JANUARY 9 ~ 17, 1999

MATILDA WINTER CARNIVAL

Carnival Highlights

Saturday January 9

The opening ceremonies and 24th annual Matilda Winter Carnival Queen Pageant takes the stage at Matilda Hall at 7 p.m

Sunday January 10

Pancake Breakfast & Clown Entertainment & lots of family fun starting at 10:30 a.m.

Monday January 11

Line dancing and cloggers at Country Night. You won't want to miss it.

Tuesday January 12

Karaoke Night begins at 7 p.m. Don't Miss It!

Wednesday January 13

Afternoon tea and fashion show from 1:30 to 3:30 pm.

Thursday January 14

NEW!! Adult Craft Night! Must be registered by January 11th.

Friday January 15

Pre-teen dance from 6 p.m to 8:30 p.m.. Teen dance from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. with Much Music Video Dance.

Saturday January 16

Car and snowmobile rallies with afternoon and evening full of live entertainment. Stay for the dinner and then dance the night away with Bordertowne.

Sunday January 17

Sleigh rides from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. & ecumenical service at 7 p.m.

Queen Contest always a highlight

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

The weather certainly has everyone thinking more like winter. The snowfall on the weekend even had a few worrying that the Ice Storm of '98 was going to be relived...but not to bother. The snowflakes drifted down and covered the ground and immediately thoughts turned to winter pursuits.

High on the list for folks in this part of South Dundas Township is bound to be the Annual Matilda Winter Carnival.

This year marks the 24th edition of the first carnival in the area. Kicking the carnival season off Matilda gets dibs early as January gets underway and the festivities begin. Getting things moving in the right style and with all the enthusiasm that can be mustered, folks will get involved and make this year the best yet. Celebrating the winter that is such a huge part of life in eastern Ontario is an annual event, make sure you are a part of it too.

Tradition is a big part of the country and so it is true as Matilda gears up for the fun, numerous items will be the same as in previous years. Faces will be new and volunteers will come and go, but many of the events will be as they have been for the past twenty-three years.

The place to be is Matilda Community hall in Dixon's Corners and things start on Saturday evening, January 9 at 7pm and carry on all week long until winding up on Sunday evening, January 17, again at 7pm. One fun filled week is promised as there is something for everyone, every age and both genders.

The people of the community, this year larger due to amalgamation will turn out in big numbers to celebrate the season. Ensuring that the Annual Winter Carnival is a hit. Whether you take part, help out or just come out to watch the fun, you will be glad you did. No matter your level of ability, there is a place for you to join the excitement. Laughter will reign as the events unfold and everyone has a great time.

Things got underway a few months back as the call for volunteers went out and the request for donations to help off-set costs incurred during the week long events went out to the business community.

It was about the same time that the call went out for young ladies to step forward and become a part of history as they vie for the title of Matilda Winter Carnival Queen 1999. The contest is popular as the gifts that each gal receives makes the effort worth while and the fact that experience is gained through this always helps the girls in other endeavours. This year the contest is open to any young lady in South Dundas Township, between the ages of 15 (as of December 1999) and 18 years. This means girls if you live in the former Iroquois, Morrisburg, Williamsburg or Matilda, you are eligible this year. The Pageant takes place this Saturday evening beginning at 7pm. A new twist this year will see the Amateur Talent Night combined with the Pageant. This way the talented folk of the area will provide the entertainment for the evening's festivities and have an appreciative audience as well...a great idea. Those of us who have attended the Queen Pageant over the years and the Amateur Night previously are well aware of the abundance of local talent that is out there. No matter if you sing, dance, play an instrument or are an aspiring standup comic, this is your time to shine and share your talent with your community. Come on out and take a bow! If you are considering entering this fun part of the Carnival, give Nancy a call at 652-2096 so she can ensure you are included on the agenda and also so that you know when you will be in the spotlight. Any special considerations will be attended to as well to make sure you are set to take the stage when it is time.



Queen for 1998 Heidi Tibben with Dana Hasson and Lindsay Mellan.

