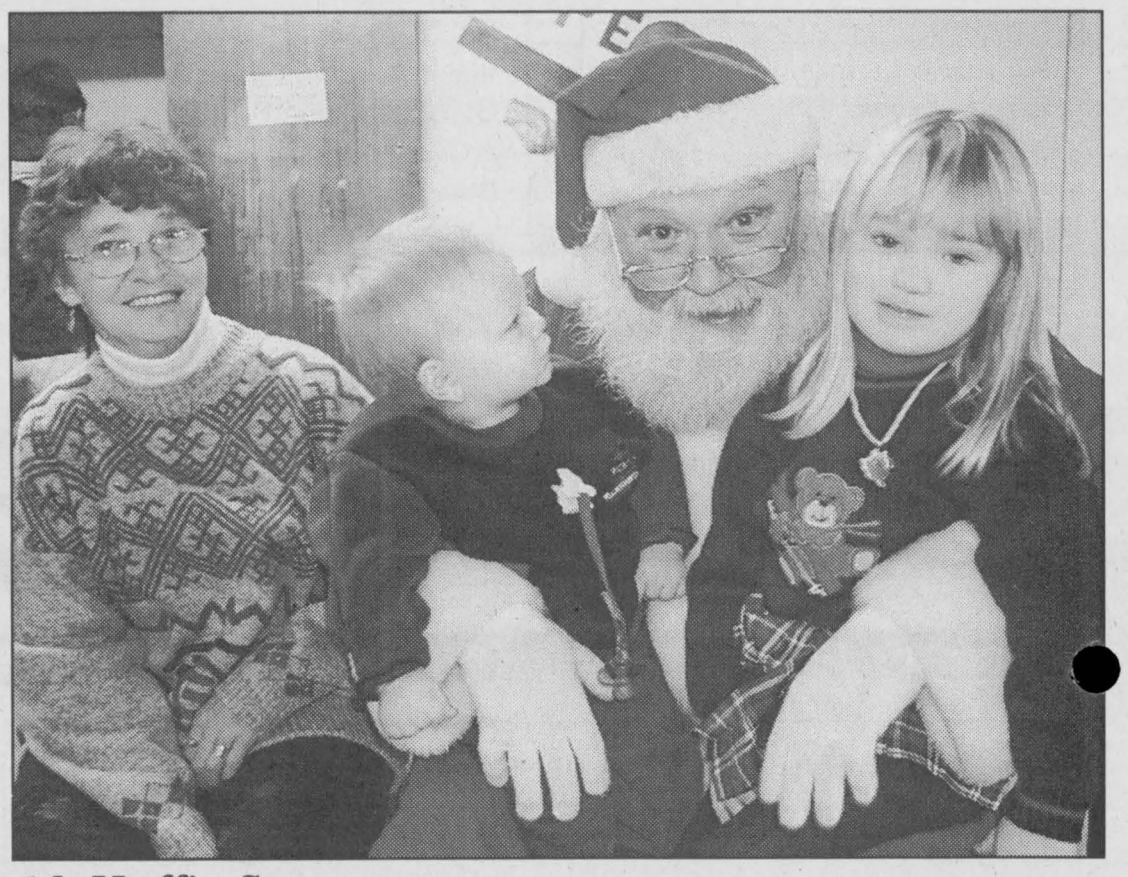
If only the walls could talk, what tales of Christmas past they could share! When youngsters would scurry to find that gift under the tree after the wood pile was refurbished and the barn chorses completed. There is no doubt that if it could talk, the Carman House would have expressed joy in having a festive celebration at this time of year.

It was like having the ancestral heritage of the House join in yet another celebration of the season. Those who came out to support the Committee went home with a smile and a full tummy. Thanks and Merry Christmas.



A Carman House Christmas

The atmosphere was festive and the Christmas decorations set a fine mood along with the pine boughs and pine tree as the Carman House Museum Committee welcomed folks to a wintery luncheon to celebrate the season. *Chieftain Photo by S.L.Johnston*



McHaffie Santa

Little Griffin, 8 mos., and Logan Patterson, 4, sit with their favourite elf at the McHaffie Flea Market, Sunday. And this Santa had a real beard, which Griffin gave a close look. The kids' grandmother, Sheila McHaffie, looks on from beside St. Nick.

Chieftain photo by N. H. Zandbergen.

No ballot box: it could be an option in South Dundas

by Nelson Zandbergen
Chieftain Staff Reporter

To vote for this candidate, press 17 ... To hear the list of candidates for your ward again, press 11, followed by the pound key ...

The ballot box in South Dundas might be a thing of the past if council likes what they hear in an upcoming staff report on alternative voting methods.

Township clerk Bill Horner indicated at the last meeting of council that he's been checking into the options available under the Municipal Elections Act and would have more information for council's Dec. 23 meeting in Iroquois.

"We're looking at vote by phone or vote by mail and dispensing with ballot boxes," he said.

According to Sandra McNamee of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, telephone and mail voting can replace the ballot box in municipal elections, and has been allowed since the 1996 municipal elections.

Exact figures on how many Ontario municipalities got rid of the ballot box in 1996 were not available for press time. But seminars are being held on the subject for local administrators and there could be a greater number of municipalities making the jump to electronic and mail-in ballots for 2000.

The newer techniques are supposed to be cheaper than the traditional method, while greatly increasing voter participation.

The telephone system works by first sending voters an information package containing candidate lists and instructions for casting the vote.

Two ID numbers come with the package, which the voter enters at the start of the telephone voting process. Once the votes are punched in, the voter can no longer access the system.

A mail-in ballot system could also be used in tandem with the telephone system, for those who prefer not to tangle with voice-mail — or don't have touch-tone.

According to township CAO Mike Waddell, traditional elections in South Dundas cost in the neighbourhood of $25-$30,000.

Figures on how much could be saved with the telephone and mail-in system were not available for press time.

Christmas Tour winners

South Dundas Country Christmas Tour is pleased to announce the winners. Fabulous gift baskets with a value up to $100.00 of donated items by the Tour participants were available in there categories of stamped passports.

Winner of the seven stamp category is Lorna Driscoll of Mountain, six stamps category winner is Rachel Crowder of Chesterville and the five stamp winner is Dorothy Goldie of Cardinal.

South Dundas Country Christmas Tour congratulates these winners and sincerely wants to thank all the visitors for making the Second Annual Country Christmas Tour a wonderful success!

A hearty thanks as well to the Friends of the Iroquois Library for the community support of the "Adopt a Book" program which was this year's charity focus of the Tour.

Great fun at South Mountain parade

by Sandra Lee Johntson
Chieftain Staff Reporter

The Annual South Mountain Santa Claus Parade wound around the corner of the County Road and boogied along Main Street in the Village on Saturday afternoon. Much to the delight of the youngsters who lined the route and who filed into the South Mountain Agricultural Hall to meet the jolly old elf himself, Santa Claus, Mr. C., the jolly elf in the red suit-whatever you call him was in the parade.

Sponsored by the South Mountain IOOF Lodge 428, the Mountain and District Lions Club and the Mountain Trail Blazers Snowmobile Club, this was a great show. All that lacked was the snow.

Among the gaily decorated floats and entries were the Fire Departments from Mountain and Chesterville (sirens always get the blood churning for the youngsters), Rick's Gas Bar, the Trail Blazers, Weagants's Farm Supply, Beaver Ridge Farm, North Dundas Township (a dumper dressed in colourful lights), JED Transport and Hamilton-Graf Equipment along with numerous individual residential entries that added to the overall appeal of the parade. A nativity scene depicted the true Christmas meaning, a decorated golf cart driven by a clown was fun and those miniature horses are something else!!

Those who had the nerve to sit on Santas' lap were rewarded by having the chance to tell him what is on their list and got a treat from the old fellow.

A great way to welcome the season in style. Well done everyone. A show of community spirit is wonderful to see, as friends draw together to entertain the people they serve and live alongside of. Merry Christmas to all!!

Merry Christmas

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- Knowledge of community resources
- Must have current driver's licence and the use of a car
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Please forward a resume and a brief paragraph on "why this job" by January 15, 2000 to:

Dundas County Hospice
Box 228, Park Drive Villa,
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A selection board will interview all suitable candidates at a date and time to be advised.

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Silver Anniversary Pins

The Iroquois Women's Institute President Leona McIntosh presented 25-year pins to Mrytle Johnston, Joan Morrell and Bunny McGimpsey at the Annual Christmas dinner hosted at the Legion, Branch 370. Jean Loucks was to get her pin as well, but was absent for the evening. A delicious meal was served and enjoyed and Santa came to give everyone a gift. *Chieftain Photo by S.L.Johnston*

30 public housing units going up in Williamsburg

by Nelson Zandbergen
Chieftain Staff Reporter

Construction on 30 new rental townhouses and duplexes is slated to begin this spring in Williamsburg by the Williamsburg Non-profit Housing Corporation.

The impending development marks the resumption of a project that was cancelled by provincial cuts just as things were ready to get under way in June 1995. A call for tenders went out last week.

This time around, however, the project is not dependent on government money.

"I don't believe there was any government funding," James Colizza, the architect in charge of the project, said.

A well-placed source confirmed the corporation will borrow the money it needs to get the job done.

Trevor Tolley, who heads the corporation, was out of the country and could not be reached for comment on the project, which will go to the west of the Park Lane seniors complex in Williamsburg.

John MacIntosh, a former vice-chair of the corporation and a current board member, said the plan is to have the homes available as lower cost rental housing, especially for seniors.

"There isn't much affordable housing for seniors in this area," he said.

Those interested in renting one of the places must be 55 or older and will have to apply to at the Park Drive Villa office in Williamsburg. They can also call 535-2470 to have an application mailed to them.

Spots have been allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis and there is already a backlog, said Barb Dalrymple, who runs the public housing office at the Villa. She added, however, that new applicants are always welcome.

Of the 30 buildings, 10 will be single units — two-bedroom, two-story townhouses — and the rest will be two-story duplexes, Colizza said. None of the models include a garage.

The homes will be part brick, part siding, with full basements.

Final figures on the cost of the project were not available because the tendering process hasn't been completed. The corporation is expected to award tender by the end of February.



Pressure check

Betty Guy (left), a nurse from Inkerman, checks the blood pressure of Wilma Smith of Morrisburg. The Dundas County chapter of the Heart and Stroke Foundation held its Christmas from the Heart soup luncheon in Morrisburg Saturday. In addition to aiding a worthy fundraiser, guests could get their blood pressure checked and learn a little about heart health.
Chieftain photo by N. H. Zandbergen.

THE NEW MILLENNIUM 2000



Draw for $1000 Bill

Santa got a hand from Bunny McGimpsey (WI) and Legion President, Darlene Riddell as he pulled out the winning ticket for the $1000 Bill the Iroquois Legion raffled off. Bob Duvall of Morrisburg was the winner... a nice help at Christmas time!! Congrats Bob!! *Chieftain Photo by S.L.Johnston*

Christmas Exchange brings community to a common cause

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

The South Dundas Christmas Exchange committee is pleased with the apparent enthusiasm and support that the community has expressed this season. Many volunteers have carried out their responsibilities such as placing food orders for hams and perishable goods to include in the boxes which will provide food for a family for the entire Christmas Day.

"There was a concern when we began this year that we would not be able to provide a new toy per child, but the students of Iroquois' Seaway District High School have once again collected close to $1000 and are shopping today for the toys needed for the many needy children on our list," says Robin Lane with a broad smile. "These students have had a huge food drive as well."

"The mitten tree is dangling a beautiful variety of hand knitted items and it is heartwarming to witness labours of love such as this!" noted lane.

She continues, "Dixon's Corners Public School have completed their food drive and the public school in Morrisburg has been wearily counting the close to $1000.00 worth of pennies the students have collected to purchase toys and food for the Exchange!

The Committee is grateful to Craig Packaging for donating suitable boxes for the food. On Tuesday, December 21, the students at the Alternative School as well as those from the High School will be present to work very hard at carrying the heavy boxes laden with food to the waiting cars of the recipients.

Packing Box Day is Monday, December 20 at the Morrisburg Legion and many volunteers have committed themselves to helping in that way.

Royal Canadian Legion Newsletter

Just a reminder that this Friday, December 17th the Annual Turkey Dinner for the public will be taking place at Branch 370 starting at noon until the food is all gone. You can eat in or take-out, which ever is convenient for you. The price is still only $6.00 each. This event is growing more popular each year and we hope to see you there!! The Ladies Auxiliary will be quite busy, gearing up for the event.

