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Demons claim
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Don't forget to
turn your
clocks ahead
one hour this
weekend.



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GST
INCLUDED

Ag ministers bring farmers \$20 million in storm aid



Noble Villeneuve

Dianne Fetterly
Agricultural editor

WINCHESTER — Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Minister Lyle Vanclief and Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Noble Villeneuve made a brief stop in Winchester last Friday morning to announce a further \$20 million in assistance to eastern Ontario farmers for ice storm relief.

"The governments of Canada and Ontario recognize the magnitude of the losses faced by eastern Ontario farmers who were so adversely affected by what is now recognized as one of the greatest natural disasters in Canadian history," Vanclief told a crowd of about 100 local farmers, farm group leaders and politicians.

"Those producers who suffered extreme hardship and losses during the ice storm have been heard and today we are continuing our response," said Villeneuve. ("The program) will provide compensation for costs not covered by insurance or other programs."

Under this newest initiative, all farmers in eastern Ontario will be eligible for assistance, whether they're large or small operations, full-time or part-time, explained Vanclief.

Compensation will be available for rental and operating costs of a generator during the power disruptions; delivery of water; the value of inventories of feed, produce or live-stock damaged or lost due to the ice storm; damage clean-up; additional transportation costs; stress counseling; or any other costs incurred because of the disaster.

Farm operators, maple syrup producers, Christmas tree operators or other managed woodlot operators are also eligible for additional expenses as a result of the storm. Expenses such as building and equipment repair or replacement, and pruning or re-establishing maple stands and Christmas trees are covered under the program.

"This program assures that farmers of all types receive the necessary assistance needed to recover from this devastating storm," Vanclief said.

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• please see ASSISTANCE on page 2



Lyle Vanclief

WDMH closes third floor

WINCHESTER — The Winchester District Memorial Hospital closed its third floor on the weekend as part of ongoing restructuring measures at the hospital.

According to CUPE president for WDMH Rhonda Acres, 10 beds were closed on the third floor and 14 beds were redistributed to other parts of the hospital. She said that six beds were moved to long-term care and eight were moved to the obstetrics/medical floor.

Last month notices of layoffs were distributed to staff, but numbers are still unknown.

"We're still waiting for answers about

job losses," Acres said. "The bumping process is ongoing so it may be a couple of weeks before we know how many jobs will be gone for sure. A lot of staff members are upset. It's not a happy place."

April 1 was the date slated for the closing of the third level of the hospital. On Friday afternoon (March 27) staff moved beds and patients from the third floor.

Acres, an RPN (Registered Practical Nurse), has been laid off and took a job as a Health Care Aide — a job that requires less training than an RPN.

Hospital administrator Joseline Sikorski was unable to be reached for comment.

U.C. school board examines North Dundas for relocation

by Lori Culliton
Press staff

WINCHESTER — The Upper Canada District School Board continues to receive proposals from communities in regards to relocating the board office. And the Township of North Dundas has now entered the race in a quest to be chosen as the new school board location.

North Dundas treasurer Howard Smith made a presentation on behalf of North Dundas at a school board meeting last Wednesday. Several board members were expected to stop in Winchester today (April 1) to look at several possible sites.

The sites in question cannot be revealed yet, Smith told the Press.

"We're telling the board that trustees, employees, parents and students would be better served if the board were centrally located," Smith said. "And North Dundas is geographically central to the area covered by the board."

Upon amalgamation in January the school boards of SD&G, Prescott-Russell and Leeds,

Grenville and Lanark joined to create one of the largest school boards in Ontario.

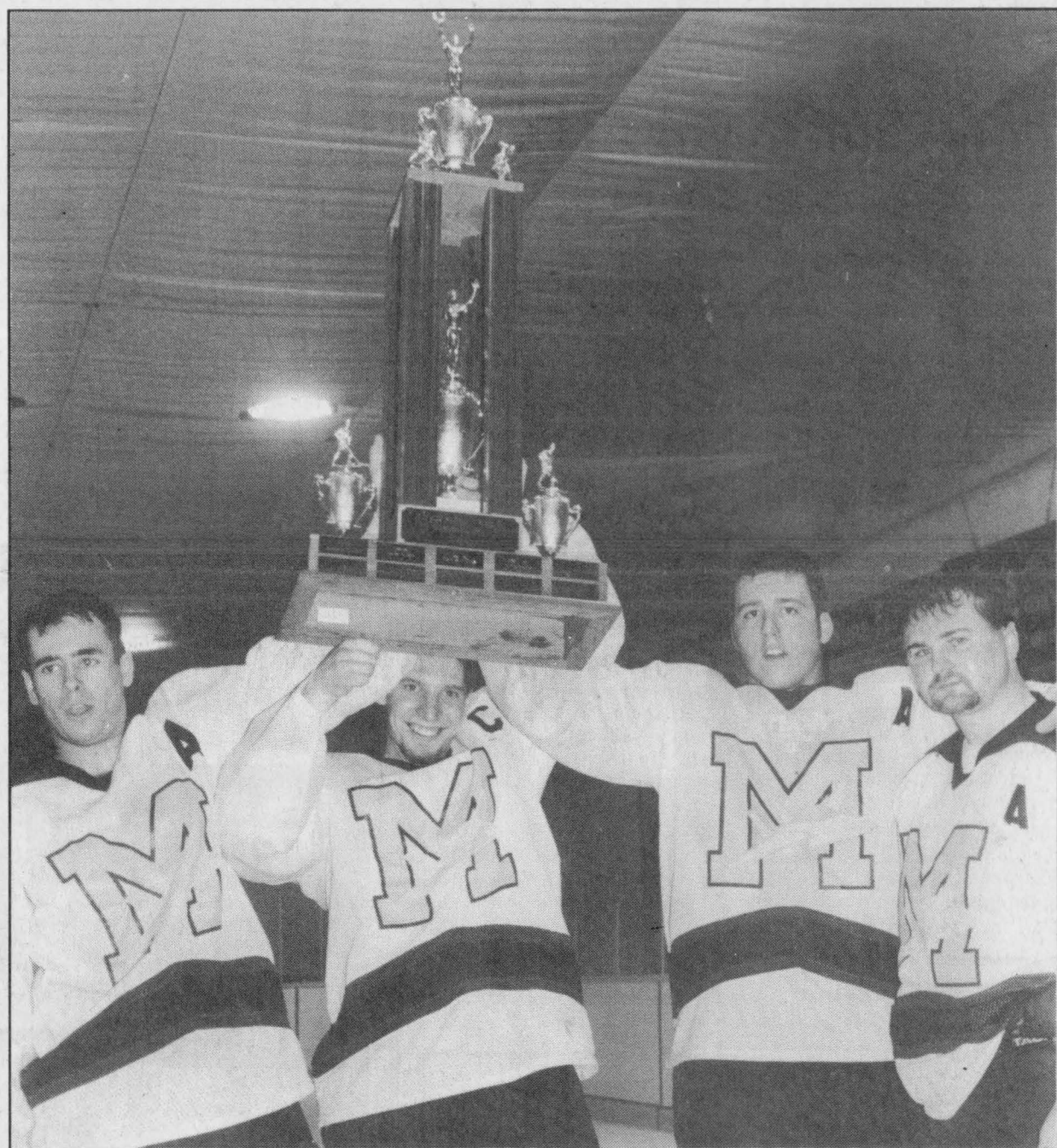
"If you look at a map, you will see that the distribution of trustees leaves about six or seven trustees with about an hour's drive, while others live even closer," Smith pointed out.

"We're selling North Dundas on geographical location, but also on the fact that there are modern buildings available in the area," Smith said.

But, he explained, everything depends on what the board decides to do and what the board's needs are.

One scenario the board is looking at is incorporating east and west board offices. Another is to locate one office centrally in the board area.

"It would be terrific (to have the board located in North Dundas)," Smith said. "For one thing, right now they have about 150 employees in four board offices. If they centralized the board to North Dundas, at least 50 per cent, or 75, new jobs, would be brought to North Dundas. Then there are all the spin-off effects of new jobs in the area, including housing."



Its March and the Metcalfe Jets have picked up yet another Junior "B" championship trophy. Monday night Steve James, captain Cory Peel, Garnet Walker and Kevin Collins hosted the Barkley

(Metro/Valley) championship trophy following a 6-3 victory over the Annprior Packers. The Jets won the series four games to one.

Press Photo — Van Bridger

Time change needed for Dairyfest parade

by Avril Phoule
Special events reporter

WINCHESTER — In a surprise marrying of events, the committees for Winchester's Dairyfest and Parade of Lights have decided to join the two popular community efforts. The Parade of Lights will be held on the evening of Aug. 8 to coincide with Dairyfest.

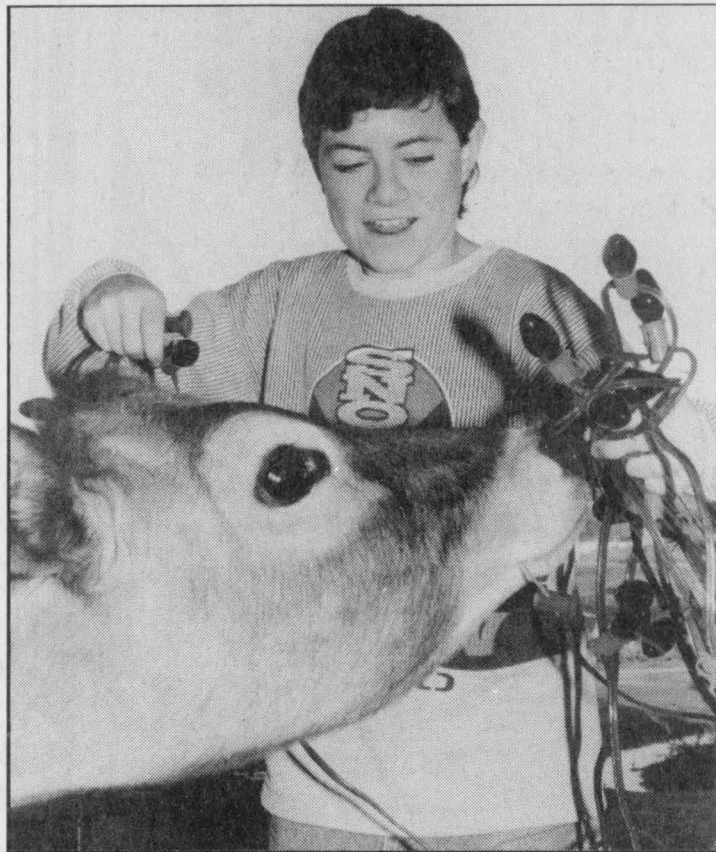
The plan was announced following an impromptu joint meeting on Monday night when several members of both committees met over coffee at Something's Brewing in downtown Winchester.

"The idea really makes sense," parade chairman John Adams said. "We think that a lot more people would rather come out to a parade on a warm summer night than to stand on the side of the street freezing their butts off on a cold December night."

Since Dairyfest has not traditionally included a parade in the past, organizers considered the Parade of Lights idea to be an important addition to the festivities.

"I think it's great," said Dairyfest co-chair Patti Guy. "It's especially exciting because this year marks the 10th anniversary of Dairyfest, and we were hoping to add something new this year."

• please see PARADE on page 2



Parade anticipation had this area youth and his calf trying on Christmas lights for size.

Flood watch

Concern swells over quick thaw

by Jeff Brownlee

OSGOODE — Balmy, summer-like temperatures forced the Rideau River on the rise last weekend, but with the exception of a few low-lying homes in Osgoode Township, flooding shouldn't be a problem this spring.

A flood watch advisory for the Rideau watershed is still in effect four days after it was issued by Rideau Valley Conservation Authority. The river crested March 23 after five straight days of sultry temperatures caused flash melting and sent water levels 90 centimetres above summer navigation levels.

"The warm temperatures turned on the tap quickly," says Patrick Larson, RVCA flood warning supervisor. "We're not expecting any problems if we don't see any rain, but there may be some places that have access roads flooded."

Residents of Lorne Bridge Road, approximately two kilometres south of Hurst Marina, are watching the Rideau swell its banks into their yards and around their homes for the second consecutive year.

"It was really a nice meltdown this year until Saturday's warm temperatures," says

resident Steve Robertson, whose house is almost surrounded by the river. "So far, it's not as bad as last year."

The water, in some cases close to five inches deep, is covering the road into the river-side hamlet, flooding basements and forcing residents to park their cars at the road. They're not ready to head for higher ground just yet.

"We're okay for now," adds Robertson. "But we're not out of the woods yet. It's the rain I'm worried about."

A large accumulation of rain could drastically change the dynamics of the flooding. On Monday evening, a number of thunderstorm cells moved through the area dumping a moderate amount of precipitation on the area.

But Larson hopes that the bulk of the rain forecasted for the rest of the week holds off as long as possible.

"The longer we go before a heavy rainfall, the better," he says. In the Mississippi River watershed, the river has swelled its banks and engulfed roads, forcing police to reroute traffic.

There haven't been any problems along the shores of the Ottawa River, yet.

Continued from the front page...

Assistance

All farmers must register their claims with the local disaster relief committee, which will process applications and refer them to the proper area.

"The bottom line is you will get the support you need," said Vancleef.

Both Vancleef and Villeneuve also thanked all those who volunteered or helped out during the ice storm and following with the clean-up.