As we go to press there are only three young ladies signed up and set to go, they are Rebecca Cooper and Deena Dulmage, both of the former Matilda Township and Kristan Mustard of the former Iroquois. With school back in session, there will no doubt be an influx of young gals ready to try to wear the crown on Saturday evening. "Don't be shy girls, get your name added to the list of hopefuls."

The Master of Ceremonies this year is none other than Hal Anthony of Ottawa Radio fame. Many will recall his radio days and this opportunity to enjoy his special brand of humour.

At the judges table will be Hal's wife, Gloria Anthony, Glen Brooks (Former Rideau Township Reeve) and Estella Rose (Former Reeve of Mountain Township, now a Councillor in North Dundas).

Also on hand will be Matilda's own accordion player, Billy Sypes. Billy will play for the 24th time this year, and when one considers that Billy is self taught, the job he does each year is that much more appreciated. We look forward to hearing Billy play.

Betty Casselman will be tickling the ivories again this year and Charlene Hummell will be the official photographer as the Queen is captured on film for posterity. The line up of fairer than fair young ladies who have worn the crown as Matilda Carnival Queen over the years can be checked out during any one of the activities that take place at the Matilda Hall as their photos are on view on the south wall.

Everything will fall into place as the date draws ever closer. At press time, there was no confirmation of who the task of serenading the Queen once she is crowned would fall to, but that detail will be hammered out as the committee (Small in number, but mighty in enthusiasm and energy- Nancy Blokland, Connie Pepers, Brenda Guerkink, Ann Brooks and Gary Shaver) meets this very evening to finalize things. As is the case with any undertaking of such a size, "many hands make light work" and as the group pulls things together, they will attend to each minute facet of the week-long events.

As the lights dim and the crowd settles down, the stage lighting will swell and the clock on the wall at Matilda Hall will strike 7 and things will be underway for the 24th Annual Matilda Winter Carnival...

Shaping up to be a winter success

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

Door prizes have been donated by generous business people in the South Dundas community and these will be won through draws held at each event, every night next week. In order to qualify for these prizes all you need to do is purchase a Carnival Button (only $2.00 each), and hope yours is a lucky one!

Once the Queen has been crowned and the local talent has had the chance to strut their stuff, family fun will reign supreme. Bundle up and be sure to dress warmly as you come out to support and enjoy the activities that will make the 24th Annual Matilda Winter Carnival one to remember.

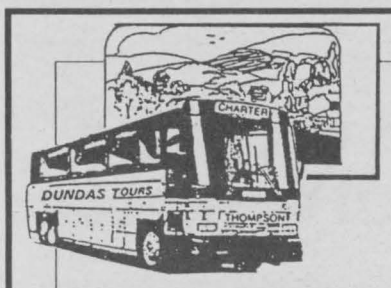
Sunday morning will have the grills sizzling with pancakes and sausages. Starting at 10:30 and continuing until 1:30pm, the annual pancake brunch will fill that void in your tummy. Flipping the flapjacks and pouring the syrup, the Recreation members will be kept busy.

Imagine a fluffy stack of golden brown pancakes with butter and Maple Syrup drizzling down their sides, a glass of OJ and a steaming coffee alongside...it can be a reality on Sunday morning, see you there!

The brunch carries no cost, but good-will donations are accepted to assist with the money spent. Whether you arrive before or after church, there will be no need for mom to cook, treat her and yourself to the best breakie this side of the nation's capital.

During the meal time, there will be some special fun for the youngsters, as Juby "n" Friends...keep everyone occupied. Juby will use his magic to entertain while his clown friend will paint faces and create balloon creatures as well as hats from balloons, to delight young and old alike. They will be weaving their mystic from 10:30 until 12:30, don't miss them, especially if you have youngins' in your clan.

Then at 1:30 it is time to lace up your skates and head for the Dundela Park Rink where a Family Skate will be twinned with a Kid's Competition that always proves to be great outdoor fun, the weather permitting of course.