The Cribbage League action this past December 11th, saw Wilf Summers top the field of 17 competitors. Wilf lost only one game by a slim five points and that was to the second place finisher, Lynda Head. Paul Morrow edged out Randy Horricks for third place honour. The skunks were plentiful with sixteen in total handed out on this day. Willis Douglas and Dennis Wright were the unhappy recipients of there skunks each, while Linda McKee added two to her collection along with Bunny Bennett who was making his season debut after several weeks of practice at the Cedar Glen Golf Club.

At the Euchre tables the first prize went to Shirley Gibson while Louise Crites managed to grab second prize. The door prize was picked up by Arnold Barkley. Now, on Tuesday evening, last night, the last Euchre Party until after the New Year. They also enjoyed their Christmas luncheon last evening to end 1999 on a full stomach!

At the Duplicate Bridge tables activity was brisk at five tables hosting players. The top winners on the evening were none other than Rick and Judy Darling. The Duplicate bridge players will be playing an extra week before Christmas and will be returning after the New Year as well.

The Ladies Auxiliary held their $1000. bill draw and were fortunate that all the tickets had been sold. The winner was Bob Duvall of Morrisburg. A nice present at this time of year! The ladies want to express their appreciation to all who sold and to all who bought tickets. This was another successful raffle for the Auxiliary.

Before closing, do not forget about the turkey dinner this Friday. You won't be sorry if you come out!!

Also, if anyone can volunteer a couple of hours of their time on this day, just come to the Legion...it will be quite a day, guarantee

See you all later.

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"THE LAMPS ARE *lit*, THE FIRES BURN *bright*– THE HOUSE IS FULL OF *life* AND *light*." *Longfellow*

It's the season of giving and Ontario Power Generation is proud to announce that its employees and pensioners have raised $2 million through their Charity Trust Campaign. Ontario Power Generation's Ottawa-St. Lawrence Plant Group employees raised more than $28,000 for local charities including Cornwall and District United Way, Renfrew Victoria Hospital and the Deep River Community Chest.

Happy Holidays

ONTARIO POWER GENERATION

THE CHIEFTAIN

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Imperial rules

Who Wants to be a Millionaire has taken the airwaves by storm, and if you're not familiar with the game show, it features New York talk-show host Regis Philbin leading individual contestants through a question and answer session on a variety of subjects. Each successful answer doubles the contestant's money, all the way up to a million bucks.

"Final ansuh?" Philbin says through his pearly whites.

"Yes, that's my final answer," the contestant usually responds.

The host looks down at a monitor, and with his forehead doing a quick, pensive rumple, flicks his eyes back up to the contestant and pauses for an instant.

He breaks into a smile and breaks the shallow dramatic tension. "That's absolutely correct!"

Early in one program, there was a flush of collective embarrassment for the guy who didn't know the freezing point of fresh water, at sea level, is 32 F. You could just about hear the tsk-tsking from households across America.

On the other hand, I couldn't help but think of the deafening silence likely to be coming from younger viewers north of the border. Fact is, they were likely to be as clueless on the subject as the young American who should've known better.

"Huh, I don't know Fahrenheit," they probably shrugged.

Metric. In the years since the federal liberals aborted their ill-fated attempt to ram the system down the throat of the country, we can now see how the generation that grew up under the Trudeau regime — the metric guinea pigs — have been the losers.

Speaking as a gen-Xer, I must say I feel a certain amount of resentment about being one of those guinea pigs. A system of weights and measures is part of a country's grassroots culture, but I and others of my generation were the first to be denied the opportunity to absorb this part of our cultural heritage — the Imperial system — during our formative years in school.

Of course, like all idiotic, heavy-handed government programs, the imposition of metric ignored the reality on the ground. Therefore, we all grew up hearing acres, miles per hour, pounds, inches and Peter-Piper-picked-a-peck from our parents. To this day, younger generations don't think weight or height in terms of kilograms or centimeters. It's pounds and feet, thank you very much.

We speak the basic language, but actual literacy was stolen from us. Almost none of us can say how many feet are in a mile, how many square feet in an acre, how many rods in a section, or how many pecks in a bushel. Big brother denied us something we should've been taught along with our ABC's: the Imperial system. This is the legacy of government condescension in the 70s.

It's very ironic to think the same federal party claiming to be so concerned with Canadian culture today — zealously defending Canadian content regulations, for instance — robbed future generations of a portion of their cultural birthright.

And what a robbery it was. The amount wasted on the less than successful switch to metric must be astonishing. Taxpayers shelled out to change road signs, hire bureaucrats at the Metric Commission, and provide grants to industry for the changeover. And they shelled out to have metric police bully small business owners out of their gallons of gas and square yards of carpeting. Considering this occurred at a time when governments were proud to run deficits, and considering the amortization costs, it wouldn't be surprising if Canada's existing $600 billion debt contains a frightful number of metric dollars.

And there was money shamefully squandered on metric propaganda. Remember those silly TV commercials?

An article by Bob Mellor in the Nov. 28 issue of the *Ottawa Citizen* somewhat wistfully recalls his role in an unsuccessful Metric Commission initiative to get the CFL to switch over to a field based on meters instead of yards. He unabashedly describes how $500,000 of taxpayers' money was spent on the plan, which the bureaucrats considered vital to metric's future. They wanted more "visibility" for metric, thereby increasing its public acceptance. The very idea of all those yard lines dancing across Canadian TV screens every Sunday didn't exactly meet with their objective to have everyone swallow the metric doctrine.

Unbelievable.

A relic of metric propaganda can actually be seen in the South Mountain post office, where a 1978 plaque proudly commemorates the building as the first government structure designed under the system. Twenty-one years later and a two-by-four is still a two-by-four, however.

In retrospect, the metric thing seems so very isolationist. Our biggest trading partner by far, even in the 70s, was the U.S. — trade that has grown by leaps and bounds since then. What was the government thinking by putting up a hidden trade barrier between the two countries? Perhaps it was an attempt to keep Canadians at home: make a 12-ounce can of pop such an alien concept to a Canadian that he'd never move down south.

Actually, the whole system of liquid measurements in Canada, based on the British Imperial gallon and not the smaller U.S. gallon, was part of Canada's uniqueness. Now we're left with the lifeless litre.

The producers of *Who Wants to be a Millionaire* have it right by not allowing Canadians on the show — at least young Canadians. We'd just end up looking stupid on those Fahrenheit questions. Thanks for that, Pierre.

NZ

A Claus Encounter of the holiday kind happens near Williamsburg

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

focus

Ho! Ho! Ho! Bless my buttons, as the jolly old elf himself would say. It is the season to be jolly. While visions of sugar plums dance in our heads, we attempt to get into the mood, to catch the spirit. Well, if you are having trouble getting things in motion for Christmas, about all you will need is to have a "Claus encounter of the holiday kind" and a short drive to Williamsburg will take care of this...

Stepping into the century old farm house it is difficult not to be astounded...everywhere you look, in each corner and cranny there is a Santa. Smiling at you from behind that fluffy beard or grinning in an impish fashion, there is a Santa for every taste and every dream.

The Santas run the gamut, from short to tall, from stuffed to wooden, from plush to ceramic, from old to new and everything in-between. Dressed in the traditional red suit, he can be seen in purple, in green, in checkers and in fur as well.

Santa as we know him is a remarkable fellow with extraordinary powers. Unencumbered by human limitations, he is able to circumvent the globe in a single night, visit the home of every child and leave appropriate gifts for each little boy and girl. Add to this fact, he has no difficulty in being in an infinite number of places all at the same time. He is quite simply, fantastic and at Christmas time, given the proper spirit within ourselves, the fellow can do the impossible, he can pervade all gloom and shatter all scepticism and doubt.

Whether you know him as Santa Claus, Kris Kringle, Father Christmas or Grandfather Frost...he is magical and the sign at the entrance does not lie...Santa DOES stop here! (as the sign says at the bottom of the steps leading to the porch.)

The spirit seems to permeate the very walls of the Richmire Farm located on the outskirts of Williamsburg. Inside the kitchen door, one can only stop abruptly and stare. Santa is on the shelves, on the beams, on the Christmas tree, entwined in the window vine, on tables, in sleighs, in cabinets, on the wall (in hangings) on pillow covers, in books and cards, on cans, tins and trays. He is in cars, on sleds, in clear balls, on candles, adorning music boxes, painted on plates, crocheted and dangling from tree branches. He can bee seen on pens and pencils, sitting in an egg holder, smiling from mugs, calendars and handsaws...there are bear Santas and mice Santas, there are Santas from other lands and such a variety of features and costumes, it just stirs the spirit. One thing is similar about all the over 250 Santas that Bonnie Richmire has collected...their faces each make the Santas display a character of their own. They seem to take on a personality of their very own. Looking deeply into their tiny eyes, the magic of Christmas shines through.

Bonnie does not really recall when she began this collecting thing but thinks the whole thing got started when she was at home; "Mom and Dad always made Christmas a special time for us when we were growing up, I was allowed to decorate the family tree. "When I left home I was given the ornaments and my obsession with the Christmas season was fostered," says this truly friendly lady. Then as she thinks back, it was her husband, Raymond who purchased a Santa on a rocking horse for her one Christmas just after their thirty-year marriage began and as it is definitely plain to see the rest"is history."

Bonnie spends hours painting ceramic Santas and the grin on her face shows she really likes her work. The "Millennium Santa" is looking pretty good as she works on one of the few she intends on completing yet before Christmas Eve. She confides that it takes about 12 hours to paint this masterpiece. She has smaller Santas as well which she says take about one-half the time to paint. Taking classes in Winchester with a bunch of ladies whom she calls her friends gives her a bit of a social evening as well as a hobby."It is not hard, just takes time, but I like it, so the time is insignificant." She sells her work which is evident as well on saw blades, wooden pieces, sleighs, and birdhouses which her father makes.

Santa literally " takes over the house" at this time of year. She does not know exactly how many Santas she has, they do not all go away when the season is over, she leaves many of them out all year round. "It takes me a week to unpack and decorate the house using the ones I do put away each year," says Bonnie.

"I get my Santas at flea markets, craft shows and sales and commission them as well. "Reading a magazine entitled Santa Claus I have been able to get in touch with people who create the most marvellous Santas." She points to a jolly Santa and tells us that many of them remind her of her childhood. "I have had several made especially for me." Bonnie shows a Santa with a lovely green and white costume who stands in a glass-front cabinet. "This one's clothes are made from my wedding dress. I did not have a white dress, it was green and I made it myself. This seemed a great way to preserve it and have something to remind me of my wedding day in a manner that would remain with me." Another wears a vest made from a nephew's vest. "A lady in Brockville made this one for me, and I have had 3 made for my children so they too can enjoy the magic that is Santa."

She shows a magazine and explains that she has corresponded with more than one

Please turn to page 5



A terrific Santa Claus and Bonnie Richmire *Chieftain Photo by S.L.Johnston*

Christmas shopping as light snow falls

Just Plain Livin'
with Sandra Lee

Driving along County Road 2 the other day, it was strange to realize that snow flakes were actually striking the windshield. It was only late last week that this same trip netted a few snapshots of tall ship reflections in the mighty St. Lawrence summer like conditions prevailed. Enjoying the sunshine last week a lunch was eaten along the river, like a picnic in December. Then as the same journey was made the ground is covered with a light dusting of snow. The sky is dark and the temperatures dip low. What a crazy weather pattern!

The weekend was busy and the two reporters at The Chieftain shared the assignments. The old editor was able to get her work done and head off to the city to accomplish some shopping, afterall, Christmas is only ten days away. This time of the year is always extremely busy in our business and so shopping for those special people on my list seems to be left later each year. The afternoon was spent gathering what was remembered from the note which unfortunately was left on the kitchen table when we left. A few special items remain yet to be purchased, but overall things are well in-hand.

Prior to going to fight my way through the crowds, an interview had been set up with Bonnie Richmire. This is a very nice lady and her Santa collection is something to see. I enjoyed this assignment! It was like going home, we seemed to really hit it off, making the entire thing go rather quickly and with an ease that is not always achieved when doing an interview. The best thing is that this old writer really likes Santas as well and has begun her own meagre collection of the jolly old elves. Another will be added as a local creator has been commissioned by that wonderful mother of mine to make me a Santa out of a velvet skirt of hers and some fur from an old coat. Anyway, the thing is I am very fortunate and could spend hours at Bonnie's SantaLand!