"I was overwhelmed by the way everyone handled the crisis. It's a true reflection of the kind of people who live in eastern Ontario... Everyone pitched in and helped out," said Villeneuve.

Application forms are available.

Parade

The agricultural aspect to both events makes the joining an easy one, Adams added. The parade was known at Christmas as the Country Christmas Parade of Lights.

"Now we'll call it the Dairyfest Parade of Lights," Adams said enthusiastically. "And we want to see as many lit-up cows out there in the parade as possible."

With so many generators available in eastern Ontario following Ice Storm '98, Adams pointed out that generators could be strapped to the backs of the cows or pulled by yokes.

North Dundas Mayor Claude Cousineau endorsed the idea, revealing that the idea had been his in the first place.

However, one problem has already come to light, so to speak. Adams pointed out that, while the Christmas Parade of Lights had begun at 7 pm, the sun doesn't set until much later on an August evening.

"What we're proposing to do," Adams explained, "is to turn back the clock for North Dundas. At midnight on August 1, everyone in the township will turn their clocks back five hours. That way, the citizens will have a week to acclimatize themselves to the time change."

"And then we can hold the parade at 7 pm on August 8. It will be dark enough for the Parade of Lights, and the children will be able to attend as well."

He added that the time would return to normal on August 10, following Dairyfest.

Mayor Cousineau endorsed this idea as well, adding that this, too, had been his idea in the first place.

Little opposition is expected; in fact, the two committees feel that joining the two events will be very welcome in town.

"And if this goes well," Adams said, "we will then consider holding the parade twice a year — at Christmas and in August!"

Cousineau added, "If you believe this story, we'd like to sell you the Inkerman bridge."



Crafty imagination

A two-day arts and crafts show held at the Morrisburg Legion hall drew interested shoppers and browsers last Friday and Saturday. A variety of artistic work was on display, including paintings,

woodworking, knitting and much more. Pictured, Goldie Britton (left) of Morrisburg examines a cabinet painted by Diana Bew (right) of Oma's Country Crafts in Brinston. Press Photo — Culliton

911 signage not mandatory but may have healthy benefits

By Jeff Brownlee

METCALFE — In an attempt to avoid a repeat of public furor over the tag-a-bag issue, Osgoode Township isn't following through on a recommendation of its fire chief to make the erection of 911 signs mandatory in the municipality — for now.

Councillors turned down Gerry Bennett's proposal March 24 to phase in the civic addressing signs at each of the township's 5,350 homes in two stages, starting in the rural areas. Instead the municipality is opting for a six-month, aggressive campaign to convince residents of the merits of having the \$20 signs at the end of their laneway.

After that, they will reconsider the issue.

Bennett's push for mandatory sign installation stems from comments over the lack of proper signage from all emergency services in the township during the ice storm.

"Clearly posted civic addressing

signs can reduce unnecessary delays which is critical to all emergency services," he said.

So far only 13 per cent (700 homes) in the township have signs. And the bulk of those were sold under the municipality's current mandatory sign policy for new commercial and residential development.

But problems of improper installation and lack of rural signage — where it's needed most — continues to be a problem, Bennett added.

Councillor Dwayne Acres doesn't believe that a mandatory system is needed to get residents to purchase the signs.

"I'm not totally convinced that we've pushed the signs enough on a volunteer basis," he said. "I would like to see an advertising program, at least for the first six months."

But bylaw officer Paul Hutt says that an aggressive campaign in '96 didn't produce the projected results. To add to the confusion, many

homeowners who install the signs themselves don't follow the instructions to put them at the end of the driveway.

"Around 60 per cent comply while 40 per cent don't," he said.

Mandatory civic addressing signs were quite a heated debate and caused a massive public outcry in neighboring Rideau Township last summer. Residents in the municipality's villages didn't like the idea of being forced to put up these "ugly" signs on their front lawns. Council was also split on the issue.

Goulbourn Township recently experienced the same backlash from residents when it imposed mandatory sign legislation.

And this is something to take into consideration, said Councillor Dale Harley.

"Let's learn by the mistakes of other people," he added. "The signs are a great idea. In terms of imposing them, mandatory installation isn't."

Teams invited to test trivia skills

INGLESIDE — Get a team together and join the fun at Upper Canada Playhouse's Team-Quiz Competition, to be held at the Lancer Centre in Ingleside on May 8 at 7 pm. Teams of ten people will test their trivia skills on any subject from astronomy to zoology.

At the end of the evening, the winner will be awarded the Championship Trophy. The entry fee is \$10 per person.

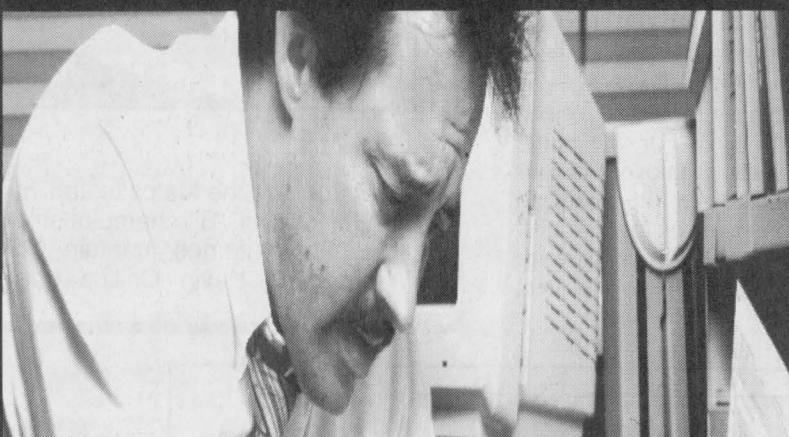
The Playhouse's team, 'Much Ado About Knowledge', formally

challenges all non-profit organizations, businesses and service clubs to form a team that the 'Much Ados' can beat. Pick a name for your group, pick a theme and dress the part.

The warm-up quiz sheet is available at 7 pm on the night of the event, and the competition begins at 7:30 pm. For more information or to register your team, call the Playhouse at 613-543-3713.

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School board puzzles over education figures

by Lori Culliton
Press Staff

CORNWALL — The effect on schools and students will not be known until at least the end of the week after the Ontario government introduced its restructured education funding model.

"We have the basic numbers," said June Timmons, chairperson, Upper Canada District School Board. "But we haven't received the technical data containing the real numbers."

Timmons explained that dollar amounts are categorized and that it appears there is little flexibility in moving money from one category to another to meet the needs of the students.

"It's certainly going to be a challenge," she said. "Some program areas have had discontinued funding. For example, they have removed core French from Kindergarten to Grade 3."

She said that when the board receives all of the numbers from the government trustees will be faced with looking carefully at all of the

areas to determine how the board will be impacted.

"What we do know for sure is that there is less money than last year," Timmons said. "We just don't know how that is going to impact us yet."

The Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario is in the same dilemma, chairperson Nancy Kirby told the Press.

"All that I can tell you is what information we have received by fax," she said. "It's all basic information and does not explain how the government came up with the figures."

"I don't want to say too much because we just don't know for sure yet," Kirby said. "We have three boards that amalgamated in January... we don't know how the new numbers will affect each board, because the numbers are all lumped together right now."

Kirby added, "It's funny. There are now only 72 school boards in the province because of amalgamation, but there are still only two people who are available to answer questions."

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7:30 pm

Harmony Church

Wednesday, April 8

7:30 pm

Winchester Baptist Church

Thursday, April 9

7:30 pm

Winchester Wesleyan Church

Friday, April 10

Celebrate Good Friday

as we Walk the

Way of the Cross

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Church 10:15 am, arriving at

the Presbyterian Church in

time for the Good Friday

service, 11:00 am

Saturday, April 11

7:30 pm, St. Matthias Anglican Church

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South Nation Conservation crews are now out in force, working to clear fallen branches and trees from ditches and waterways in order to prevent spring flooding. Ice Storm '98 left much debris and

fallen trees which are now in danger of clogging the drainage ditches. One crew from SNC worked on the Rodney municipal drain, just east of Winchester, off Fred Street last week.

Work crews out in force clearing debris from town

by Lori Culliton
Press staff

WINCHESTER — With the weather improving and the snow melting rapidly crews are out in force to clear branches, trees and debris left in ditches and streams by January's ice storm.

Weekend flood warnings in the region underlined the importance of clearing the debris to unclog drainage to rivers.

Last week a cleanup crew of five from South Nation Conservation was working at clearing the Rodney municipal drain just east of Winchester, off Fred Street. The ditch drains into the Nation River and trees and branches left from the ice storm offer a potential blockage which could lead to flooding, the crew foreman said.

Crew foreman Brian Boyd explained that in the scheme of ice storm cleanup, teams will be concentrating on drainage ditches first. "The parks are secondary," he said. "Before everything has a chance to

flood we have to take care of the ditches and the waterways."

This week's mild weather and heavy rain coupled with last week's heavy snowfall has left every ditch in the region much like the Rodney drain, Boyd said.

"We have to get rid of the overhanging branches," he pointed out. "If we don't have to, we don't take the entire tree down. But if it looks like it's going to fall over then we get rid of it."

The problem, he explained, is the almost 90-degree banking along the ditches.

"The water isn't very high yet but the bottom is really soft," Boyd said. "The crew is having a problem trying not to fall in. It's hard to hold on and work at the same time."

One member of the crew landed in the ditch and found himself knee-deep in mud. He lost one of his boots while climbing out.

Most of the crew members specialize in tree management. The foreman is a forest technician, and several have chainsaw certification.

The crew is made up of Boyd, Brian Morrow, Kimberly Dirven, Steve Williamson and Wayne Summers.

"We're trying to clean up the waterways without damaging anything or endangering the fish," Boyd said.

Some branches pulled from the ditches are then cut into firewood size, Boyd explained. "The wood is free for the taking if anyone wants it," he said. "People can take it home for firewood unless otherwise posted."

Some of the branches will be left on the banks to decay, which puts nutrients into the soil, he added.

The crews are cleaning up some of the farmers' fields along the ditches, as well.

"It's a difficult, hazardous job," Boyd said. "We have a good group... everyone works well together."

"When we were working in town in Winchester people were really friendly," he added. "They would stop and ask questions, and everyone seemed to appreciate what we were doing."

Dog rescued from frigid waters

by Jeff Brownlee

KARS — An Osgoode Township man risked his life to save his dog from drowning last Saturday during a dramatic ice rescue in the Rideau River near Kars.

Steve Robertson amazed a handful of onlookers and even himself as he pulled Belle, a five-year-old Bouvier to safety during the sensational chain of events.

"We're lucky to be alive," Robertson admitted.

Just this weekend, a Toronto-area man drowned trying to save a dog in a similar situation. But risking his life never entered his mind.

As he heard the cries of death from his Lorne Bridge Road home, the 44-year-old didn't think twice about venturing out on to the treacherous ice. He knew it was a race against the clock as the 100-pound dog struggled to stay alive in the deep, icy waters of the river.

"She was going down and I knew she had given up," said Robertson, recalling the events. "The only thing I could see was her nose sticking up in the air. She wouldn't have lasted another minute."

With no lifejacket nor rope, and wearing only a flannelette shirt, jeans and workboots, Robertson crawled on his stomach toward the terrified pooch.

He broke through the ice, plunging into the frigid, fast-flowing waters twice before he reached Belle. He estimates that he was immersed for a total of five minutes.

"All I remember was grabbing hold of one paw and pulling as hard as I could," he added. "I still can't believe I got her out. It must have been the adrenaline pumping, because I pulled her out of the water like she wasn't even there."

The duo made their way back to shore slowly and reached the river's edge very cold, very wet, but safe. Both emerged from the ordeal virtually unscathed. Steve had a few

scrapes on his arms from trying to get out of the water. Belle was very soggy.

"I don't know how long it took, but it seemed like an eternity," said Robertson.

Belle was swept away and swaddled with blankets by Robertson's children. Steve was greeted by many happy neighbors and a frantic, but overjoyed wife, Michelle.

"It was very frightening," she

said. "He aged me 10 years."

And Robertson can joke about the ordeal now.

"It was 24 degrees Celsius, it was a beautiful day for a swim," he said. "It was a little frosty (in the water) though."

Given the same situation, Robertson would do it again. He admits people may think he's crazy to risk his life for a dog, but he asks them to put themselves in the same dilemma.



Steve Robertson braved the icy waters of the Rideau River last Saturday to rescue his five-year-old Bouvier, Belle.

Township chipper about chipping

WINCHESTER — With spring-like weather comes spring cleaning. And spring cleaning promises to be a big job this year after January's ice storm.

The Township of North Dundas will be providing branch chipping services, starting immediately, according to township treasurer Howard Smith.

The township has rented a wood

chipper for the job.

The wood chipping will begin within the villages and hamlets and will work towards the rural areas.

The township requests that branches be placed at curbside for pickup.

"Everyone is in a hurry to get the cleanup done," Smith said. "We've had a lot of calls wondering when it was going to start."

