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Publications Mail  
Reg. No. 1555

# WINCHESTER PRESS

VOL. 110 NO. 51

ESTABLISHED IN 1888

WINCHESTER, ONT.

WED., MARCH 18, 1998

22 PAGES 75 CENTS GST INCLUDED



Public appreciation for falling fuel prices has been very positive, according to Ben Henry, manager of Pioneer Petroleums in Winchester. Prices fell to 48.3 cents per litre in Winchester on Monday.

Press Photo — Culliton

## Falling gas prices fuel drivers' enthusiasm

by Lori Culliton  
Press staff

WINCHESTER — Fuel prices are dropping, and while nobody quite knows why, the response at the gas pump has been very positive.

Last Wednesday, gas prices fell below 50 cents per litre for the first time in a year.

And they continued to drop, as low as 47 cents per litre in Toronto.

In Ottawa, the lowest price spotted was 48.2 cents per litre.

In Winchester, Pioneer Petroleums on County Road 31 (formerly Highway 31) was at 48.3 on Tuesday.

Manager Ben Henry told the *Press* that the price dropped again on Monday after falling below 50 cents last Wednesday.

"It's competition, I believe," he said. "I drop mine according to competition."

Henry didn't know what to attribute the drop in prices

to, however. He said that the last time the gas price dropped below 50 cents per litre was for a brief period last summer.

How long since it dipped to 48 cents? "I don't remember," he laughed. "It's been a really long time."

His customers' response has been favorable, Henry added.

"Oh they're loving it. The response has been really positive," he said.

## Ice storm illustrates need for planning

by Lori Culliton  
Press staff

WINCHESTER — Looking back at the way North Dundas volunteers fell into motion when Ice Storm '98 hit, it may seem to some people that an emergency plan was already in place.

It wasn't.

In fact, Ice Storm '98 hit the brand new municipality of the Township of North Dundas by as much surprise as it hit any other community in eastern Ontario. But thanks to good leadership and organization, emergency measures were put into effect quickly and efficiently, minimizing the effect of the ice storm on the township.

Now, the Township of North Dundas council is looking at emergency preparedness.

"Why plan for an emergency?" Bill Shearing, emergency preparedness consultant, asked township councillors at Monday night's council meeting. "Most people in eastern Ontario already know the answer to that."

He said that having a plan in place for a state of emergency would ensure a prompt response in the case of such catastrophes as the ice storm or worse.

Shearing explained to council that there is a need for education and training, as well as for equipment and facilities to be put in place.

"Emergency preparedness is the responsibility of the individual," he said. "Each person is responsible for having in their homes a smoke detector, carbon monoxide detector and a fire extinguisher. That includes having extra batteries and flashlights and a supply of extra food."

"It is the responsibility of council to ensure that, if an emergency happens, you can protect your citizens," he added.

• please see PREPAREDNESS on page 2

## Young offender trial to continue

MORRISBURG — The accident rocked the community in October 1996 when two high school girls were killed when their car was struck head-on by a pickup truck driven by a student from the same high school.

The trial of a Russell-area teen is no where near completed after nine days in court. The teen is charged with two counts of impaired driving causing death and two counts of dangerous driving causing death. He has pleaded not guilty to the charges.

The trial was adjourned on Fri., March 6 in Morrisburg. Proceedings are scheduled to resume on June 11 and 12, and will be continued for five more days in July. The July dates are as yet unconfirmed.

• please see TRIAL on page 2

## Lost time recovered

WINCHESTER — As students reach the halfway point in their March Break week, plans are under way to keep them in class a little bit longer between now and June to make up for time lost during Ice Storm '98 in January.

One professional development day is lost and more time is to be made up by elementary schools. The Upper Canada District School Board approved a resolution at its board meeting to help make up time lost during the ice storm.

Schools in SD&G, Prescott and Russell were closed for periods between seven-and-a-half and 13 days. The school board decided that several issues would help make up for lost time during the storm.

The elementary professional development day scheduled for June 24 in SD&G will now be an instructional day.