The Christmas luncheon hosted by the Museum Committee at the Carman House was perfect as well. The fire crackled and snapped creating a marvellous winter feeling; the soup was steamy and the cider hot. Biscuits and jam topped a delightful meal. Sharing it with mother and sitting with friends truly went a long way to getting this old writer in the Christmas mood.

The jostling and shoving, the crowded aisles and the lines at the cash in the shopping plaza was definitely not fun, but a time to try even the patience of Job.- The big guy and the writer took the afternoon and shopped for Christmas. Numerous items came home and will be wrapped soon. Another trip will be necessary to complete the job in time for Christmas. Since this was the only time we are sure to get away to shop, what we have might have to do the trick. Thank heavens for the catalogue! The friends who invited us to share supper with them after the shopping are lifesavers, how nice not to have to prepare a meal after walking miles and fighting through crowds.

The parcel for the English relatives has been sent and although a plane can make the trek in six hours, the presents will not get there for a week and that is if we are lucky. The cost to ship by air was steep, but they will have it in time for Christmas and that is a good thing.

Sunday saw us decorate the blue spruce, and find out that we are still short strands of light. We will either have to get more or put those we have on the smaller shrub. Some catalogue shopping was accomplished and some writing for the news this week. A letter was written to the British cousin and hers and some of the habitual ironing was done.

As the sun was hidden by grey clouds and the wind turned up the force behind it, temps began to fall rapidly and the summer-like weather disappeared.

The skiff of snow brought smiles to many as the hope remains for a white Christmas. The strains of seasonal music drift throughout the workplace and the Christmas sweatshirt has been pulled out of storage...it must indeed be the season to be jolly.

The college kid has completed his exam run and all assignments and projects have been done and handed in. The treks to the city will be over for a while and he will get to sleep in for a couple of weeks. This should definitely make his mood a bit more chipper. He handed in some pretty nice art work, but the staff at the college are a tough bunch, so we will wait to see what happens when they are marked. Some time with friends, movies and Christmas will provide the boost needed to head back in 2000.

The OAC second son got his mark on the Catch 22 book,

Please turn to page 5

the bottom line

JAY MERKLEY IS WONDERING IF THE PERSON(S) WHO HAS (HAVE) his Christmas lights timer-switch would like the instruction manual that goes with it! Last year he lost a number of light bulbs from his display and now this ... Bah, Humbug!

DOUG BYERS FURNITURE HAS A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS LIGHTING display in the store and out under the canopy. All plaza merchants need to dig in and do likewise — it looks terrific. Beaupre's wreaths add a seasonal atmosphere as well. Many store windows are decorated; we need to coordinate things now to demonstrate our solidarity.

CARDINAL OVERPASS EXCHANGE 730, WITH ACCESS TO THE 730 Truck Stop, is fully open and operational as construction has been ongoing this summer and fall, but is now complete. Merry Christmas!

IF YOU HAVE NOT YET SELECTED AN ANGEL FROM THE TREE IN THE Bank of Montreal, you only have until Friday to put a smile on a child's face this Christmas. Stop by today, and spread some Christmas cheer.

WINNERS OF THE HEART & STROKE FOUNDATION DRAW ON THE weekend are: Isabella Jordon of Morrisburg, who won a handmade quilt by Gail Brooks of the Morrisburg Red Cross Quilters; Darlene McMillan, who took home a cuckoo-clock birdhouse donated by Glen and Iris Cunningham; and Brenda Brown of Howick, Quebec, winner of a Christmas Wall Hanging donated by Jean MacIntyre. The Dundas County chapter of the Foundation rounded out an excellent luncheon at the Morrisburg Curling Club by pulling the names from the tumbler ...

LIONS JUNIOR 'B' ACTION THIS WEEK IS FRIDAY NIGHT AT 8:30 AS the local lads take on the Kemptville 73's. The Lions are on a winning roll; stop by and show them we support this calibre of sport in our area.

CONTINUED

Focus

continued from editorial page

person who is listed on the pages of this and various ones like it that show the Santas made by a number of people, mostly Americans. They are like encyclopedias to Santa lovers. "I know a lot of people who make Santas, like a gal in Kemptville who does a terrific job too.

When the tough question is asked, "What her favourite one in the menagerie is." Her favourite and this writers as well (No easy task to choose your favourite from the many that fill the farmhouse with such a spirit of Christmas), sits in a locked curio cabinet. She carefully takes him out and poses with him while a photo is snapped. "I look at their faces," says a beaming Bonnie, "Their eyes and their smiles speak volumes. they take on personalities of their own, that is clear." She laughs as she tells the writer how she liked this fellow the first time he saw him, "Because he has teeth!!" She adds,"He was quite expensive, but he is definitely my favourite."

She notes that she enjoys the one-of-a-kind Santas. "Most of them are reasonable as far as price goes and when you fall in love with one, what can you do but buy it?"

Bonnie sits looking around the room as we speak in the livingroom, it is difficult to focus on the interview, as it is easier to let your eyes roam from Santa to Santa. Their faces capture your heart immediately. The costumes add that special something and the accessories that make them truly one of a kind are what draws people to them. From the old looking fellow that some one suggested resembles Bonnie's Grandfather (She never saw him) who wears a suit made from a coat of her sisters; ("I sent the coat to a lady in Pennsylvania and she made the Santa and sent him to me") to the stuffed Santa who relaxes against the sled in front of the couch, (who just looks like Santa should, that rosy cheek, grin from ear to ear and a sparkle in his eyes), there is a Santa for every taste in the Richmire home.

Checking out the Santas, the faces do indeed draw you to them. Each face is hand sculptured. The wrinkles, the rosy cheeks and the broad smiles, the twinkling eyes and the heavy eyebrows, the long beards and the spectacles, the walking sticks and the bags of goodies, the long robes of velvet and fur, the bells and all...they are so irresistible. They bring such cheer and add such a glow to the place, it must be great to awaken each morning and be greeted by rooms of Santas.

Bonnie decorates six trees each season, each with their own theme. "The theme idea allows me to be better organized, especially when I start packing them away," says perhaps the best friend Santa has.

The Christmas tree that stands in the kitchen is laden with Santas, pewter, wooden, plastic and stained glass, clay and crocheted, they hang on each and every branch.

As this is my second visit to the Richmire Farm, the first being during the South Dundas Christmas Country Tour: I was lucky enough to be on hand to welcome a new Santa to Bonnie's collection, a real happnin' fellow, dark skinned and a mover when the music plays...a gift that could not wait until Christmas. As Bonnie winds him up and watches him dance in his velvet trousers and high black boots, we all break into a grin.

There is mention of a Santa, a picture is produced and he is certainly wonderful, but his price tag is steep adn she ponders whether he will ever grace her home. Some are of the opinion that he will be moving to Canada, afterall, Bonnie cannot resist that face and when the time is right, this magnificent Santa will no doubt take his place among the hundreds already at Richmire Farm.

She takes a moment to look around and we discuss the idea that she may have to build a Santa House where all her fellows could remain all year round in their own atmosphere. Conversation winds down as it is suggested that when her husband retires, she might consider transforming the stables into a Santa Land of sorts...and since her only daughter collects Snowmen, they could certainly fill a barn with their two collections, what a splendid place for playful imaginations!

Bonnie tells us that her door is always open at this time of year to anyone who wants to check out her Santas. A real down home welcome is out and as we depart, it is with a warm glow and a lift in our step, despite the light snow that is falling. "Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night!!"

Livin'

continued from editorial page

independent study and it was exceptional, so this will boost his final mark and help him in a search for post secondary education. It was a good experience for him, the questions he asked of the old folks were great, so we know it was a true learning time for him.

Sad news just came through the phone as a neighbour from my childhood passed away. This is a bummer as you grow older, the people who you knew while growing up pass on. My sympathy to the Murphy clan at this time.

Wrapping will be the order of the day as we head into the week before Christmas. There will be a time to construct some gingerbread houses as well. This is always fun as we make a competition of the creativity in making the houses unique and providing a yard and all for them.

A fresh turkey has been spoken for this year and we will pick it up on the 24th, so after church that evening, we will stuff him and stick him in the oven to cook overnight. No one is sure what they are doing this year and so plans are still in limbo, but the smell of roasting bird as we head to the tree on the 25th is a constant around the ranch and so it will be in 1999 too. It will get eaten, there is no doubt in my mind.

The trouble with this time of the year is that it speeds by at a terrific rate. Too much to do and no time to do it in. Try to take a little time to enjoy the season, things will fall into place when the time is right.

The bannister has yet to receive its garland and lights, the tree will arrive this weekend as we head out to locate the perfect shape and size. A decorating party is always a hit and gets the task accomplished with minimal hassle. A staff Christmas Open House will be attended at the home of friends from way back in our lives and allow us time to rest and relax as we visit with folks seen but once as year now.

I was phoned by a lady who lived in Iroquois a while back. She continues to receive The Chieftain and keeps up on the news from "home" as it were. She reads this jibberage each week and wanted to explain to me that she knows what I am speaking about and from where I am coming when I talk about having Sojgrens. She has suffered with it for some 38 years. She suggested what works for her and gave me a glimmer of hope as I struggle with the symptoms. I have had it for only 15 years now and often wonder what lies ahead. She takes morphine when the pain gets terribly unbearable. Whether this is what I have to look forward to or not, who knows. I have no options but to carry on and what ever will be will be...that could become a hit song!?

As this is typed the furnace is not perking at work as great as it might and fingers want to cramp, so we will call this enough until next week.

The wisdom comes from Shakespeare who said, "At Christmas I no more desire a rose, Than wish a snow in May's newfangled shows; But like of each thing that in season grows."

Take care and stay happy



Santas everywhere

Bonnie Richmire's home is a Santa haven. Here we capture a tree completely engulfed in Santa decorations. Behind the tree stands a corner cabinet filled to the brim with more Santas. There are Santas on top and across the beam that is overhead the cabinet too. The sleigh is adroned with him and the tin on top features Santa and the one on the floor as well. *Chieftain Photo by S.L. Johnston*

FROM THE FRONT

Tindall

council members went up to the point to take a look for themselves. Bill Horner, township administrator Mike Waddell, as well as Don and Ree Graham, also attended Asselin's tour.

Clad in ivory aluminum siding, the house boasts three floors with turret-shaped rooms and drop-dead views of the locks, dam and river.

The eastern river view, where the St. Lawrence sprawls widely from bank to bank on its way upriver to the horizon, was even more impressive from the front yard. Arguably, the vista was even better than the one enjoyed by tourists at the public viewing area to the west.

Asselin said the place appeared solid. It is one of only a handful of old homes in the vicinity to be sitting on its pre-Seaway foundation — and the only one on the point.

It's immediate neighbour had been the Col. Mulloy home in what is today a wooded hollow to the east. That stone house was razed during all the action in the 50s. Mulloy was a Boer War hero.

Seaway High School students set up a nature trail with plaques in that area about 10 years ago. It has since fallen into disrepair.

Asselin suggested the trail could be refurbished as part of the Tindall project.

Council members liked what they saw, but a couple wondered aloud whether DIAMONDS could afford the maintenance.

Don Graham was overheard telling Coun. Bev Sabourin that he believed the trust could pull the funding together with its links in the community.

"I know where next year's staff picnic is going to be," Mayor Johnny Whitteker joked.

OBITUARIES

Jean Sheldrick

After a lengthy illness, on Monday, December 6, 1999, Jean Sheldrick at Winchester and District Hospital. Born in Winchester Township on December 21, 1923, Jean was 75 years of age.

Jean was primarily a homemaker, but she did work for a period of time at Dundas Manor Nursing Home as a Nursing Assistant. She lived in Williamsburg for some 22 years having been born and raised in the Ormond area. A member of the Ormond Baptist Church as well as the Ormond Baptist Women's Mission Society, she loved old time country music and attended many local dances. She was a long time companion to Ken McGowan of Williamsburg and enjoyed travelling to area flea markets and yard sales with Ken.

Predeceased by her parents; Irvine and Dorothy (nee Larmour) Sheldrick and her late husband, Hartley Sheldrick, Jean's hobbies included crocheting, quilting and knitting.