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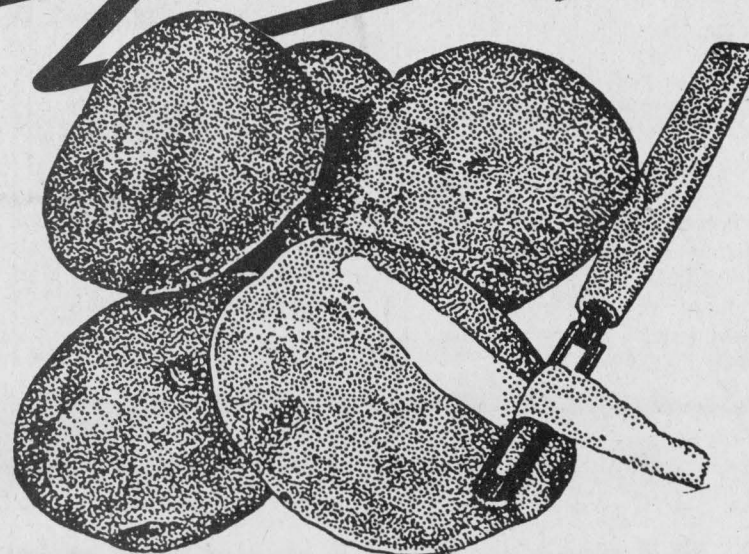
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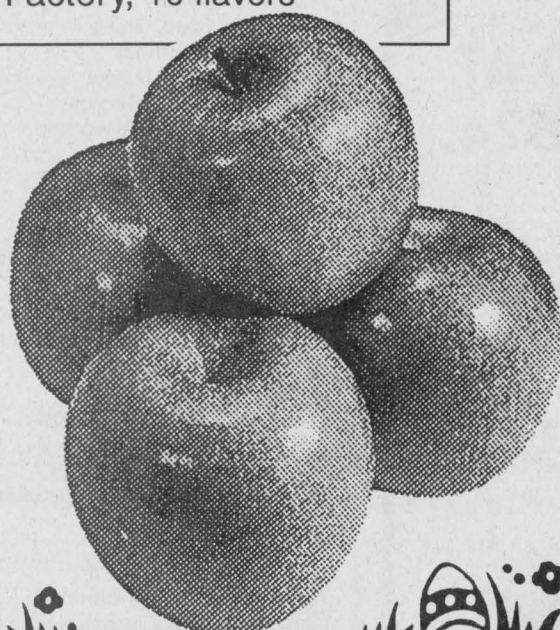
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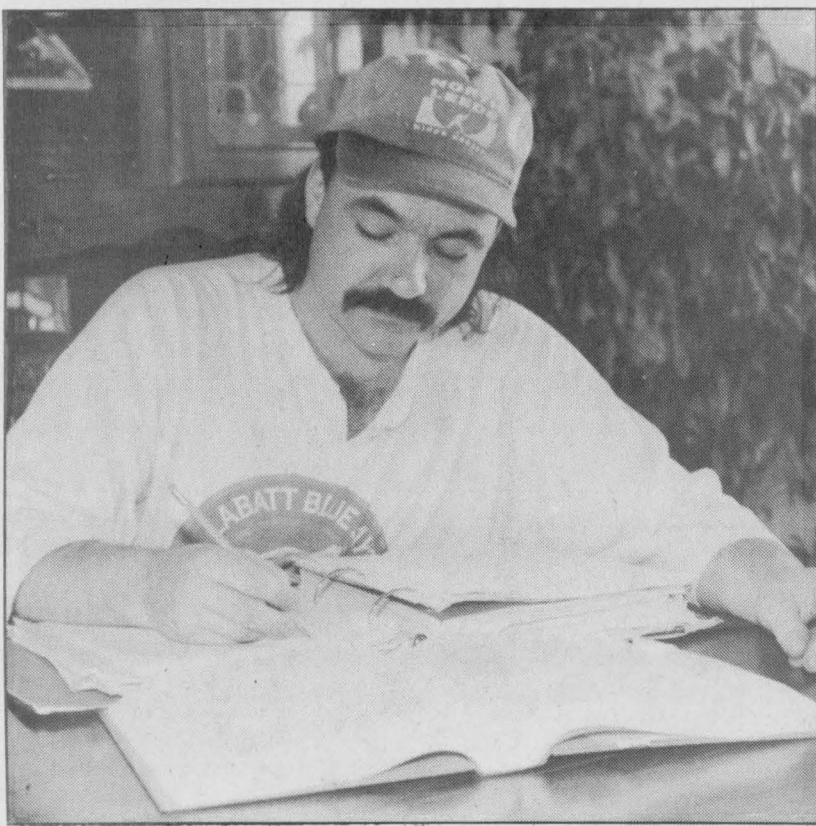
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Winchester resident Gary Johnson will be graduating from T.R. Leger this Friday. He went back to school to get his high school diploma after a work-related accident. Press Photo — Bierworth



Edith Wise, who lives near Winchester Springs, enrolled in T.R. Leger to complete her high school diploma after the Winchester Cheese plant where she worked was closed. Press Photo — Bierworth

"Definitely worth it"

T.R. Leger students graduate April 3

by Sandy Bierworth
Press staff

WINCHESTER — On Fri., April 3, 260 T.R. Leger students, 45 from the Winchester campus of the school, will receive their high school diploma. No great feat for a youth who has spent most of his life in the classroom, but for at least two graduates, going back to school after several years in the work force was a different story.

Winchester resident Gary Johnson, 38, left high school at the age of 17 to join the military, working at an Ottawa base. The base was closed after he had been there for 18 years and Johnson took a job with Lannin's Lumber, just outside of Winchester. About two years ago, he had an accident with a tractor that put him in an Ottawa hospital for two months.

Because of the accident, Johnson wasn't able to continue with his job at Lannin's and worker's compensation agreed to pay his tuition to send him back to school to get his diploma and train in a new field.

Johnson enrolled in T.R. Leger in January of 1996 and completed the four credits needed to obtain his high school diploma in a year-and-a-half. He started a two-year Electronic Engineering Technician program at St. Lawrence College in Cornwall last September.

"It's not too hard to go back, but

it's very demanding," he said. "You know you've done this stuff before but you don't remember it. The hardest part is to get motivated to do it."

This father of four coaches hockey during the winter and soccer in the summer, and said finding the time to complete the hours of homework and studying every night was a challenge.

"It's tough, but it's definitely worth it in the end," he said. "What I learned at T.R. really helped prepare me for college. It wasn't really much of a challenge for me to go back to school, because in the military you're always learning. But it's been a great experience."

When asked if he wished he had completed high school as a youth, Johnson said he wouldn't change a thing about the way things turned out.

"I have never regretted leaving school," he said. "And with the military, you get experience that other people would never have the chance to get. If I had the choice between going back or going to work, I'd choose work. I had thought about going back, and I was able to get my diploma through correspondence at the military, but I didn't have the time."

And to anyone thinking of going back to pick up their high school diploma, he offers these words of wisdom.

"To go back to school, you have to be prepared to give something up," he said. "Don't expect to be able to work at the same time. Anybody can do it, it just takes an effort. You have to commit. Don't be afraid to do it."

Johnson's wife, Debbie, said the past few years have been rough but worth it.

"I'm proud of him for going back and doing so well," she said. "It's been tough to keep up with housework and family life, especially when you're used to having two pay cheques coming in, but I think it really helped him to go back to school. It gives him something to do to occupy his time."

Edith Wise, who lives in Toytes Hill near Winchester Springs, completed the final four credits for her high school diploma at the end of last August.

She had been working at Winchester Cheese for most of her life before the plant was closed. Finding that a high school diploma was needed to get almost any job, she enrolled in T.R. Leger in September 1996.

Wise went to Mountain District High School when the basement was flooded and nearly all school records were lost, including hers. Without proof of a diploma, job-searching was much harder.

"Any place you go now you're asked to produce a high school

diploma," she said. "Even in factories now they've raised their standards."

In September, Wise found work driving a school bus.

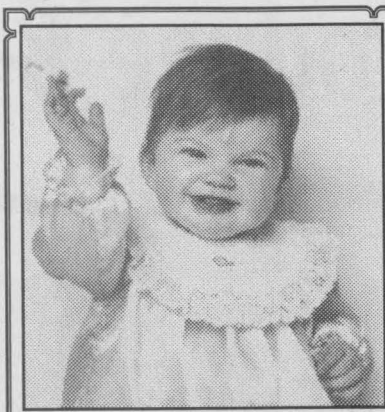
"I'm satisfied with the way things worked out," she said.

She said going back to school after so many years was not as hard as she thought it would be. Of course, having several former co-workers from the plant in the same courses helped too.

"I think it's easier because you're doing it for yourself not because someone says you have to," she said. "I didn't know the records at MDHS had been destroyed until the plant closed down and I called to find out how many credits I would need to graduate. T.R. said that with my age and experience, I would only need four credits to get my diploma."

And for anyone who doesn't think they can go back after being in the work force for so long, Wise offers this advice.

"If you want to go get your diploma, then go get it," she said. "It's something you do for yourself. I think anyone can do it, even through home correspondence courses. The thing is, you can spend a couple of hours a night on one lesson, so you have to be willing to do it. If there's anybody out there who doesn't have Grade 12, go get it. You never know what's going to happen."



Look who's 1!
Happy Birthday
Brittany Neelin
Love, Mom, Dad & Alyssa



Joann Kerr
Look Who's 40
But wishing she was 20
Happy Birthday
Love Dave Kerr
Got You

OPP begin seat belt blitz

WINCHESTER — Upper Canada Detachment officers are preparing for a month long focus on seat belt enforcement. This campaign coincides with national initiatives scheduled across the country from April 1 to 14.

Research proves that getting people to wear their seat belts is the most effective method of reducing the number of fatal traffic collisions.

Officers will be observing traffic within the villages as well as rural sections of county roads. If you see an officer out of his/her patrol car indicate for you to stop your vehicle, you must do so as soon as it is safe possible. This initiative is part of

the detachment's annual Road Safety Plan.

Drivers are reminded that they are responsible to ensure passengers under 16 years old occupy a seat belt position and are properly secured.

All drivers and passengers must properly adjust their seat belt. It is still an offence if the seat belt is not properly adjusted despite being worn. All seat belt related offenses come with a fine of \$105 and two demerit points.

Area members are completing a focus on vehicle documents during the month of March. This blitz is being considered a success and has heightened awareness.

OPP investigate 106 occurrences

MANOTICK — During the week of March 23 to 29 members of the Manotick detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police investigated 106 occurrences. Officers responded to 22 false alarms, 11 theft complaints, six break and enters and two motor vehicle accidents.

On Mon., March 23 police received a report of a break and enter to a business on Main Street, Manotick. The business was broken into sometime over the weekend. A computer, printer and other items were stolen. Constable Scott Laird is investigating.

On the afternoon of March 23 police received a report of a break-in to a residence on Quinnfield Way, Greely. The home owner left the residence in the morning and returned in the afternoon to find a side door of the residence kicked in. The owner had two dogs at the residence that may have scared the culprit(s) off. Nothing was taken. Constable Ken Ferguson is investigating.

Also on March 23 police received a report of a riding lawn mower that had been found in a bush near Eighth Line, Osgoode Township. The lawnmower is a Sears/Craftsman 11-horsepower model. Anyone who has information as to who the owner is can contact Constable Nancy Onlock.

On the evening of Tues., March 24 Constable Jamie Foley received a report of a possible impaired driver on Regional Road Six, Rideau Township. A 55-year-old man from Plantagenet, Ontario was arrested and charged with impaired driving, driving while disqualified and breach of parole.

In the early morning of Thurs., March 26 police received a report of a red pick-up truck speeding and driving recklessly on Roger Stevens Drive, North Gower. A 30-year-old Kemptville man was arrested and charged with having more than 80-

mg of alcohol in his blood. Constable Janet Harris is investigating.

On March 25 a camera was turned in at the Osgoode Community Policing Office. If anyone has recently had a camera lost or stolen in the Osgoode area please contact the Manotick detachment.

On the afternoon of March 26 police received a report of a break and enter on Cowell Road, Rideau Township. Entry was gained to the garage where chain saws and a generator was stolen. Constable Brian Samuel is investigating.

On Fri., March 27 police received a report of a car that had been broken into at a residence on Tintern Drive, Greely. An umbrella and garage door opener were stolen.

At approximately 5 am on Sat., March 28 a vehicle was stolen from a residence on Albert Street, Osgoode. The vehicle was a 1985 silver four-door Volkswagen Jetta, Ontario plate 052 LVW. Constable Jason Smith is investigating.

On March 28 police received a report of a stolen generator from a barn located on River Road, Osgoode. The generator is a Coleman make, 4600-watt, red in color. Constable John Putinski is investigating.

During the evening of March 28 police received a report of a number of vehicles broken into at the Lions Den in Metcalfe. Vehicle owners are reminded to always keep their vehicles locked and keep valuables out of sight.

Osgoode Township residents are encouraged to come out and see what promises to be an exciting hockey game on Thurs., April 2 at 1:30 pm at the Metcalfe Arena. The Ontario Provincial Police will be facing the Osgoode Township High School team in a charity hockey game.