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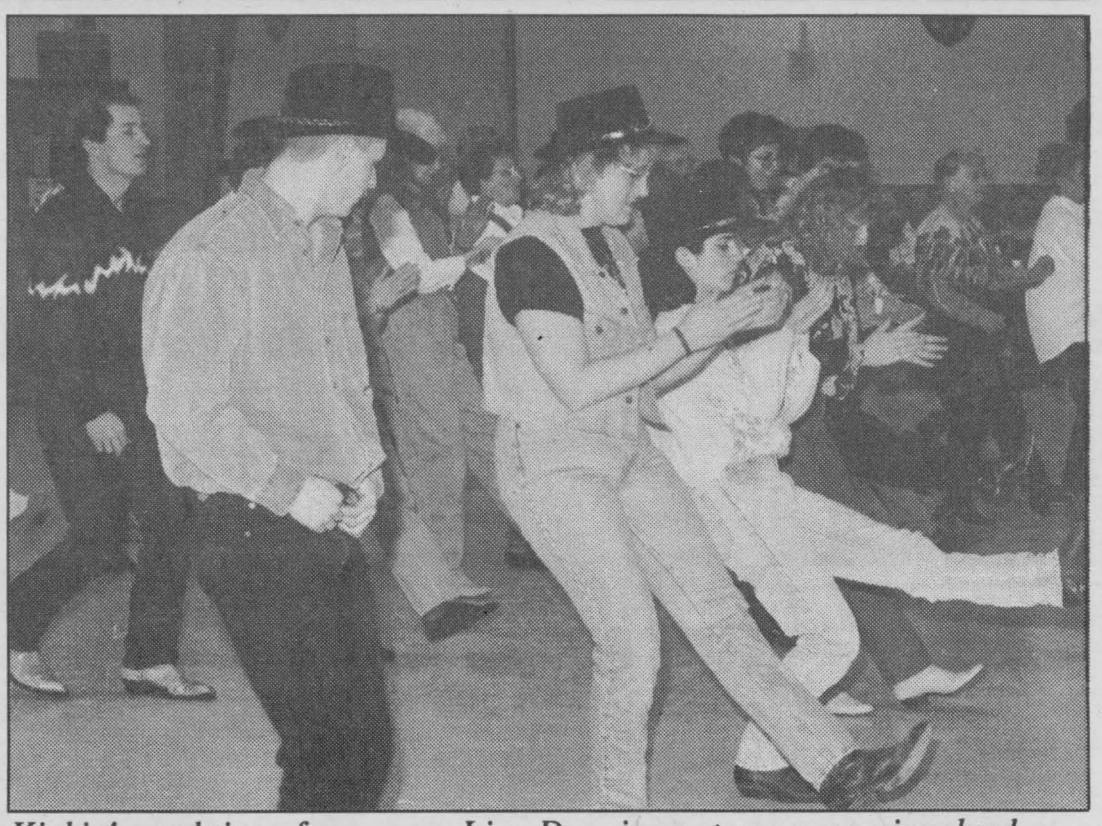
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Don't Miss Out On The Fun At The Matilda Winter Carnival '99



Kickin' good time for sure as Line Dancing gets everyone involved.

Yahoo,Country and Western Night always a hootenany

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

You'll need to be there and be square...cause on Monday, January 11th, toes will be tappin' and heels will be a clickin' as the Annual Country and Western Night will feature Line Dancing and the Riverview Cloggers.

The action gets movin' at 7pm and everyone is welcome to come out and try. Grab your cowboy hat, your denims and western style boots. Take that plaid shirt off the rack and bring along some energy and enthusiasm and get ready for a fun evening.

The Cloggers from Johnstown will show everyone how it is really done as they have the expertise necessary. Their costumes are wonderful and it is worth the time to sit and watch as they go through a dance. Some local folks are involved in this group and so it is that much more entertaining to check out their moves on the floor. They provide an opportunity to learn some new steps as well as to brush up on how to actually get all those steps into one line of notes.

