Winchester boy takes trip of a lifetime. 5

SD&G World Teachers' Day teacher honored. 8

Local cattle breeders compete at Metcalfe fair on the weekend. 10

Mindy Holmes leads Senior Devils to first win. B-1

Publications Mail Reg. No. 1555

WINCHESTER PRESS

VOL. 110 NO. 28 • ESTABLISHED IN 1888 • WINCHESTER, ONT. • WED., OCTOBER 8, 1997 • 38 PAGES 75 CENTS GST INCLUDED



Smooth sailing

Organizers of the 141st annual Metcalfe Fair are calling this year's event one of the most successful ever. Great weather for the four-day fair coupled with good promotion and a lot of hard work by directors and volunteers contributed to the fair's success. Attendance for the fair, which ran Thurs., Oct. 2 to Sun., Oct. 5 was estimated at 38,000.

Press Photo — Fetterly

Administrators in place for ND

by Sandra Dillich
Press staff

WINCHESTER — The pieces are quickly falling into place for the new municipality of North Dundas.

Last week, the North Dundas Transition Committee filled the remaining four administrative positions from applicants currently employed by the four municipalities — Winchester Village, Chesterville Village, Mountain Township and Winchester Township.

Chesterville Village's current Operations Manager, Peter Shahen, has been hired as Chief Building Officer; Winchester Township's Road Superintendent, Arden Carruthers was named Works Superintendent, while Recreation Director for the Village of Winchester Matt Krisjanis was named Recreation Director for North Dundas. Winchester Village Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator, Bonnie Dingwall, has been hired on as the new Treasurer/Deputy Clerk.

"I have mixed feelings (about the new position). I think 'yeah' I have a job and I can feed my kids, but then I feel for the other employees who don't have positions and will have a change in lifestyle," noted Dingwall.

Dingwall has been the clerk for the Village of Winchester for the past four years and prior to that she spent eight years as the Clerk/Planner for the Township of Osnabruck.

• continued on next page

Municipal candidates needed

by Sandra Dillich
Press staff

WINCHESTER — There is little interest in local politics.

As of yesterday afternoon (Oct. 7), only nine people had officially filed their nomination forms for the upcoming November 10 municipal election.

The deadline for declaration of candidacy is this (Friday) Oct. 10 at 5 pm.

"We need one more in each for Ward 4 (Village of Chesterville) and Ward 1 (Winchester Township) to have the minimum number of councillors per the Provincial Order regulating amalgamation," noted Returning Officer for this year's municipal election, Bonnie Dingwall.

Dingwall said she does not know why people have failed to show any interest in joining the new council.

"It's going to be hectic for them for the first little while. It could be that amalgamation is scaring them off," she said.

If interested candidates for Wards 1 and 4 do not come forward by Friday afternoon, under section 33, sub-section

• continued on next page

SD nomination list growing

by Lori Culliton
Press staff

WILLIAMSBURG — The deadline is looming for candidates in the upcoming municipal election, and the candidate list for the riding of South Dundas is growing.

The deadline is Fri., Oct. 10, and the election date is Nov. 10.

So far, there are three mayoral candidates for South Dundas. They are Johnny Whitteker, Lyle VanAllen and Charles Barkley.

Candidates for Ward One (Williamsburg) are Rowdy Gillard and Tom Henderson.

In Ward Two (Matilda) the candidates are Bev Sabourin, Norm Tinkler and Mike Ault.

Dirk Testerink and Cam Martel are running for South Dundas council in Ward Three (Morrisburg), while Ward Four (Iroquois) candidates are Peter Swank, Art Roberts, Audrey Rooney and Bill Ewing.

There is one candidate for the Hydro Commission, Bill Barkley.

There is also one candidate so far for the SD&G Public School Board — Maria Thompson.

Council undecided on crossing guard

WINCHESTER — Council members are still not sure if hiring a second crossing guard is the best solution for the village's west end.

For the past month, council members for the Village of Winchester have been grappling with the issue of whether or not to hire a second crossing guard for the west end the village. This fall about 30 children have been forced to find other forms of transportation to Winchester Public School following the SD&G Public School Board's decision to enforce busing regulations.

Over the past few weeks Road Superintendent Andre Johnson monitored the pedestrian traffic flow in the west end.

• continued on next page

New parade route to light up village

WINCHESTER — Twenty-one parade entries have now been confirmed for the first-ever night Christmas parade in Winchester in December. The parade, which is to be lit up with Christmas lights, lamps and spotlights, is the first of its kind in this part of Ontario.

A parade committee meeting held Monday night heard several encouraging items about the upcoming parade, including the escalating number of entries.

According to John Adams, parade committee chairman, the $400 that had been budgeted for turning off street lights along the route the evening of the parade is no longer needed.

• continued on next page



For the kids

Teachers from Winchester Public School staged a protest, along with their counterparts throughout Ontario, for the second week in a row on Friday. The peaceful noon hour demonstration was in protest of Bill 160 which proposes cuts to education.

Press Photo -- Culliton

Teacher's strike

Time running out, both sides prepared

by Lori Culliton
Press staff

CORNWALL — The timelines have been set, and a strike date could be set as early as today (Wednesday), but at least by the end of the week, according to Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation (OSSTF) president Greg McGillis.

"We know the timelines," McGillis told the *Press*. "The government is going to talk to the Ontario Teachers Federation on Wednesday. Both sides are prepared."

He said that the House of Commons will be recessing on Thursday (Oct. 9) until Nov. 17. "During the recess, there will be eight days of committee hearings about Bill 160, because several parent groups demanded hearings," McGillis said. "That's when we will put the greatest pressure on the government, because this is the time when changes can be made (when the committee hearings are held)."

As for a strike date, McGillis said, it could be set as early as today, but probably by the end of the week. "The date will be based on the hearings. We'll see how that goes," he said. "A strike will probably be scheduled after the hearings, depending on how they go.

"In other words, it (a strike) can't be next week."

Meanwhile, McGillis said, there are petitions circulating through school councils, and a "fax attack" has been implemented.

"With the fax attack, we encourage people of the federation and other supporters to write a short note to their MP, the Premier, and the minister, and fax it on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week," McGillis explained. "It's had a significant effect. We've blocked the faxes of the two biggest players, namely (Premier) Mike Harris and (Education Minister) Mike Snobelen."

• continued on next page

Sabourin runs for SD&G trustee

MONKLAND — SD&G Separate School Board Trustee Denis Sabourin announced this week that he will seek a trustee position on the newly amalgamated Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry, Prescott, Russell, Leeds, Grenville, and Lanark Separate School Board.

"I believe there is still a meaningful role for school board trustees despite proposed changes in the education act," Sabourin said. "I also feel I can continue to make a positive contribution on behalf of all stakeholders in the Catholic education system."

First elected to the trustee position in 1991, representing Roxborough Township, Cornwall Township, the Village of Maxville and the Town of Alexandria, Sabourin was re-elected in 1994.

"Under the amalgamation process the boundaries for trustee representation have changed and I look forward to the opportunity to represent Catholic school supporters in Stormont-Dundas," he said.

"Education is facing very difficult times," Sabourin added. "I believe I have the experience to make the decisions necessary to ensure the future of Catholic education and that students and Catholic education supporters' concerns are heard and addressed in the most effective manner possible."

Continued from the front page...

ND staff

"I'm looking forward to helping Howard Smith. It's going to be a big change, consolidating the finances of the four municipalities into one, but I feel I can rise to the occasion," said Dingwall.

Krisjanis also feels he is ready for the new challenges facing him in the new year.

"I'm very confident I can fill the position," he said.

Prior to becoming the facilities manager of the Winchester Arena, Krisjanis spent eight years in Russell — three as a lead hand and five as their facilities manager.

"My main goal is to have recreation united as a whole for North Dundas. The volunteer base is the backbone of recreation in this area and I will not be interfering with any of those plans and projects and I hope I can be of some assistance to those programs."

The next step for the North Dundas Transition Committee and its new administrators is to determine the number of employees required for each department.

All employees currently working for the four municipalities will be able to apply for the remaining positions. If no suitable applicant is found, people from outside of the municipalities will be able to apply.

Howard Smith from Chesterville was hired last month as North Dundas's clerk.

Candidates

five of the Municipal Elections Act, the nomination period can be extended to the following Wednesday (October 15) at 5 pm.

Each ward will elect two representatives to sit on council as councillors, while a mayor is to be elected at large. A deputy mayor, who will also sit on counties council, will be selected by the council members.

According to Dingwall, the North Dundas Transition Committee has stipulated that one of the two members representing North Dundas on Counties Council will be from one of the villages, while the other member will be from one of the two townships.

The following is a list of declared candidates:

Mayor: Claude Cousineau, Winchester Township.

Ward 1 (Winchester Township): Randy Rankin.

Ward 2 (Mountain Township): Keith Fawcett, Estella Rose, Annette Turner.

Ward 3 (Village of Winchester): Bob Riddell, David Sloan.

Ward 4 (Village of Chesterville): Sharon Casselman.

Elections take place on November 10.

Crossing guard

According to Johnson, 28 to 32 students travel to the public school from the west end of the village. However, he also noted most of them do not take the direct route along Main and St. Lawrence Streets.

"You have a certain percentage of kids coming from Bailey Street and they use the back way — through the park," added Johnson. "Very few kids are actually taking the Main and St. Lawrence (streets) route."

Johnson noted about three to four students come from Bailey Street; nine to 12 come from Howard Street, while the remaining students come from Whitney, Gladstone and Alexander Streets.

"At this time I can't justify having another crossing guard there," added Johnson. "Good education from the parents is probably what's required."

Rev. Robert Assaly, one of the concerned parents who originally approached council last month about a second crossing guard, said if the councillors were unwilling to hire a crossing guard they should consider putting in overhead crosswalk signs.

"With the structure of the village... there doesn't seem to be a safe way for kids to go to school," added Assaly. "It only takes one accident to have a tragedy in town. The village has the responsibility to provide safety for the children in town."

Council has yet to make a final decision.

Parade

Adams explained that two linesmen from Ontario Hydro have volunteered to turn off the lights for no charge. Ontario Hydro will provide a bucket truck, free of charge, for the task.

The two hydro volunteers are Brian Koekkoek and Rob Horton.

The Winchester Legion is getting involved with parade festivities once again as they have in past years, by sponsoring the purchasing of candy canes to be handed out to children at the parade.

"Usually the candy canes are passed out at the parade, and then afterwards when the kids visit Santa Claus," Adams said. "But this year we won't be able to have visiting with Santa Claus at the Royal Bank as we have in the past, because the bank won't be closed in time."

So, the Winchester Legion has stepped in and offered a room downstairs at the legion for children to visit with Santa Claus before the parade, probably from 6 pm to 7 pm, Adams said.

The video of the Washington parade that inspired Winchester's committee to try a night parade has arrived. Adams said he has five copies of the video. One copy will be left at the Royal Bank and will be shown on a television in the bank. Another copy will be available for viewing at Winchester Video.

"Additional videos are available for groups or families if they want to watch it for ideas," John said. "We've already been booked by several service clubs in the area to show the video at upcoming meetings and answer questions about the parade. We're more than happy to do that."

The parade committee is trying to compile a list of generators that might be available to parade entrants, Adams said. "We know that most of the entrants will have to use generators to make the lights work on the floats, and we know that many people in this area own generators," Adams said. "So, we're asking that, if people have a generator that they could loan to us for the night of the parade, to call and we will keep a list of the generators that are available."

The parade route will be changing slightly this year, making it about a third longer than in the past, in both distance and time, Adams said.

As plans for this year's parade develop, ideas for future parades are being acquired as well, Adams said. "We can foresee that eventually, this will become more than a parade," he said. "We hope that we can develop it into an event around the theme of lights, with competitions for decorated homes, and events occurring before and after the parade."

He mentioned that it would be a nice idea to have residents in town decorate their houses in time for the parade this year. "What would be ideal is that at a specific time before the parade, everyone would turn on their Christmas lights on their property, and it would be a nice welcoming for people as they come into town to see the parade."

However, Adams added, "I haven't talked to anyone at hydro yet in regards to a possible power problem with that yet."

If you or your service group would like to view the video, or if you have any questions about the parade, or if you have a generator to lend to the committee, please call John Adams at 774-2515 (office) or 774-6425 (home).

Teachers

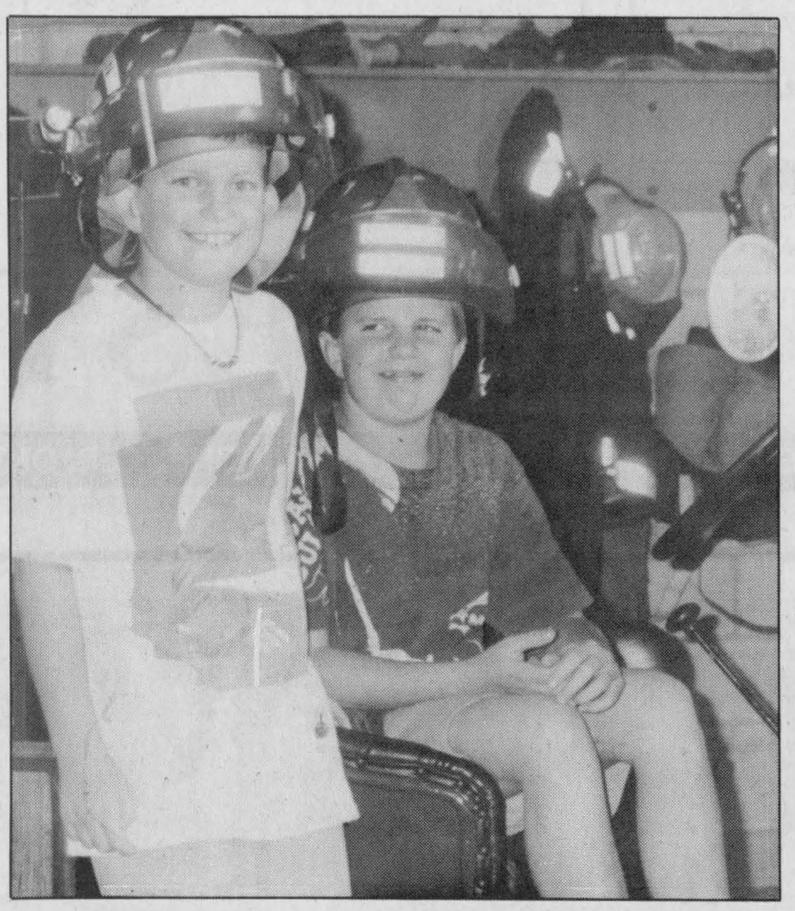
A series of radio and television ads have also been purchased by the federation.

The teachers' federations are upset over proposed legislation, Bill 160. Some of the issues they are opposing include legalizing the use of unqualified teachers, or specialists; the elimination of preparation time for teachers; the removal of $1 billion out of the education budget; and the elimination of class-size control.

Teachers at Ontario schools staged a noon-hour demonstration for the second week in a row on Friday. In Winchester, teachers carried picket signs opposing Bill 160 and walked the streets of the village.

A candlelight vigil is planned for next Tuesday (Oct. 14) in Cornwall. Teachers will walk from the OSSTF office to the clock tower, and hold a vigil there.

"The theme," McGillis said, "Is that time is running out for the government to back down."



Fire safety

Eric and Justin Noort of RR #1 Winchester try on firemen's hats at the Fire Safety Open House held Saturday at the Winchester Fire Department.
Press Photo — Culliton

Remember EDITH!

Exit Drills In The Home

by Lori Culliton
Press staff

WINCHESTER — "Know where to go — act fast" is this year's slogan for Fire Safety Week (Oct. 5 - 11). The Winchester Fire Department kicked off the week with an open house on Saturday, to help spread awareness about fire safety in the community.

Deputy Fire Chief Dan Kelly said that aside from the Fire Safety Week slogan, there is also a safety campaign under way this year for senior citizens, called "Older and Wiser".