Church Directory

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Winchester

Knox Presbyterian Church
Mountain

Interim Minister,
Marion Johnston

Tel.: H-613-652-2301

A warm welcome awaits everyone

Knox Presbyterian Church
Mountain

9:30 am - Divine Worship

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church
Winchester

11:00 am - Divine Worship, nursery
care and program for children

40tfc

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Rev.
George J. Rowaan

448-2351

Palm Sunday, April 5

9:30 am - Morning Service - "United
with Christ", 1 Timothy 2:11-12

Sunday School for all children ages 3-12

7:30 pm - Evening Service - "Stirred
To Ask, Who Is This?", Matthew 21:10

Pastor Rowaan at both services

Child care available

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WINCHESTER, CHESTERVILLE,
CRYSLER AND SOUTH MOUNTAIN

Palm Sunday, April 5

7:45 am - South Mountain

9:30 am - Winchester

11:15 am - Chesterville

Rev. Robert Assaly: 774-2236

1c

WINCHESTER

WESLEYAN CHURCH

Bringing New Hope To Discouraged Hearts

Sunday, April 5

9:30 am - Prayer Team

10:30 am - Worship Service

and Sunday School

7:00 pm - Sunday Night Alive Praise
Service

Call any Winchester church for details
on the Holy Week services sponsored
by Winchester Ministerial, April 7-11

Pastor Thurland Brown

537 Main St., Winchester 774-3137

1c

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Based on the Infallible

Word of God and the Three Forms
of Unity (Heidelberg Catechism,
Belgic Confession, and the
Canons of Dort)

Sunday, April 5

11:45 am - First Baptist Church,
Court House Square, Brockville

2:30 pm - Hulbert United Church,
Interim Minister: Rev. J. Roke,
Phone: 613-924-1547; Clerk, Wilburt
Feenstra, 613-498-1812

1c

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Winchester
Press
545 St. Lawrence Street

Police blotter

During the past week police officers in Dundas County responded to 88 calls for service.

Thefts from vans

MORRISBURG — During the evening of Thurs., March 26 OPP received three reports of theft from vehicles which had been parked near the Morrisburg arena. Between 7:30 pm and 9 pm three vans were entered and numerous items were taken. The stolen property taken from the vehicles included a 5,000-watt Coleman generator, Nike inline skates, Nike sandals, a Nintendo 64 game, a "Demon" spring jacket and purses containing personal papers and documents.

Items stolen from vehicles

CHESTERVILLE — On Wed., March 25 police received reports of three thefts from vehicles in Chesterville. Sometime overnight a vehicle parked at a private residence on Emma Street was entered and banking documents were taken from the glove box.

In a second incident a Toyota pickup, parked near a private residence on Albert Street, was entered and a tool box, sports bag, spot lamps and personal items were taken.

On Thurs., March 26 between 9 pm and 11:30 pm a vehicle parked at the Chesterville arena was entered. Some clothes and a blue Adidas gym bag were stolen.

Pickup taken from parking lot

GLEN BECKER — OPP began an investigation into the theft of a motor vehicle in the Glen Becker area on Sat., March 28. Overnight a 1983 Ford Ranger pickup was taken from a parking lot at the "TCD" garage in Matilda Township. The vehicle has not yet been recovered.

Generator stolen

MOUNTAIN — On Sat., March 28 police received a report of theft at a private residence in Mountain Township. During the past week a blue Yamaha 4600-watt generator was taken from a shed at the Guy Road location. Police are investigating the incident.

Break and enter

WINCHESTER — OPP attended the scene of a residential break and enter which had occurred in Winchester Township on Sun., March 29. Sometime between March 26 and 29 a forced entry had been made into the Crump Road residence, resulting in the theft of a number of personal items.

RIDE Program

IROQUOIS — Police checked 173 vehicles in RIDE spot checks conducted in the Iroquois area on Sat., March 28. The checks led to the arrest of two people for drinking and driving offenses and two seizures of alcohol. Two people were charged with driving while under suspension and one 12-hour driver's licence suspension was also issued.

Inline skates and skateboards

WINCHESTER — As winter begins to fade away, we are seeing the first signs of spring: the return of inline skates and skateboards to the streets.

While many people choose to perfect their craft away from the busy streets, it is important to remember that private property is just that: private. Parking lots at local businesses, community buildings and apartments are controlled by the owners and they are able to restrict the type of activity that can take place at that location.

In order to reduce the number of calls police receive relating to trespassing incidents, please check with property owners to obtain permission before using their property for skateboarding, inline skating or other activities.

Health nurse advocates public breastfeeding

by Sandy Bierworth
Press staff

WINCHESTER — Public Health and lactation consultant Rose Knox has come up with a new way to help promote breastfeeding in public. And her target is young children.

Knox, who works at the Winchester branch of the Eastern Ontario Health Unit, created her first breastfeeding doll at the end of last August, and has since sold several to friends and neighbors.

Though making the dolls is a hobby for Knox, she hopes it will help new mothers feel more comfortable breastfeeding their babies in public by showing children that it's perfectly natural.

A doll costs about \$35, stands about a foot high and wears a brightly colored dress.

The baby is attached to the doll's chest by velcro and a flap of material on the doll's dress is used to cover the baby doll's head. Knox hopes children will use the dolls to imitate their mothers.

The national breastfeeding slogan "Anytime, Anywhere" is stitched onto the doll's back. Knox said the doll has no loose parts, and said she created it to help increase the acceptance of breastfeeding in public.

"I saw that there was a need for this," she said. "As it is, breastfeeding is not the norm in public. A lot of women start but quit early because they just don't feel comfortable. But we are trying to get across that the breast is definitely best. There are so many advantages that breastfeeding has over formulas."

Those advantages include the cost efficiency, and the facts that breastfeeding can actually reduce the possibility of ear infections in

the newborn; breastmilk has natural nutrients necessary for a newborn's survival while formulas are an im-

tation; and it can actually help the new mother lose weight by using up extra fat stored in the body during

pregnancy.

It takes a couple of days for Knox to make each doll, and she said the response to the toy has so far been good.

"There was no toy that depended on the natural action of breastfeeding," she said. "We want to improve the awareness of it. Hopefully the sexuality part will diminish over time too, but obviously we're still a long way from that."

This mother of three said she suggests most mothers breastfeed their babies for at least the first six months or even well into the first year, though many don't continue long after the baby's first birthday.

Knox noticed that often new mothers feel ostracized when it comes to breastfeeding in public.

She recalled one story in which a young girl approached a new mother feeding her baby in a public washroom and asked her what she was doing. When the mother told her, the girl said when she eats, she doesn't eat in the bathroom, so why should the baby.

"Moms do have a right to breastfeed anytime, anywhere," said Knox. "No mom should be asked to leave a place because she's feeding her baby. A lot more restaurants in Canada are becoming breastfeeding friendly, but it's not enough yet."

And the support of fathers can be beneficial too, said Knox.

Though a father can't breastfeed the baby, he can still prepare the baby and help keep it awake while it feeds.

"Their support is really important," said Knox.

For more information about breastfeeding or the doll, contact Rose Knox at the Winchester Branch of the Ontario Health Unit at 613-774-3739.



A new toy

Public health nurse and lactation consultant Rose Knox has created a breastfeeding doll to help promote breastfeeding awareness. She hopes that appealing to children will help change the attitudes toward breastfeeding in public.

Press Photo -- Bierworth

No cash crunch: Osgoode

METCALFE — While Osgoode Township was expecting to be experiencing a major cash crunch right about now, some unlikely good news has the township in a better financial position than one year ago.

It's a ritual of spring for municipalities to head to the bank to borrow a large sum of money to pay the region and the school boards a hefty share of their annual levies.

But new provincial legislation paved the way for Ottawa-Carleton to request as much as 72 per cent of their annual tax bill and school boards up to a quarter of the yearly rate.

So far, the region is requesting half the total levy while the school boards only want 12.5 per cent. That translates into a \$1.3 million bill for the school boards and another \$1.6 million for the region.

That was definitely good news, said Wayne Robinson, director of corporate services. The township was expecting the school board bill to top \$2.4 million.

"We weren't expecting that; we were expecting the worst," he adds. "This puts us in a better financial position than we were a year ago."

The township has to pay the bill by the beginning of April.



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Editorial/Opinion

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EDITORIAL

More more more!

Ice Storm '98 brought out the best in most people. The majority of the population of eastern Ontario, especially rural people, helped their neighbors, worked well beyond horrible conditions and did what they had to to survive.

Of course, it brought out the worst in some people, as well. Generators were stolen unattended homes were broken into.

But now that it's all done and over with, there is still some questionable behavior going on.

Not only are fingers being pointed at those who raised prices of gas and generators during the storm, but hands are outstretched, and they stretch out farther as more money becomes available.

First, the finger pointing. Granted, the handful of businesses who tried to make excessive personal gain during the ice storm disaster in January were in distaste. Many businesses made themselves available to the public, sometimes giving away food or candles, or taking credit to be paid later.

But the small number of businesses who jacked up their prices during the storm, especially on generators, should not be ostracized.

They did their part. They fulfilled a need when the need was desperate. Ask many farmers who had to pay extra for a generator so that they could save their cattle, their livelihoods, and they'll tell you they were just happy to be able to get a generator.

In such a disaster, it's survival of the fittest.

Now, just under three months after the disaster began, money is already pouring in to aid those who lost so much during the storm. The federal and provincial agriculture ministers were in Winchester on Friday to announce more funding.

They made the announcement and then fielded questions. One question was appalling.

"You say that people from western Ontario who brought generators to loan to those who desperately needed them during the storm will be reimbursed 90 per cent of their costs. I feel responsible for the remaining 10 per cent. Will I be reimbursed if I pay that 10 per cent to the people who loaned me the generator?"

Listen, people. Yes, we came through a disaster. Yes, it was the largest disaster in the history of Canada. Yes, everyone had losses.

But nobody was responsible. The storm was a natural disaster. Fundraising is ongoing to help pay for damages and losses, and the government is kicking in a hefty amount for aid as well.

No matter how much money is raised for ice storm relief, it's not likely to be enough. The damages and costs will continue to arise as spring presents itself and new problems are discovered.

There are no easy answers. Everyone went through this disaster together.

But in such a disaster everyone can expect to count their losses and prepare to get on with life.

L.C.

This week in...

1948

Badly outscored by the St. Mary's College Team in the first two games of the Memorial Cup semi-finals played at Halifax, the Inkerman Rockets, Junior ODHA Champions, returned home a little downhearted but with high hopes of giving the Maritime champions a run for their money when the teams resume the series at the Ottawa Auditorium. When the Rockets took to the ice against the St. Mary's team, they knew they were in for a tough time. The Maritime players were a picked team with several of the players on the list of professional hockey prospects.

At a meeting of softball enthusiasts held in the Fire Hall, plans were made to re-organize the Winchester Royals. The meeting was presided over by Harvey MacIntosh. It was decided to seek a berth in the Dundas County League this year if it was organized.

T.O. VanBridger, Superintendent of the local Hydro Commission, received word from the Ontario Hydro Commission that all hydro restrictions imposed in 1947 had been lifted. That meant that storekeepers could use lights in their show windows if they desired and street signs could also be lighted.

1958

Virtually every building, tree and pole had been removed or demolished along the 40 mile stretch of the St. Lawrence river between Iroquois and Cornwall. Clearing work was reaching its climax as the period for flooding some 20,000 acres of land along the river shores for the operation of the huge international St. Lawrence Power Project drew closer.

It was officially announced that the Winchester Hotel and Restaurant had been sold by Heidi Bessin to Peter Cross and Joseph Hogan of Ottawa. The new owners took over from Bessin and said they planned to make extensive renovations to modernize both the hotel and the restaurant.

Two Winchester youths were hospitalized when the car they were driving left the road at the four-corner intersection south of town and crashed into a telephone pole. Tom Beardsall, 16, suffered head injuries, severe facial lacerations and shock. Michael Dukelow, 14, received a fractured sternum, wrenched knee and body bruises. Both were treated at the Winchester District Memorial Hospital.

A. Clair Casselman, the 67-year-old Prescott lawyer who had represented the riding of Grenville-Dundas since 1921, won his 11th straight election for the Progressive Conservatives. His majority was an increase over the year before and both his Liberal opponent, Arthur C. Casselman, and Social Credit candidate, Rev. R.H. James, lost their deposit.

1968

George Patrick, fieldman for the CNIB, was guest speaker at the March meeting of Winchester 100 Club. Patrick had lost his sight when he was quite young and for many years had been a devoted member of the CNIB. He gave an enlightening history of the valuable work being done for sightless people and appealed to the local 100 Club for a donation to assist in the building program, which included a new residence and rehabilitation centre in Ottawa.

The Ayrshire Breeders Association announced that Canadian Ayrshire cows

were breaking production records every month. Six Canadian Ayrshire cows completed records that ranked among the 10 highest producers for their class in Canada. One of the six was owned by a Mountain farmer, Donald S. Rose. Rosayre Carol had completed a junior three-year-old record that ranked among the Canadian leaders. She produced 15,886 lbs. of milk and 656 lbs. of fat in 305 days with BCAs of 208 and 208.

Metcalf Juniors were eliminated from the hockey playoff picture by a free-wheeling Cardinal team on Spencerville ice. The packed house was treated to some spectacular hockey that saw Metcalf overcome a 5 to 3 lead in the last two minutes of play, firing home the tying goal with the clock registering three seconds to play. After a brief rest, the teams played the 10-minute overtime and Cardinal immediately took command with two fast goals in the first three minutes.

1978

SD&G Board of Education officials met with municipal leaders to improve communications rather than soften the blow of the board's general budget being presented tonight. Although some municipal officials publicly flinched when the informational meeting to discuss the budget was announced, Director of Education Rosaire Leger stressed that the meeting was not designed to ease the crunch of an increased educational levy for the municipalities.