Yahoo...see you there!! It is shaping up to be a terrific time as usual.

Karaoke Night proves popular at Matilda Hall

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

Tuesday night,January 12 is the night to try your voice. If you have ever tried Karaoke you will want to be at Matilda Hall from 7 to 9pm. There is a limit of two songs per person, so choose your very favourite and tune up those vocal chords. Dress the part of the person whose song you will sing, remember, the words are there as is the tune, played by professionals and so all you really need is the energy to get up there and go for it!

This is a popular event and if you are a little shy, come out and listen to others as they go for it. It will be great fun and allows you to be Shania or Garth, if only for a brief time. If you can actually sing, it adds to the entertainment value for those who come out to hear. Last year, there were some pretty small people who took the microphone and amazed everyone at their talent and their ease with being on stage.

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Fashion on parade

These ladies were models for the Option L Ladies Wear which featured clothes for all sizes and places. Here they pose just before the Mistress of ceremonies announced their next outfits. Always a great afternoon, I'll see you there.

Tea and Fashion Show

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

Wednesday afternoon starting at 1:30, Matilda Hall will be alive as it is transformed into a delightful tea room.

While enjoying a delicious treat and a cup of tea, visitors can also check out the latest from Option L Ladies' Wear as well as what is in fashion for the youngsters on their lists, as Katie's Kloset Kids Wear (Kim Hutt) will be modeled as well.

A relaxing few hours, this is a great way to see what is hot for spring and summer 1999 and available right here in our own community, via home shopping, while having a visit and a cuppa with friends in a social setting.

Scheduled to be completed by 3:30, this was a well done affair last year and those who attended will look forward to the new styles and colours that will be on display this time.

Bring a friend and enjoy the afternoon, Wednesday, January 13. There is no charge, but a free will offering is always appreciated to off-set costs.

Adult Craft Night...New this year

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

New on the agenda this year will be an Adult Craft Night. The cost is approximated at $10. each, and where else can you learn and have fun at the same time for so little an outlay? Learning from the best is always a great experience and as local crafters give of their time and talent to share with others, it is looking like a terrific evening.

Those crafty types will be happy to know that Cedar Creek Ceramics (call Brenda to register at 652-2908) will be there to get you started on a new hobby. Popular in the last few years, ceramics make a wonderful gift and allow the person to be creative without needing a pile of artistic talent. Kim Hutt and her mom, and business partner, Anna May Keeler will be ready to show the basics and then you will work on a project that will go home with you.

Also on hand will be Omas' Country Crafts Tole painting (Call Nancy at 652-2096 to register). A popular craft these days, tole painting is not as difficult as it seems to those of us not versed in the technique. I have been assured that even I could accomplish this distinctive art form without much trouble.

Brinston Country Flowers-Flower Arranging (Call Bev at 652-2405 to register) with Marlene Lewis showing how she creates those marvellous flower arrangements will provide the know how to show everyone who signs up just how to put those flowers in the correct position to make them look great.

A marvellous opportunity to try your hand at a craft that has perhaps interested you, but been illusive. Call today and register for the one you want to try, the results will astound you. A great addition to the Carnival, this should be a popular event especially with the ladies out there, but fellows, don't be shy, if you have aspirations of craft grandeur, come out and show how crafty the men can be as well!

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Come Out & Have A Good Time at the Matilda Winter Carnival

Saturday, January 9

7:00 p.m.
- Winter Carnival Queen Pageant
- Amateur Talent Night (combined with pageant night)

Sunday, January 10

10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- Pancake Breakfast

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- Clown Entertainment by Juby "n" Friends

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., Dundela Park
- Family Skate and Kids Competition, Lots of family fun

Monday, January 11

7:00 p.m.
- Country/Western Night
- Line Dancing & River-View Cloggers

Tuesday, January 12

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Karaoke Nights (Limit 2 songs per person)

Wednesday, January 13

1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
- Afternoon Tea and Fashion Show
- Option L Ladies Wear & Katie's Kloset Kid's Wear to be modeled

Thursday, January 14

7:00 p.m.
- NEW!!! ADULT CRAFT NIGHT!!!!
- Cedar Creek Ceramics *register with Brenda 652-2908
- Omas Country Crafts Tole Painting *register with Nancy 652-2096
- Brinston Country Flowers Arranging *register with Bev 652-2405
- Come out and try your hand at a different craft
- Registration is a must. Cost will be about $10.
- REGISTER BEFORE JANUARY 11, 1999.