The campaign stresses safety precautions such as safe cooking, evacuation plans, and placement of space heaters.

"The biggest threat for loss of life is with senior citizens and young children," Kelly said.

Several videos, containing tips about fire hazards in the home, and a baby-sitter video for both parents and sitters, as well as a video for seniors, geared toward the "Older and Wiser" theme, were shown to visitors to the open house.

There were fire extinguishers, smoke detectors and batteries, and fact sheets available for visitors to the open house.

"We're telling kids that they need to know two ways out of a public building (such as a school) or their home," Kelly said. "If there aren't two ways out, they need to know what to do, how to get out."

Kelly said that the fire department is teaching people to remember "EDITH" — Exit Drills In The Home.

Township overhaul

METCALFE — The first phase of restructuring Osgoode Township departments is over and will cost the township $6,875 for the remaining of this year and $27,500 for next year.

In the 1997 budget, the township allotted $45,155 for salary changes.

Wayne Robinson has been appointed director of the new corporate services department and will remain as the township's clerk. Kevin Grace, the former drainage superintendent, is now the director of roads and environmental services; fire chief Gerry Bennett is now director of community services; and current director of planning, Karyn Carty-Ostafichuk, is the new director of recreation.

Councillor Dale Harley said restructuring has left the township in a more positive financial position.

"We had budgeted for this in the 1997 budget and we are dramatically under budget for salary adjustments," said Harley.

He added that the township will actually be saving money as a result of the township's landfill site being taken over by Tomlinson Waste Management.

The township had one employee working at the site when Tomlinson took over its operation and the employee's salary.

"That type of arrangement with the private sector saves us money and gives the township further opportunity to explore that option in the future with other staff," said Harley.

The next phase of restructuring starts next week with Chief Administrative Officer Moira Winch meeting individually with the new department heads to discuss the future roles of the new departments.

The restructuring comes a year after a workforce audit completed by a Nepean consulting firm which recommended the re-organization of township departments from 10 to five.

What Winch and others will be reviewing is the township's mission and what the new responsibilities for the new directors will be and what their goals are.

The township is aiming at completing its restructuring by the end of the year.

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THURS. & FRI.....8:30 AM-8 PM
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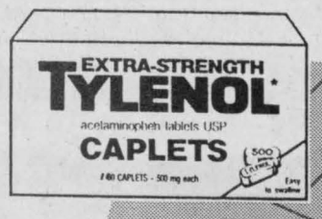

Tylenol Extra Strength Tablets or Caplets
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Polident
104s
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Arrid Deodorant Sticks
50 g, all types
2.99 ea.



Clairol L'Image
All shades
7.99 ea.



Buckley's DM
250 ml
7.99 ea.



Dimetapp Elixir
250 ml *or*
Dimetapp-DM Elixir
250 ml, *your choice*
8.99 ea.



Riopan
600 ml
8.99 ea.



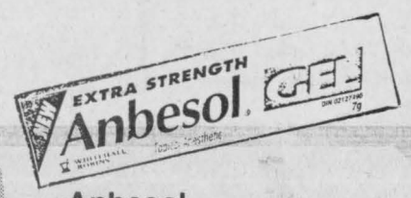
Australian Naturals Shampoo or Conditioner
500 ml
2.29 ea.



Aspirin
325 mg, 100s
4.99 ea.



Polaroid SX-70 or 600 Speed Instant Film
10 exposure pack
13.99 ea.



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Extra Strength Gel
7 g
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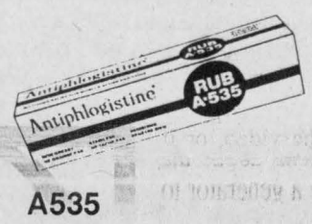

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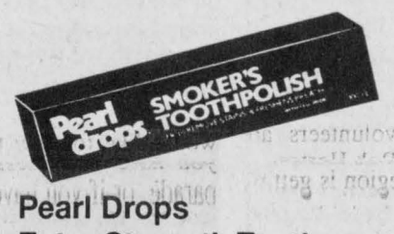

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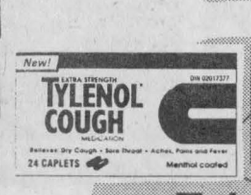

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1.99 ea.



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5.99 ea.



Polaroid One Step Camera
39.99 ea.



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2.49 ea.



Ovol
160 mg, 32s
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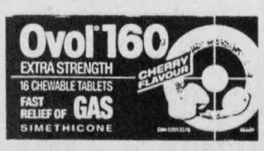
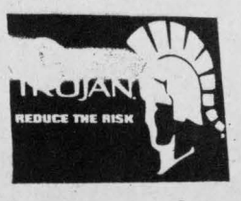


Ovol
160 mg, 16s
3.59 ea.



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Police blotter

Lost and found

WINCHESTER TWP. — During the overnight hours of Oct 4, a 1982 grey, two-door Chevy Celebrity was stolen from a lot on Dawley Drive. During the early hours of Oct. 5 a 1996 Chrysler Sebring was taken from the driveway of a Hyndman Road residence. Both vehicles have not been recovered.

A 1988 Chevy Blazer parked at the Osgoode Township High School on Oct. 4 was stolen and has yet to be recovered.

On Oct. 5, the OPP recovered a previously stolen black, 1995 four-door Eagle from the Boundary Road in Mountain Twp. On Oct 4 shortly after 5 pm, a 1987 blue, four-door Chevy Cavalier was recovered from the area of County Roads 2 and 4. The vehicle had been stolen from the Deseronto area. On Sept. 19 a 1992 Mercury, stolen from the City of Bellville, was recovered in the Iroquois area.

A Jeep was taken from a Royal Palm Crescent home on Oct. 3 and recovered the following day in Ottawa by the Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police.

Attempted thefts

MANOTICK — On Oct. 3 a Boucher Crescent resident was awoken by his car alarm at about 1 am when the alarm went off. When he went out to check the car, he noticed the passenger door lock had been tampered with.

That same evening there were two other attempted vehicle thefts on Kilby Lane and Marina Drive. In both cases the doors were pried open and the steering columns were damaged.

Hot hi-fis

MOUNTAIN TWP. — During the day of Sept. 29 a forced entry was made into a MacIntyre Road home. Home entertainment items were stolen. Between Oct. 2 and 4 an illegal entry was made into a Centre Street residence in the Village of Winchester. Stereo equipment was stolen.

During the overnight hours of Sept. 29 and 30 an attempted break and enter was made into a Nesbitt Road residence in Winchester Twp. No entry was gained and no theft occurred. A Morrisburg business suffered damage to its doors on Oct. 2/3 when thieves tried to gain entry. No entry was made and nothing was stolen.

B&Es

OSGOODE TWP. — A Boundary Road home was broken into on Sept. 29. The culprit(s) forced open the front door and stole entertainment equipment, an answering machine and a telephone.

Compact discs, a jar of change and a small amount of liquor were stolen from a Barrett Crescent home. A bedroom window was the point of entry.

Charged

RIDEAU TWP. — An 18-year-old male and two youths from Rideau Twp. were arrested on Oct. 4 after stealing a car from a local car dealership. The three males were apprehended in the stolen car — a Mercury Mystique — shortly after 11 pm on Regional Road 73 near Jockvale Road.

Thefts

KARS — Between Sept. 28 and Oct. 4 a David Clark headset, a microphone and portable intercom were stolen from the cockpit of a plane stored in a hanger at the Kars Airport.

There were five thefts from vehicles on Oct. 3. Two cars parked at the Duncan Funeral Home were entered sometime after 7:30 pm by prying open the doors. Two purses were taken.

A Baja Boss 232 boat and a 1996 Karavan trailer were stolen from a local marina last week.

1-900 calls

WINCHESTER — Periodically mailings are made to residents which will request them to call a 1-900 number to obtain information on contests or prize winnings they may be eligible for.

Callers should use caution when returning calls and be aware that a 900 number is not the same as a 800 number.

When you call a 1-900 number, charges are assessed to you for the call. Most mailings you receive will tell you what the charge per minute will be for this call and how many minutes the average call will take.

While many people know that they should not give out personal, banking or credit card information over the phone, people are sometimes unaware of the potential cost of returning a 1-900 call.

Read the fine print before making any calls of this type and make an informed decision on whether you wish to pay the cost.

Security alarms

WINCHESTER — Since each property in our county is now marked by an emergency number, it is important for all business owners and residential owners to update the information on file with their local security companies.

As we now have a more accurate method of identifying a property location than we had with the lot and concession system, this is the address that should be used for security companies to dispatch police in case of an alarm.

An accurate location not only will assist in reducing response time to an alarm, but may also assist in co-ordinating the response of multiple units to that occurrence.

Ault to implement environmentally friendly changes

WINCHESTER — Ault Foods wants to become the environment's best friend.

At a recent open house held by Ault Foods, Rob Edwards, environmental manager for Ault Foods, said Ault's has submitted an amendment application which would discontinue the factory's need for emergency discharges.

"We feel it is very important for the future development of Ault's," noted Operations Manager Patrick Timmins.

According to Edwards, Ault's wants to implement a flow-dependent discharge (HCR) with nominal constant fall and winter discharges.

Prior to making a decision on a preferred alternative, they considered other options based on the following criteria: volume; environmental protection; TP policy 2; effluent concentration; reduction in contaminant loadings; technical feasibility; and economic feasibility.

"When we first started looking at our alternatives we had to look at where we went wrong," noted Edwards.

Ault Foods currently discharges their effluent into the Annable Drain, however, due to the drain's low flow, Ault's cannot completely discharge of all their effluent.

Edwards said the reason Ault's is unable to discharge all of their effluent into the Annable Drain is that the drain's volumes, calculated on Survey of Canada flow data, were overestimated which resulted in about 43 per cent less flow than expected.

According to the proposal, effluent discharge would take place from November 1 to March 31 into the Annable Drain.

"(According to the proposal) if there was less diluted water in the Annable Drain we would go to the constant discharge of 1,500 cubic metres a day," said Edwards.

"(A discharge of) 1,500 cubic metres a day is a very small flow," added Rick Eamon of MS Thompson and Associates. "If you don't notice the drainage now, you're not going to notice it after this."

In addition to the implementation of this new plan, Ault's also proposed a Phosphorus Management Plan which would eliminate about 99.8 per cent of Ault's total phosphorus to the Annable Drain.

"You really can't get better than that," noted Edwards.

The flocculator is a small chemical reactor used for treating milkhouse washwater. The reactor removes phosphates and residual milk solids from the washwater prior to its final disposal.

"It's more effective and more environmental for the receiving stream (such as the Henderson Drain, East Castor and Castor River)," noted Eamon.

Edwards explained that the reactor eliminates phosphorus by using lime. The reactor is filled with discharge water and lime is added. The waste water is then mixed for 20 minutes after which time the solids are settled for two hours. About 90 per cent of volume is then clarified and drained to the infiltration trench. The remaining 10 per cent, or sludge, is drained to the gutter.

According to Edwards, each reactor costs about $10,000 and has the ability to remove 39 kg of phosphorus, 107 kg of total solids and 109 kg of BODs (biological oxygen demand) annually.

Ault Foods plans to install 15 reactors over a three-year period on local farms.



Mmmm...delicious!

Stephanie Toonders, 9, of Morrisburg bites into a juicy one at the Second Annual Morrisburg Applefest on Saturday. The event was kicked off with a pipe band and highland dancers, and various events continued throughout the day, including hay bale rolling contests, guess-the-weight-of-the-pumpkin contests, and pie baking contests (apple, of course). Press Photo —Culliton



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Whirlwind trip of a lifetime to Disney

by Lori Culliton
Press staff

WINCHESTER — A dream came true for 80 Ottawa-area kids last Wednesday, as they were whisked away to Walt Disney World in Florida for 18 hours. Winchester's nine-year-old Matthew McLean (son of Marion and Alan) was one of those lucky kids, and he says it was "the best day of my life".

The $75,000 trip was another Dreamlift by the London-based Sunshine Foundation, which has sponsored 31 such trips in the past 10 years. The foundation sends children ages seven to 19 who have disabilities and serious illnesses for a day of fun and adventure at Disney World.

It's a one-day trip, flying out at 7 am and arriving home again around midnight the same day. Parents do not accompany their kids on the trip; instead, about 40 volunteers travel with the children. For many of the kids, including Matthew, it is their first trip without their parents.

Matthew and his parents had to leave Winchester at 5 am last Wednesday morning, to meet the plane at the former CFB Uplands base, which is used for VIPs and dignitary flights.

"It was nice that they could leave from there, because that way all the parents could be right there as the kids boarded the plane," Marion McLean said. Matthew has spina bifida, and is limited to the use of a wheelchair.

There were volunteer police officers from the OPP, RCMP and the Ottawa-Carleton police force who were on hand to help load the children onto the airplane. Those who were unable to walk onto the plane were carried on by the police officers. Matthew was carried on, and later commented on the big, black boots that some of the officers wore (motorcycle officers).

There were a lot of firsts for Matthew last Wednesday: his first trip without his parents, his first time at Disney World, and his very first plane ride.

"It (the plane) was fun," Matthew said. "I had to chew a lot of gum, because my ears were sore."

After the two-hour, 45-minute trip, the plane was met by volunteers, Disney characters, and policemen on horseback, Matthew described. The officers were from the Orange County Sheriff's Office.

The first thing Matthew said he noticed upon his arrival at Disney World was the characters, including Goofy and Mickey Mouse. Goofy's whiskers hit him on the cheek when the character hugged him, Matthew said.

A ferry took the kids across a lake to Disney World, and the day was a whirlwind of excited faces and new experiences.

Matthew watched "The Lion King" live on stage, and went on several rides, including "Pirates of the Caribbean", although he avoided the roller coasters.

The McLeans were contacted in August by the Spina Bifida clinic, and asked if they were interested in the trip. They applied, and received word in September that Matthew had been accepted.

"It was a long day, and the kids were all tired when they got home," Marion McLean said. "But the day after the trip, Matthew was telling everyone that it was the best day of his life."



Nine-year-old Matthew McLean of Winchester (right) spent last Wednesday at Walt Disney World, courtesy of the Sunshine Foundation of London, Ontario. He's pictured above at Disney World with Cody Fraser, 9, of Renfrew, who also suffers from spina bifida, and two volunteer officers from the Orange County Sheriff's Office.

Press Photo -- Culliton



Autumn in the country

Art was the main theme at Russell's Autumn in the Country event on the weekend, with artists' displays, concerts in the park, and a play entitled "Old Mac", based on the life of Dr. Dugald MacDougall. Pictured, Matthew Hicks of Kingston checks out some fall decorations available at the show.

Press Photo — Culliton

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Expanded recycling program

by Derek Puddicombe

METCALFE — On Oct. 6 Osgoode Township residents began to take part in an expanded curbside recycling program.

The new materials now being picked up include: corrugated cardboard, box board (cereal and shoe boxes), egg cartons, cores from paper towel and toilet paper rolls, mixed household paper (envelopes and junk mail), and rigid plastic containers (shampoo bottles, detergent bottles, yogurt and ice cream containers).

Residents will receive a pamphlet — Beside and Inside — in the mail detailing what is and isn't acceptable for recycling.

Laurier Bertrand Services of Embrun is the company responsible for picking up the materials. Collecting the garbage will be Tomlinson Environmental Services who currently operate the Springhill landfill site.

The idea surrounding the expanded recycling program is to decrease the volume of garbage going to the landfill site, said Arie Bakker, township works superintendent.

"There have been residents who have expressed concern and asked when the township would be expanding our blue box program," said Bakker.

Bakker added that the township is dumping about six metric tons of waste into the landfill annually and expects that number to be reduced by 50 per cent due to the expanded recycling program and additional composting.

The township hopes to reduce the amount of garbage dumped to the point where each household fills only three quarters of a bag of garbage each week.

"I've tried it and it works," said Bakker.