Jean leaves to mourn her sons: Bernard (Coreen) and Martin (Mariann) all of Vernon and Leonard (Monique) of Ormond. She is survived by her brothers; Bill (Joan) of Morrisburg, Russell (Theresa) of St. Catherines and David (Nancy) of Ottawa. A sister, Hilda Meek of Battersea also mourns. Much loved grandmother of Daryl (Keri), Carrie, Stephanie, Jennifer, Marc and Emmanuelle as well as great-grandmother of Skylar-Jean, she will be ever remembered by all who knew and loved her.

In Memorium donations to the Winchester Hospital and the Canadian Cancer Society were appreciated by the family.

Friends called at the Marsden and McLaughlin Funeral Home in Williamsburg on Wednesday, December 15 where service was conducted by Rev. Richard Gledhill. Interment followed at Springhill Cemetery. Pallbearers were Roy Porteous, Bill Porteous, Edwin Duncan, Erwin Duncan, Lorne Wyatt and Ken Carkner.

George Wood

At home in Ottawa, on Thursday, December 9, 1999, George Wood. Born in South Mountain on January 11, 1931, George was 68 years of age.

Predeceased by his parents; Joseph and Stella (nee Boyd) Wood as well as his beloved wife Muriel (nee Holmes) Wood, George was a member of the Winchester Springs United Church.

A Cartographer with Energy, Mines and Resources for 43 years, George enjoyed photography, gardening and music.

Surviving the loss are his son; Dr.John (Kendra) Wood of Shaker Heights, Ohio; his loving companion, Kathryn Link and his brother Harold (Helen) Wood of Newburgh. Also mourning their loss are grandchildren; Michael, Matthew and Cassandra as well as nieces and nephews. George was the dear brother-in-law of George (Sandra) Holmes of Nepean Lorraine (Bud) Pollock of Toyes Hill.

A proud family man, George liked to travel and visit with friends. Always willing to help others, George will be missed by all who knew him.

Memorial donations to charity of choice were appreciated by the family. Friends called at the Marsden and McLaughlin Funeral Home in Williamsburg on Sunday. Service was conducted by Rev. Carol Poley-Delisle at the Winchester Springs United Church on Monday, December 13, 1999. Interment followed at the South Gower Cemetery.



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Volleyball Champs

Winning the Girls Grenville Invitational, the Eastern Regional Tourney and the Tournament of Champions, the Benson Public School gals in Cardinal went all the way. Standing are, Coach Mr. Lynch, Pam Seeley, Miranda Kenney, Jessie McNab and Nikki Stewart. Seated are Joann Perry, Katie Walsh, Courtney Sullivan and Sara Rust. Trophy keepers are Kourtney Smail and Kayla Roode. A marvellous record gals. *Chieftain Photo by S.L.Johnston*

Novice 'B' Lions undefeated in first half of their season

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

The Novice "B" Lions completed the first half of their season undefeated. On Wednesday night, December 8, the Lions faced North Glengarry handing them the agony of defeat to the tune of 7-zip as they improved their record to 9 wins and 3 ties. Jay Keller and Alan Waddell each scored thirty seconds into the game to lead the Lions down victory lane. Other markers were credited to Jane Moss who nailed two into the twine, while Pat Bongers, Micheal Davidson and Alix tait each counted one on the board. Helpers went to Alex Whelan, Jay keller and Scott Douma who each assisted on 2 goals, while Bongers, Scott Summers and Nathan McDonell each helped on singles.

On Sunday, December 12, the Lions travelled to Prescott to play in their first tournament this season. Staring the day off right, the Lions took a convincing match up against the South Grenville Rangers by a 5-1 score when the final buzzer sounded. Alan Waddell led the way with two goals, while singles went to Jay Keller, pat Bongers and Alex Whelan. Assists in this game were credited to Bongers, Summers and Tait who helped on two goals and played a great game.

Alix played such a terrific game that she carried home the "Hustler of the Game Award". The second game saw the Lions face off against the North Dundas Demons. "Hustler of this Game," Alex Whelan scored three times to lead the Lions to a 5-3 win. Alan Waddell and Chris Tindal each added singles in the winning effort. This win moved the Lions to the "A" finals where they faced the Brockville Warriors. The Lions jumped into a quick 1-0 lead on a determined effort Jane Moss. The Lions played a well fought game, but cam up short. When the final buzzer sounded they were on the losing end of the 3-1 score. "Hustler of the game", Ryan Swank played a great game in the pipes for the Lions keeping things close for his team. The loss was only the second of the year for the Novice "B" squad. The coaches were pleased with the great effort the entire team displayed throughout the tournament and especially this game.

Next home game is scheduled for Wednesday night, December 15 when the Lions will face South Stormont.

Minor Atom Kings drop two due in part to penalties

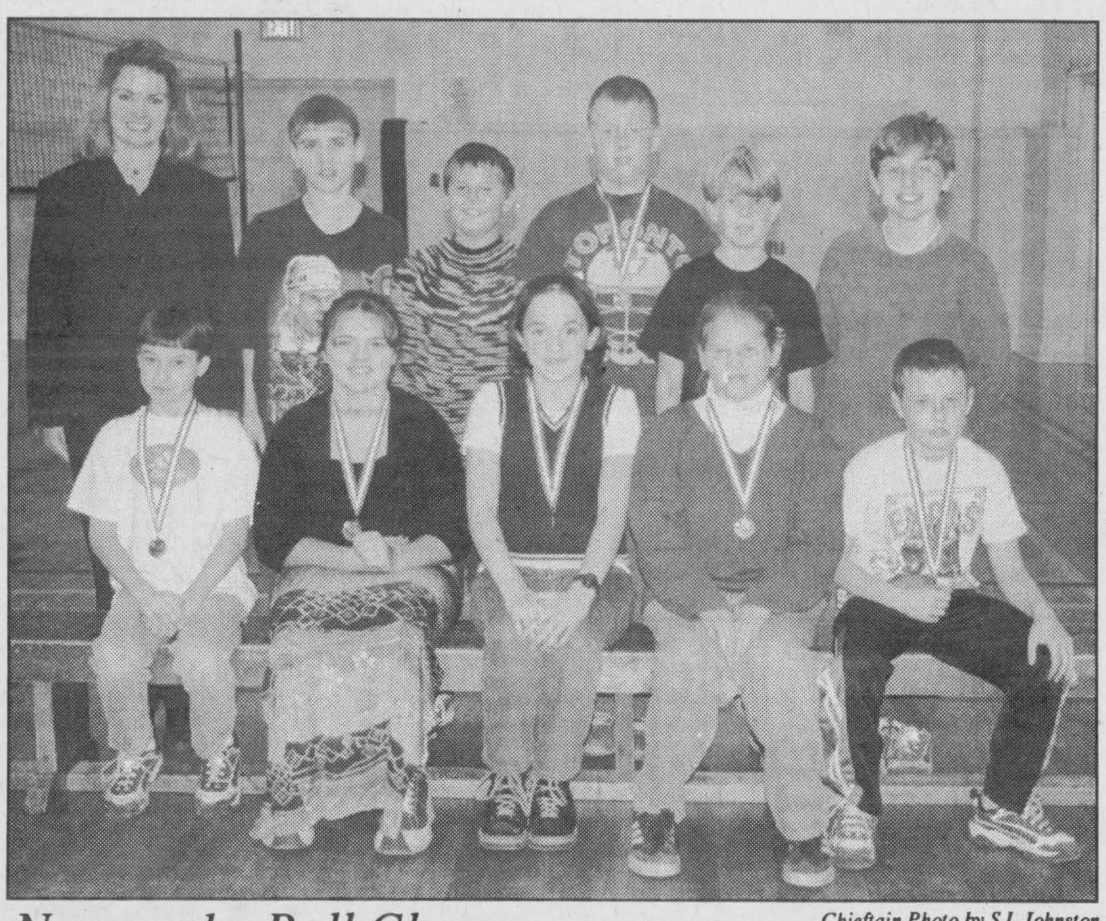
by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

On Saturday, December 11, the Minor Atom Kings hosted the Ottawa Sting in Spencerville with the visiting team winning 2-1. First period action packed with great fore-checking and light defensive play, both goalies were hot throughout this game. There was no scoring until the end of the second period when the Ottawa Sting took the lead. Half way through teh third, Nathan Slack bent the twine on a hard wrist shot taht beat the goalie from the point, Steve Allan earned the assist on the tying marker. With just over two minutes left in the game teh Sting stung teh Kings, beating Graham Peters off his own defenceman's deflection from the slot. The Kings kept coming but to no avail. The game was noteworthy in that it was a very disciplined match with only one penalty being assessed and that went to the Sting.

The Minor Atoms travelled to the Earl Armstrong Arena to play teh League leading Gloucester rangers on Sunday, December 12th. The rangers drew first blood at 5;21, then at 2:47 of the opener beating Clarke Saunders as they just kept going to the net, maintaining the pressure. Sam Coyne brought the Kings back to within one with only one second left in the first on helpers from Andrew Warren and Nat Slack. Kyle Atkins evened the game early in the second with Kent Utman and Matt Hummel earning assists on the goal. The Rangers added two more in the second to take a two goal lead. Undisciplined penalties hurt the Kings. Bobby Little snapped one in to bring the Kings to within one.

Coyne assisted on the goal. The Rangers however continued their attack adding two more to win the game by a score of 6-3. This game taught the Kings a good lesson, albeit the hard way...bad penalties give the opposing team more opportunities to score goals.

This Saturday, December 18 in Spencerville is known as "Rideau St. lawrence Kings Day" when all teams taht represent the Kings Association will play home games. The first game of the day will have teams hitting the ice at 10am. The Minor Atoms have a rematch with the Ottawa Sting, followed by the Major Atoms at 11:30 continuing all day until all Kings teams have played. Come out and see these young athletes taking their game to the highest level available to them. See you at the rink this weekend.



Newcombe Ball Champs

Chieftain Photo by S.L.Johnston

Benson won the gold. Here seated are Ryan Gilligan, Stacy Kenney, Vanessa Elliott, Taylor Smith, Adam Patrick. Standing are Coach Mlle Durant, Ryan Sullivan, Jason Witteveen, Justin Rainey, Nathan Fahrngruber and Nathan Last. Absent was Krystin Stitt. A progression to Volleyball the ball is caught rather than spiked over the net. Well done everyone!!



Runners-Up

The boys from Benson Public School were runners-up at the Eastern Regional Volleyball Playdowns and the semi-finalists at the Tournament of Champions. Coach Lynch stands with Mike Armstrong, John Baldwin, Alexander Seeley, Evan Lavallee and Aaron Lavallee , while David Wallace, Ryan O'BrienTyler Halliday and Ryan Davy sit. Well done men!! *Chieftain Photo by S.L.Johnston*

Morrisburg Curling Club's Turkey Bonspiel this week

with Steve Thompson

The Club's Annual Turkey Bonspiel is on for this week, with Wednesday and Thursday's schedules posted in the clubhouse. On Friday night, the finals will be held, followed by the draws to the button on each sheet for a turkey. A feast of chicken wings and home fries, washed down with suitable beverages will finish off the festivities as the Club winds down for the Christmas break.

House League results are starting come in regularly now. Our Evening Ladies' first draw has finished with the team of Anita Cooper, Wendy Johnston, Charlene Baker and Louise Irving emerging victorious. The afternoon ladies champions are Donna Jeacle, Alice Thompson, Charlene Baker and Roseanne Hicks while the Bowman Trophy for the Senior men was won by Don O'Brien, Ted harriman, Tony Toonders and Don Smithson.

John Vanderspank, Anita Cooper, and Ray and Charlene Baker competed in a 2-2-2 mixed Bonspiel in Smiths Falls last Thursday and returned home laden with prizes.

The Ontario Senior Games Regional Curling Playdowns were held in Morrisburg last week and two local teams competed with Cornwall and Lancaster. The foursome of Don O'Brien, Cheryl and Gerry Thompson and Betty Locke spilt their games and will have a playoff with Lancaster to decide one of the two teams to advance to the next level. Cornwall won both of their games and moves on, while Morrisburg's other team; Jack Diklan, Margaret Reynolds and Steve and Alice Thompson was eliminated.

There were two rentals at the club over the weekend and Donna Dillabough, the Rentals Chair advises that there are still a few openings between now and April for interested groups. Donna may be contacted at 543-4377.

We are still looking for a few pictures of past presidents of the club. Check over the Wall of Honour and if you can help with a line on any of these individuals, give Steve Thompson a call at 543-3134. We'd like to have a picture for each of them.