Friday, January 15

Much Music Video Dance
- PRE-TEENS 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- TEENS 8:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.
- Cost for pre-teens is $5.00.
- Cost for teens is $7.00.
- Receive $1.00 off admission with a canned food for the South Dundas Food Bank.

Saturday, January 16

- Dr. Tom Maxwell Annual Car & Snowmobile Rally
- Registration for rallies 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- Dinner 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- Entertainment for afternoon and evening by Bordertowne
- Dance 8:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

Sunday, January 17

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Family Sleigh Rides & Weiner Roast at Ron Smail's Farm (east of Brinston)

7:00 p.m.
- Hymn Sing and Ecumenical Service

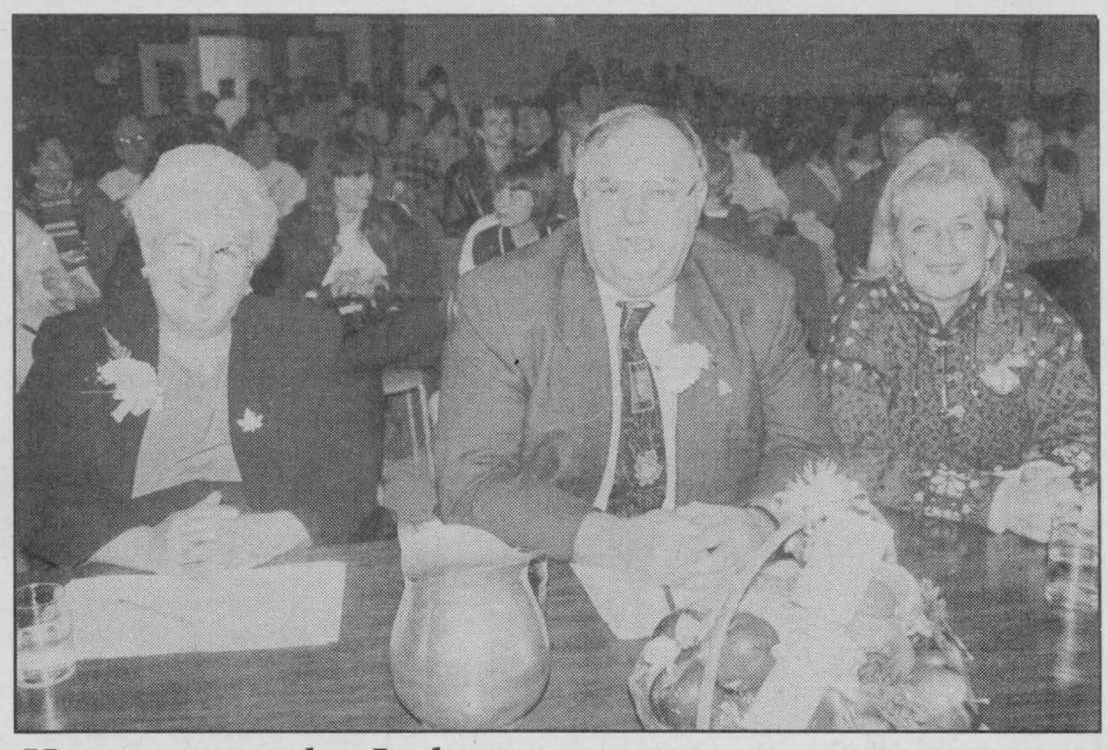
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Here comes the Judges

These folks did the honours last year as the task of choosing the 1998 Matilda Winter Carnival Queen was theirs. Estella Rose, Bruce Wylie and Flora Doumouchel were not envied by anyone in the audience, that is certain! It must have been a tough decision.