Articles weighing 50 pounds or more are also prohibited from being placed at the curbside. However, for one day, once a year, residents can dump up to 500 kilograms of garbage at the site for free.

Leaf and yard waste will not be picked up by garbage collectors anymore, but can be dropped off free of charge on Oct. 18 or Nov. 1. The yard waste must be in bio-degradable bags to avoid contamination.

Collection days for garbage and recycling will not change.

As part of the township's new tag-a-bag program starting Jan. 12 residents will be paying for the number of garbage bags placed at the curbside.

The $1 tags to be placed on the bags will be available at the township hall, the Metcalfe Fire Station, public libraries and retail outlets yet to be announced.

The revenue generated from the tag-a-bag program will be used to offset the environmental services department budget.

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Editorial/Opinion

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Published by 2woMor Publications Inc.
545 St. Lawrence St., Box 399,
Winchester, Ontario, K0C 2K0
Tel: 613-774-2524, fax: 613-774-3967
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The Winchester Press was established in 1888 and is published Wednesdays at Winchester, Ontario.

Subscription rates: $26.75 per year within 40-mile radius except door-to-door delivery; $32.10 per year outside 40-mile radius plus door-to-door deliveries; $69.55 per year outside Canada. GST included.

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EDITORIAL

The real victims

The threat of an illegal teacher strike still looms over schools, as teacher unions wait to see what move its opponent, the Ontario government, will make next in the chess game called education.

The teachers' federations are waiting to yell "check mate" and move into strike position at the slightest false move by the government. The time is ticking towards a final decision, or so the unions keep indicating.

Yet, in the middle of this battle, the real victims have been forgotten.

They've tried to yell out and make themselves noticed; but the students, in staging protests and walkouts, have unwittingly made themselves into annoyances, prompting questions from the public as to whether the students really understand what they're protesting.

Certainly, for the most part, the students do understand what they are protesting. At least, the student leaders understand.

It takes just one charismatic leader to pump the students into a frenzy which then leads the entire student body to stage a walkout. It begins with the members who are informed; who have done their research.

And it gets out of hand when it gains the support of those students who don't know what's going on, but who support the idea of not attending classes for the afternoon.

Sure, students get no respect. The electronic media chooses to portray the students by the unruliest ones, showing misspelled words on picket signs, and signs with slogans reading, "Bite me, Harris!"

And it seems the students are simply reacting to the situation, not to the issue.

But that's not their fault.

It's the fault of the government, and of the teachers. When you peel away the issues, the government's threat to cut back class preparation time, to take another billion out of education dollars, and many other things about Bill 160, it all boils down to the hidden victim in this row: the student.

Perhaps not so much hidden, but forgotten.

The students are acting out, protesting, because they're confused. Nobody has taken the time to explain to them what the possible strike is really about; what it will mean for them in the long run.

But somebody should. In fact, both the government and the teachers' federations have the responsibility to tell the students what the real issues are, and why.

Instead of protesting, the students should be trying harder to get the facts. Instead of walking out of classes, students should organize an information meeting, and have representatives from both sides of the issue (government and teachers) and make them understand.

Maybe, once questions are asked and answers are demanded by the students, the two sides "fighting" for the students would remember what started the entire situation.

Neither side is right. Striking is not the answer to the problem, nor is taking a billion dollars out of education. Education is a right that all people have and it should be protected.

It should be protected by the government's reconsideration of Bill 160's harsh changes; and it should be protected by the teachers, by finding a different way to negotiate than striking.

L.C.

This week in...

1947

The site of the Winchester District Memorial Hospital was the centre of attraction when Ontario Minister of Health, the Hon. Russell T. Kelley officiated at the "Laying of the Corner Stone" of the building which is now under construction. The weather was ideal for the occasion and an estimated crowd of 2,000 Winchester and district citizens were in attendance.

1957

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada, and Prince Philip have now returned safely to England after what one might call a triumphant visit to Canada and the United States. In both countries the Queen and her husband received a rousing welcome and without doubt her visit has created a stronger tie between Canada, England and the United States.

Winchester 100 Club, in conjunction with Legion Branch 108 members will again sponsor a community Halloween party for the youngsters this year. All Winchester and district children are invited to attend the big event on Halloween night at the community centre.

For the second time in 18 months, the bridge spanning the Rideau River has collapsed under strain of a heavy load. This latest incident occurred when the bridge gave way under the 25-ton load of a tractor trailer and the bulldozer it was hauling. Fifty feet of the structure fell into the Rideau after the truck had passed over it, and was about 35 feet from the other side. Early in the summer of 1956 a heavy truck crashed through the same bridge and the span was replaced with a Bailey bridge as a temporary measure.

Fog, smog, or soup, or better still a combination of all three, blanketed Winchester area this week to bring motor traffic to an absolute standstill. The smog, a mixture of smoke from nearby burning muck areas and a pea-soup fog was believed to have been the worst ever to hit this district.

1967

A well-oiled, smooth-running Conservative campaign is moving into high gear as provincial election day looms. During the week, the Hon. Robarts, Premier of Ontario, swung through the district, stopping to chat with friends in Winchester, Williamsburg and Kemptville.

Seeing is believing, truth is stranger than fiction, and a dozen and one other cliches apply to this story which a lot of people will simply put off as incredible. It is the story of a tomato plant at the corner of the *Press* office. The plant grew out of granite stone and hard asphalt beside the building.

Winchester's "Mr. Hydro" has retired and over 200 hydro employees gathered at Chesterville Community Hall to honor the man who began his career as a member of a construction crew in 1924 and retires as Area Manager. He is A.H. Beardsall. Master of ceremonies was George Davidson, acting manager of Winchester Area, who introduced A.M. Pedersen, Regional Manager.

1977

Although there are five possible sites for the location of an Ontario Hydro generating station in Matilda and Williamsburg townships, municipal officials appear to be somewhat in the dark about the matter. Williamsburg Township reeve Johnny Whitteker said he'd "just as soon not put the plant in the township," although he didn't know where the possible site was, whether the plant would be nuclear or fossil-fuelled or much else about the situation.

Metcalfe's 121st fall fair was literally washed down the drain as the rain-plagued month of September ended in a torrential downpour, and a similar pattern overflowed into October.

Williamsburg Township council will obtain figures on the cost of installing sewage disposal facilities, following presentation of a petition signed by 95 per cent of ratepayers in Williamsburg. The petition asked council to determine costs of the installation after a health unit report indicated present facilities were inadequate.

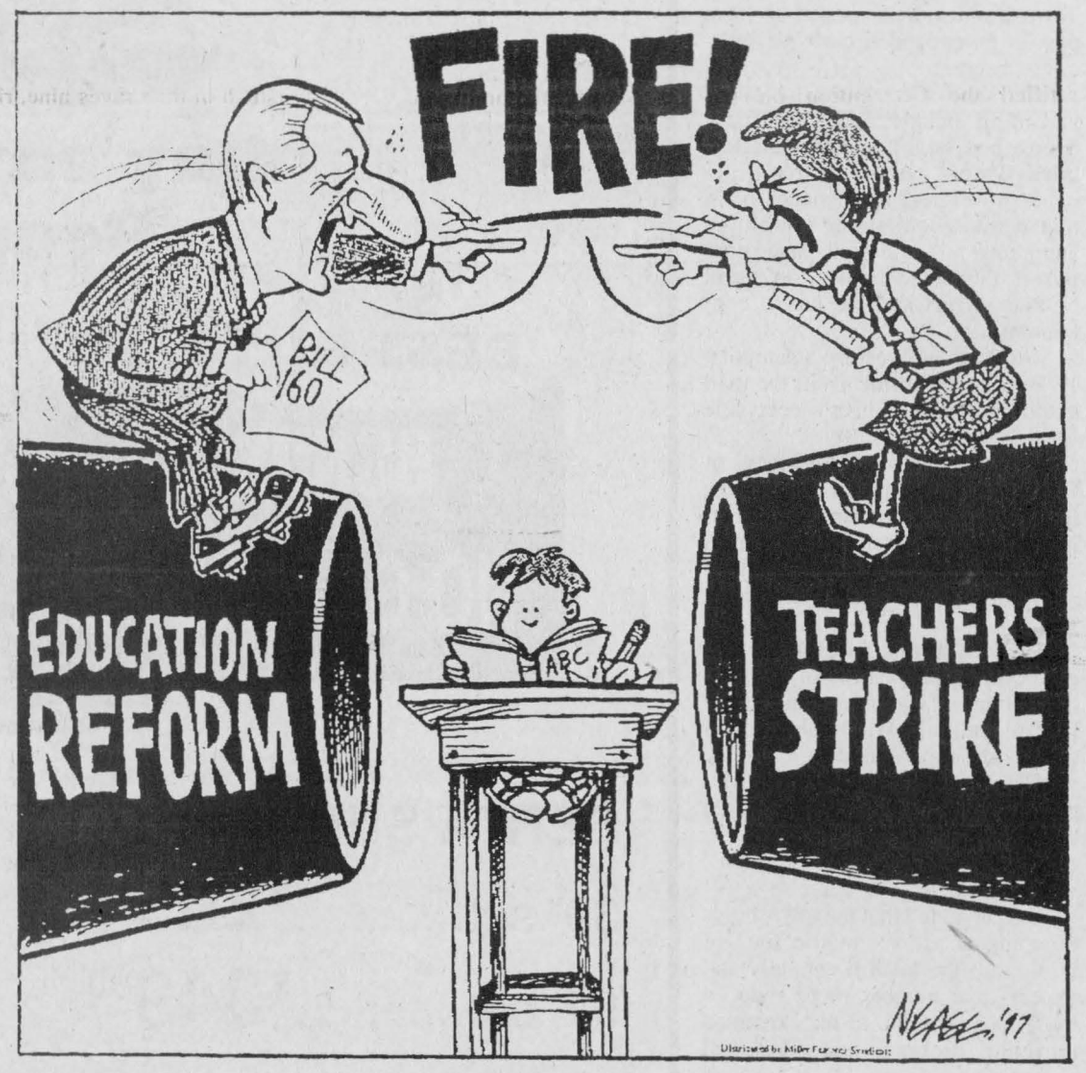
Twenty people were injured in a two vehicle collision at the Harmony Corners just off Hwy. 31 about five miles north of Winchester. A half-ton truck and late model auto crashed head-on, leaving victims strewn about, moaning and blood-spattered. But it was all an act! All the casualties were members of the Winchester Township snowmobile club and were taking part in the hospital's mock disaster exercise designed to keep hospital staff, police, CB operators and local residents on their toes in case of the real thing.



1987

Many questions are remaining unanswered as the fine print in the free trade agreement remains to be read and response is cautious. MPP Noble Villeneuve said most people are only aware of how the agreement will affect industries broadly speaking. He says that supply-managed industries, like dairying, are protected. But it will be important to strengthen the structural underpinnings that protect these industries.

An "unsung hero" has been recognized by the firefighters of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry. At the annual SD&G Mutual Aid Association banquet, Gerry Lecuyer of South Mountain was made an honorary fire chief. The former restaurant owner has manned fire phones and radios and helped organize functions for the Mountain Township Fire Department for about eight years.



Cops rule as brunt of jokes

I have never seen a situation so dismal
that a policeman couldn't make it worse.
- Brendan Behan

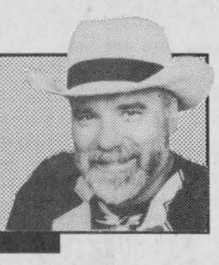
Ah, the poor old Fuzz. They can't win for losing. Here you have a group of men and women willing to put their lives on the line for a fairly paltry paycheque and what do they get? Sneers. Jibes. Put-downs.

There's a story going around about a guy who witnesses a brute of a thug putting the boots to his (the thug's) wife. So the guy phones the police station, only to be told by an answering service that "no officer is available to take your call, but if you'll leave your name and number, the first available agent will get back to you."

Hell with that, thinks the guy who hangs up and — inspirationally — calls the local Dunkin' Donuts outlet. "Let me speak to a police officer please" he tells the server droid who answers. Within seconds a cop is on the phone, and a squad car is dispatched to the scene of the crime.

Great story — but bogus. It's an Urban Legend — one of those stories that's so good it ought to be true, but isn't.

The fact is, we, the public are pre-disposed to snicker at cops. It helps us to feel superior. Cops, after all, are the folks who can flag us down on the highway, stop us in the shopping mall or pretty much pull us up anywhere they like and lecture us for misbehavior like no one has lectured us since we were in knee pants in front of our mother.



Basic Black
by Arthur Black

Which helps to explain the public glee that greeted a story which appeared in newspapers around the world last month:

New London, Conn: A city that doesn't want police officers with 'too high an IQ' has been sued by an applicant who lost a job because of his high score on an intelligence test. Robert Jordan claims the city of New London, Connecticut, discriminated against him based on his intelligence and violated his constitutional rights. He says an assistant manager told him: 'We don't like to hire people that have too high an IQ to be cops in this city'.

'I know I would be a good cop' says Jordan, 'but I had the misfortune of selecting too many correct answers'".

A would-be cop who was too smart to be a cop. Perfect. Fits right into the Urban Legend.

Why is it we the public — we fat burghers who take it for granted that the cops will always be there to do our dirty work — feel such delight when we read stories like the foregoing?

Or the following: An old lady is driving along the highway, steering with her elbows as she knits away. She is swerving all over the road. A highway patrolman pulls alongside and shouts through the bullhorn "PULL OVER!"

The little old lady looks up smiling and says "No, it's socks, actually."

But cops aren't always the brunt of the joke. There was another story in the papers last month about a British Columbia motorist who was nabbed in an automated speed trap that measured his speed by radar and photographed his car. He was notified by mail, receiving a photo of his car and a ticket for $100.

Being a lawyer and therefore an exceedingly clever fellow, the driver sent the police department a photograph of a one hundred dollar bill.

Several days later, he received another letter from the police department.

It contained another photograph. Of a pair of handcuffs.

Letters To The Editor

There are no unqualified teachers

The Editor:
Would you send your child to an unqualified doctor? "Of course not," you say. "There is no such thing as an unqualified doctor." Doctors have to go to school for years and pass tests in order to become qualified.

Why would you send your child to an unqualified person in the classroom? Notice the use of the word 'person'. There are no unqualified teachers, just as there are no unqualified doctors.

Every qualified teacher that has come into the system since the 1970s is required to have a four-year honors degree with a further year of university study.

Teachers who came in before that had one year of study in Teacher's College, but were always told that it would be a good idea to get more qualifications.

It took me 14 years to get my degree. My family watched me as I tried to be a wife, mother, teacher and student at the same time. Since then, I have taken more courses and am now a Computers in Education specialist, as well as a specialist in Religious Education. I also have a science course and have attended many professional development seminars in order to keep current.

John Snobelen can take all that away if Bill 160 passes. He can replace me with an unqualified person, or he can reclassify me if he wishes, so that I am no longer a teacher.

If John Snobelen thinks that I worked all those years in order to have him take it away, he'd better think again.

Ariane Carriere
President, SD&G OECTA

Support UNICEF at Halloween

The Editor:
As Halloween approaches, Canadians will participate in the UNICEF orange box campaign for the 42nd consecutive year, to help the world's children. Whether a child comes trick-or-treating door-to-door, raises money in the classroom, or your community starts its own initiative, please encourage people to participate.

Almost two million children across Canada will take part in this grassroots event, which is a key part of UNICEF Canada's fund raising efforts. The goal for the 1997 campaign is to raise $4 million. Since the annual campaign began in 1955, $61.9 million has been raised to help the world's children.

In the decades since the UNICEF box campaign was started, great advances have been made in improving the health, education and nutrition of children around the world. Today, three quarters of the world's population has access to clean water; Guinea worm disease has almost been eradicated; child mortality rates have continued to fall in every country around the world and nations across the globe have finally begun to recognize that children also have certain basic, fundamental rights.