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Prescott leads in Interbranch Darts

The action last Thursday evening in Prescott left the host Branch in top spot as Prescott #1 has 80 points to tie them with Cardinal #2 who have accumulated the exact same number of points.

Way back in third place are Iroquois #7 and Cardinal #4 who each have 62 points to their credit. Cardinal #6 has earned 53 points to stay ahead of Iroquois #5 who have 45 pints. In the cellar this week is Prescott #3 with 38 points.

Mike Levere won 5 games, while Gary Bradford came through with 4 wins. Jim Kirkby, Tim Gonczowski and Jake Summerfield each counted 3 wins.

Highfinishers were Jake with 126 and 113 and Ken Murphy with 105.

Highscorers included Kevin Laming with 177: Bill Hutt and Tom Reston, each with 140x2: Jamie Murphy, Doug Laporte, Rick Sayeau and Jake Summerfield, each with 140. Kevin Laming showed a 139, while Bob Juby had a 135, 129 and 121. Brad Baynham shot a 134, Wayne Bellinger a 125 and 121 and Glen Adams a 125. Gary Bradford a 123 as did Lorne Veley. Bill Walter had a 121.

Iroquois and District Community Calendar

A public service provided by the businesses listed here in co-operation with this paper.

Friends Christmas Potluck on Saturday, December 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the Bird Sanctuary. Come celebrate the season with all The Friends. All members, young and old are welcome. Please call Dallas at 534-2808 to help coordinate the meal.

3rd Annual Community Christmas Dinner, Saturday, December 25, 2000 at 12:30 p.m. at the Morrisburg Legion. For more informaiton or to reserve a place call 543-3904. Sponsored by the Apple Tree Ministry of the Anglican Parish.

Iroquois Community Watch Members are desperately needed. In order to keep this great program, volunteers are needed. All you need to give up is approximately 3 hours a month. Please call Walter at 652-4508. Thanks to all the dedicated volunteers, past and present for all the wonderful work they have done.

Love To Sing?! Cardinal Community Choir welcomes new members every Wednesday evening at 8:15 p.m. at the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Cardinal. Ability to read music is not required. For further information call Carol at 657-1013.

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Lions looking at playoff position

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

The Morrisburg Junior "B" Lions continue to gain valuable ground on a play-off position with two victories on the week. Opening on Friday evening with a win over the Winchester Hawks, they backed it with another skate down victory lane as they defeated the Akwasasne Wolves on Sunday afternoon. Perhaps the team is gaining confidence with the return to the lineup of a couple of veteran players as Wayne Garlough sidelined with injuries is back on the ice and Cory McAllister has laced up his skates once again. "Cory was working and going to school, but the draw of the game was too much and he brings with him not only experience, but a focus that will benefit the team and he can put the puck in the net," says Coach DeGray. "Things are starting to gel, we are becoming a team to be reckoned with," says DeGray with a slight grin. The only thing would make the staff happier is if more local fans turned out to cheer the boys to victory. This calibre of hockey is tough and the Lions are roarin' what with the top two scorers in their division, Forment (18 goals, 19 assists for 37 points) and Beland (14 goals and 20 assists for 34 points) this is pretty good entertainment for the price of admission. Fan support is important to the young men who do their best each and every game.

Trainer Dale Lewis is optimistic that Robin Carbonneau will soon be back in action after being placed on the injury list after an accident involving his shoulder.

Friday night the Lions travelled to Winchester to face the Hawks who are playing through a season of rebuilding. The Lions scored twice in the first while holding the Hawks scoreless. Wayne Garlough took the lead pass from Charles Forment and made no mistake as he bore down determinedly on Greg Griffith in the Hawks' crease. Next to score was Carson Runions assisted by Jeremy Alguire and Garlough, giving the Lions a 2 goal lead as they left the ice after one period of play.

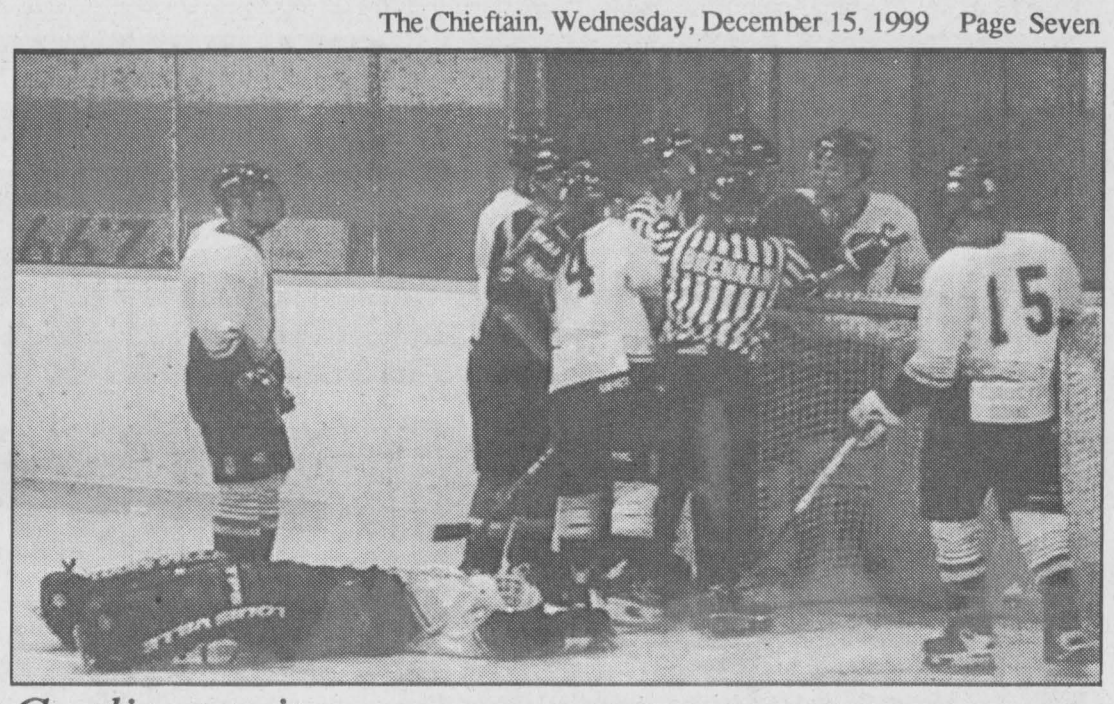
The second opened with Chris Proulx scoring. Assisting him were Millard and Beland. The Hawks shot back as Mike Couville scored for the Hawks in a valiant attempt to get back in the game. Greg Millard was hot as he skated down the ice taking the pass from Forment and Jon Chambers to bulge the twine at the Hawks end. Hawks' forward Shawn Smail was able to find space in the Lions net and counted another. Kyle Donnan had not been tested enough to maintain focus up to this point.

The third opened with the Lion Forment grabbing a counter as he went in with his linemates, Beland and Millard to out the team ahead 5-2. Steve Mattice answered for the Hawks but the Lions were not finished yet. Runions went in solo for the final Morrisburg goal of the game at 4:41. The Lions had counted 6 while the Hawks were able to count only 3, until with 11 seconds left Bill Henderson took the hard shot from the point and scored. The final read 6-4 as the Lions hit victory right on this week.

The Morrisburg Junior "B" Lions were roaring as they hit the ice on Sunday afternoon, December 12. The Lions are sitting near the bottom of the League with 21 points while their opponents are in third overall with 29 points to their credit. Facing the Akwasasne Wolves the Lions were down by two within the first seven minutes of the first drop of the puck. The Wolves struck quickly and with force as they scored two quick goals. Ryan Koresky and Scott Thompson beat Blanchard in the pipes for the Lions. The first was a powerplay goal, a lesson for the Lions...time in the penalty box does not help the team! The Lions got things started at 13:11 of the first frame as Paul de Dekker went in with Chris Cadieux and Bobby Bird to bulge the twine. Then at 1:38 Chris Proulx shot hard when the pass came from Jeremy Alguire and Bird. Knotted at two the teams began the second as they had the first...

Daniel Beland lost no time as he slapped one past McIntyre in the Wolves net. Assists on the go-ahead goal went to Charles Forment and Greg Millard. Greg was hot as he does not often score goals, but when opportunity knocked he was ready, the pass came from Beland and Forment and Greg made sure as he nailed a powerplay counter behind McIntyre to put the Lions ahead 4-2. deDekker came on strong again before the period ended as he and Bird struck for a shorthanded marker. The Wolves battled back with a goal with only 54 seconds on the clock. Jared Dixon went in on Blanchard solo and bulged the twine. The buzzer sounded with the score 5-3 for the Lions. Coach DeGray seemed pleased with his team as they played as a unit.

The third started slow as if both teams were getting their wind back. Scoreless until 7:21, Koresky scored for the Wolves on a powerplay and it seemed like the game would end 5-4. Then Beland decided one was not enough for his taste and he streaked down the ice with Forment and Millard and tucked the puck behind McIntyre on another powerplay goal to end this game 6-4 for the Lions.



Goalie gets it

The Junior 'B' goaltender, Mathew Blanchard, got piled into by an Akwesasne player early in the second frame on Sunday. Kyle Donnan stepped in to fill the role and backstopped the team to a 5-3 win. A few tense moments behind the net as the Morrisburg goalie lay on the ice — and stayed there for quite a while. *Chieftain photo by N. H. Zandbergen.*

Bantam House end losing streak

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

Even with the Hicks brothers out due to injuries, the Bantam House team played very well in Long Sault and came away with the 3-2 victory.

The Lions got things going on an excellent three-way passing play with James Byvelds firing it past the goalie. Jamie Hess and Frank Buwalda laid claim to the assists. Long Sault tied it up off the stick of M. Wor.

Early in the second period Chris Duvall gave Morrisburg the lead once again with a blistering shot from the point. Assisting on the counter were Hess and the House league's newest addition, Chris Phifer. Long Sault fought back yet again and N. McIntosh knotted the game at two. With only two minutes on the clock, Byvelds put the Lions ahead to stay as he took the pass from Hess and Buwalda.

This is the first game in the last four that Morrisburg has had at least ten skaters. Pulling duty between the pipes for the Lions were Andrew Chung and Nick McGill. Outstanding job guys!!

PeeWee House team squeak a tie

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

According to Coach Dale Lewis, his PeeWee House team had their work cut out for them as they faced the 1000 Island squad. Hosting the team from the west,"The visitors made the boys work for the tie," says Lewis, "We just were not ready for them. Our goalies kept us in the game making key saves that could have made for a very different result. "The good thing about this game was that all three lines scored and showed that they have the right stuff," smiles Lewis.

Lewis points to Anthony Lemaire as the spark in this game. "He had a hot stick scoring two of the four counters.

While the Islands were on the scoreboard first in the opening period, the local lads came back before the end of the period to tie the game at 1 on Anthony's first counter. He got help from Cody Cassell and Mitchell Julien. At 2:47 of the first the Islands came back to score and move ahead as the first period ended. A well played second period seemed like it might be a scoreless one, until 2:52 when the Islands tucked one into the twine behind Anthony Knappman in the Morrisburg pipes. With 1:17 showing on the clock in the second, Tyler Galindo skated in determinedly with Dan and Thomas Toonders to score for the hometeam. This put things at 3-2 as the third period started. The third saw some more good hockey as these teams seemed pretty evenly matched. The Islands scored late in the third, and the PeeWee Lions came back with two before the buzzer sounded to end the match. Anthony Lemaire scored his second getting help from Aaron Boyle and Matt Schwerdfeger at 2:31. Mitchell Julien teamed with Schwerdfeger and Kevin McIntosh for the final goal at 1:49.

The PeeWee House team has a pretty good record on this season as they stand with 10-2-2. Games like this show exactly how good the local lads are.