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Carnival folk

Paul McIntyre serenaded the Queen once she was crowned and Delmar Adams and Ruth Coons were honoured as the eldest two in the large crowd who came out to see the Annual Queen Pageant. Ruth used to play the piano for the event.

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Citizen of the Year will return

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

It's back...this year there will once again be a Citizen of the Year award presented.

Always a special moment when the name of the person is announced to the audience at the Queen Pageant, last year there was no award presented. Instead with the Ice Storm causing destruction and turning many into local heroes, it was stated by local Council rep, Bev Sabourin that everyone in the entire Township would share the honour in light of the circumstances.

This year one person will be honoured...the contributions of people in a small, rural community make it what it is. There are none better than those we have right here in South Dundas. Among those honoured in years past are (except for 1991, 92, 96 and 98) some pretty special folks. Their everyday work for their fellow residents and their home community has not gone unnoticed. Starting in 1982 when the first award was made, Ruth Coons took home the gold. A lady who is well known in Matilda, gone above and beyond for many years. Another special lady, Joan Zandbergen was the 1983 winner, well deserved for her tireless efforts in the area, especially in her church work and with seniors. Gerald Munroe was the 1984 recipient, and in '85 it went to Helen Gilmer, a friend to all. Allen Tysick got the honour in '86 and continues his ministry in British Columbia helping street people. Grace Strader was the chosen Citizen in 1987 and Gwennyth Shaver of Rowena was honoured in 1988. Former Reeve and Councillor, Lorne Strader took the honours in 1989 and Frank Sisty, who worked with the youth of the community particularly in the winter when hockey teams from our area could not be beat, thanks to Frankie, was awarded the plaque in 1990. In 1993, it was Robert Thompson who stepped onto the stage and in '94, Jerry Bureau. Ken Kirkby, Editor and Publisher of The Iroquois Post and the Chieftain newspapers, Reeve of Iroquois Village and gentleman was honoured in 1995 and in 1997, the honour befell yours truly, Sandra Lee Johnston. A marvellous experience,to be honoured by your own community. Most of the people so honoured are extremely busy, yet find the time to go just a little further and accomplish a bit more. They are proud people and not easily deterred from their goals.

An honour to be recognized for your efforts over the years, by your hometown crowd, Citizen of the Year will be accepted by the 1999 recipient in the vein it is given, in honour and dignity and with humility.



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Snowmobilers ready to ride in Annual Doctor Tom Maxwell Rally.

Dr. Tom Maxwell Rally a go

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

From the looks of things, the Annual Dr. Tom Maxwell Car and Snowmobile Rally will definitely be a go with both types of travel able to enter.

So get those engines tuned, gas up and get set. Registration takes place at Matilda hall on Saturday, January 16 from 11am until 1:30-pm. The questions are written and the routes laid out. Check points have been arranged and the fun is set to start.

Named in honour of Doctor Tom Maxwell, who was instrumental in the establishment of the HAM RADIO network that ensures that no one is lost for very long and that no accidents occur, that help is never far away, this is a popular event. The radio folks remain a vital part of the two rallies and ensure everyone's safety. No matter whether you travel by road or by snow, the cost is $3.00 per person taking part. The questions are never easy, and need some deep thought, but the afternoon will be fun filled for sure. If you have never been on a rally, this is always a good one, why not give it a whirl?

Upon completion, supper will be waiting at the Hall. Entertaining during the afternoon for those who arrive early from the rally will be Bordertowne, with a terrific mix of sounds. Dinner will be served from 4 to 7pm at a cost of $7.00 per person, with those 6 years of age and under FREE. Then from 8pm until 1am, you can enjoy the strains of Bordertowne once again and dance the night away, as you enjoy the friendship and learn who won the rallies as well as cheer the draw winners on as they are announced. The cost of the dance is $5.00 each.