Costumes, races and contests highlighted the annual Ormond Recreation Association ice carnival. Young and old alike were on hand at the Winchester and District Community Centre for the on-ice activities. Master of ceremonies Neil Stewart kept events rolling over the two-hour program headed by the costume parade.

Winchester and District Minor Hockey Association's first Minor B Tournament for uncared players was termed a huge



success by its organizers. The District Association realized revenues of at least \$500 and provided 41 hockey games for over 550 boys and girls.

1988

The co-owner of a Cardinal rest home was charged with assaulting a 79-year-old female resident of the home, said Sgt. Ted Arthurs of the Prescott OPP. Shirley Bishop, 48, of Rideau River Road in Cardinal was charged by the Prescott OPP after an investigation into Cardinal's Riverview Manor.

Winchester formed a full-scale Chamber of Commerce with 47 local business people serving all merchants and business professionals in the Winchester area. Before this, the local chamber had operated mainly as a retailers' association without the involvement of the rest of the business community.

Ormond hamlet hopped with a touch of Easter when area children and the Easter bunnies came to visit. A crowd of about 100 people joined in the fun. An Easter egg hunt in which the little people searched for hidden eggs took place under the watchful eyes of Shawnlee Mark, Pam Porteous and Helen McRobbie. This group of RA members led in a relay game which consisted of rolling a colored egg across the floor with one's nose, then carrying a balloon between the knees.



These days every day is April Fool's

Hello. Avril Phoule here, wishing our readers a happy April Fool's Day.

Just for the record, anyone who read this week's front page story about Dairyfest and the Parade of Lights and believed it: gotcha. Neener neener.

I admit, I have evolved from a kid using plastic spiders to scare teachers in school on April 1 or teasing her sisters that something disgusting was in their hair. At least there was more imagination in those pranks than in my grandfather's humor when he would phone each year to tell us (snicker, snicker) that there was some creature (the Easter Bunny, Santa Claus etc.) on the front lawn.

I'll tell you, it was fun to write that article. In fact, it was more of a challenge to write that work of fiction and imagination than it is to write a news story on a regular day. It's much more challenging to come up with something new and original and fictitious than to report on the amazingly inane things that occur day to day.

Fact is, while newspaper people enjoy having some fun with readers on April 1, the true stories are often much more interesting and, often, bizarre.

The saying, "Truth is stranger than fiction" is right on the button. In many cases, if it sounds too weird to be true, it probably is true.

Take, for instance, the weather this year. El Nino has spent the

entire winter playing practical jokes on the world. Mother Nature with a mean streak, she threw floods here, tornados there, hurricanes over there and, of course, that horrible ice storm was thrown right at us.

I'll admit, Ice Storm '98 was no laughing matter, but who would have believed that such a thing could happen?

But seriously...

by Lori Culliton

Just this week some crazy things have been occurring, much of it attributed to the government, federal and provincial.

The most important right in this country is education. So, education is being pared down, money is being reduced and confusion abounds as school boards try to figure out how to offer the same great education to students with little or no funding.

Speaking of foolishness...

The federal Tory leader succumbs to peer pressure (read: media pressure) and jumps ship to switch parties, giving up the ambition (for now) of becoming prime minister someday.

New multi-millionaires Bernard and Krista Nauss have about

24 hours of fame after winning \$22 million in Lotto Super 7 before their pasts are revealed: they face multiple stolen property charges in London, Ontario. As quickly as the media builds you up, they tear you right down again.

Lowell Green, notorious CFRA talk-show host, makes one of his off-hand remarks that the eastern Ontario public by now knows enough to either laugh at or ignore, and police warn him to "tone it down". Are we now paying the police force to listen to the likes of Lowell?

The president of the United States faces multiple accusations of sexual harassment and very improper behavior.... and his popularity rises!

Senator Thompson outsmarts everyone and resigns, taking with him a huge pension that will keep him very happy for his remaining days.

The House of Commons' row over having the national flag in the House and being permitted to sing O' Canada.

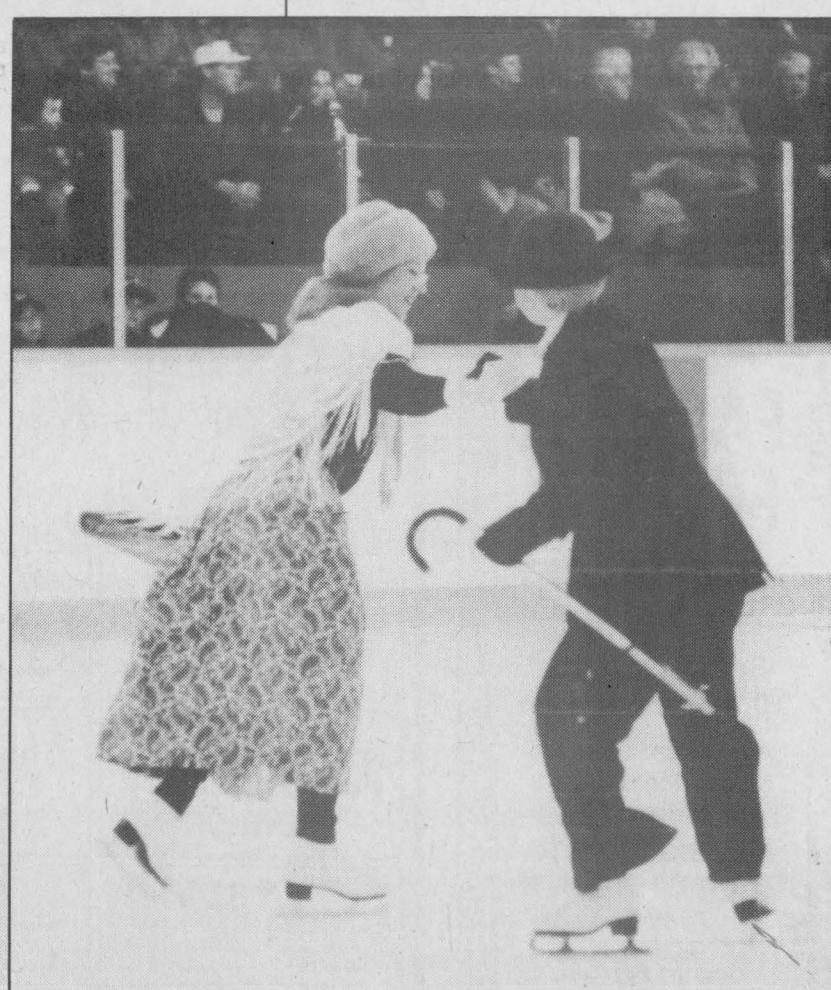
More locally...

The amalgamation of four school boards to create the Upper Canada District School Board becomes a monster-board that is larger than some countries.

And strangest of all.... Several people who read the pre-printed story about joining Dairyfest and the Parade of Lights actually thought it was a great idea!



Skaters salute Frank Morgan



Ice angels

The Winchester Figure Skating Club presented its annual carnival on Thurs., March 26. The theme for the end-of-season event was "Thank-you Frank Morgan", a tribute to the former recreation director. Clockwise from top: the Canfigure Precision, "Play me some Mountain Music"; Fadia Mahfouz; the comedy act "Please Release Me"; the finale

"Thank God I'm a Country Boy; Stephanie Crump and Jessica Calder in the Canfigure Precision; Rhonda Boulanger, Reg Cayer and Kim Williams look over old newspaper clippings of past Winchester skating carnivals; Kirsten Prideaux; and centre, Haleigh McClenaghan.

Press Photos — Bierworth and VanBridger

North Dundas wins regional quiz finals

by Sandy Bierworth
Press staff

MAPLE RIDGE — A recent win for North Dundas District High School's Reach for the Top team is sending the six members to the Ontario finals in May.

The team won the regional finals on Fri., March 27 against seven other teams, including North Grenville and Thousand Islands High School and the team will represent the St. Lawrence Region at

the Ontario Provincial Reach for the Top finals.

Though the win is something to be proud of, it's nothing new for NDDHS. Reach for the Top has made it to this level for the past seven years.

The provincial competition is scheduled to take place at the University of Toronto in mid-May. A win there would send the four members and two alternates to

the national competitions the following week.

The team also placed fourth at the Canadian National Trivia Competition on Sat., March 28 at Queen's University in Kingston. NDDHS was the only high school invited to join the competition, and collected more points than the University of Waterloo, Queen's University and the Ivy League's Pennsylvania State. However, they weren't so lucky against other universities, including Cornell and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Team coach Valerie Gibson said

she is pleased the students made it to the provincials, but doesn't want to get her hopes up about the nationals just yet.

"I'm extremely proud of them," she said. "But I don't like to think of more than one competition at a time."

Reach member Gordon Dean is proud of the team's accomplishments.

"We're undefeated so far," he said.

Most of the members have been with the team for at least a year, and each student has a subject that they focus on during the competitions.

Member Andrew Barkley focuses on mainly arts and entertainment subjects, and questions about the USA; Gordon Dean studies geography, arts and literature; Jonathon Holtz studies science and latin philosophy and for Tyler Patterson, it's history and European and Asian cultures. Alternates Shaughnessy Muldoon and Daniel VanGilst study a little of everything.

Each student is in Grade 12 with the exception of Muldoon, who is in Grade 10.

"It's hard to get on the team," said Holtz. "And once you're on, it's a lot of dedication and commitment. We meet every lunch hour and two nights a week after school. At the competition on Saturday at Queen's, we weren't used to the format they used. With their rules, you lost points every time you answered a question wrong. But we still scared them."



NHHDS' Reach for the Top team. Back row, from left: Shaughnessy Muldoon and Tyler Patterson. Front row, from left: Gordon Dean, Andrew Barkley, Jonathon Holtz and Dan VanGilst. The

team won the regional competition on March 27 and will be representing the St. Lawrence League at the provincial competition in Toronto in May.

Press Photo -- Bierworth

Catholic board changes mind

GANANOQUE — The Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario rescinded an earlier motion to locate its board office in Kemptville.

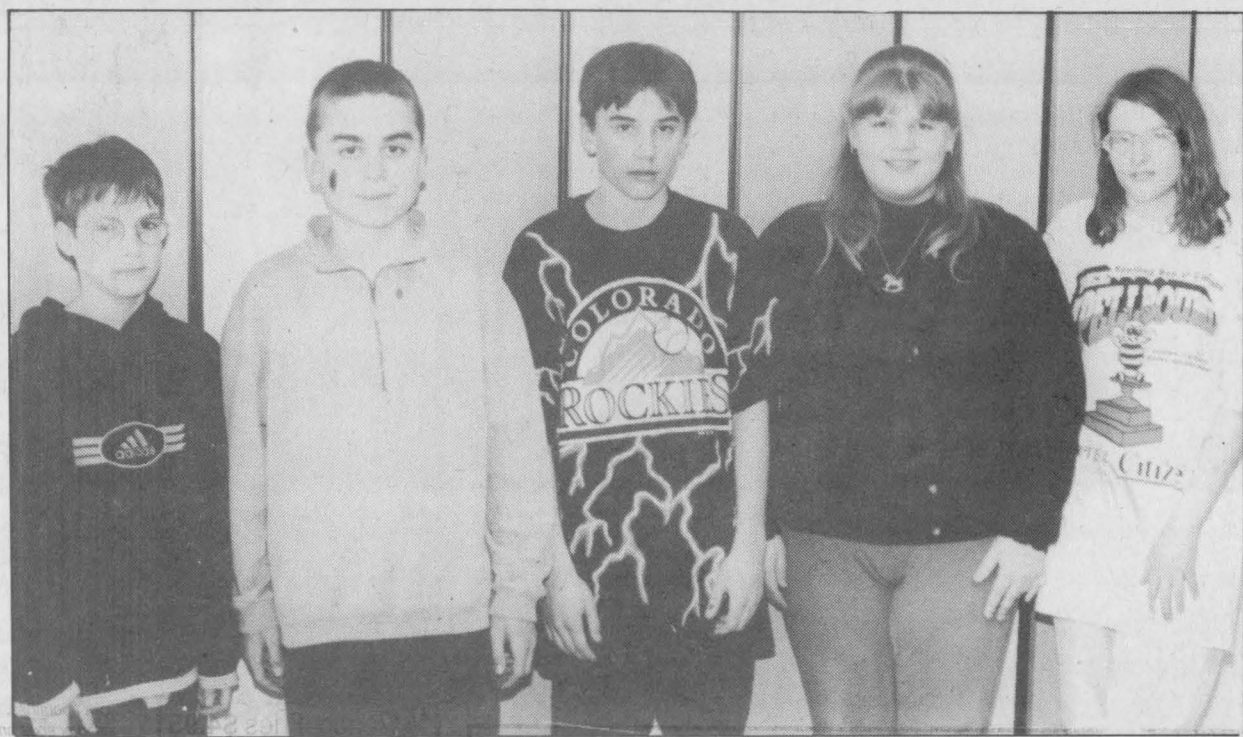
At February's board meeting it had been decided that the new main office would be located in Kemptville, the most central location for the school board.

But at last week's board meeting, the board decided to rescind that decision.

"We haven't changed our minds," board chairperson Nancy Kirby said. "We're just observing all of our options. We will be meeting again and will be considering all of the presentations."

The board has received presentations from Cornwall, Brockville, North Grenville (Kemptville), Prescott and Smiths Falls.