"With all but two nations having ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the idea is gaining ground that bettering children's lives is not a matter of government largesse but a fundamental legal requirement," wrote UNICEF Executive Director Carol Bellamy in *The Progress of Nations 1997* report.

The right to a name and a nationality is one of the most fundamental rights. And yet millions of children world wide are denied it. Many are not officially registered at birth. Others lose their official identity when they become refugees. But in embracing the convention, UNICEF helps governments facilitate the registration of newborns, supports programs that provide education to ethnic minorities who are not legally registered, and documents the identities of refugee children separated from their families in order to reunite them with their loved ones.

These are just a few examples of UNICEF's work to ensure the survival, protection and development of children in over 140 countries.

The orange box campaign at Halloween is the hallmark of UNICEF's fund raising. Let's help children in our province help children around the world. by working together, our community can help a child fulfil his or her potential. Please support the orange box campaign.

Beth Berton-Hunter
Director, Communications

Student speaks out at teachers' protest

The Editor:
So, the teachers decide to put on a little show of solidarity in front of such oppression, do they? Isn't that sweet. Just like the good 'ol days of the '60s, eh boys?

It sure got their point across. But, one must ask oneself, what point is that?

Last June, a group of students felt that certain conditions were unfair and took a similar course of action. They decided on a walkout in protest after a failed petition. It must be noted that this group was unfortunately plagued by ignorant students who simply wanted time out of class. It was really remarkable how quickly the teachers of this school (NDDHS) banded the entire group as purposeless and simply disruptive.

Our honored principal went so far as to publish a letter in a local newspaper condemning the protesters. Whether or not this group of students was justified in their actions is certainly debatable. The fact is that they were uniformly looked down upon, criticized, and ridiculed by our distinguished staff.

After this symbolic protest to uphold democracy, those students who were there to simply make a point were pleasantly locked out of the school. Kind and understanding, isn't it? Apparently, this wasn't enough of a rebuttal by our great staff, who then felt it necessary to suspend some of these students for voicing their opinions.

But Brutus was an honorable man. Serves them right for taking such a vulgar, unjustified and totally irresponsible action, doesn't it? Can't have students running around thinking for themselves, can we? Certainly not in a school. We have to be prepared for the real world.

But wait! Now it seems the tables have turned. It now seems that it is the teachers' turn to walk out on us. Sure makes me feel wanted. Is big bad Mike Harris trying to take some of the perks away? Is he trying to make you work for more than nine months of the year? Cry me a river.

The fact is, the province of Ontario is in a lot of debt, and if something is not done fast we'll be left with much bigger problems. A stitch in time saves nine, right? Just don't use my thread.

So the teachers are trying to be made to pay their share of the debt, are they? Heaven knows they helped accumulate it.

I realize the extreme importance of education. It is essential. But so are hospitals, and they are being made to pay. Maybe the teachers could walk up and down the school a few times for the hospitals that are being closed.

I realize that teaching is not easy; very few jobs are, which is why people are paid for doing them. Plenty of other sectors are taking the blows right on the chin, but they also tow the line for the betterment of all — or maybe a lack of a super-powered union.

True, teachers are in a special position because of all the kids they teach. Maybe if they asked their beloved pupils, they would hear how tired they are of the teachers signing cheques in their names. The fact of the matter is, no matter what course the government chooses to take, or the teachers choose to take, it is always the students who are left to pick up the bill.

I wonder if the teachers, as they were parading around the school, gave as much thought to the OAC students who must compete for university positions with others from around the world, as they did to their contracts. It is probable that they did not, because if they did, they would have been seen hurrying back into the school more than a little red-faced. So far, none of the teachers have been seen doing this.

On a different note, the recent teacher protest raises certain questions to the hypocrisy of the entire event. It must be heavily doubted that the principal would suspend people for voicing their opinions in public. Whoever heard of such a thing? It must also be doubted whether the teachers will be locked out of the school the next time they pull a stunt like this last one.

The time has come for the teachers to realize that in their rush to fight the good fight, they're stepping on a lot of young feet on the way to the battle field.

Wes Ross
OAC student, NDDHS

Is government putting students first?

The Editor:
This is an open letter to parents and concerned community members.

The Government of Ontario has recently introduced Bill 160, *The Education Quality Improvement Act*. It has made public promises about "putting students first". In fact, it called an information flyer distributed to all households in the province, *Putting Students First*.

Teachers believe in and support quality education, high standards and rigorous curriculum. That's why they entered the teaching profession. However, Bill 160 has nothing to do with improving the quality of education. Bill 160 provides for the elimination of 6,000 to 10,000 teaching positions.

Teachers know that a loss of such significance can only result in larger class sizes. Historically, teachers, through local decision-making processes, have maintained and protected lower class sizes. With Bill 160, the minister says that he will "control" class sizes — not keep them low. A reduction of teachers cannot equal lower class sizes. And larger class sizes definitely do not mean better quality education.

The Minister of Education and Training says that he will ensure high standards. At the same time, the Ministry of Education and Training is cutting another $1 billion out of the education system. Less money and fewer resources cannot result in higher standards. Replacing qualified, professional teachers with persons who are not qualified to teach can only result in lower standards.

This minister is skilled at "doublespeak". He claims that he is listening to students, parents and teachers, yet he does not respond to their concerns. He says that he is improving the quality of education while his ministry is taking money and resources out of schools. He states that he is putting the students first when his actions will only result in a reduced quality of educational opportunity for our children and students.

Teachers are worried. Teachers fear that the government will starve publicly funded schools so that they will not be able to offer a solid education to all young people. We foresee a real crisis — the failure of the education system.

We cannot afford to risk our children's education and the future of this province. Join us as we fight to save publicly funded education in your community.

Marshall Jarvis
President
Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association

St. Mary's thanks supporters

The Editor:
On Thurs., Sept. 25 St. Mary's School in Chesterville had its annual "Open House/Meet the Teachers" Night and, as usual, parents and families came out in droves to chat with their children's teachers, our wonderful secretary, Vicky Cook, our valiant leader/principal Michael Van de Kamp and our "words-cannot-describe-how-wonderful-he-is" custodian Leonard Wheeler.

However, this night was a little different from evenings past as the school council had its kick-off fundraiser for our new playground structure.

To say the evening was a success would be a true understatement. With 126 items donated by local business and individuals, we were hopeful we would have a good evening.

We were unprepared, however, for such a strong show of support from the staff and parents which allowed us to raise over $3,000.

For this, we would like to send out our thanks to everyone involved. From the volunteers who approached local businesses, to the individuals who donated items, to the committee who put in the hours required to organize such an event, to the Grade five students who diligently stood by their appointed tables to ensure the bids ran smoothly and to all those who did bid.

Our loudest applause goes out to the 99 businesses who donated the items. Without their true generosity we would not have had the opportunity to have such a terrific evening.

We know how often businesses are approached by various community groups for assistance in any number of activities and yet they responded to our appeal without hesitation. You can be sure that businesses that care this much about a community care just as much about the quality of products and service their customers receive.

Ellen MacNaughton
St. Mary's School Council Fundraising Committee

Reader praises district hospital

The Editor:
Having just recently had surgery at the Winchester hospital, I wish to express my gratefulness to all doctors and hospital staff.

Their dedication, knowledge, diligence, and caring cannot be overrated.

To top my list, I particularly name my surgeon, Dr. S. Chaude and my family physician, Dr. G. Jacques, who co-ordinated everything, along with Dr. A. J. Thomas and Dr. L. Schnurr.

I don't know the names of everyone who cared for me as a hospital patient, but you can all accept my sincere thanks.

I have written a letter to Premier Mike Harris relating my personal experiences of ongoing pain and suffering. It may not do any good, but as one hospital staff member stated, "It can't do any harm."

Let us all hope that Winchester Memorial and its staff will stand to serve its community for many years to come.

Gwen Reeve
Cornwall

Parents concerned over strike

The Editor:
As concerned parents of two school-aged children, elementary and secondary students, and a pre-school child at home, we wish to voice our concerns.

Ontario teachers are threatening a province-wide strike, an illegal strike, which, if it should occur, will be unconscionable, and unprofessional for our teachers to be using their students as pawns in order to battle the provincial government against Bill 160 — the new improved changes to public education.

We understand that secondary teachers in particular are more apt to take strike action than elementary teachers, as Bill 160 could cut preparation time for high school teachers, extend class time for teachers and students, and allow the provincial government to set class size. Also, Bill 160 would increase the use of non-certified instructors in school.

We as parents feel that the sweeping changes of Bill 160 are needed in our public education, and we realize that several teachers may lose their jobs.

However, we the taxpayers in this province have elected the Harris government to set policies, not the teachers' unions, and we applaud the Harris government for not backing down at this time.

If our well-paid, highly privileged teachers should feel it necessary to take an illegal strike action, walking out of their classrooms, leaving their students and all parents in a dilemma, we the taxpayers, the employers, should therefore fire all teachers who illegally refuse to do their jobs.

Our children have a legal right to an education, and maybe our professional teachers should respect the fact that they are employed in a financially strapped province.

Concerned parents,
Earl and Gail Crump
Chesterville

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Learning not boring with world teachers' day teacher

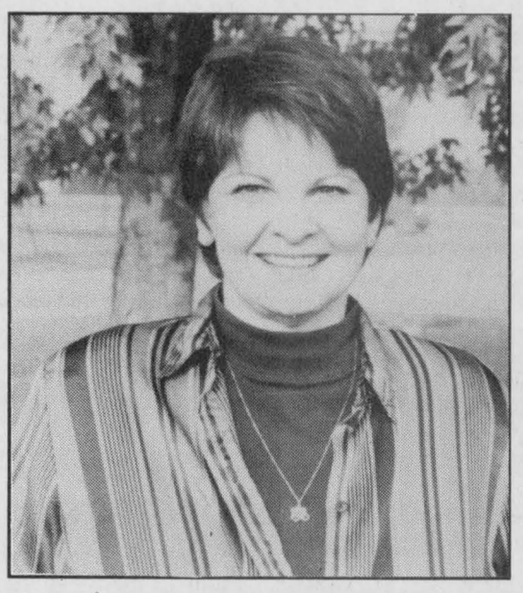
by Lori Culliton
Press staff

IROQUOIS -- "It was a heck of an honor, and a heck of a surprise."

And Seaway District High School teacher Wendy Gibb is one heck of a teacher, too. Gibb was chosen last week as the World Teachers' Day Teacher for the SD&G Public School Board.

"It's an incredible honor," she says.

A teacher for 24 years, Gibb shows no signs of giving the profession up. The teacher chosen as World Teachers' Day Teacher is described as innovative in teaching, using new approaches in working with the students, and working in the community. Gibb has it all.



Wendy Gibb

Gibb was hired to teach history and to develop the new theatre arts course at Seaway District High School. She recalls teaching history in her classroom, and then having to push 25 desks against the wall in order to teach theatre arts.

From that beginning, she went on to become involved with Upper Canada Playhouse in Morrisburg as a sometimes director, and board member. She also set up apprenticeships at the theatre for her students, and had playhouse directors, make-up artists and managers speak to her students about the theatre.

Each year, Gibb and her students produce a Christmas show that is presented to elementary school students.

She has also helped to pioneer a new program of communications technology. "Seaway was the pilot school for the project," she recalls. "I was one of the original three teachers putting the project together."

She taught the media English portion of the course, teaching the students about journalism, writing scripts, and commercials. The students took that information and then learned the technical side to the course.

"This is my 24th year teaching, and I love it. It takes a lot of hours, as I work most nights and weekends, especially during productions," she says. "But it's worth it, especially when you see what the kids can do. It's amazing."

Gibb feels lucky to work with the people at Seaway, where she is constantly able to try new things with her students.

"The students have been so supportive of me," Gibb says happily. "They've been congratulating me in the halls, telling me they're glad that I was chosen for the award."

Indeed, Gibb enjoys a good relationship with her students, and has for many years. "Most teachers feel really good when a student says at the end of the year, 'I'll remember you'."

In 24 years of teaching, Gibb has seen a lot of change in her profession. "There's more stress involved now, and there's more for teachers to deal with," she says. "The classes are bigger, too. There's more pressure on both the students and the teachers."

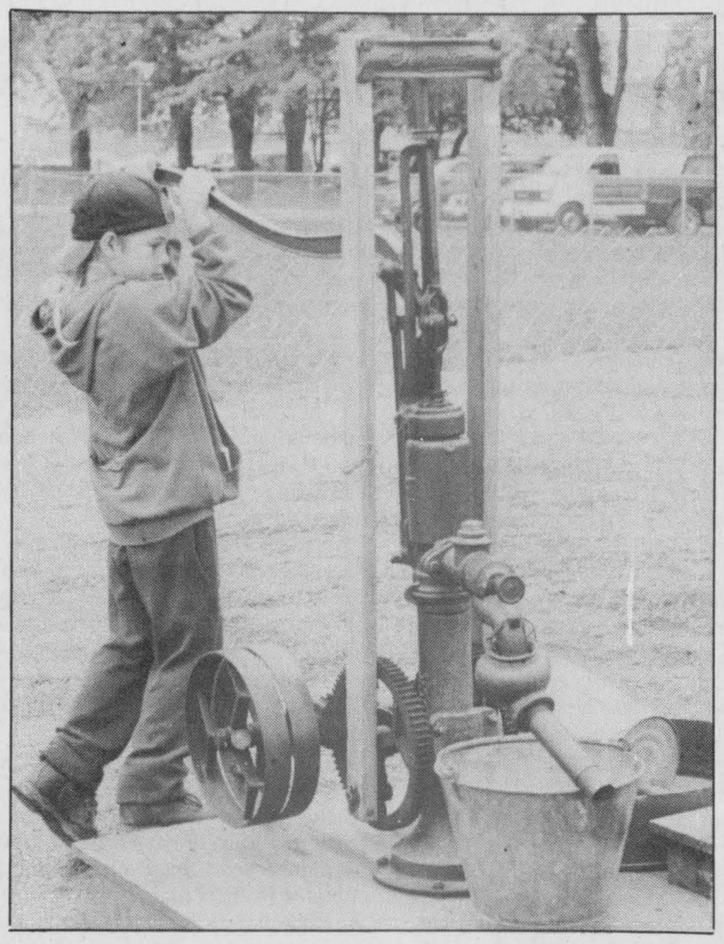
Gibb declined comment on the current state of education, as teachers and students wait to hear whether there will be a teachers' strike in the coming weeks, saying simply, "I hope that education changes for the better."

The important thing about her job, the thing that keeps Gibb excited about what she does, is keeping the students excited about learning. "School has to be a positive place for students to learn and to discover new things," she says.

How does she keep her students excited about learning? Gibb's background is in history and theatre arts, so she combines the two. "Students often come to class wondering what will happen next," she laughs.

The teacher has been known to teach about the French Revolution and then have the students act it out. Gibb prides herself in keeping the students interested, and keeping her lessons innovative and fresh.

As she says, "Learning doesn't have to be boring."





Classics

This year's Metcalfe Fair featured a large slate of entries for the antique class. The grand champion antique tractor was exhibited by Ross Nicholson of Ramsayville, while James Stewart of Russell exhibited the reserve champion tractor. Don Green of Lyn had the best display of old tools and Carson Hill of Kenmore won for his Massey Harris with memorabilia. Pictured, a prize-winning John Deere 720; and a youngster tries his hand at an antique pump.

Press Photos — Fetterly

Waddell seeks political seat

METCALFE — The ranks of those wanting a seat on Osgoode Township council keep growing.

The latest to register is Greely resident Jim Waddell who wants Osgoode's top spot. After years of thinking about running for council, Waddell thinks that now is the right time.

"I want to do something to serve the township other than what I'm doing now," said Waddell.

He currently serves on the Greely Task Force, and since 1986 the 43-year-old has been involved with the township's committee of adjustment, the property standards review committee, and he is currently the chair of the planning advisory committee.