• please see LOST TIME on page 2

### Part Three: Learning Without Limits

## OTHS adapts to the 'real world' of technology



### Hands on technology

OTHS Grade 11 student Dave Mosher works on his communications technology robotics project. He is one of over 200 OTHS students who take the communications technology course each year. Students are able to learn a variety of skills through the course, and the hands-on approach helps to keep them interested and enthusiastic about learning.

Press Photo — Culliton

Ontario's high schools appear to be switching gears, not away from academic studies, but towards more hands-on, technical studies and communications arts and technology. This tendency is evident at the three high schools surrounding Winchester — Seaway District High School, North Dundas District High School and Osgoode Township High School.

In the final segment of a three-part series, the *Press* takes a look at the unique communications technology program offered at Osgoode Township High School that is sending students into a multitude of career directions, in Part Three: OTHS Learning Without Limits.

by Lori Culliton  
Press staff

METCALFE — "Most jobs today require knowledge of computers and software. We saw a need at OTHS to teach students about the broader scope of the technology that is out there in the real world." — Alex Kiskis, head of technological studies at Osgoode Township High School.

Kiskis realized the need for practical technology and communications courses at the school and endeavored to bring such opportunities to the students about three years ago.

The teacher applied for a provincial grant from the Ministry of Education and worked for several years to get it. He developed the course, and continues to update, develop and adapt to new technology at the school — a job that is ongoing and unrelenting, he admits.

"I did a lot of research, and a lot of consultation, and I went to the community for support," Kiskis recalls. "The support was either monetary or for hours of training a person with expertise was willing to provide to the students."

Area businesses made important contributions to the program, by loaning equipment to the school. Borrowing equipment, Kiskis points out, helps the program to be much more adaptable to ever-changing technology.

"The business community recognizes that the need is out there for people educated in technology and communications," Kiskis says. "They're willing to make an investment in students for skilled knowledge in the future."

The "Com-Tech" room at OTHS is filled with close to \$100,000 worth of equipment, from computers to video equipment to specialized machines.

• please see OTHS on page 2



## Continued from the front page...

### Preparedness

Shearing pointed out that there was no emergency plan in place for the counties of SD&G during the ice storm. "A lot of time was wasted looking for things," he said. "The response would have been better and faster if there had been a plan in place."

### EMERGENCY LIST

He cited a list for being prepared for an emergency. At the top of the list is an emergency plan, acting as a handy reference where such items as generators, extra food and batteries can be obtained.

Next on the list is putting together an emergency planning committee who would develop the plan and exercise it. The committee would include staff from the municipality, fire department, ambulance, hospital, health unit and other volunteers.

Shearing suggested that members of the committee and/or the mayor and designated councillors take emergency preparedness courses.

"That committee would come up with a good plan by assessing the community's risks and develop a notification system," Shearing explained. "And the plan should be exercised at least once a year in order to make sure that everything is up to date, including the phone list. It's also important to plan 'who does what.'"

He stated that it is important that organizations involved in emergency preparedness be involved in the exercises. "Public awareness of the plan is also important," Shearing said. "It's important to have citizens thinking about emergency preparedness, knowing to having extra batteries and food on hand, just in case."

A draft of the emergency preparedness plan for North Dundas would be exercised and reviewed, and then a finished product would be presented to council and subsequently to the community, Shearing said.

The cost of Shearing's services in developing an emergency plan would be about \$10,000; \$5,356 to develop the plan and \$4,532 for the exercising of the plan. He pointed out that there are three federal grants available for the township to apply for, which could cover 45 per cent of the cost.

Upon council's questioning of the necessity of developing such a plan in light of the smooth operation during Ice Storm '98, Shearing answered that there are many different kinds of disasters, including tornadoes, earthquakes, railway disasters and gas pipeline explosions.

The majority of the people involved in the ice storm emergency in South Dundas had been through emergency preparedness training," Shearing pointed out. "They had heat on right away in the community centre to use it as a shelter, because they were prepared with two generators."

Councillor Keith Fawcett said, "At \$10,000, that is about 50 cents per person in North Dundas. That's pretty good insurance at a reasonable cost."

Mayor Claude Cousineau said that, while those in North Dundas who had previously taken emergency preparedness training found they had an easier time getting through the ice storm, the issue is a budgetary matter and council will have to discuss it further at a later time.