Was the earlier decision to locate in Kemptville hasty for the board? "In some people's minds, yes it was," Kirby admitted. "But we just want to make sure that we consider all of our options."



Spelling bees

From left: Adrian Maler, Ricky Murphy, James Pitruniak, Shannon Ouderkirk and Donna Faubert competed in a spelling bee in Berwick on March 29. The students, who are from Maple Ridge Senior Public School, will be competing in the

finals in Ottawa later this month. On the intermediate level, Murphy placed first and Maler came in second. On the senior level, Ouderkirk came in second and Faubert placed third.

Press Photo -- Bierworth

Mountain Musings

by Shirley Mills

As you are probably aware, there is a youth group which meets at Nationview Public School on Tuesday evenings. The young people who have attended these meetings are having a great time but there is a need for some new faces to become involved in a leadership role for this group. Of special interest are those involved in sports or who could talk to teens in small groups. For more information, call Marleen Fawcett at 989-2897.

The Seaway Valley Singers are looking for more voices. If you enjoy singing and are over the age of 16 (no upper limit), please give Stephen Kenward, the director of this group, a call at 448-1357. Practice times are Wednesdays from 7:30 - 9:30 pm and at the moment, concert dates are tentatively scheduled for May 6 and May 9. Everyone is welcome and there are no auditions.



Sixtieth Anniversary

The family of
Robert and Helen Holmes

Winchester
invites relatives, friends and neighbors to join with them in celebrating their parents' 60th wedding anniversary

on Saturday, April 11
at the Lions Hall, Winchester
from 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm.

I won't be here to help Bill.



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Order your Fresh Turkey today!	Homemade Chicken Kiev or Cordon Bleu \$19.90 1.36 kg box	DEL Bittner's Pizza Baked Meat Loaf \$4.79 lb. \$10.56 kg
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Keeping Health In Mind

"Keeping Health In Mind" is a monthly newspaper column made possible with the help of the Lannin Business Centre, the Winchester Press and the clinical staff of Tri-County Mental Health Services, a community program of the Cornwall General Hospital.

Making Retirement Work For You

For those of us who are fortunate enough to have a job, retiring is still too far away to start the countdown. For some of us, it is within a few years away. Regardless of how far it is to get there, most expect only good things from the retirement years.

People look forward to "finally becoming the person I always dreamed of being". Or, "I can finally read a good book all night until I finish it, and then stay in bed all morning if I want to." "Seeing only those people I get along with" and "waste time without feeling guilty" are other things we look forward to.

However, regardless of our age, retirement can also mean a perceived loss of usefulness, adjustment problems to a sudden change of life, reduction in income and therefore a reduction in our freedoms and choices. As well, it may also lead to a reduction in the variety and quality of our relationships.

In the pre-retirement years we may cultivate in our own minds (sometimes as a way to better cope with our jobs) the positive set of expectations listed above. We may pay little or no attention to the more negative aspects of "not working".

Early into retirement, we experience what experts call the "honeymoon" phase, where it feels like a holiday. This usually wears off more or less rapidly and reality sets in (through the stages of disillusionment, reorientation and stability.)

How these later stages develop and whether or not we feel satisfied in our retirement years depends on how reasonable our expectations were. Here are some useful hints to make your retirement a happy one. If you are using retirement as a motivator or crutch to keep you going day by day, make sure to plan for it as soon as possible. Then, start living more in the present and enjoy those things you will possibly miss once you no longer "need" to work. Once you no longer need retirement as a motivator, really look at all the possible changes you will experience.

If you had a chance to interview more than 100 persons who had been retired in the last 10 years, you may discover the following factors as predictors of a satisfying retirement: (1) sufficient revenue to live comfortably; (2) a good physical and mental health; (3) a flexible outlook on life; (4) adequate housing, including accessibility to resources; (5) friendly and supportive surroundings; (6) a variety of activities; (7) harmonious relationships with loved ones; (8) spiritual well-being; (9) a sense of contributing to your community; (10) good communications, problem solving and information seeking skills; (11) knowing your options and making choices.

Although this is a wish list that most of us will never attain to our liking, it is good to think that we should have all of those at least in part prior to our retirement.

To help us to this, some places of employment, unions or professional associations and even private pension plan providers are now offering their employees a pre-retirement planning workshop. As the percentage of people over the age of 60 is increasing every year, we may expect community agencies to provide the same. In the meantime, arrange a meeting with a couple of friends and relatives that you know who have been retired and are ready to share honestly the realities of this retirement with you. You may learn a lot about what you need to do to make your retirement years work for you.

Francois Legault, M.S.W., C.S.W., Social Worker, Tri-County Mental Health Services

For more information or to receive the French version of this article, or to seek professional advice, please call 932-9940 or 1-800-465-8061. Free, confidential services are available in French and English to residents of Dundas, Stormont and Glengarry through their offices in Winchester, Cornwall or Alexandria.

This message is brought to you in part by the following:

LANNIN BUSINESS CENTRE
457 Main Street East, Winchester

Hy Shy Nigh enjoys meal

WINCHESTER — The end of the season has arrived and so has the 24th year for the Hy Shy Nigh senior citizens band.

Band leader Ruby Steele-Lancaster chose to celebrate the anniversary with the band by entertaining members with a dinner on March 18 at the Nor Dun Support Centre in Winchester.

Grace was said by Weldon Lancaster, followed by a social time and a sing song. During the evening, the following letter was read.

"Dear Band Members: Belated Happy St. Patrick's. I am very happy to be here with you today, the end of the season."

I consider it a pleasure to entertain you. Thank-you for the get well card. Thank-you for your cooperation and attendance to practice. Thank-you to our pianists, Myrna Cinnamon and Ozburn Muma for your contribution. God willing I will see if there is enough interest in music come September to carry on as your leader again — so enjoy your dinner and I hope you have a happy, healthy summer. Sincerely, Ruby Steele-Lancaster."

Women's Institute

by Norma Duncan

WINCHESTER -- Vivian Fawcett, Winchester Women's Institute President, welcomed 19 members with a St. Patrick's reading. Violet Reany replaced secretary Irene Broad and took roll call, read the minutes of the last meeting and correspondence and followed by a report on April craft workshops in Williamsburg.

Ilene Robinson convened for Broad; Marjorie Shadbolt shared a humorous St. Patrick's Day poem.

Don Snider, a collector of antique lamps, was introduced by Robinson. A display of lamps made in the 1800s and early 1900s was set up as Snider explained the talent of early inventors. We were also treated to his talent as a pianist and vocalist. Members joined in singing Irish tunes.

Snider was presented with a gift and thanked for his presentation.

The committee served lunch and the meeting closed with the singing of God Save The Queen.

Bible conference

OTTAWA — The 17th annual Ottawa Valley Easter Bible Conference will be held in Ottawa on Easter weekend.

The bible conference will take place at Rideauview Bible Chapel, 1249 Prince of Wales, Ottawa, beginning on Good Friday (April 10) and continuing through Easter Sunday (April 12).

Speakers will be William Burnett of Burlington and Jim McKendrick of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The meetings are to be held on Good Friday at 6 pm, Saturday at 2:30 pm and 7 pm, and on Easter Sunday at 11:15 am, 4 pm and 6:30 pm.

For more information call 613-825-5887, 613-825-1358 or 613-823-1674.



Adrian Maler, a Grade 7 student at Maple Ridge Senior Public School, won the SD&G science fair with a complicated project explaining how fractals occur in nature. Press Photo — Bierworth

Maler wins SD&G science fair

by Sandy Bierworth
Press staff

MAPLE RIDGE — A Grade 7 student at Maple Ridge Senior Public School brought home a collection of trophies from the SD&G Science Fair on March 28 for a project that his teachers had to research before they could grade him.

His winnings, at a competition that included grade levels up to OAC in the three counties, include the best entry in math and computer sciences, the physical science award, best exhibit at the fair and the best exhibit at the junior level. Maler competed against about 100 other science buffs.

The win is sending 12-year-old Maler to the Nationwide competition in Timmins, Ontario. Though confident about his project, Maler

admits he is nervous about the competition.

The project posed the question do fractals occur in nature. A fractal is a shape or dimension that creates a pattern. Maler explains in his project the difference between self-similarity and dimensions in fractals.

His project begins with a look at dry ice on a window pane. The pattern of the ice, he said, is made up of thousands of identical lines.

Another example he used was a snowflake. Thousands of tiny triangles expand in a specific pattern to create self-similar fractals.

The dimensions were explained by using pictures of a cube. While objects are usually three-dimensional, a fractal can be one-and-a-half dimensions, said Maler. His conclusion was that fractals do occur in nature and that ice is one example.

He said that at the fair, several adults asked him what his project was about, but he doesn't think they understood it completely after he explained.

Maler had won two previous science fairs while he attended Morewood Public School.

He said he is looking forward to doing it all over again next year, though he isn't sure yet what his subject will be.

"I want to do something different each year," he said. "Usually it takes me a while to think of something to do it on."

Besides competing in the science fair every year, Maler also competes in the spelling bee and is participating in an essay contest.

He also participates in several sports and has landed a spot on the school's soccer team.

Twp. looks for misplaced generators

METCALFE — Osgoode Fire Chief Gerry Bennett is looking for you.

Only if you're one of the people that haven't returned one of four generators and a Stihl chainsaw loaned to the township during the ice storm.

"We're missing four generators," says Bennett. "Two of them were

given to us from people in Kirkland Lake. Whoever has them, please, please return them."

Two of the generators were Honda models while the remaining couple were Coleman Powermates.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of the items, can call 821-1011 or 1-800-353-4610.



Alexandra Neelin

Randy, Alyssa and Brittany are proud to announce the graduation of Alexandra Neelin from Dental Assisting at Career Canada College, March 28, 1998.

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Big Chill raises \$1,100 for Disaster Relief fund

by Sandy Bierworth
Press staff

MORRISBURG — Disaster relief week went out with a bang on the weekend with 'The Big Chill' fundraiser on Sat., March 28 at the Morrisburg Conference Centre.

More than 100 people showed up for the event, and \$1,100 was raised for the SD&G Disaster Relief Fund. When added to the government's promise to match each dollar raised by up to four to one, the total reaches a hefty \$6,500.

The event was held not only to raise money for the Disaster Relief Fund, but to say thanks to all who volunteered at the shelter during the hard, cold weeks of Ice Storm 1998, said function co-ordinator Keri Metcalfe.

"It went very well," she said. "All the money goes back into the community. For most people the ice storm is over, but there are some people who are still waiting for compensation and I hope others realize that."

There were a variety of door prizes for items such as hats, T-shirts and bags, and the grand prize of a Molson jacket.

Participants enjoyed a light supper before being entertained by two local bands, including the headlined music of the popular Velvet Heart

Show.

There was also a draw for a cash prize of \$250, drawing an end to the Meltdown '98 button contest. People 'spotted' during the week at various places in SD&G by a crew giving out \$25 cash prizes were entered in the draw.

After the bands rocked the stage, local DJ Johnny B. Good took over, playing a variety of music and kept the crowd moving.

In fact, the only quiet part of this party was the silent auction, featuring numerous items donated by area businesses including a \$100 gift certificate to Porto Bello restaurant, a free pass for two at Upper Canada Golf Course, a family admission pass to Upper Canada Village, a Racing Jersey from Yamaha and admission tickets to Walt Disney World in Florida.

"We were very pleased with the way it turned out," said Metcalfe. "We had a good crowd. For the first time we've done something like this, I'd say it was pretty successful. We're considering having a lobsterfest in June, but that's still just an idea. We'd like to have an annual event and send proceeds to a charity."

Local politicians, including Johnny Whitteker and Bob Kilger, attended the event to extend their thanks to the participants.

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Wings & French Fries \$4.95
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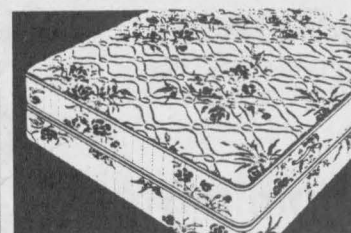
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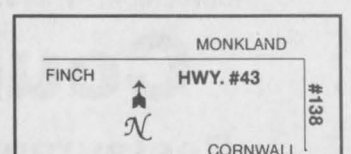
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FINANCING AVAILABLE

Winchester Lions treat Golden Years to dinner

by Muriel Reoch

WINCHESTER -- The March meeting of the Golden Years Society was held at the Lions Hall with 45 members present, plus one visitor.

President Gladys Clarke opened the meeting with everyone singing O Canada and repeating the Lord's Prayer.

The president then read a reading from the "Voice" entitled, "I'm not old, I'm merely mature".

Happy birthday was sung to four members and this month there were no anniversaries.

The card report was presented, followed by the minutes of the last meeting and the treasurer's report.

The next euchre party will be on March 26 at the hall and the bridge party will be held on April 21 at the NorDun Centre.

After the dinner they were entertained by Cliff and Betty Barkley.

Lions host dinner

On Thursday, March 12 the Winchester Lions Club hosted a delicious roast beef dinner to about 75 members of the Golden Years Society.

With Doris Cross at the piano the dinner was opened with everyone singing O Canada. President Gladys Clarke welcomed everyone and Warren Jackson asked the blessing.

After enjoying a good dinner, Lion John Cinnamon read a few humorous articles, some given to him by his mother.