"I've been exposed to a great number of issues over the years which makes me qualified for the position," said Waddell.

Another Greely resident, Marg McManus, who registered a few weeks ago, wants a council seat and hopes, if elected, to secure the best governance alternative for Osgoode residents in or out of the region.

She also wants to ensure political accountability at the municipal level, make sure of the effective and efficient use of taxpayers' money and improve communication between the township and taxpayers.

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NDDHS NOTES

by Sam Cullen

MAPLE RIDGE — As the temperature drops, everyone knows it's that time of year again — citrus sales time! Oh yeah, winter's probably coming soon too.

Students from every grade in our school will be going from friend to family to door-to-door hoping to peddle their wares to keep our school running for another year.

Because of ever-decreasing school funding, money raised this way becomes increasingly important to school activities, such as band, band trips, school teams, school clubs and most importantly, working lockers.

Last Monday our annual phys-ed department fundraiser took place, but with a little twist this year. Participants had the choice of three activities — run laps, shoot hoops or aerobics — in our Sport-A-Thon. By getting sponsors, they have not only the chance for an afternoon of exercise, but also the chance to keep our athletic teams going.

Another innovative fundraiser that our board does annually is the Halloween Haunt at Cannamore Orchards. The spooky wagon ride always provides plenty of fun and thrills for all participants. It will be running this year from October 16 to 19, and October 23 to 31. The rides will begin at 6 pm on weeknights and 1 pm on weekends, ending at 10 pm each night.

Remember, CDs of our school band are still available. With music performed by our talented band — Gold Medal winners at national level — you not only help them continue their great work, but also get a piece of it to keep for yourself. Contact Greg Prest at North Dundas if you are interested.

So, to all of you party animals out there just looking for a reason to celebrate, have a happy National Sarcasm Awareness Month. And don't annoy anybody in Utah or Idaho while doing it. They're the only states where executions can be carried out by firing squad.

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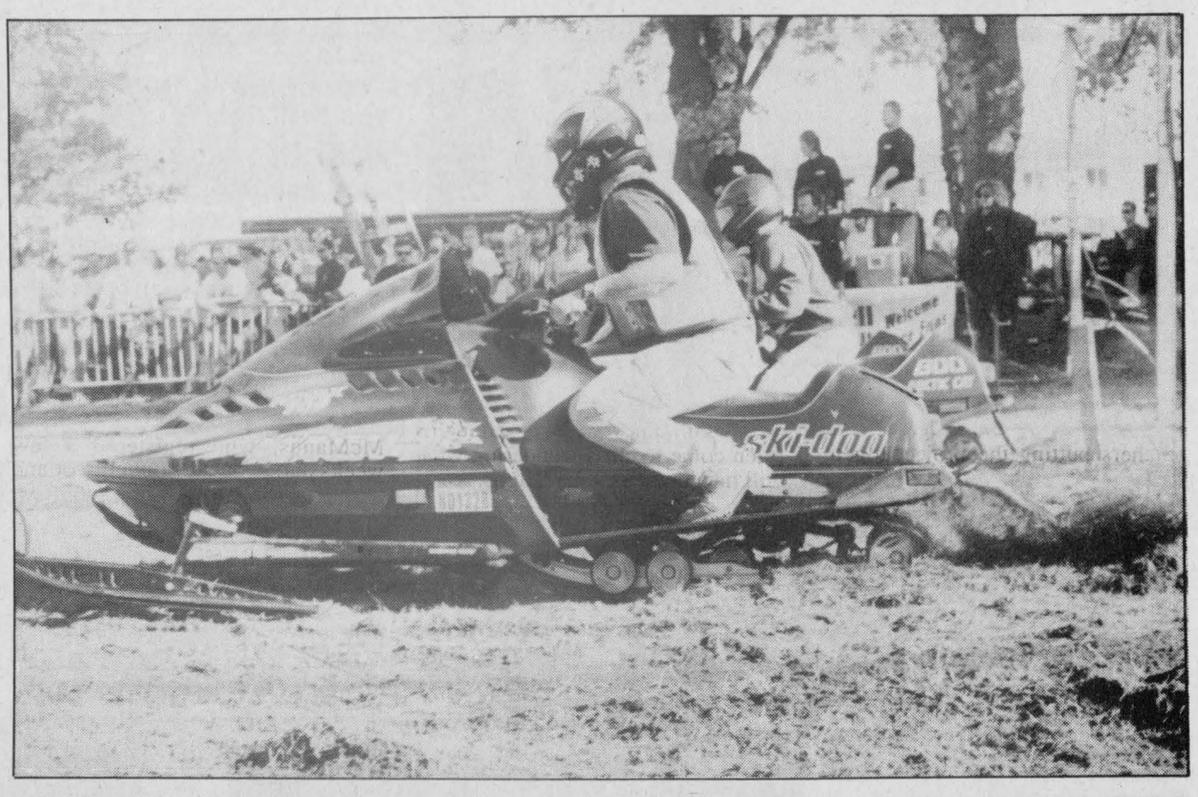
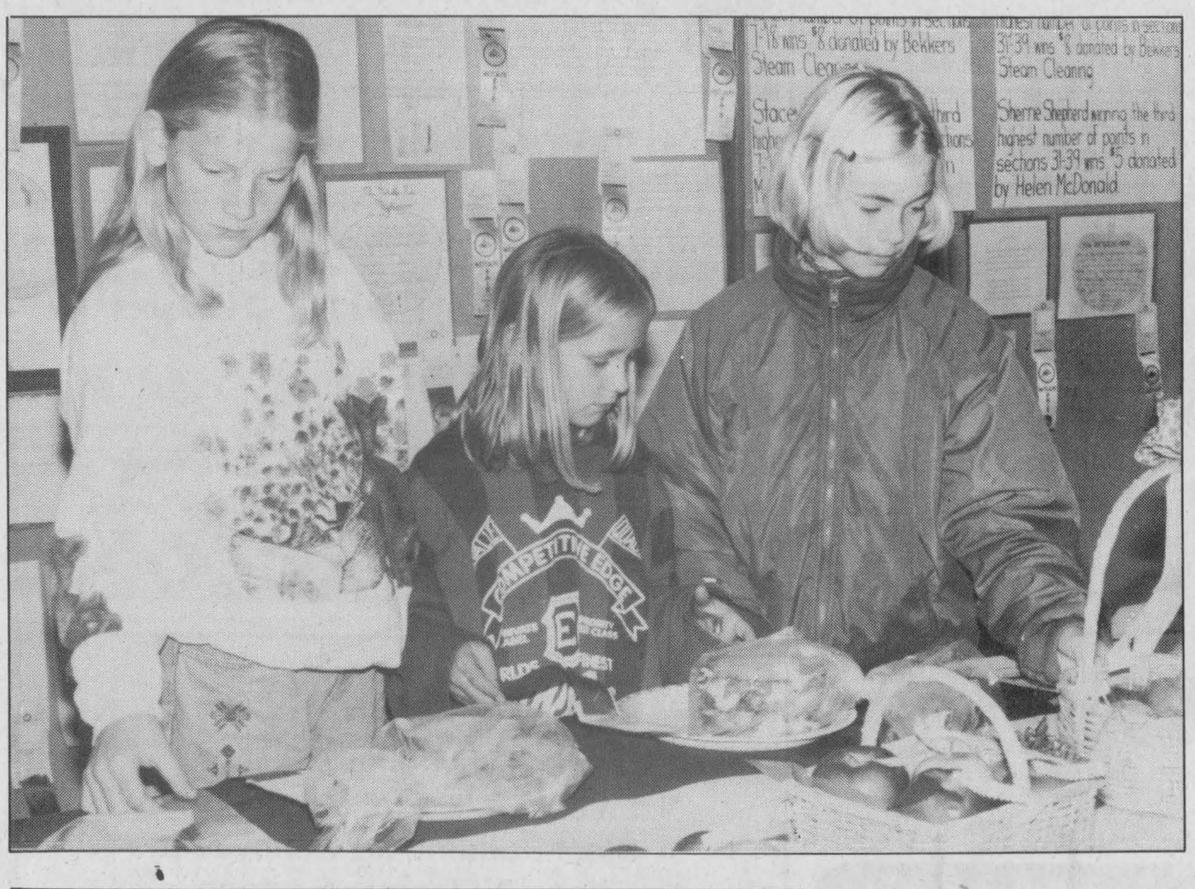
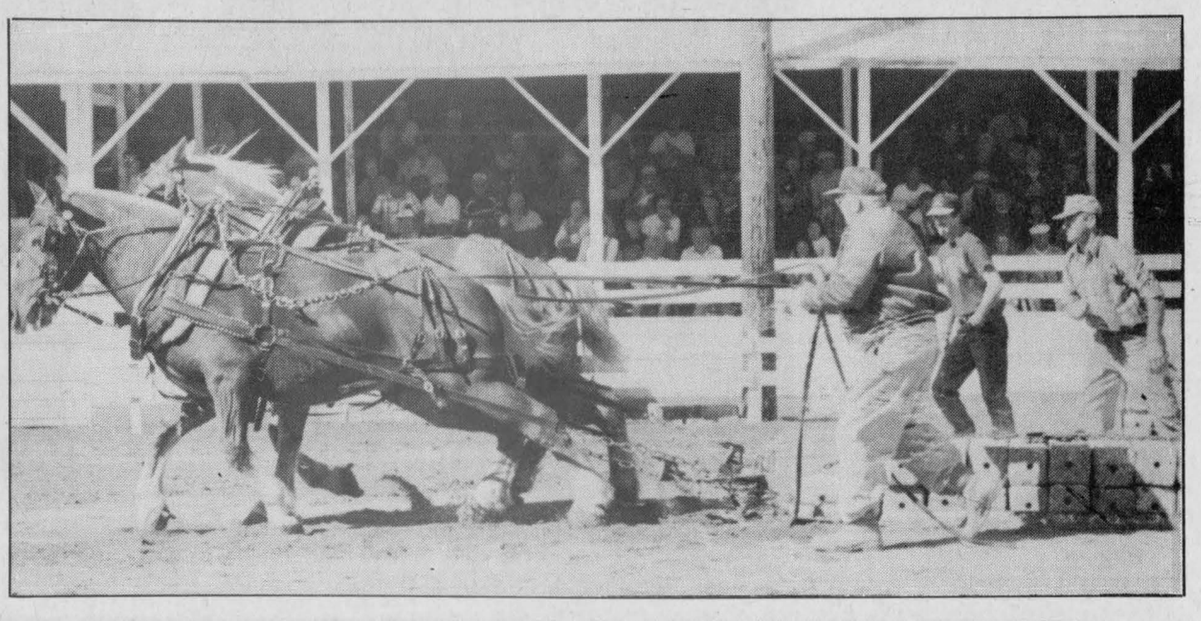
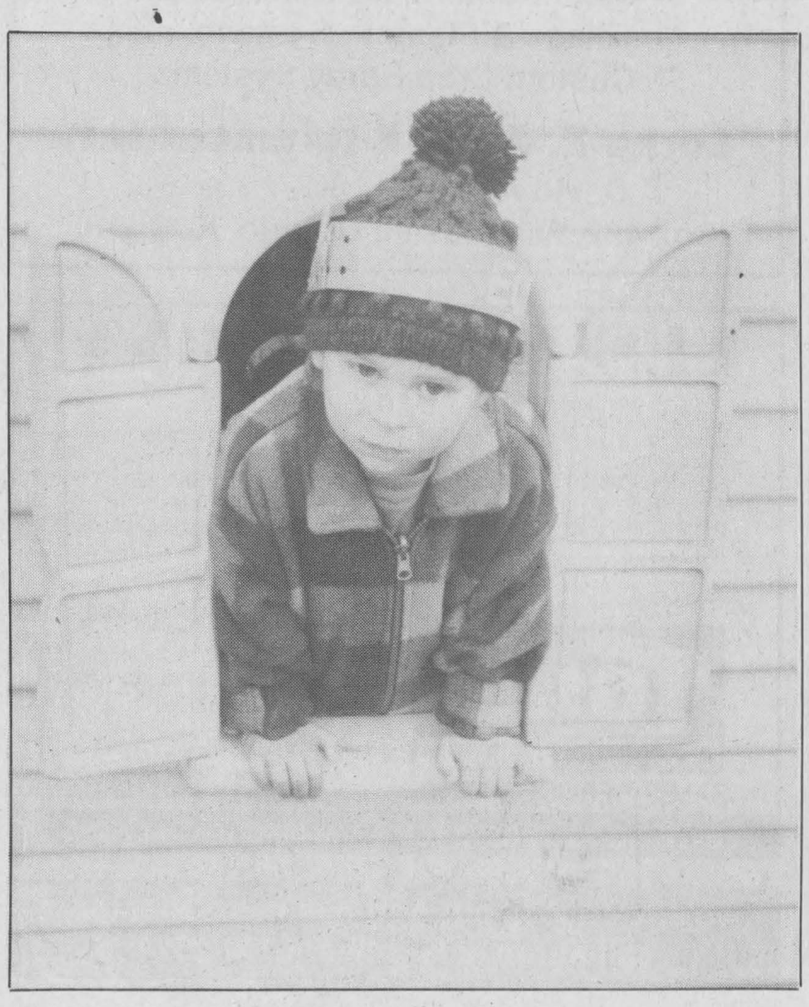








Fair fun

There was plenty to see and do for visitors to the 141st annual Metcalfe Fair held over the weekend. This year's four-day event provided something for every member of the family. It mixed the traditional livestock shows, tractor and horse pulls and exhibits with the popular snowmobile drags, demolition derby and plenty of entertainment. Pictured, clockwise from top left: this youngster was one of many enjoying the midway rides; a young lad spent some time on the ropes; Snowmobile drag races were a huge hit on Sunday; huge crowds turned out for the horse pull competition on Sunday; tap dancers entertained a large crowd on Sunday afternoon; Patrick Hoag of Russell peeks out the window of a playhouse in the children's entertainment area; Christina Velthuis, Sarah Burns and Laura Clark check out the fare in the Exhibit Hall; 4-H members wash their animals for Saurday's beef show.
Press Photos — Fetterly



Quinn family takes Holstein banners

Dianne Fetterly
Agricultural editor

METCALFE — Leonard and Shirley Quinn's Quinndale Holsteins of Greely topped the Metcalfe Fair Holstein Show held Thurs., Oct. 2 capturing both premier exhibitor and premier breeder awards as well as placing first in the breeder's herd class and exhibiting the show's grand champion.

Five-year-old Quinndale Jethro Shelly was named grand champion Holstein, while four-year-old Huntingville Diamond, exhibited by George Jackson was the show's reserve grand champion. The pair also placed first and second, respectively, in the best udder class.

Peter Rylaardam's Delcreek Holsteins was named reserve premier exhibitor as well as reserve premier breeder and exhibited the top BCA cow with two-year-old Delcreek Baby Jane.

Julia Conn's 4-H heifer Riverdown Stardust Luxury was the show's junior champion while Laurie Quinn's 4-H calf, Quinndale Mason Bailey was reserve junior champion.