A day packed with fun and good times, this is one not to miss. Team Chieftain hopes to be "on the road again" in '99 as they head out to locate clues, answer questions and keep a sharp eye out for specific items on the rally sheet. See you along the way...

Dancing to Much Music great for the younger set

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

The video screen will be huge and the music loud, especially if you are over twenty!

Friday, January 15, Much Music will bring their modern tunes to Dixon's Corners. The Pre-Teen aged people are welcome to come out and dance from 6 to 8pm for only $5.00 per person, and if you bring a canned item for the South Dundas Food Bank, it will be a dollar less to get in. That amounts to only $2/hour for some of the best music this area will hear for a while. Whether Hanson or the Backstreet Boys, the Spice Girls or Jewel there will be something to please everyone's taste. Put on your dancing shoes and come on out.

Then, after a brief break, those from 13-19 years of age, from 8:30 to 11:30pm, it will be the teens who take over and the volume will no doubt be cranked. The price of admission for them is $7.00 each, with a buck off if a canned food item is brought for the South Dundas Food Bank.

Call up your favourite gal or guy or your buddies and be there, it promises to be a great time for all. An alcohol-free canteen will provide munchies and the chaperons will make sure all goes well.

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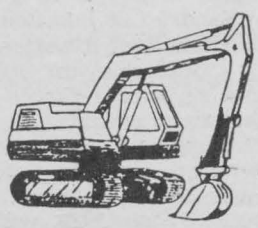
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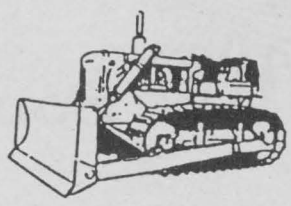
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Sleigh rides a popular Carnival tradition at Ron Smail Family Farm.

Family a focus at Carnival time

by Sandra Lee Johnston
Chieftain Staff Reporter

Things will draw to a close and another Matilda Winter Carnival will draw to an end on Sunday, January 17.

As tradition dictates, the final item will be the Hymn Sing and Ecumenical Service at Matilda Hall at 7pm. A fitting manner in which to wind things to a close, this is a special time for the community to come together and show their Maker how thankful they are for the life they have, and also give thanks for the Carnival week that was.

{Prioir to the service, families can have a blast as they enjoy family sleigh rides at the Ron Smail Family Farm, east of Brinston. A weiner roast in the bush is a memorable event and as the horses dance across the snow covered fields, sleigh in tow, it is like days of old and everyone wants to sing. Memories will live long into adulthood as children enjoy such afternoon fun times.

Dress the gang warmly and head out, rides will carry on from 1-3pm. A magical opportunity to enjoy the outdoors with your family, the idea of a horse drawn ride creates an atmosphere that will make memories to savour.

Teams are generously being provided by Ron himself, by Jim Adams and also by Don Barkley, so the excitement will be continuous during the afternoon. Let your children experience fun from another era...take advantage of the opportunity and enjoy!