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S26-tfnc

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M6-tfnc

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D8-2tc

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20% Off Selected Lego & Crayola
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Up to 50% off
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D15-2tv

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D8-2tx

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Williamsburg 535-2488
D8-2tc

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$20.00 deposit required with order
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D15-1tc

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D15-1tp

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A Celeron P3 466 MHZ Computer System
A Samsung 17" Monitor and Laser Printer included
BONUS: *A Computer Desk valued at $189.99 for FREE*
ALSO.... 6 Months... No Interest, No Payments on everything including taxes
Call PLAYIT STAR, Santa's Workshop at 1-800-215-4654 or South of the North Pole at (613)925-0776
296 King Street, Prescott
Open Daily until 10 p.m.
D8-3tc

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~ Makes a great gift to store bird seed for just under $20
~ Two bird scenes to choose from
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IROQUOIS 652-4382
Closed at Noon Saturday

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It's Still Apple Time!!
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M4-tfnc

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CHRISTMAS TREES
Cut your own Spruce or Scots Pine
Saws supplied
FOWLER'S TREE FARMS
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***Free Boughs**
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N24-4tp

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Pruned Scotch Pine & Spruce Trees
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or Walter McShane 989-5420
South Mountain
D1-2tp

CHRISTMAS TREES
Balsam Fir, also Pure Maple Syrup
LEARMONTH'S
822 Scott Road, Cardinal
657-3783
D1-3tc

CHRISTMAS TREES
Choose & Cut a Fresh Tree from
**Balsam *Spruce*
**Scotch Pine or *Fraser Fir*
Enjoy hot chocolate and a campfire on weekends
Wagon rides with horses
Dec. 11 & Dec. 12
PATTERSON'S TREE FARM
English Road off Carman Road,
North of Iroquois
(613)652-1927
D1-3tc

Shop Locally

Births

IT'S A GIRL!!!
ENGWERDA: ***Alexis Marilyn*** born on Friday, November 5, 1999 at 6:44 a.m. weighing 7 lbs, 2 oz, is home after a speedy recovery. We would like to thank all of our family, friends and neighbours for all the prayers, money & food which helped tremendously during our trying time. Big thanks to maternity staff at WDMH, Dr. Rosenquist and Dr. Haymens. Specials thanks to Dr. Sinclair, Dr. Weerasena, Dr. Cornell and all the caring nurses at CHEO. Nathan would like to give hugs & kisses to everyone who watched him so we could be with Alexis. Donnie Winters we greatly appreciate you doing chores. The support we received was overwhelming and will be remembered always. Thanks again to everyone.
Gerald, Tracy, Nathan & Alexis
D15-1tx

IT'S A BOY!!!
ZWICKER: Eric & Sharon are pleased to announce the safe arrival of their 1st child, a son, ***Aaron Lorne Werner Zwicker,*** born on Wednesday, December 1, 1999, weighing 7 lbs, 2 ounces. Proud grandparents are Lorne Strader and the late Vera Strader of Brinston and Werner & Regina Zwicker of Laval, Quebec. Special thanks to the Dr. and maternity staff at Sacre Ceour Hospital in Laval, Quebec.
D15-1tx

Notices

THE HAIR STUDIO
now offers
"FACIAL WAXING"
15 Plaza Drive,
Iroquois Shopping Plaza
652-1577
D1-3tx

Help Wanted

SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS
Class B Licence Required But We Will Train
Call Dundas Bus Service at 652-2005 and leave a message
D8-3tc

Iroquois Branch 370 Royal Canadian Legion is accepting bids for WEEKLY CLEANING SERVICES
Details posted in Legion or phone Geoffrey Wilson at 652-4958.
Submit sealed bids for monthly contract to Executive by January 10, 2000.
D15-1tc

Wanted

EVERY WEDNESDAY, healthy, holstein bull calves. Top price for good young calves between 95 - 110 lbs. Deliver to Delft Blue Veal Farm, Lightning Street, Williamsburg from 12 to 4 p.m. For prices of the week phone Walt at 543-2796 Monday nights after 8 p.m.
D27-tfnc

Childcare

Will babysit in my home.
Days only
Call 652-4102.
D8-2tc

Storage

STORAGE SPACE for rent
**Boats *Cars *ATV's etc*
Call 652-2069
N24-4tc

For Rent

CARDINAL: Apartments for rent. 2--2 bedrooms, Upper and Lower Levels. Newly Renovated. Heated. Call 657-4658.
J21-tfnc

CARDINAL: 2 & 3 bedroom apartments, $375 and $450 plus hydro. Heat included. 2 months in advance. No pets. Call 657-3371.
D15-2tp

IROQUOIS: 3 bedroom house in Iroquois. Available February 1st or possibly middle of January 2000. Renovations being made. Call 535-2265.
D8-1tp

1, & 2 bedroom apartments in Riverside Heights and Ingleside. 1 month FREE rent available. Call 543-3604.
O13-tfnc

Semi-Detached 3 bedroom, $575/mos. + utilities. 1st & last month, Call for details 652-1784 available Feb. 1st.
D8-tfnc

MOUNTAIN: 3 bedroom bungalow, finished basement, attached garage, electric forced air & wood furnace. Separate heated garage or workshop. $700 per month plus hydro. Available immediately. For more information call (613)257-0040.
D1-tfnx

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DRUMSET LESSONS
Professional Drummer/Teacher Available for Drum Lessons
All Styles & Levels Taught
Beginners Welcome!
Call Bryan at 613-258-3200
M25-tfnx

In Memoriam

BARKLEY: In loving memory of a dear husband, father and grandfather, Charles, who passed away on December 17, 1996.
Those whom we love go out of sight,
But never out of mind;
They are cherished in the hearts,
Of those they leave behind.
Loving and kind in all his ways,
Upright and just in all his days;
Sincere and true in heart and mind,
Beautiful memories he left behind.
Lovingly remembered by wife Verna, Children Janet & Eric, Roy & Sharon, Ray & Carlie and Linda & Richard and families.
D15-1tp

OUR DOORS ARE OPENING
JANUARY 10, 2000
WINCHESTER PHYSIOTHERAPY & ACUPUNCTURE CENTRE
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For more information contact:
Winchester Physiotherapy: 774-4505
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Kemptville Physiotherapy: 258-7661

TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH DUNDAS

TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH DUNDAS

Meeting Location Change

Please be advised that the next regular meeting of Council on Thursday, December 23, 1999, will be held at the Iroquois Civic Centre at 9:00 a.m.

Wilmont E. Horner
Clerk

UNITED COUNTIES OF STORMONT, DUNDAS & GLENGARRY

UNITED COUNTIES OF STORMONT, DUNDAS & GLENGARRY

Notice of Meeting

The first meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, for the final year of the current term of office, will be held at the County Building, 20 Pitt Street, Cornwall, Ontario commencing at **10:00 a.m. on Monday, December 20, 1999.**

R.J.Lapointe
Co-ordinator/Clerk

Immanuel Fellowship Rowena Full Gospel Tabernacle
Iroquois, Ontario
Pastor Marcel Charette

Phone 535-2029

Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service - 7:00 p.m.
Bible Study - Tuesday Nights
Watch TBN Channel 20

Harmony Community Church
(Missionary Church of Canada)

Hwy. 31 & Ormond Rd.
774-5170

10:30 am Celebration Service
7:30 pm Evening Service
Wed. 7:30 pm Bible Study

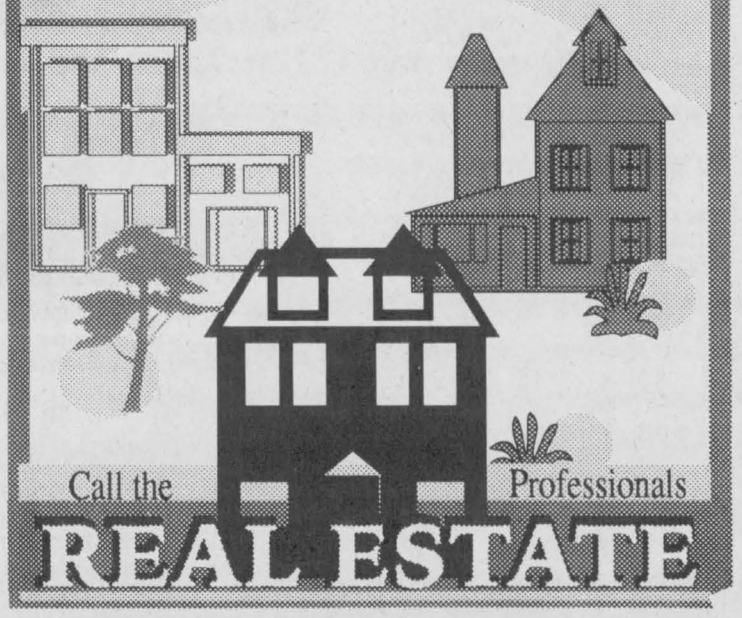


A spry 98

Friends and family showed up at the Hartford, Monday, to celebrate Agnes Casselman's ninety-eighth birthday. Casselman was born in Mariatown, on what is today the VanderZweep farm. Daughter-in-law Lynne Cook bragged: "She does not have an ache or a pain," which Casselman confirmed. "I don't know my secret; I've been very lucky," said Casselman, a former resident of the Iroma apartments in Iroquois.

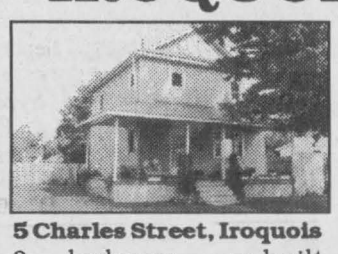
Chieftain photo by N. H. Zandbergen.

Shop Canadian

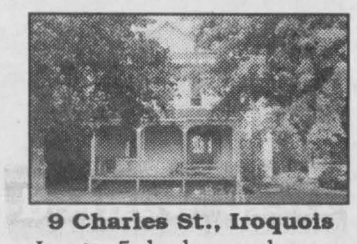


FAX YOUR REAL ESTATE AD TO (613) 652-2508 or CALL (613) 652-4395

IROQUOIS & AREA



5 Charles Street, Iroquois
3 bedroom, re-built home,close to schools and shopping, large fenced lot. **Asking $124,900.**



9 Charles St., Iroquois
Large 5 bedroom house, centrally located to schools and shopping, lots of upgrades, large country kitchen, family rm & fireplace. **Asking $127,900.** A must see!

For more information, please call
Rick Burt, Sales Representative
522 King Street West, Brockville, Ontario
(613)498-7547

Century 21.
Townsman Ltd.
345-2121 Office

JOHN A. ALLISON
REAL ESTATE BROKER

MORRISBURG PLAZA **543-3717**

$210,000. - You'll love the space in this custom built 3 bedroom, Bayview Subdivision, east of Iroquois. Tastefully decorated, beautifully landscaped, lots of extras! (5800)
$12,900. - Two bedroom mobile home, set on large corner lot, Hill's Mobile Home Park. Newly listed! Gas heat, new furnace 1999. (5803)
$89,900. - Ideal starter or retirement home. Three bedroom brick bungalow, gas heat, central air, hardwood floors. Must be seen! (5795)
$65,000. - Cozy two bedroom, modernized and renovated. Gas heat. Also for rent at $600. per month plus utilities, references required. Motivated Vendor! (5792)
$69,900. - Two parcels for the price of one! Charming older home with detached garage plus excellent office/ warehouse building, set on individual adjacent lots. Good Morrisburg location. (5789)

JOHN A. ALLISON, REALTOR - 652-1551
Sales Representative - Carol Richer....543-3556

JACQUES E. ASSELIN REAL ESTATE LTD.

$49,000. Waddell St. Cardinal - 1-1/2 Storey, 3 Bedrm, Close to School, Shops and Recreation
$50,000. JUST REDUCED! Irena Road, RR#2, Iroquois - Bungalow, 3 Bedrm, New Windows
$59,900. Second St. Cardinal - Bungalow, 2 Bedrm, Nice Quiet Street, Neat & Tidy
$72,000. Walter St. Cardinal - 1-1/2 Storey, Many Upgrades Done, 3 Bedrm, Nice Porch & Pool!
$89,900. Brinston Rd. Iroquois - 2 Storey, Close to Town, 4 Bedrm, Large Lot, Spacious Rms
$259,900. Waterfront, Cardinal - Bungalow, This one has it All! Priceless View + Many Extras!
$267,500. Elizabeth Dr. Iroquois - River View, Heritage Stone Charmer! Truly a Must See!
Vacant Lots: We have a variety of lots available - **Waterfront** as low as $40,000, **River View** starting at $24,000 in town, and quiet **Country** available at $5,900. Call or stop by the Office to view the entire selection!

Call JACQUES ASSELIN (Broker)
or LAURIE ZANCHETTA (Sales Representative)
Tel: (613)652-1784 or FAX:(613)652-1816
Website: http//www.asselin.on.ca

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The Best Deals of the Year!