The top three animals in individual classes were as follows:

Showmanship: Kelly Velthuis, Jordan Eastman, Dana Kittle;

Intermediate calf: Quinndale Mason Bailey, Laurie Quinn; Crestlea Charles Becky, Gordon Kettles; Quinndale Milan Keely, Krista Quinn;



Champion Holstein

Krista Quinn of Quinndale Holsteins in Greely is pictured with the grand champion of the Metcalfe Fair Holstein Show held last Thursday evening in the Larry Robinson Arena. Press Photo — Fetterly

Senior calf: Quinndale Cotton Jenny, Erin Quinn; Showcase Jackpot Aymee, Smygwaty; Glennaughton Ruth, J. Dwight Dawley;

Junior yearling: Riverdown Stardust Luxury, Julia Conn; Riverdown Lindy Monique, David Conn; Delcreek Snow, Peter Rylaarsdam;

Senior yearling: Delcreek Gail, Peter Rylaarsdam;

Two-year-old: Quinndale Skychief Pepper, Quinndale Holstein; Quinndale Broker Simba, Quinndale Holsteins; Delcreek Baby Jane, Peter Rylaarsdam;

Three-year-old: Umberslade Broker Vee Jay, J. Dwight Dawley; Quinndale Astre Jolene, Quinndale Holsteins; Quinndale Lindy Lynn, Quinndale Holsteins;

Four-year-old: Huntingville Diamond, George Jackson; Jay Dee Conquest Sunny, J. Dwight Dawley; Delcreek Candy, Peter Rylaarsdam;

Five-year-old: Quinndale Jethro Shelly, Quinndale Holsteins, Delcreek Tiffany, Peter Rylaarsdam; Quinndale Jinx, Quinndale Holsteins;

Mature cow: Quinndale Trumper, Quinndale Holsteins; Quinndale Jemima, Quinndale Holsteins; Delcreek Twinlea, Peter Rylaarsdam.

Modes top Ayrshire championship show

Dianne Fetterly
Agricultural editor

METCALFE — The Mode Brothers of Vankleek Hill were named premier exhibitor of the 1997 Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec Championship Ayrshire Show held Thurs., Oct. 2 in conjunction with the Metcalfe Fair.

The Modes exhibited grand champion female with four-year-old Des Prairies Tou Tou as well as reserve champion with Bonnie Brae Princess. They also placed first in the breeder's herd class and exhibited reserve junior champion, Des Prairies Angie.



Junior champion

Neil Kittle of Winchester is pictured with Bonnie Elms Super Janet, junior champion of the Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec Championship Ayrshire Show held last Thursday evening in Metcalfe. Also pictured is judge Larry Skillen (right).

James Cotton and Sons of Navan took premier breeder honors and placed third in breeder's herd while Ken and Shirley Rose of Mountain placed second in the breeder's herd class.

Neil Kittle of Winchester exhibited junior champion, Bonnie Elms Super Janet.

The top three placings in individual classes as judged by Larry Skillen of Brampton were as follows:

4-H showmanship (ages 10 - 14): Meagan Kittle, Pam McNaughton; Kerri Mode;

4-H showmanship (ages 15 - 21): Heidi Mode, Shauna Mode, Jeff Cotton;

Intermediate calf: Bonnie Brae Lottery, Bruce Mode; Lombard Dale Heligo Jacky, R and L MacMillan, Lombardy; Ash Avenue Kelly's Nomination, Neil Kittle;

Calf (Sept. 1 - Nov. 30/96): West Meadow VK Ferrari, Neil Kittle; Strathburn Destiny's Stardust, Andrew Sangster, Williamstown; Lachute Road Olympic Star, Dave Bergeron, Hammond;

Junior yearling: Des Prairies Angie, Bruce Mode; Kellcrest Silk, Bruce Mode; Florissante Sassy, Dave Bergeron;

Senior yearling: Bonnie Elms Super Janet, Neil Kittle; Bonnie Brae Shinia, Bruce Mode; West Meadow VK Gracious, Neil Kittle;

Junior two-year-old: Rosayre Decorm ET, Ken and Shirley Rose; Glen Elm Jodie, Bruce Mode;

Senior two-year-old: Rosayre Lori, Ken and Shirley Rose; Rosayre MacKenzie, Ken and Shirley Rose; Lachute Road BBC Blanche ET, Bruce Mode;

Farm update

Three-year-old: Dejeano B Kellogg Belle, Ken and Shirley Rose; Bonnie Brae Wanda, Ken and Shirley Rose; Ash Avenue Heligo's Lizette, Ken and Shirley Rose;

Four-year-old: Des Prairies Tou Tou, Bruce Mode; Bonnie Brae Princess, Bruce Mode; Bonnie Brae Pringle, Bruce Mode;

Five-year-old: Bonnie Brae Cinder, Bruce Mode; Sunnymead Producer's Olive, James Cotton; Sunnymead Saints Becky, James Cotton;

Mature cow: Rose Terrace Pure Luxe, Bruce Mode; Dejeano Rosette, Ken and Shirley Rose; Drum-Ayr Ex-Bell, Glen-Malcolm Farms, Williamstown;

Best udder: Des Prairies Tou Tou, Mode Brothers; Bonnie Brae Princess, Mode Brothers; Sunnymead SS Kiss, James Cotton.

(Results are unofficial).

Berry captures Jersey banners

Dianne Fetterly
Agricultural editor

METCALFE — Cliff Berry's North River Farms of Lachute, Quebec was named both premier breeder and premier exhibitor of the 1997 Metcalfe Fair Jersey Show held Thurs., Oct. 2 at the Larry Robinson Arena in Metcalfe.

North River topped the breeder's herd class and exhibited the show's grand champion with North River J Joy as well as junior champion, North River Juno Jeany.

Three-year-old El Pat Bambi exhibited by Robert Beggs of North Gower was the show's reserve champion and best uddered cow. Beggs also placed second in breeder's herd.

Michael Bols of Russell exhibited the reserve junior champion, Silverdene Le Prudence.

The top three placings in individual classes as judged by Wilmer Porteous of Winchester were as follows:

Calf: Sprucevine Prize Kate, Floyd Dingwall, Berwick; Payneside Dino Gumby, Dave Bergeron, Hammond; North River Farms entry, C.W. Berry;

Junior yearling: North River Juno Jeany, C.W. Berry; Palenside Dynamite Laura, Michael Bols; North River Juno Lena S, C.W. Berry;

Senior yearling: Silverdene Le Prudence, Michael Bols; North River Juno Valerie, C.W. Berry; Cranbrook Regal Jeanine, Robert Beggs;

Two-year-old: North River Classic, C.W. Berry; Cranbrook Juno's Erica, Robert Beggs; Drentex Regal Gina, C.W. Berry;

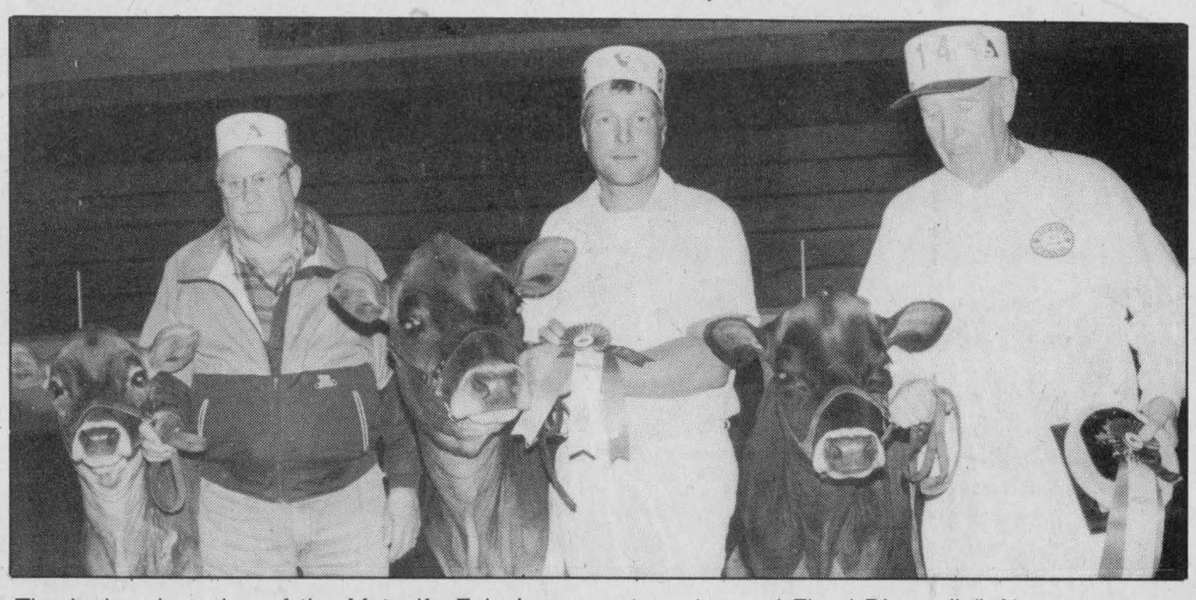
Three-year-old: El Pat Bambi, Robert Beggs; North River Juno Vivian, C.W. Berry; Cranbrook Imperial Lee, Robert Beggs;

Four-year-old: Cranbrook Top's Lena, Robert Beggs;

Five-year-old: North River Juno Aim, C.W. Berry; Cranbrook Jude's Majesty, Robert Beggs;

Mature cow: North River J Joy, C.W. Berry; North River B Babe, C.W. Berry.

(Results are unofficial).



The junior champion of the Metcalfe Fair Jersey Show was exhibited by Cliff Berry (right) while Michael Bols (centre) exhibited reserve junior champion and Floyd Dingwall (left) received honorable mention.

Press Photo - Fetterly



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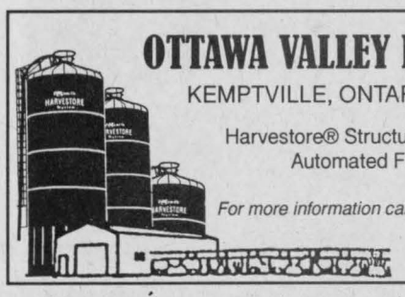

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McDonald tops 4-H championship show

METCALFE — Darren McDonald of Carleton County was named grand champion dairy showperson and as well exhibited grand champion dairy heifer at this year's Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec 4-H Championship Show held Sat., Oct. 4 in Metcalfe.

McDonald's senior Holstein calf, Breeze Hill BC Alana topped the Holstein class and advanced to win grand champion dairy heifer, overall.

Heidi Mode of Prescott County exhibited the show's reserve champion dairy heifer with her junior yearling Ayrshire, Des Prairies Angie. She also took reserve grand champion dairy showperson honors.

In individual showmanship classes, Darren McDonald was champion senior dairy showperson while John Vanderspank, also of Carleton was reserve champion senior showperson.

Heidi Mode was the champion intermediate dairy showperson and Lisa Coles of Argenteuil was reserve

Eric Barber of Pontiac topped the junior dairy showmanship class and Kerri Mode of Prescott County was reserve junior showperson.

Kyle Rivington of Carleton County was champion novice dairy showperson while Laura MacMillan of Glengarry was reserve champion novice showperson.

DAIRY CONFORMATION

In the Holstein conformation classes Darren McDonald's calf was named grand champion Holstein, while Julianne McDonald of Carleton exhibited reserve champion Holstein with her intermediate calf. Kelly Fawcett of Dundas County received honorable mention for her senior calf.

In Ayrshire conformation Heidi Mode exhibited champion Ayrshire heifer, while Kerri Mode had the reserve champion.

In Jersey conformation Anne Berry of Argenteuil exhibited the grand champion and Lee Shane of Prescott had reserve champion Jersey.

Holly Drummond of Pontiac had the first place Brown Swiss.

In individual classes the top two placing were as follows:

Junior Holstein calf: first, Matt Henry, Lanark, Rocky Rapids Polly Leader; second, Kyle Rivington, Carleton, Breeze Hill Astre Priscilla;

Intermediate Holstein calf: first, Julianne McDonald, Carleton, Breeze Hill Broker Ravioli; second, Jessica Edwards, Dundas, Rivermead St. Esprit;

Senior Holstein calf: first, Darren McDonald, Carleton, Breeze Hill BC Alana; second, Kelly Fawcett, Dundas, Keohanlane Charles Elsie;

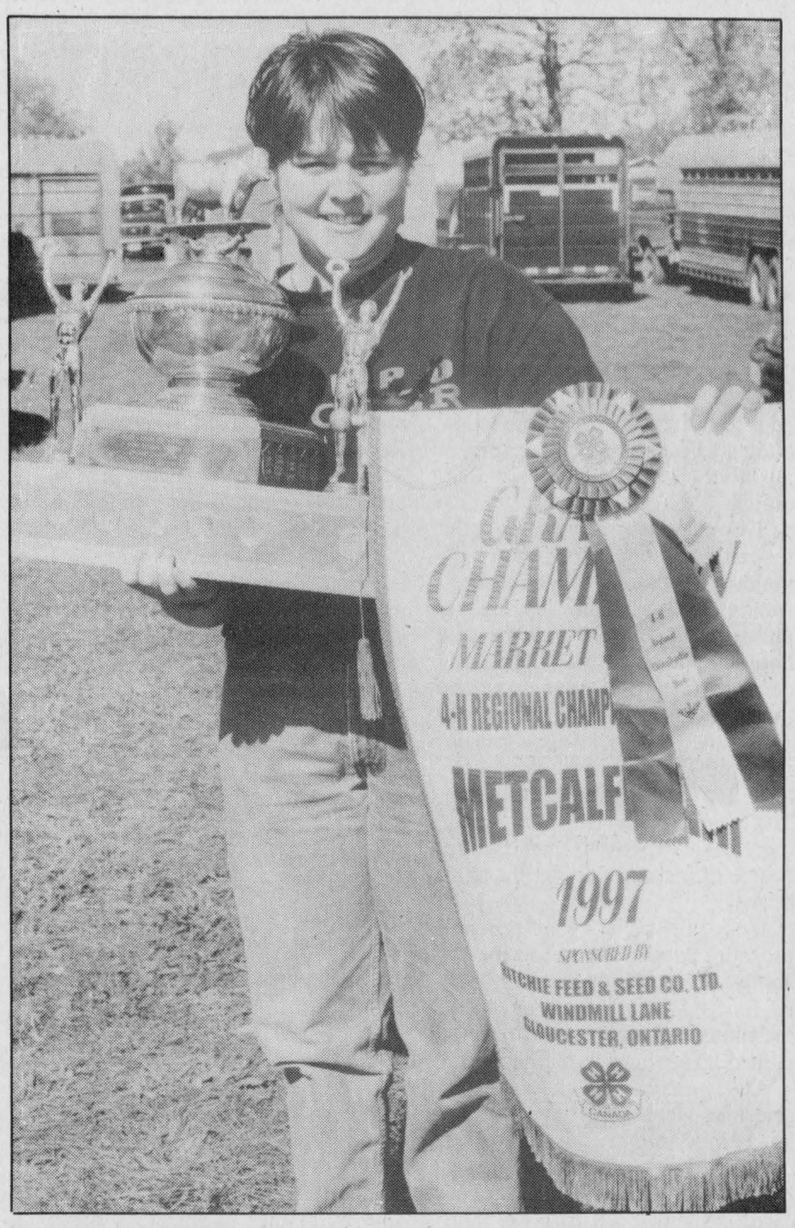
Summer yearling Holstein: first, Joel McOuat, Argenteuil, Whiteriver Charles Jenie; second, Rob Fletcher, Renfrew, Greenlark Red Rose;

Junior yearling Holstein: first, Amanda Vanderspank, Carleton, Sandy Crest Toby Anne; second, Dale Cavanagh, Carleton, Cavanhill Charles Amy;