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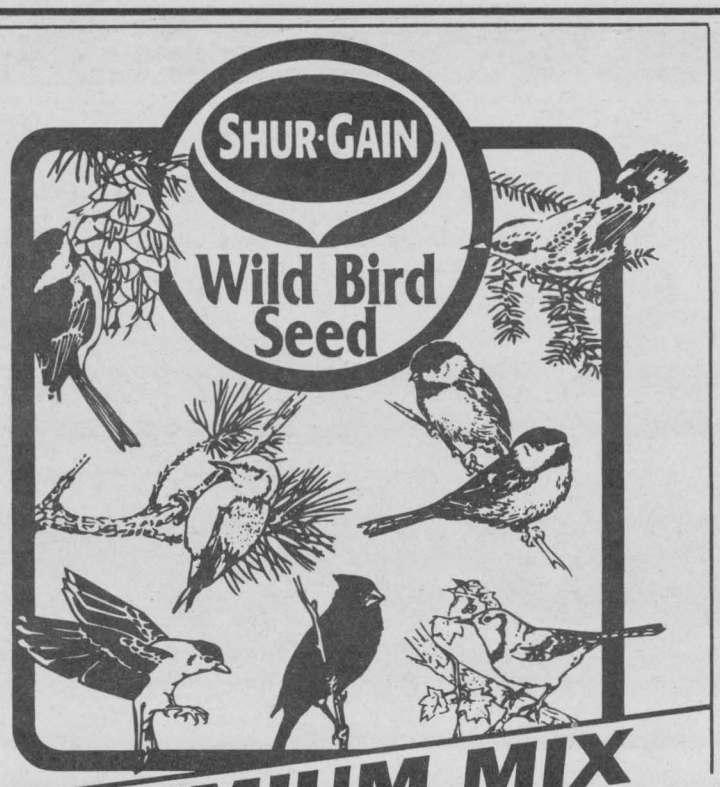
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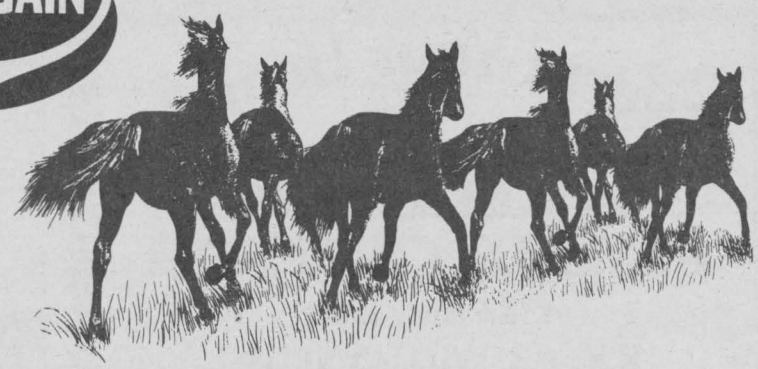


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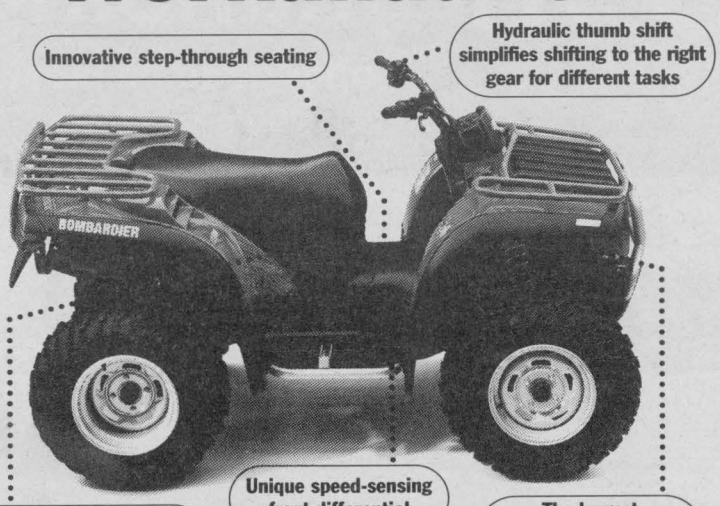
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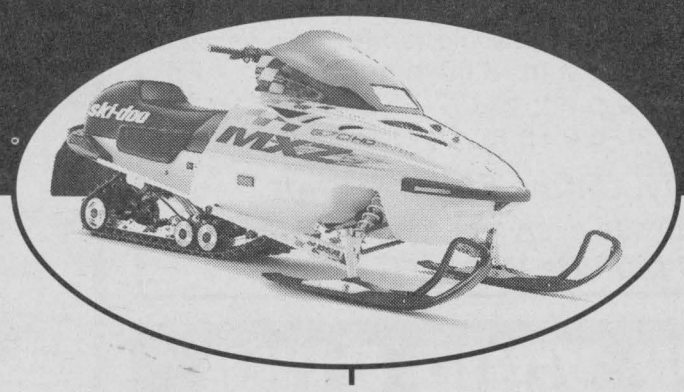


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