Several drawings were made for door prizes, which kept everyone on their toes watching for numbers.

The president then thanked the Lions for a most enjoyable evening.



If you build it, they will come

A birdhouse building workshop was held at the Upper Canada Migratory Bird Sanctuary on Saturday. Dallas Buchan, right, of Lunenburg led the workshop, teaching how to make bird feeders out of milk cartons with old wrapping paper or newspapers and pretty decorations. Pictured, Margaret Bergeron of Cornwall and Marion Graham of Iroquois are instructed by Buchan.

Press Photo — Culliton

Support group

WINCHESTER — "Sometimes I feel so alone and want to give up..."

"I don't want to bother the children, they have enough to worry about..."

"I'm just so tired anymore..."

If you are caring for a loved one with Alzheimer disease or a related disorder and wish to share ideas or experiences with fellow caregivers, you are welcome to join a support group starting up in Dundas County.

The first meeting is to be held on Tues., April 7 from 10 am to 12 noon at the Nor-Dun Seniors Support Centre in Winchester.

For more information please call Laurie Sullivan at 1-888-222-1445.

Happy Birthday Mom
APRIL 1
Love,
Marshall William
P.S. See you soon!

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OBITUARIES

Beverly Ann Parker

Beverly Ann Parker of Toronto and formerly of Morrisburg died on Sat., March 28 at Toronto General Hospital. She was 70.

A self-employed art historian, Mrs. Parker was born in Morrisburg on Sept. 22, 1927 to the late William Ambrose McGannon and Florence Ouderkirk.

Mrs. Parker left Morrisburg in 1955 and lived in Montreal until three years ago when she moved to Toronto.

She was the beloved wife of Tom Parker Jr., whom she married 52 years ago.

She was the loving mother of David (Ronda) of Truro, Nova Scotia; Donna of Sydney, Australia; and Megan (Gerry) Parker-Bertrand of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. She was the dear grandmother of Laura and Victoria Parker and David Spencer-Parker, all of Nova Scotia; and Thomas and Alexander Parker-Bunting, both of Sydney, Australia.

She was the dear sister of Bill (Kay) McGannon of Calgary, Alberta. She will be sadly missed by cousin Lee Ouderkirk of Morrisburg.

She was predeceased by her parents Florence and William (Jr.) McGannon and her mother- and father-in-law Jean and Tom Parker, Sr., all of Morrisburg.

Mrs. Parker was a respected art historian who carried out graduate and post-graduate studies in Montreal, Poland, Greece and Italy. Through her company, Bevarts, she was curator and art consultant to the Royal Bank for 19 years.

At the request of Mrs. Parker, there will be no visitation or funeral service.

Parker Funeral Home in Morrisburg has been entrusted with cremation arrangements.

Memorial donations to a charity of choice would be gratefully acknowledged by the family.

Stroke sessions set to start soon

WILLIAMSBURG — The Dundas County chapter of the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario is presenting a series of information sessions on stroke.

These sessions are being presented to stroke survivors and their caregivers by concerned professionals who are donating their time to this project. These sessions are being given at the Park Lane Villa, Williamsburg from 7 pm to 9 pm on the following Mondays:

April 6 — Welcome to partners in stroke recovery

April 20 — Anatomy, risk factors, being prepared

April 27 — Healthy eating after stroke

May 4 — On the go

May 11 — Pill talk

May 25 — Stress

June 1 — Feeling good, feeling bad

June 8 — Wind up

The titles and order of these topics are subject to change.

To register, please contact: Dr. Graham Jacques, c/o St. Lawrence Medical Clinic, Morrisburg, Ontario, K0C 1X0 or call 613-543-2963.

There is a nominal fee of \$12.50 per person for registration, although this fee will be waived if the registrant cannot afford it. This will cover snacks and refreshments. Early registration would be appreciated as registration is limited to a maximum of 15 registrants. The sessions are limited to stroke survivors and caregivers of stroke survivors.

THANK YOU

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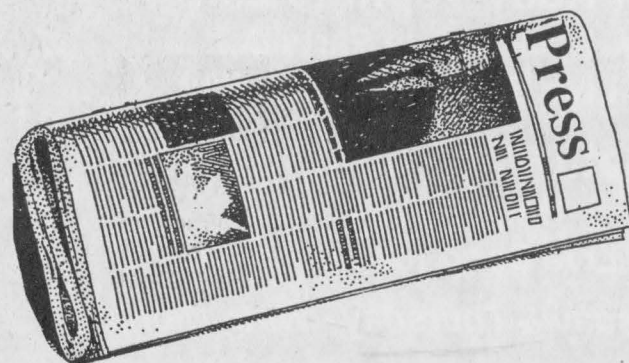
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OFWN marks first 10 years

KINGSTON — This year, the Ontario Farm Women's Network is celebrating its 10th anniversary with a series of events that include kitchen table meetings throughout the year, human resource workshops and a summit meeting in the fall of '98.

To kick off this special year, OFWN's annual meeting and conference "Celebrating our Story: 1988-1998, Ten Years of Achievements" has been planned for April 3-4 at the Howard Johnson Confederation Place Hotel in Kingston.

This conference will celebrate the story with reflections of the past, present and future directions of OFWN by some of the key network members. University of Western Ontario professor, Dr. Helene Cummins will share her research into the use of space and will lead in discussion of the Marilyn Waring video "If Women Counted". The workshop "Healthy Family Partners" will help participants find a healthy balance between farm businesses and their family farms.

For entertainment, Mandy Barnes and the Blue Grass will entertain with songs and fiddling. Fourteen-year-old Barnes of Kingston, has opened for country star Loretta Lynn.

Clean-up crews help clear ice storm debris



Farm update

Cleaning up

A newly announced program will help farmers clean up after January's ice storm. Partners in the program include Kemptville College, University of

Guelph, County federations of agriculture, OMAFRA as well as the County Stewardship Coordinators.

Dianne Fetterly
Agricultural editor

KEMPTVILLE — Work crews are now available to help with farm clean-up of Ice Storm '98 in Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry, Leeds, Grenville and Lanark counties.

Trained five-person work crews equipped with chainsaws and safety gear will be available for one day of work per farm to assist with cleaning up broken branches and trees and ensure drainage ditches are able to flow properly.

The program is funded by Human Resources Development Canada and there is no charge to farmers.

As a first priority, crews will aid conservation authorities and municipal drainage crews to clear culverts, drainage ditches and watercourses on farm properties of debris to prevent flooding.

Crews will also clear annual crop land and associated laneways of trees and branches to ensure safe machinery operation and access to the land. And will clear hay crop and pasture land and any associated laneways and fence lines to

enable farmers access to that land as well. However, the crews will not repair fences.

To register for a work crew, farmers are asked to contact the Land Resource Centre at 1.800-387-5304.

The project is managed by the University of Guelph Kemptville College. For further information call: 613-258-8473, 613-258-8468 or 613-258-8440.

NEW BEGINNINGS

New Beginnings For Youth is also offering clean-up help with the Ice Storm Restoration project.

The crews will be spending one week in each of the following communities: West Carleton, Goulbourn, Rideau, Oxford-on-the-Rideau, Osgoode Cumberland, Prescott-Russell and Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry. Services are provided free of charge, however tax deductible donations are accepted. Landowner are also asked to provide water for the workers as well as fuels for the chainsaws.

For further information on the program call: 613-723-3337 before April 14, or fax a request to 613-723-6628.



update

West Dundas Dairy Club kicks off

by Alex Fetterly

SOUTH MOUNTAIN — The West Dundas Dairy Club held its first meeting at the Mountain Township Agricultural Hall on Mon., March 23 at 7:30 pm.

To help members get acquainted, last year's president Robert Velthuis organized a couple of games.

After the games were completed, leaders Neil Kittle and Keith Rook handed out the new project books and discussed club policies and rules.

Elections were held for the club executive. Results are as follows: president, Jodi Gannon; vice-president, Robert Velthuis; secretary, Heather Velthuis; treasurer, Jodi Gannon and press reporter, Alex Fetterly.

The next meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on Thurs., April 16 at the farm of Robert, Brenda and Heather Velthuis. To get to the Velthuis farm from Hwy. 43, take the Development Road north for one-half kilometre to Church Road. Turn west (left) on Church Road and go to the third place on the left hand side of the road. The farm has a red barn and beige house with blue trim.

Ormond Knitters practise new skills

by Christopher Toonen

ORMOND — The Ormond Notorious Knitters held their fourth meeting recently. Youth leader Shannon Toonen discussed the price range of wool garments (sweaters, blankets, socks) and where these items can be purchased.

Working on the second sampler, all members learned increasing, adding new stitches, decreasing and casting off purlwise. Members decided to knit a bell for a Christmas tree. Members don't need a tension swatch for this, therefore leaders demonstrated how to knit and correctly use the knitted swatch.

At meeting five members started knitting their bell. The meeting taught members how to match needle size to the yarn chosen, sew up a side seam, and a running stitch to gather the top. Next came the challenge of crocheting a loop to hang the bell and sew in a jingle bell. As well members chose the colors for their teddy bear's paws, eyes and nose. An experienced knitter attended the meeting to help members finish the bears' bodies. Bears will be distributed to people with dementia or the Alzheimer Society. The yarn for this project was donated by the Knitting Bee in Metcalfe.

Leader Tammy Duke encouraged the members to continue knitting at home to be ready for the next meeting.

Training session

KEMPTVILLE — With the increased interest in manure utilization, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs is offering a short one-day training session on how to do a nutrient management plan for a farm.

The course is being held at the University of Guelph Kemptville College on Thurs., April 9. Since space is limited, pre-registration is required by calling the Kemptville OMAFRA office at 613-258-8307 before April 6.



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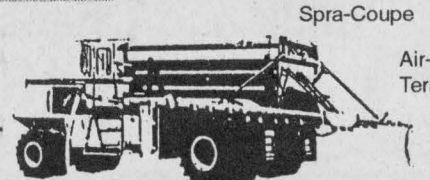


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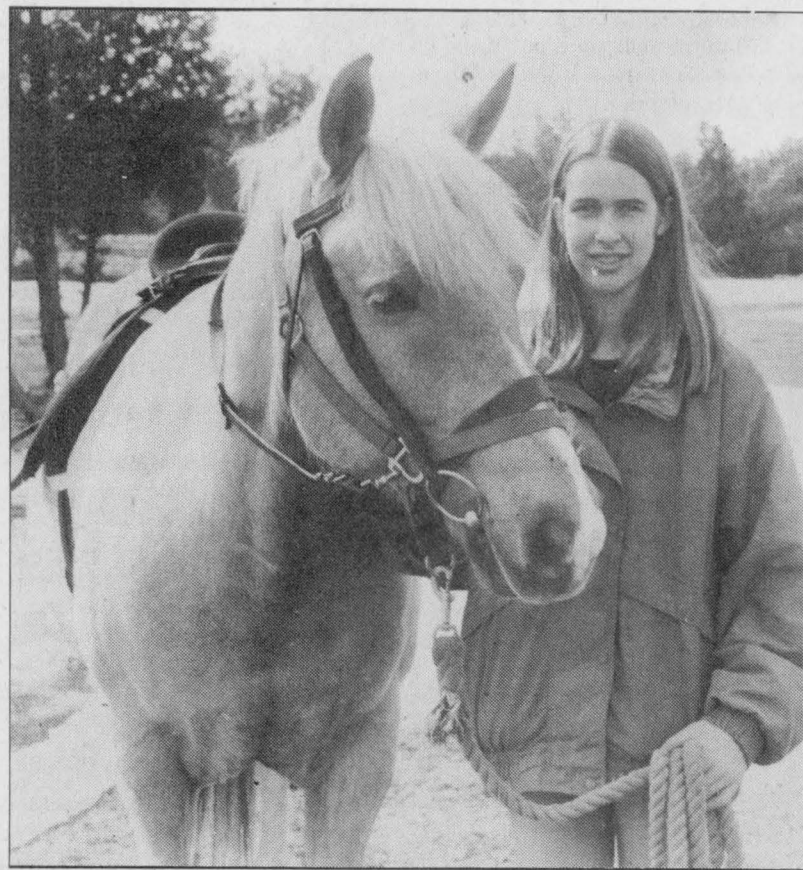
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Therapeutic horseback riding lessons Trott into Equidae Stables



Trott rider Catherine Berghout rode Gypsy during her lesson.

by Sandy Bierworth
Press staff

GREELY It used to be that disabled children were left out of most sports because they weren't able to walk and run with their peers.

But for the past 23 years, hundreds of disabled children and adults have found a healthy and fun recreation with the Trott program offered at Equidae Stables near Greely.

Trott (Therapeutic Riding Association of Ottawa Carleton) teaches about 45 riders per week the basics of horseback riding.

The program started again for the season on March 23 and will run through the end of November, with only a three week break during August.

The program invites people of all ages and disabilities to try the sport, though Trott therapist Judy Brooks said some people are not able, physically or mentally, to ride horses. But for most disabled riders in the program, the exercise is beneficial and the self-esteem boost can be exhilarating.

"I've been riding since I was a kid," said Brooks. "You have to be a rider to work here. But I love it. I love working with the people and the horses. It's great."

Volunteer co-ordinator Lynne Spooner said the riders improve their horseback riding skills at their own pace, but everyone seems to enjoy the sport.