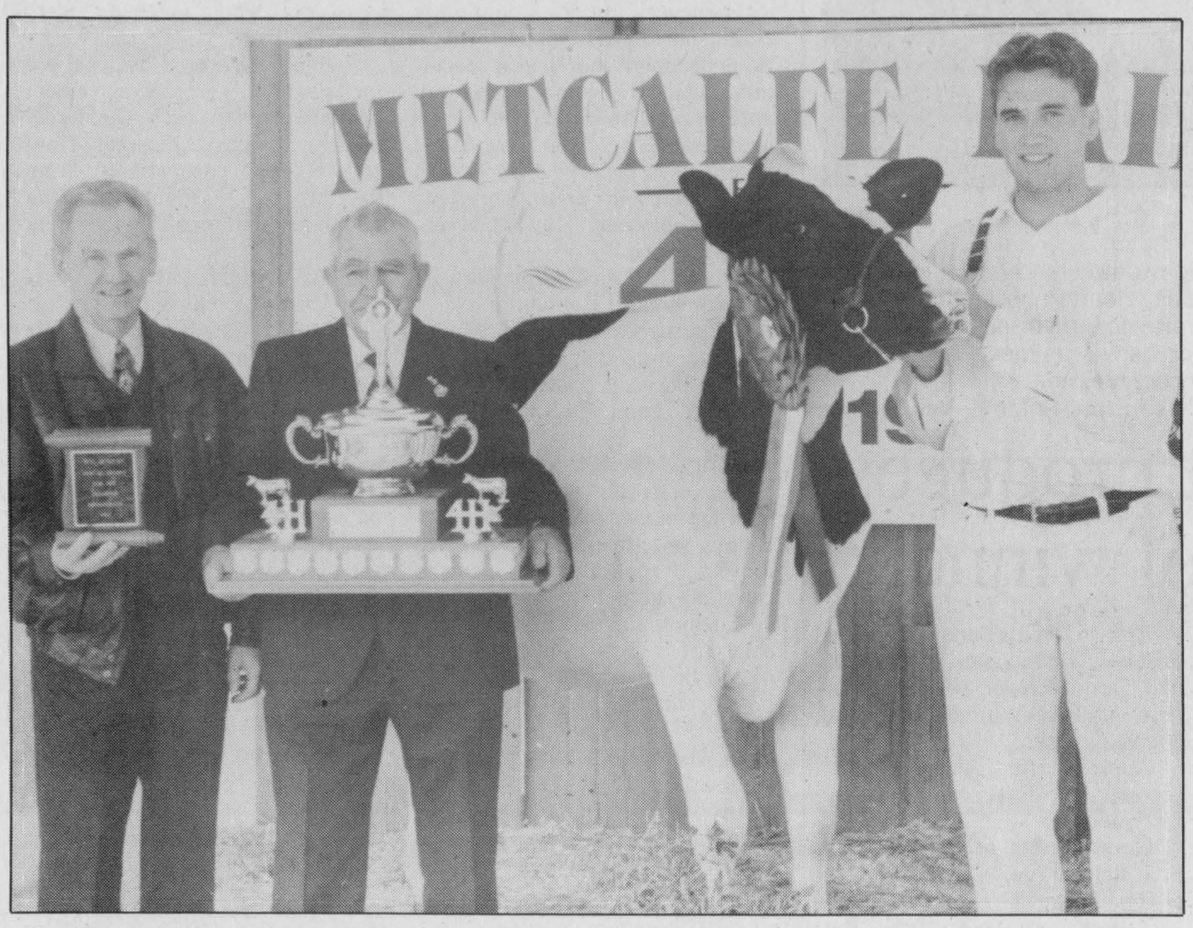
Junior, intermediate, senior Ayrshire calf: first, Kerri Mode, Bonnie Brae Lottery; second, Margaret Cumming, Glengarry, Strathburn Destiny's Starbust;

Summer and junior yearling Ayrshire: first, Heidi Mode, Prescott, Des Prairies Angie; second, Shauna Mode, Prescott, Kellcrest Silk;

Calf and yearling Jersey: first, Anne Berry, Argenteuil, North River Juno Jeany 3; second, Lee Shane, Prescott, Rhondale Renaissance Trillium.



Erin James of Carleton County is pictured with some of the awards picked up during the Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec 4-H championship steer show held Saturday. Erin exhibited the show's grand champion steer. Press Photo — Fetterly



Champion showperson

Darren McDonald of Vernon (right) is pictured accepting the William Bompus Award presented annually to the grand champion dairy showperson of the Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec 4-H Championship Show. William Bompus (centre) has presented the award for over 50 years. Also pictured is judge Merve Scott (left). Press Photo — Fetterly

James sisters win

METCALFE — Erin and Ashley James of Carleton County exhibited grand and reserve champion steers at the 1997 Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec 4-H Championship Show held Sat., Oct. 4 in Metcalfe.

The champion steer, exhibited by Erin, was sold to Carson McVey Insurance while the reserve steer sold to Southbank Dodge.

MARKET LAMBS

In the market lamb category, Christine Acres of Carleton County exhibited the grand champion lamb, which sold for $6 a pound to Bearbrook Farms.

Tyler Panchuck of Dundas County exhibited the reserve champion market lamb. It sold for $5 a pound to Waterfall Catering.

Burns top beef showperson

METCALFE — Shana Burns of Lanark was named grand champion beef showperson at the Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec 4-H Championship Show held Sat., Oct. 4 in Metcalfe.

Chad Hunt, also of Lanark was reserve champion beef showperson. The pair also topped the senior beef showmanship class.

Kelly Lewis of Carleton was the show's champion intermediate beef showperson while Ann McCordic of Carleton was the reserve intermediate beef showperson.

In junior beef showmanship, Lucas MacKay of Renfrew topped the class, followed by Jessica Milne-Smith of Carleton in the reserve spot.

Chad Homer of Carleton was the first-place novice beef showperson, while David Yuke of Renfrew placed second.

Rhonda Kinnear of Prescott County exhibited the champion Hereford heifer while Angie Robinson of Renfrew exhibited reserve champion Hereford heifer.

Jackie MacGregor of Renfrew exhibited the champion Simmental heifer and Lana Burns showed reserve champion heifer.

Derek Black of Renfrew had the grand champion Charolais heifer while Kurtis Black exhibited reserve champion Charolais heifer.

In the Limousin class, Chad Hunt exhibited the grand champion heifer while Ryan Enright of Renfrew showed the reserve champion Limousin heifer.

Jessica Milne-Smith exhibited the champion other breeds heifer and the champion Aberdeen Angus heifer. Shawn James had reserve champion other breeds heifer and Angela Evans exhibited champion Shorthorn heifer.

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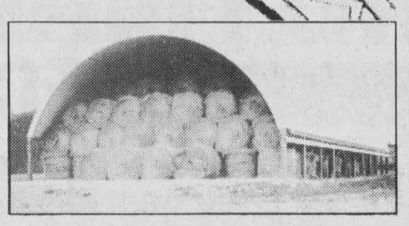

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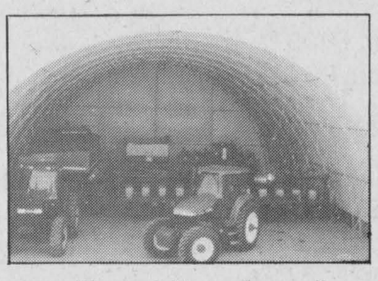

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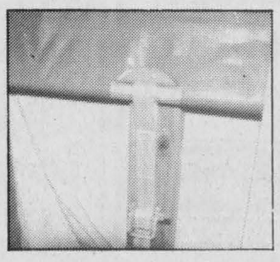

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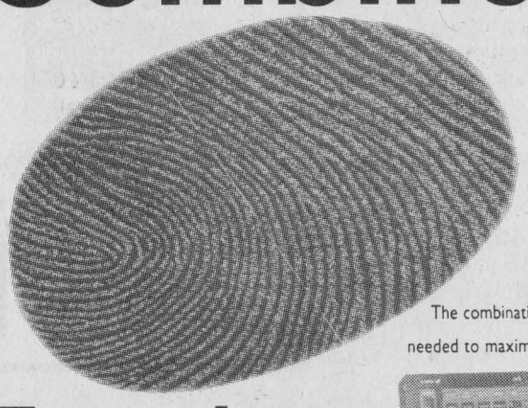

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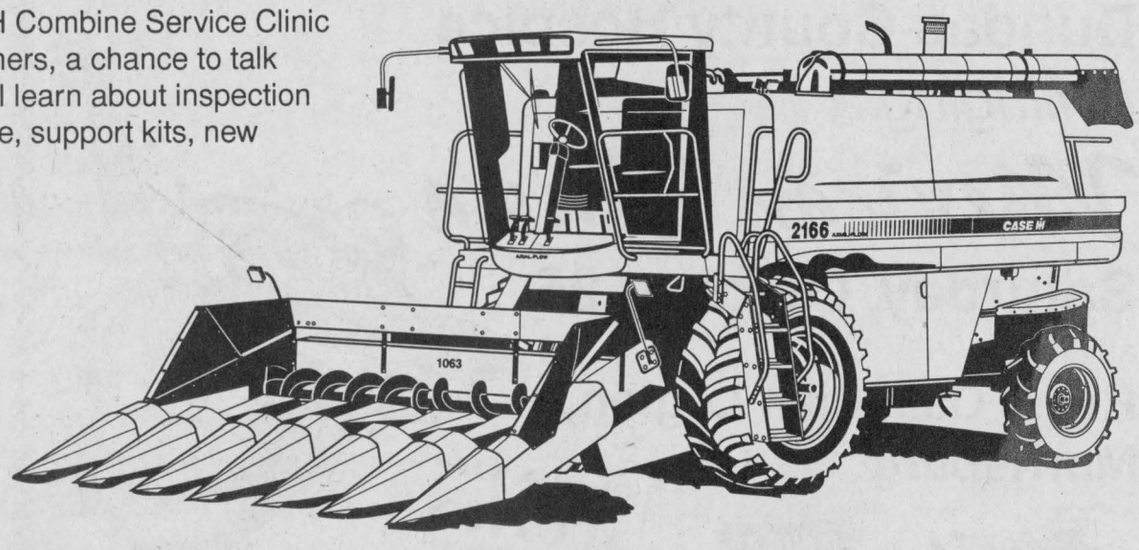

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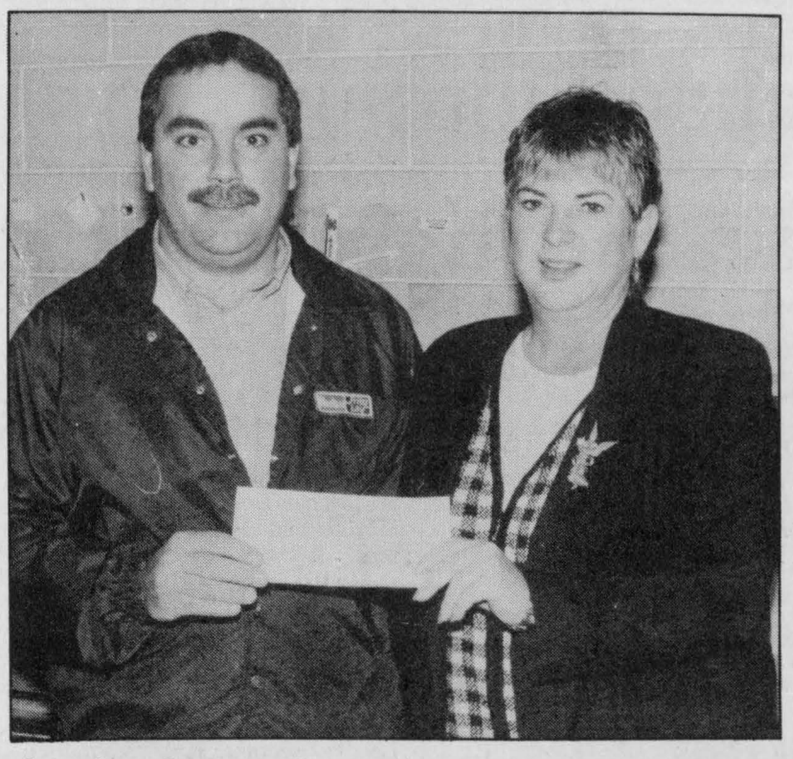

Aruba bound

Andy Hamel of Winchester accepted two tickets to Aruba from Winchester Community Centre - Community Heart Project representative Patti Guy last week. The dream cruise to Aruba includes air from Toronto, seven nights accommodation as well as meals and is worth $1,998. The November trip is to Cancun, Mexico.

Press Photo — Van Bridger

Fall harvest produces cornucopia of winners

WILLIAMSBURG — The people of Williamsburg showed their competitive spirit during this year's 6th annual Williamsburg Fall Harvest Festival. The following is a list of the contest winners.

Scarecrow building: first, Debbie Disheau; second, Larry Toonders.

Bale decorating: first, Tyler Darrach and Marty Link.

Kid's coloring contest: first junior, Trevor Brown; first senior, Ashley Saddlemire.

Guess the length and weight of trimmer line: Tyler Darrach.

How many crabapples in the container: Marg Hutt.

Heaviest potato: Gerald Styles — 1.086 kg.

Heaviest carrot: Christopher Merkley — 555 g.

Most fruitful garden basket: first, Japke Tibben; second, Sue Sherrer; third, Donna Casselman.

Biggest/heaviest pumpkin: first, Todd Levers (437 lbs.); second, Bert Doornwaard (426 lbs.); third, John Doornwaard (361 lbs.). Junior division — Nicole Disheau.

Largest sunflower: first, Amy DeJong; second, Chris Merkley; third, Don Thompson.

Largest zucchini: first, Morgan Sharp; second, Alex Hough; third, Florence Merkley.

Longest and best trimmed beard: Beau Rooney (longest); Jack Hill (trimmed).

Miniature Scarecrow: first, Samantha Pemberton; second, Jason Jodoin; third, Melissa and Nicole Toonders.

Draws: Pauline Harper (20 lb. turkey); Wayde Rolls (10 lb. ham).

Cow chip toss: Josh Veltkamp (child); Kelly Verhoeven and Erin Lucier (youth); Bruce Casselman (men); Morgan Sharp (women).

Guess the amount of pickled coin: Wayne Hunter, (guess $106.50, actual $109.57).

Best decorated/carved pumpkin: Alyssa Kooistra (decorated); Dylan DeJong (carved).

Best decorated harvest straw hat: Toni, Amy and Mellisa Nagle (child); Sue Sherrer (adult).

Historic quiz: first, Merv Wells; second, Bruce Garlough; third, Claire Algire.

ID pictures of Williamsburg Twp.: first, Ferneley Johnston; second, Donna Casselman, Brian Barkley and Bruce Garlough.

Best children's costume: five and under — first, Sarah Dickey; second, Dustin Tinkler; six and over — first, Lauren Whitteker; second, Nicole Disheau.

Apple pie: first, Amanda Jodoin; second, Dave Thompson; third, Jason Jodoin.

Guess weight of beef on hoof: Fred Berseth (guess 1661 lbs., actual 1663 lbs.).

Tallest corn stalk: first, Bert Doornwaard (12'10"); second, John Doornwaard (12'7"); third, Bruce Whitteker (12' 5.5").

Bessie Bingo: round one, Laura Casselman; round two, Lueila Keeler; round three, David Lapier.

Horseshoe tournament: Robert Lapointe and Gerald Houde.

Goat milking: Erin Lucier.

PARADE RESULTS

Best commercial float: Whitteker's Meat Market.

Best non-commercial float: Fresyl Farms; Sabrina Berseth.

Best paraded tractor: Allan Crowder.

Best paraded vehicle: Harry Brownell.

Best paraded horse: Bob Bennett.

Best parade youth entry: Williamsburg Cubs and Scouts.

ANTIQUE VEHICLES

People's choice: Tom Neal, 1949 Plymouth Business Coupe.

Oldest vehicle: Keith Barkley, 1927 Ford Model T.

Best original vehicle: Rick Lane, 1967 Volkswagen.

Best high performance vehicle: John Sarault, 1930 Ford Hot Rod.

Best foreign: George Vakopoulos, 1978 Volkswagen.

Best restored vehicle: Carl Smith, 1930 Model A Ford Roadster.

HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST

There was a total of 10 entries and honorable mentions go to Florence Merkley, Patty Tibben, Marlene Casselman, Tammy Redmond and Evelyne Merkley.

First, Debbie Disheau; second, Jeannie Whitteker; third, Bonnie Richmire; fourth, Sheila Crowder; fifth, Olive MacIntosh.

The 175th anniversary quilt winner was Chris Cullen of Winchester and the crafters crib quilt was won by Isobel Williams.

Financial cuts to legal aid cause concern

by Leslie Ault

CORNWALL — As you are aware, Legal Aid has undergone two dramatic changes in its coverage policy.