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NO INTEREST
NO PAYMENTS FOR 90 DAYS

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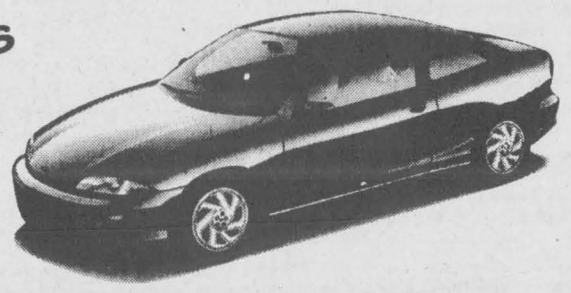



& the following New 2000 Trucks & Vans

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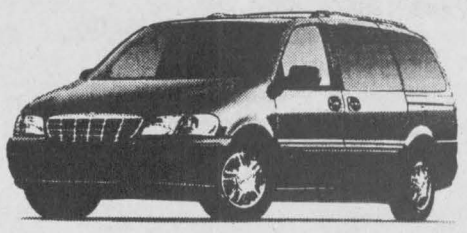
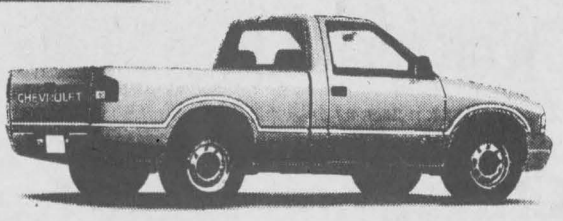
Silhouette Van
Astro Van
Tracker
S10 Pickup
S Blazer
C/K Models - New Style 1500
Pickup Reg. Cab & Extended Cab 1500





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Morrisburg - 543-2925

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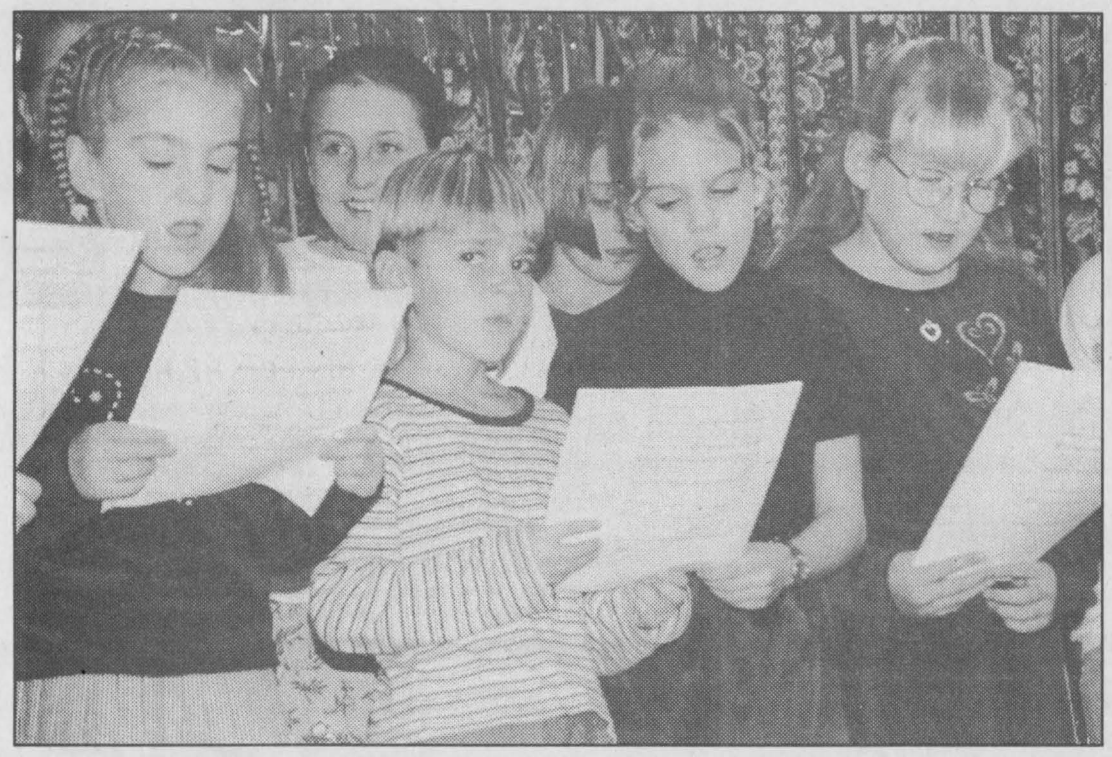
The Chieftain
Arts & Entertainment Page

~Community Songs Of Christmas
~Prizes For Decorating In S. Dundas
~Country Tour Winners Announced



Community sings

Members of Betty Casselman's choir of youngsters sing at the 'Community Songs of Christmas' concert last Friday at the Matilda Hall. Rachel Bergsma looks up from her song book to sneak a peak at the crowd. A good number turned out to see a variety of singers and groups perform favourite carols. *Chieftain photo by N. H. Zandbergen.*

Christmas contest hosted in S. Dundas

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

Every year it seems people get more creative and ambitious as Christmas draws near. Decorations sprout and Santas, snowmen, Christmas trees and nativity scenes take a place of honour on lawns, porches and verandas. Neighbours try to out-do one another and everyone joins in the spirit of celebration.

As the darkness falls earlier and earlier, the Christmas lights bring cheer and light to the world. Displays of some magnitude can be seen on some front lawns, while others prefer to stick with coloured lights hanging from the eaves. Those who are like Tim the Toolman when he would do his best to outdo his neighbours take heed...

Matilda Winter Carnival has hosted House Decorating Contests in past years and may well again. This year The Chieftain along with Byers Limousine Services and the 1st Iroquois Rover Crew is sponsoring a House Decorating Contest in South Dundas. Entry forms were in last week's Chieftain and can be dropped off at the newspaper office in the Iroquois Plaza. Judges are yet to confirm, but will be driven to each house (Civic Number to be on entry) while they choose the four best looking houses in the new Township.

FREE limo rides are the top prize courtesy of Byers, and FREE subscriptions to the Chieftain along with a basket of goodies to help make the season bright courtesy of the Rover Crew will make all the effort worth while for the lucky winners.

If you have brightened your home and yard with decorations or if you know someone who has done a particularly good job this year, enter their name and house number and perhaps they will win. The judges will be from outside South Dundas and will look for colour, continuity, visual appeal and effort to accomplish the task (co-ordination etc.). A transformation from everyday to a seasonal explosion of colour and imagination will take the top honours in this contest.

A way to bring the new Township of South Dundas closer together, this contest could become an annual event. Sponsors and volunteers to select judges and prizes will be needed. Perhaps a group within the Township would be willing to take the bull by the horns as it were and run with this idea.

James Byers of BLS is anxious to see this contest work. Entries are coming in and people seem excited. Just imagine being chauffeured around in a long, white limo...at no cost. It could be you!!



Park Lane Winner

Sylvia Theelan accepts the lovely quilt which her husband Willi won at the Park lane Seniors Christmas Diner's Club lunch in Williamsburg last week. Janet Levere holds it along with Lois McPherson a member of the craft group who quilted this beauty. NDDHS singers entertained the group. *Chieftain Photo by S.L.Johnston*

Come and Worship

St. Peter's - St. Luke's Lutheran Church
Rev. Kevin Powell
Tel: 535-2569
Dunbar - St. Luke's
Sunday's - 9:15 a.m.
Williamsburg - St. Peter's
Sunday Worship & School
11:00 a.m.
Everyone Welcome

Anglican Church of Canada
Parish of Morrisburg/Iroquois
543-3904 Office
Rev. Bill Byers
Sunday, December 19, 1999
8:00 am - St. James'
9:15 am - St.James'
2:00 pm - Holy Trinity
11:00 am - St.John's
7:30 pm -- St. James

Anglican Church of Canada
Parish of Edwardsburgh
Rector:
The Rev. Doug Hayman
St. James' Parish,
Crystal Rock 9:00 a.m.
St. Paul's Church,
Cardinal 11:00 a.m.

United Church of Canada
Matilda Pastoral Charge
Clergy: Bobby K. Fillier
Sunday, December 19, 1999
Advent 4
Brinston 9:30 a.m.
Hulbert Valley 11:00 a.m.

United Church of Canada
Iroquois Pastoral Charge
Worship Service:
Every Sunday - 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School - 10:30 a.m.
Everyone Welcome
Minister:
Rev. Doug Carnegie
B.A., M.Div.
652-2056

Roman Catholic Churches
Rev. Father David Pope
543-2544
St. Mary's, Morrisburg
Saturday's - 7:30 p.m.
Sunday 11:00 a.m.
St. Cecilia's, Iroquois
Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Confessions before all masses

Philadelphia Pentecostal Church
Cardinal, Ontario
Invites YOU to come and Worship with US!
Rev. David Gogolin
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Evangelistic Service 7 p.m.

Community Christian Reformed Church
Dixon's Corners, Ontario
Phone: 652-2400
9:30 a.m. - Morning Service
7:30 p.m. - Evening Service
Nursery provided morning services ONLY
Monday 7:30pm Gems & Cadets age10--13
Thurs. 9:45 am Coffee Break, Bible study, story hour and Little Lambs
Thurs. 7:30 p.m. Teen club and young people

Morrisburg Pentecostal Church
Pastor: Duncan Perry
Youth Pastor John Spurrell
Church 543-2681 Home 543-3450
Kids Bible Club - Wed. 7 p.m.
Sunday 9:45 a.m.
Christian Education Hour 10:45
Worship the Word 7 p.m. Praise
Gathering Youth Aflame Wed 7pm
Dial-A-Prayer 543-3456

The Presbyterian Church in Canada
Knox Church, Iroquois,
Church Service 11 am
Sunday School at 9:45 am
Organist: Mrs. Betty Casselman

Cardinal Free Methodist
Shanly Rd. at 2nd St., Cardinal
Pastor Wayne Dawes
1-613-838-5646
11 a.m. - Sunday School
11 a.m. - Worship
Celebrating 40 years of Caring for People

Coming Events

TRIPLE T RESTAURANT
Hwy. #2, Iroquois
FRIDAY NIGHT SPECIAL
Shepherd's Pie
with a roll and dessert
4 p.m. - 9 p.m. $4.95
SUNDAY NIGHT SPECIAL
Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, vegetables and a roll
4 p.m. - 7 p.m. $5.95
D1-1tp

SUNDAY SERVICES
Iroquois Civic Building
10:30 a.m. & 7 p.m.
Rev. A.R. Leavitt,
Maritimes Minister
from Grand Prairie, Alberta
Pastor 30 years, did T.V. and radio, author of 2 books, written 200 songs.
Everyone welcome.
O13-tfnx

"TURKEY DINNER"
Friday, December 17, 1999
Starting at noon
till the food is all gone!
Iroquois Legion Branch 370
All are welcome! $6 per person
All proceeds for the Legion
Take out available!
Sponsored by the Legion Ladies Auxiliary
D15-1tc

CHRISTMAS POT LUCK SUPPER & DANCE
I.O.O.F. Hall, Williamsburg
Saturday, December 18, 1999
Supper 7 p.m.
Dance 8:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.
Oddfellows suppling turkey & dressing
Music by This Old Heart
(Dennis Whitteker)
Admission $6
D15-1tp

BRINSTON UNITED CHURCH EUCHRE
is finished until
January 13, 2000.
Season's Greetings
D8-2tx



Christmas Concert fun at Matilda Hall

Community Songs of Christmas filled the Matilda Hall with traditional sacred music Friday evening.

Old time favourites *O Come All Ye Faithful* and *Silent Night* began the evening as audience voices were raised in unison.

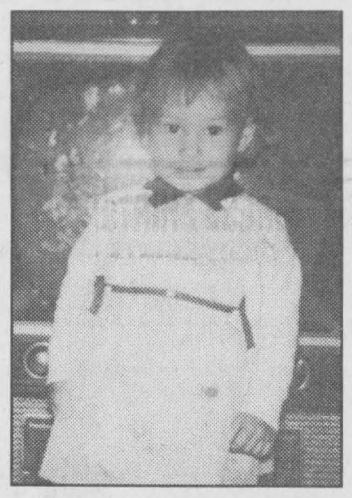
Dixon's Corners Public School Choir entertained the crowd, as did Jackie VanderMeulen's rendition of *The First Noel*.

The youth group from Community Christian Reformed Church performed more than the average carol by accompanying the music with swaying arms in a form of liturgical dance. And led by Dana Summers, they sang and performed with their own musical instruments — including drums, guitar, mandolin and keyboard — for a striking *Go Tell it on the Mountain*.