"They do work," said Spooner. "They're not just coming here for a pony ride. They do exercises on the horse and they have a lesson. They have to ride a certain way, and after a while they learn to steer the horse. They also help brush the horse before riding and clean up the tack after the lesson."

Riders with more serious disabilities have three volunteer helpers throughout the lesson: One leading and two walking at the horse's side to ensure the rider doesn't fall off.

As the rider becomes more confident on the horse, they may ask to ride without the side-walkers or the leader. Spooner said some people reach this stage within a few months of starting to ride while others may never reach it.

Most lessons run for an hour and the stable teaches only English riding, which uses a smaller saddle than Western riding, and requires the rider to hold the reins in both hands, while Western uses one hand.

Spooner said more volunteers are needed, particularly during the weekdays.

Volunteers do not have to be experienced riders and after a month of working with the program they are entitled to riding lessons. But the volunteer lessons are the only lessons the stable holds outside of the Trott program.

Cindy Thompson, 28, has been riding with the Trott program for 10 years and said the benefits of horseback riding go beyond exercise.

"I love it so much that I've gotten involved

with the board of directors as a volunteer," she said. "I've gotten so much from Trott that I wanted to give something back. Not only does riding provide me with the physical benefits, but the mental benefits as well. It gives me something to look forward to. I feel energized after a lesson. I wouldn't feel as healthy without it. When I was young, it bothered me that I wasn't able to walk and run like the other kids. They always had their baseball and volleyball that they could do. Now I have my riding. When I get on the horse, it's as though I suddenly have these four, powerful legs that could run for me."

Thompson was born with an abnormal blood vessel in her spinal cord, and as a result has partial paralysis.

Her muscles from her mid-back down lack the control and strength of able-bodied people, but with the help of her crutches, she is able to move about the barn quickly.

She competes with riders from other therapeutic riding programs in the province, and hopes to some day take her winnings to the national level.

"The difference between this program and other programs for disabled people is that this one doesn't focus on what your disabilities are," she said.

"They focus more on what you can do and improve it."

The program operates on an annual budget of \$200,000 with no grants from the government.

Ice storm assistance program signed

OTTAWA — Small business owners, part-time farmers and tourism operators may soon find it easier to get ice storm relief.

An agreement to launch a two-part \$70 million Canada-Ontario Ice Storm Economic Recovery Assistance Program was signed on March 24 by Minister of National Defence and Minister Responsible for Emergency Preparedness Art Eggleton on behalf of the Government of Canada and by Municipal Affairs and Housing Minister Al Leach on behalf of the Government of Ontario.

Later that day, Industry Canada Minister John Manley and Ontario's Minister of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism Al Palladini announced details of the \$50 million special program for small businesses and tourism operations. Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lyle Vanclief and Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Noble Villeneuve announced details of the

\$20 million special program on March 27 (see Page 1).

The official signing of the Eastern Ontario Economic Recovery Initiative was a follow-up to the March 11 meeting in Ottawa between Minister Eggleton and Minister Leach which concluded with an agreement-in-principle that Ontario and the federal government would launch the joint, cost-shared package for hard-pressed small business and farm enterprises including maple syrup producers, Christmas tree growers and wood lot operators not covered by insurance or other government programs.

"I am glad we are able to deliver this joint Ice Storm Relief Package so promptly to those small enterprises in Eastern Ontario that really need our help to get back in business in the very near future," said Eggleton. "The excellent co-operation between the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario means well-

designed programs have been tailored to meet the needs of those not covered by other government programs. This will put more money in the hands of farmers and business people in Eastern Ontario who are working to recover from the storm and maintain employment for themselves and others. The disaster relief committees have done a fabulous job in helping us identify all the issues facing ice storm victims so that this program could deliver the help they need."

The federal government has already provided an initial \$25 million to the province of Ontario under the federal Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements (DFAA). This \$25 million is helping the province meet the immediate basic costs of responding to and recovering from the ice storm disaster.

The federal government makes payments to provinces under the DFAA at the request of a province

or territory according to a cost-sharing formula based on provincial population and eligible provincial expenditures.

In the immediate aftermath of the ice storm disaster, the province of Ontario committed an initial \$50 million to help municipalities and individuals in eastern Ontario.

In addition, provincial ministries have already spent another \$45 million on emergency response and recovery efforts.

Further costs for long-term recovery are anticipated.

In Ontario, long-term relief is co-ordinated by local committees as part of the Ontario Disaster Relief Assistance Program (ODRAP). Eight committees and their umbrella group, the Eastern Ontario Disaster Relief Committee (EODRC) are working together to raise funds which will be matched by the province at a ratio of up to four to one.

Final claim forms are now available.

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Lodges elect county master

BURRITTS RAPIDS — The Grenville-Dundas Loyal Orange Lodge No. C203 held its annual county meeting at the Burritts Rapids Orange Hall on Feb. 28.

Members from the six primary lodges, namely Burritts Rapids LOL 37, Cardinal LOL 162, Edwardsburg LOL 143 Groveton, Kemptville LOL 334, Shanly LOL 1227 and Morrisburg LOL 3127 attended the sessions.

Distinguished visitors from Carleton, Lanark, Leeds and Renfrew counties, as well as officers from the Grand Orange Lodge of Ontario East were honored.

The meeting opened with a reading of scriptures and reports were received from the various committees appointed for this purpose.

The members then adjourned to enjoy a roast beef dinner at Michael's Restaurant on the River Road.

The members re-assembled after dinner to conclude the business of the County Lodge, including the election and installation of officers.

Officers elected and installed for a two-year period were: county master — Kenneth Armstrong; deputy county master — Stuart Irving; junior deputy county master — John Larmour; chaplain — David Dudley; recording secretary — Jerry Anderson; junior recording secretary — Lance Stephenson; financial secretary — Carl Thorpe; treasurer — Ron Warren; lecturers — Clarence Barkley and Percy Markell; deputy lecturer — Milfred Harper; marshal — Lloyd Willie; and auditors — Lloyd Wylie and Evan Cowan.

Pumpkin seeds available now

SPENCERVILLE — This year the Spencerville Fair Mammoth Pumpkin Contest will be giving a \$100 prize to the newly created junior competition for children ages 12 and under.

The children must do the majority of the work of growing the pumpkin themselves and their pumpkins will also be eligible for the main competition which gives ribbons and cash prizes to the top 10 entrants. There is also a random \$25 draw open to all competitors. The top competitor also receives a keeper trophy from the Spencerville Fair Agricultural Society.

Entrants must purchase seeds from one of the following locations before the end of April to be eligible to enter the Spencerville Fair Mammoth Pumpkin Contest.

Seeds are available at: Heckston General Store, Rooney's Feeds in South Gower Business Park, the Kemptville Co-op, Brewing Oasis in the Kemptville Mall, Nancy Baker Fuels, Dixie and Egan Feeds and the Home Hardware in Spencerville, Bill Horner at the South Dundas municipal office, C&L Feeds in Dixons Corners, Shanly Road Home Supplies, James Sayeau in Cardinal, Beach Hardware in Prescott, Co-op in Brockville, Walter Froome in Shanly.

Going to the dogs

NEPEAN — Going, going, gone...for Guide Dogs.

The GST (Goods, Services and Talent) Charity Auction is to be held at the Nepean Sportsplex in Halls A and B on April 4. Viewing will take place from 10 am to noon, and bidding will start at noon and end at 5 pm. There are over 150 items from local businesses, individuals and celebrities to be sold. Admission is \$5 per person. For catalogue viewing, call Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind at 692-7777.



Stanley's Olde Maple Lane was visited last week by 40 youth in the New Beginnings for Youth program. The crew cleaned up the brush that had fallen to the ground during January's Ice Storm.

Press Photo — Bierworth

Crew of forty teenagers makes quick work of bush

by Sandy Bierworth
Press staff

METCALFE — Stanley's Olde Maple Lane Farm near Metcalfe was visited by 40 youths last week to help clean up the piles of limbs and branches that had fallen during January's ice storm.

Owner Earl Stanley said he was grateful for the help after the Ministry of Natural Resources rated the mess severe.

"I'm really pleased," he said. "We've been feeding them every day, and they clean up the branches all day. I'm really happy with the work they're doing."

The team of 40 youths make up the The New Beginnings For Youth program and were hired by the MNR out of 650 applicants from SD&G to help with the cleanup in the surrounding areas. The government-sponsored team has visited other area sugar bushes and helped seniors clean their yards.

They stayed at Stanley's from March 23 through to the 26th, clearing and piling the brush on the 150 acres of bush the farm covers.

New Beginnings member Steve

Holn said the program was started at the end of January and uses chainsaws and bowsaws donated by residents of SD&G. Crews only clear fallen branches on the ground.

"We all pull together," said Holn. "Some places can be dense and it's harder to clean it up, but we manage. It's fun."

The piles left throughout the bush will be used for firewood both for the farm and to sell.

Even after the team leaves, the work doesn't stop for Stanley.

"They can't leave the ground, and there's a lot of brush still hanging from the trees, so we have to actually get up there and cut it down and clean that up," he said. "The work isn't done yet."

As for the maple season, Stanley said it's off to a bad start.

"It's going to be bad," he said. "It's poor so far, and it was delayed because of the mess and the cold weather. Now it's warming up too fast and the sap is going to go right up to the top of the trees where the crowns are broken off and start dripping down the sides. It's a bad year, but we just have to appreciate what we've got."

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Camp welcomes spring

OSGOODE — As the snow melts and spring is imminent the task at hand has been identified as one of clean up at Rideau Hill Camp. The monthly meeting of the camp council was held on Mon., March 9.

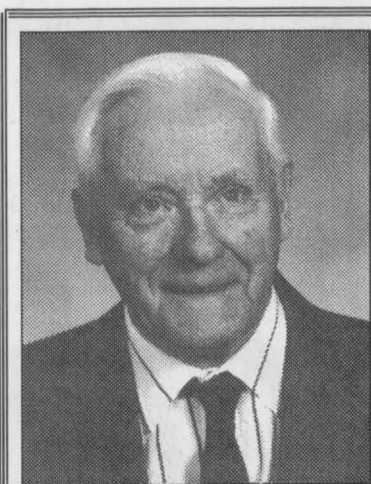
The ice storm took its toll on the camp, blocking the driveway with broken cedars and littering the shoreline with fallen willows. The caretaker and council members, as well as other volunteers, have been clearing debris but more help is needed. Anyone willing to lend a hand should call George Suffel at 989-5295 and he will advise you of dates and times when assistance could be used.

Brochures outlining this summer's camping programs are printed and available at all area United Churches, as well as being posted in places such as stores and libraries throughout the area. Teens aged 17 and over should check with their high school guidance counsellor for application forms for summer employment. Positions required to be filled include a director, activity leaders, a canoe instructor, life

guards and cook staff. This is an excellent opportunity for an outdoor summer job with good pay within a Christian setting. Deadline for applications is March 31.

Activities to celebrate RHC's 50th year of operation are being planned. The weekend of June 9 - 21 is Alumni Camp. On Sun., March 21 at 2 pm a rededication service is scheduled. This will be followed by a chicken barbecue. Come out and walk through the rec hall for a trip down memory lane. Photos and archival material will be on display. For more information contact Marj Milne at 269-2080.

The camp council is looking for interested, committed members to continue with the task of running RHC. Monthly meetings are held to discuss property, program, management and publicity. These tasks have been divided among council members in the past, however the numbers have been falling and they now fall on too few shoulders. The next meeting is scheduled for April 10 at 7 pm at Nationview School in South Mountain.



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Leonard Streng**

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- How!** This structure will **pay for itself** by saving labor, lowering feed bills and giving more milk production. Our speaker will be **Ms. Beth Wheeler, Dairy Specialist**, who works at the OMAF office in Brighton, Ontario.
- Now!** Is the time to learn more about **Manure Management** and how to get the most out of your waste. Our speaker will be **Mr. David J. Frederick, Product Engineer for A.O. Smith Engineered Storage Products Company** of DeKalb, Illinois, USA.
- And!** See the latest technology in our new **'Solid Separator'**
- And!** **Dr. William J. Armstrong** from **Dundas Veterinary Services** will talk to us about **Bedding**
- And!** Come and meet some of our Harvestore owners. **Mr. Mark Howes** of **'Boundary Acres Farm'** in **VanKleek Hill** will be available to tell you about his experience with the Harvestore structure.

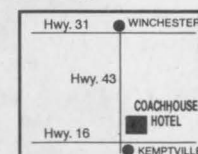
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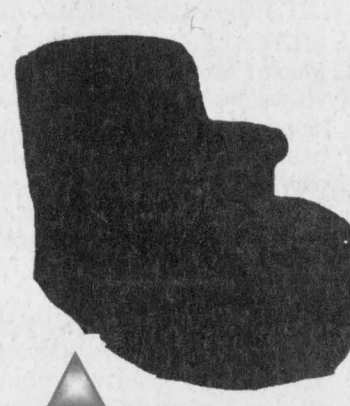
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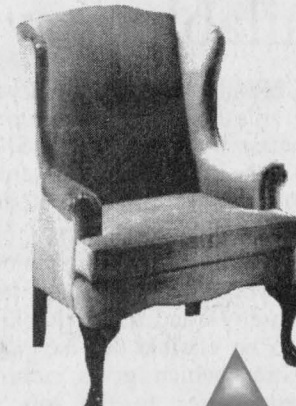
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