In March of 1996, family law coverage was curtailed and a 'prioritization' system was imposed. Only the most serious cases were eligible for Legal Aid. In response to criticism with respect to the delivery of family services, family law coverage was expanded on April 1, 1997 to include more areas.

However, from community comments I have received, the public understood only the initial curtailments. The public does not appear to be aware that the coverage has been greatly expanded. I believe that clients who are eligible for Legal Aid aren't applying because they aren't aware of our present policies.

Presently, Legal Aid covers the following matters: child protection, custody, support and property.

Child protection covers the following issues: apprehension or threat of apprehension by Children's Aid Society or similar authority; defence to claims for society wardship where the children are in care; defence of applications for temporary care and custody; and applications offering to care for the child.

Custody involves where the safety of a spouse or child, or an established parent/child bond is at risk or threatened, including the threat of kidnapping, and relocations where the parent-child bond is threatened; cases of sexual abuse; where the parties are separating and no status quo has been established; variations of custody where there is merit.

Support coverages by Legal Aid includes where spousal or child support is essential to maintaining the parent/child bond or to ensure the necessities of life; child or spousal support when custody has changed; variation of support when responding in Ontario Court; enforcement of support if there is merit.

Legal Aid also covers the preservation of property if there is a risk of dissipation; property cases involving the issue of exclusive possession where there are safety or abuse issues.

Items not covered by legal aid include child care by agreement and in regards to access— enforcement of access; changes from supervised to unsupervised; from daytime to overnight; tinkering with hours to drop off; grandparent access.

Legal Aid does not cover custody issues such as mobility when the bond is not threatened; older children; formal changes in custody without a change in principal residence; no threat and are proceeding in default; institution; requirements.

Matters of support excluded include when one or both parties are in receipt of social assistance and the likely order will not remove the recipient from social assistance; variations of support simpliciter is not an issue for which a certificate will be granted as the anticipated number of such applicants cannot accurately be predicted and may exceed the financial resources of the plan.

CAUSE FOR CHANGE

The Ontario government was alarmed by the dramatic increase between 1990 and 1994 in the cost of the plan. Part of the increase in the cost is explained by the number of social assistance recipients in Ontario that increased by about 117 per cent between 1990-91 and 1995-96.

Until 1994 the plan had no difficulty with its cost increases because its funding was not capped. When the plan exceeded its budget, the provincial government absorbed most of the budget deficit.

However, several years ago, the federal government, one the plan's major contributors, capped its contributions to the plan, leaving the provincial government as the sole body to absorb the increasing deficit. Feeling overwhelmed by the increases in its contributions, in 1994, the provincial government followed the federal government's lead and capped its contribution. The plan continued to experience increased expenses but had no source of income to cover the extra bills.

The provincial government's present capped contribution is about $167.5 million per year. With its funding permanently cut back, the plan realized it would have to reduce its services to the public.

On April 1, 1996 a system of priorities were set in place. Assistance in criminal law was given only if jail was a likelihood. Assistance in family and other civil law cases was cut back to cover only the most serious cases.

Legal Aid clinics, however, were able to continue their aid to the poverty law cases which included Canada Pension, family benefits, occupational health and safety, consumer and debt problems, landlord and tenant, welfare and employment insurance.

By the summer of 1995 it was realized that the public's ability to obtain proper legal help, particularly in the family law area, was suffering and changes had to be made. Its family law coverage expanded on April 1, 1997.

Many of Legal Aid's problems remained unresolved. Last year, the Review of the Ontario Legal Aid Review was initiated by the provincial government to determine how best to deliver legal services within the financially capped limits.

Some of the recommendations include:

— use of professionals other than lawyers;

— increased use of duty counsel;

— governance of the plan — the plan is currently governed by the Law Society of Upper Canada and it is recommended the plan should be governed by a 11-member independent statutory agency;

— criminal eligibility test should not be limited to the likelihood of jail. Other consequences of conviction should be taken into consideration;

— The new agency would be called the "Legal Services Corporation of Ontario";

— the clinic's work in poverty law be maintained in full.

The thrust of the past and present guidelines is that all cases dealing with danger to spouse or child, CAS matters do not consent, and initial custody disputes will be covered. As you can see, less serious matters are also within our mandate.

Autumn hazard

GUELPH — The Farm Safety Association has issued a warning that silo gas may be a problem this fall as a result of weather conditions across the province this summer.

The late spring planting followed by drought in parts of Ontario set the stage for the formation of silo gases since plants have been under stress. Delayed harvest this fall plus early frosts will also contribute to the problem.

The association warns that any silo should be considered a confined space and appropriate safety measures should be taken. Silo gases can form in silos immediately after haylage or corn silage is put in and can last for up to three weeks after filling is completed. Sealed silos with high moisture corn have an oxygen deficiency sue to build-up of carbon dioxide. Both of these areas should not be entered unless the rules of confined space entry are followed including the wearing of appropriate self-contained breathing apparatus.

BEFORE ENTERING

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— if a dangerous atmosphere exists, you must wear a self-contained breathing apparatus. Ventilate the area if possible;

— all mechanical and electrical equipment must be locked out;

— use the "buddy system" and wear a lifeline. Sufficient equipment and manpower must be available. The extra person is there to summon assistance if needed;

— establish some form of communication: verbal, hand signals, line signals;

— never re-enter a confined space without retesting or venting the area.

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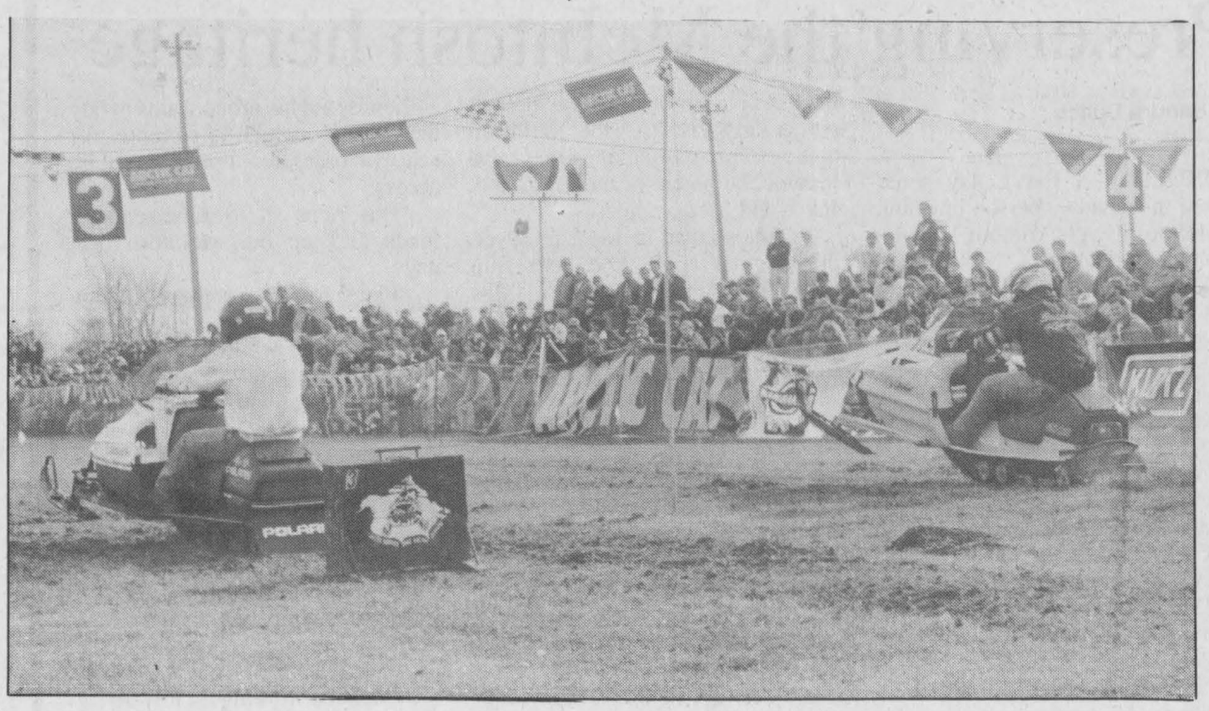

Photo from Grass Drags, October 27, 1996, South Mountain

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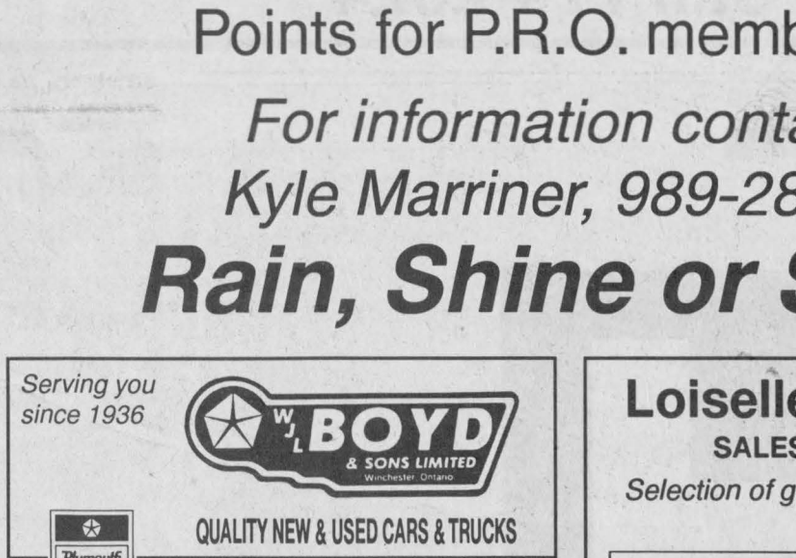

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All that remains of the John McIntosh estate is a monument (right) and a commemorative plaque (left). A group of concerned residents are currently trying to buy the remaining 19 acres of land in an effort to preserve the history of the McIntosh apple. Press Photo -- Van Bridger

Preserving the McIntosh heritage

by Sandra Dillich
Press staff

DUNDELA — Every day somewhere in Canada a person bites into a McIntosh apple without knowing about its heritage.

Keith Lewis, president of the non-profit McIntosh Heritage Committee, has spent the past 17 years trying to preserve the history of the McIntosh apple which put its roots down in Dundela.

"There's a lot of people who have heard about the McIntosh apple but they don't know enough about its founder," added Lewis. "Too much of Canada's history has been lost and we're trying to preserve it."

The McIntosh apple is named after John McIntosh who emigrated to Canada from Scotland in 1796 at the age of 19. In 1811, McIntosh exchanged his farm near Iroquois for an undeveloped lot in Dundela.

The story goes that while clearing the land, McIntosh discovered about 20 small apple trees which he then transplanted in his garden. One of the trees bore fruit which he thought particularly tasty — the McIntosh apple. This particular apple also became the parent of the Courtland, Joyce and Melba apples.

McIntosh died in 1845, however, the original apple tree bore fruit until 1906. According to Lewis, the McIntosh estate and its land, which was originally 1,000 acres, is being sold piece by piece to area farmers who are using the land for cash cropping. There are now only 19 acres left of the original site.

"We want to put a stop to it (the selling of the land)... If the McIntosh heritage dies, what are you going to know about the McIntosh apple's heritage?" questioned Lewis.

The estate is currently marked by a government plaque erected in 1962 near the roadway on County Road 18, as well as a community monument which was placed on the estate in 1912. According to Lewis, people are unable to visit the monument, which marks the location of the original tree, because the property is privately owned.

Lewis said his group wants to buy the property, which is currently for sale, in order to allow the public access.

"Our hope is to raise enough funds to keep our McIntosh heritage."

Plans for the property include landscaping, parking, bathrooms, septic systems while plans for the house include a tea room, bed and breakfast, art gallery and craft museum.

Groups helping the heritage committee include the Trillium Foundation, Heritage Foundation, the provincial and federal governments, Ministry of Tourism, Historical Society of Canada, the United Way, Matilda Township and the Apple Grower's Association.

"I've been working on this for 17 years and I know what I'm going after and we're going to get it," noted Lewis.

If anyone is interested in volunteering, call Keith Lewis at 652-1723.

COPP on line at Edwards

by Derek Puddicombe

EDWARDS — For Edwards residents the OPP are now just a cellular phone call away.

As part of Bell Mobility's Community on Phone Patrol program, COPP, it donated two cellular phones to the Edwards Watch program which formed last June to keep an eye out for crime in the village.

This is the fourth crime prevention committee formed in the Township of Osgoode. Metcalfe and Greely have units already in operation to battle crime.

OPP Constable Rudy Schaeffers is the OPP liaison officer to the committee and said residents are fed up with property crime, break-ins and having their mailboxes smashed and that policing groups are becoming more common.

"These volunteers will be the eyes and ears for the police," said Schaeffers.

Although the group has been active for a few months, the major stumbling block for the volunteers has been the absence of immediate communication with the police.

About 50 volunteers make up the Edwards Watch and its plan is to have daytime and evening patrols with two volunteers each shift keeping an eye out for suspicious activity.

Volunteers, who are not authorized to carry firearms, can solicit information from suspects indentified in the Edwards area. If the volunteers are skeptical they will phone police with the appropriate information.

Sylvia Spasoff and her family moved to Edwards because it seemed peaceful, but over the last six years they have been the victims of break and enters three times.

"At one time living in the country was a deterrence, but now it seems to invite crime," said Spasoff, who is also the chair of the Edwards Watch program. "We are fed up and are now trying to do something about it."

Minister of the Environment and Energy and Carleton MPP Norm Sterling, who also attended the Oct. 3 presentation at township hall in Metcalfe, added residents who will provide the time and corporations who will provide some of the money, are essential to ensure a safer community.

"This is exactly the type of project that forms a great partnership between the community and police," said Sterling. "Police can't fight crime without the support of residents. This will lead to a safer community in Edwards."

Euchre party

Winners at the Williamsburg Township Seniors' euchre on Wed., Sept. 10 were as follows: ladies, Lottie Gill, Kezia Wells, Norma Hehir; gents, John Ray, Keith Scott, Basil Hollister; door prize, Marjorie Trickey, Len Moran; draw, Keith Casselman, Ruth Casselman, Cecil Lee, Bea McRae, Muriel Miller, Lois Sweeney, Marjorie Trickey, Lottie Gill.

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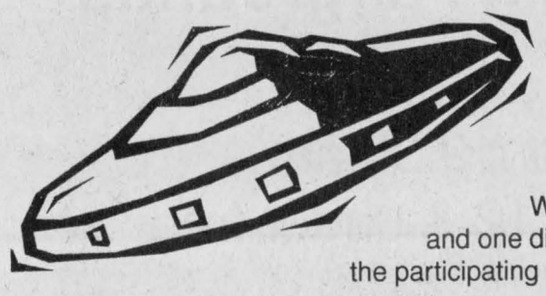

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OPP constable speaks to group

by Jean Casselman

WILLIAMSBURG — On Tues., Sept. 16 at the Williamsburg Township Seniors' monthly meeting in the municipal building, 22 members and one visitor enjoyed a delicious dinner.

President Ed Thompson opened the meeting with the singing of O' Canada, and a welcome to all, prior to the introduction of guest speaker Alan Lummiss, OPP. Lummiss has been a member of the OPP since 1975, and stationed at Winchester since that time. For the past two years, he has been acting as community service officer for Dundas County, and is in charge of crime prevention and safety programs for youth and adults, as well as media relations locally.

Lummiss spoke about consumer frauds such as telephone and mail scams, and a national task force combatting telemarketing fraud throughout Canada called "Project Phonebusters".

Reports were heard, and correspondence contained a notification from the Eastern Ontario Health Unit of the Flu Clinic to be held Oct. 22 at Park Lane Seniors Support Centre from 11 am to 12:30 pm.

The seniors' group presented a plaque to the winner of the best vehicle in the parade at the Harvest Festival.

Membership fees were taken for the 1997-98 year.

Following adjournment, euchre and bridge were played for the remainder of the afternoon.

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