Also performing that evening were The Messengers from South Mountain, and more groups from Community Christian Reformed Church: trio Nanda Wubs, Rita Bergsma and Mattie Zandbergen; men's group The Living Stones; and soloist Coby Zandbergen.

Brinston United Church served up the Christmastime goodies.

LORDY, LORDY, LORDY!!! Look Who's 40! 40! 40!





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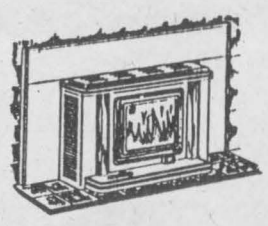

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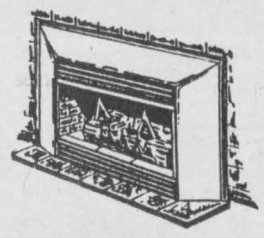

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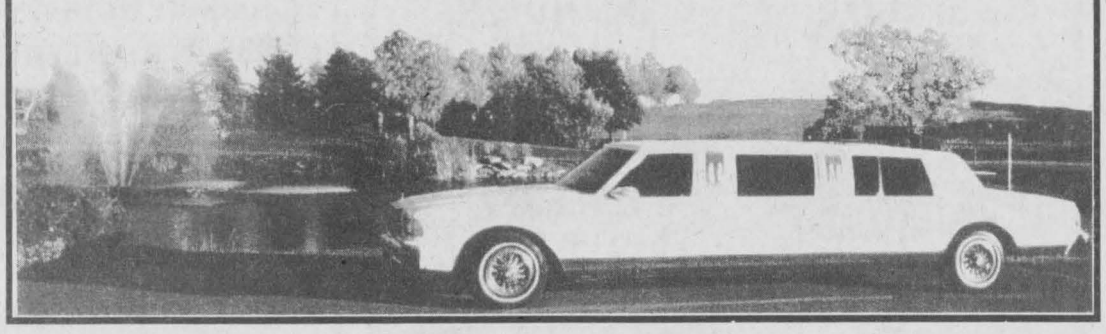





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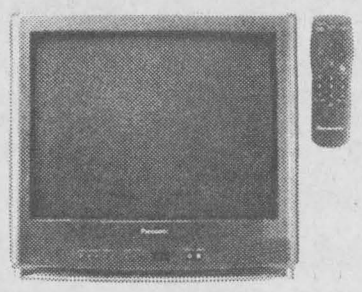

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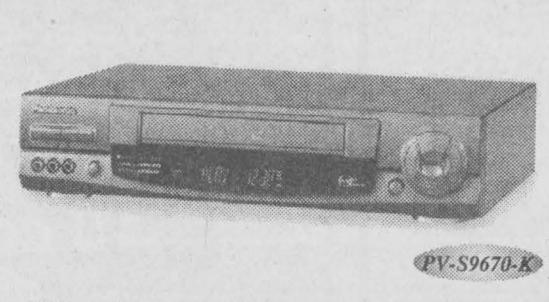

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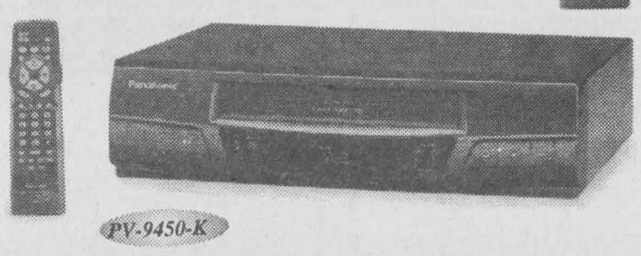

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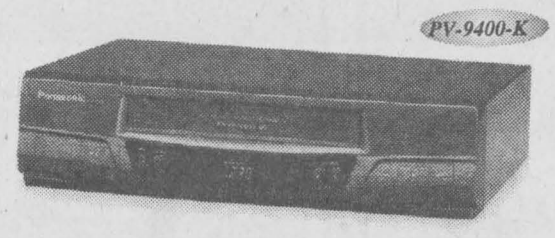

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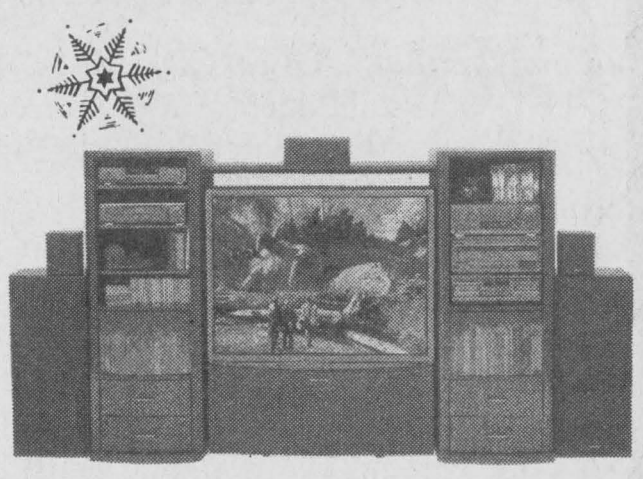

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CONTINUED FROM THE FRONT

Skaters

made from such as the annual play "The Nutcracker" and Jessica Halladay, Cynthia Casavant, McKenzie Gill, Jessica Earl and Shannon Bernier did the author proud as they skated onto the ice.

A young man who we may well be watching on the tube as time matures his ability, Tyler Coligan did his first solo skate as the spotlight followed him as he spun and jumped. This 14-year old passed his Novice test and is in his second year on the Divisional Team. Coached presently by Andrew Bestwick and Sergi Tcheteroukhin, Tyler too skated in the beginning in his hometown of Cardinal, but now, he too calls Nepean his home rink.

The "Spirit of Christmas" is indeed alive and well in Cardinal as Brittany Veley, Connor Elliott, Lucy Jodoin, Megan Tobin, Julia Patrick, Jennifer Schrader, Amanda Riddell and Brittany Leggo showed everyone. Connor was ready as we caught this group as they prepared to hit the icy stage. He is seven years old and when asked why he skates, noted, "My mom signed me up. I have skated since I was four years old. I like it, the new moves and the turns and jumps!" Watch for this curly haired fellow as he grows taller to become another Elvis!! He is pretty good for a little fellow. We'll keep an eye on his progress.

Lacey Mallette skated a solo performance that was tops.

After an intermission that gave the tickets sellers in the lobby time to get rid of the final few tickets on the items up for grabs on the table, the show continued.

"Frosty the Snowman" was a jolly, happy soul and Michael Tracey, Nathan Hamilton, Natalie Marchand, Anne McNairn, Brittany Myers, Emma Patrick, Jenna Toupin, Curtis Tousignant and Megan Buckland made wonderful Frosties, black hats and all!

Jennifer Seary was the first soloist in the second half of the show and she got things going in style.

"Christmas Eve" is a magical time as Effie Theodosiou, Charlotte Wood, Cole Burchell, Troy Tousignant, John Wood, Kyra Dumm and Devin Johnston ensured that we would all dream of sugar plums once at home.

Two solo efforts were well received by the crowd who came out to watch the Annual Skate Show. Carley Sullivan and Nathan Last were both quite exceptional as they took their turn at centre ice. There are so many young skaters to keep an eye on in the Cardinal Skate Club.

What would Christmas be without hustle and bustle of shopping? Who cannot relate a story about elbowing their way to the counter or to the rack?? Well, Brittany, Conner, Lucy, Megan, Julia, Jennifer, Amanda and Brittany returned in this portion of the show. They showed what a headache can be produced if you shop too long and too close to Christmas. "Shopping" was a fun set.

Solo efforts give the skaters something to skate towards. Vanessa Elliott skated and her spins and twirls had hands clapping Then Tyler strutted his stuff once more and then it was "Home for Christmas" with Jessica H., Cynthia, McKenzie, Jessica E., and Shannon helped everyone get into the Christmas frame of mind.

Sara Rust was the final solo skater of the show. She is a talented young lady on the ice.

"Christmas Morning" brought the entire Cardinal Figure Skating Club onto the ice for the grand finale. A terrific job by everyone, from the youngest skater to the folks who got laces tied and hats straightened, applause filled the arena for them all.

Say "NO" to drugs

Tulips

nadian Tulip Festival," Martel said.

But it's a two-way street. Headed south on Bank within Ottawa-Carleton, travellers would learn that they are headed towards the Gateway to the St. Lawrence, with maybe a plug for Upper Canada Village included on some of the signs.

Local organizers are hoping to have the project well under way by the year 2001.

The ideas behind the project began this year when South Dundas started looking into upgrading the signs on County Roads. "I penned a letter off to (United Counties Roads superintendent] Don McDonald about changing county signs and asked about the graphic signs like in Metcalfe and Vernon," Martel said.

"The signs will be expensive to match Ottawa-Carleton's," Whitteker said, but agreeing with Coun. Audrey Rooney's assertion that the $700 price tag per sign is "cheap advertising."

"At some point we have to get serious about attracting people," she said.

Tulip Festival organizers would also like to see indigenous plants or trees from the St. Lawrence region somehow included as part of the cooperative promotion effort along the road. McIntosh apple trees were mentioned at the conference, Martel said, but they would need too much care.

At the invitation of Festival organizers, Mayor Whitteker will pitch the Bank Street scheme to the entire Canadian Tulip Festival committee in Ottawa.

The Morrisburg conference

Mr. Gauthier, executive director of the Canadian Tulip Festival, and Tony Calcutt, fundraising coordinator, gave a brief synopsis of the Tulip Festival at the conference.

Gauthier stated that the organizers of the Festival fulfilled their goal of planting two million tulips in Ottawa and area. Ottawa is considered the Tulip Capital of North America and, in fact, the world. The Festival is the largest in the world, even surpassing the Netherlands and the U.S. It has involvement from communities, corporations and municipalities.

Gauthier turned his attention to the scenario of the "Gateway" concept. He stated that no one else has brought the idea forward and the Tulip Festival committee would be willing to acknowledge it and work together with the local area to develop the concept.

An interim committee was formed and named the "Tulip Gateway Committee."

The committee would have to be sanctioned by the Tulip Festival Board. Gauthier stressed that awareness is important to implement the plan and that the plan be economically viable.

Tourism brings $50 million to Ottawa and area during the Tulip Festival.

Marketing the Gateway could be by means of a parade along the corridor, motorcoach packages and fall and spring programs involving the Civic Pride Program.

The community is urged to get involved with the project for the year 2001. Ideas include naming a tulip for the Gateway, or a Tulip Tower. Also, twinning festivals take place every year, with partners in Turkey, Netherlands, France, Japan, England and the U.S.

Coun. Martel was installed as the acting chair of the interim committee, and Geraldine Fitzsimmons of Iroquois will act as liaison with the Tulip Festival committee. The interim committee will next meet on Jan. 11, 2000 at 10:30 a.m. at the McIntosh Inn.

It is expected that SD&G Counties Council will discuss the name change for County Road 31at its Dec. 20 meeting.



Diner's Club Entertainers

After a delicious meal at the Legion, the Diner's Club members were entertained by a group of gals who had only played in public once previously. They pick and sing with a flair and were great to listen to. Here is June Bourice, Barb Graham, Madelyn Gates, Audrey Casselman and Marilyn Cooke. Gwen Bosma and Louisa Anderson along with a couple of other linedancers showed how to swing to the music. Great stuff gals, keep it up. *Chieftain Photo by S.L.Johnston*

CRIME STOPPERS

Each week, Crime Stoppers spotlights a crime that has been committed in the area. Crime Stoppers would like to remind you that we need information on ALL crimes, not just the Crime of the Week. This week, Crime Stoppers is asking for your help in identifying the person(s) responsible for breaking into a South Dundas business sometime between the 8th of November and the 8th of December, 1999, Four SYLVANIA electrical panels model numbers B12100, B40200 and BC40200DS were stolen. We need your information, NOT your name. You will remain anonymous. You will not have to appear in court and you may be eligible for a cash reward. Crime Stoppers, it's your program.

If you have any information on this or any other crime, please call Crime Stoppers at 937-8477 or for long distance, call 1-800-265-8477.

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the first issue of the New Year...
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DEADLINE For Pictures To Be Submitted....
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CHRISTMAS EVE...6:00 p.m.
NEW YEAR'S EVE....7:00 p.m. (or later if needed)

CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY, BOXING DAY & NEW YEAR'S DAY

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from All of Us!