### OTHS

"Technology changes so rapidly," Kiskis says. "The computers we have now are already outdated. We try to upgrade our hardware and software, and we're forever adapting to the changing industry. It means that we have to keep adding tools to our tool kit."

By that, Kiskis means that he and tech-com teacher Vitus So are constantly upgrading and learning, along with the students. And com-tech teachers are difficult to find, as the course is still new to the curriculum, and because of the constant upgrading that is required, So adds.

"Sometimes we're learning right beside the students."

### BEYOND BOOKS

Learning from the OTHS com-tech program is never limited by the teachers. A student is able to learn as much as they can while enrolled in the course. There is a curriculum to be followed, So points out, but there are no limits set.

"We try to introduce as much material to the students as possible," So says. "A Grade 10 student who wants to learn how to use a certain machine will be taught how to use it, even if that lesson had been reserved for Grade 12."

The course, which is offered from Grade 10 through Grade 12, requires

students to learn to read a technology manual. They answer activity questions after reading each section of the manual, and then must take quizzes as well.

"There are two forms of evaluation in this course," So explains. "First the quiz, and then the finished project."

Peer help is important to the course. The senior students assist the junior students, much to the relief of the teachers. So points out, as it does get difficult to help 25 different students doing 25 different projects all at the same time.

And with a total of 230 students going through the program each school year and eight different modules available to be learned, the teachers are kept busy. With an average of 25 students per class, the creativity and freedom of the open classroom could be overwhelming for a teacher.

Not true, says So.

"We meet the students when they arrive for class, take attendance, and check their progress on their projects, answer any questions or help out with any difficulties," he says. "And then they go to work and do their own thing. They're very focused."

Out of eight possible modules, a student is required to learn three during each course, and they are responsible for a major project at the end of the school year. Therefore, in a given year, a student could produce an edited video, create a computer-animated story, and build a house to scale, using learned drafting, planning and building skills.

They could also learn about robotics, computerized sign-making, or t-shirt printing. The possibilities are endless.

"The project changes every year," So says. "We have the students do a project that is as worthwhile as possible. For example, a promotional video of the school to be shown to Grade 8 students getting ready to come here next year."

Other classes and clubs within the school keep the com-tech students busy with requests, as well, requesting videos, posters and t-shirts made.

"The students are very much up for the course and they look forward to the class," Kiskis says. "They enjoy using the equipment and trying out new creative styles and skills."

"It's really a form of growth. I think it answers their need for a feeling of self worth and confidence. Once they ensue confidence, they can go with that and try something else."

### CAREER-BASED LEARNING

"This is career-based and career-oriented learning," So says. "I once read in a newspaper that Nortel was looking for help. They wanted 3-D animation, video and drafting skills. Our students learn all that here. So, we're teaching our kids to work at Nortel."

"They're learning for the real world."

He adds, "We're giving the students a chance to learn life skills by preparing them for the future of the technological world. Every student can get something out of this class, even if they don't have plans for a career in technology."

Kiskis points out the intention behind the course: "We try to provide enough diversity in the program so that students are able to develop skills in more than one area. They can focus on one area and develop their skills there, but they can also broaden their knowledge by learning several different areas. There are no limits."

### Trial

Testimony has already been heard from three witnesses, including a friend of the accused, a traffic reconstructionist, and an investigating officer.

Jennifer Schaus, 18, of Embrun and Christina Carson, 17, of Casselman were headed to school at North Dundas District High School on Fri., Oct. 25, 1996 when they were killed in the head-on collision. The accident occurred on County Road 7 in Winchester Township at about 8 a.m. Schaus was driving.

They were about five minutes from the school when a pickup truck driven by a 17-year-old boy from Russell went out of control and smashed into the car.

The girls were killed instantly and the boy suffered injuries to both his legs.

The boy's name cannot be released under the Young Offenders Act.

### Lost time

The same scenario will play for the professional day scheduled for June 25 in Prescott-Russell.

Principals have been asked by the board to come up with local solutions to reclaim at least one additional day of instruction.

Support has been requested by the board for teachers to volunteer to provide resource support and individual help to students on two Saturdays.

Each principal was instructed to review their plans with their school councils.

Winchester Public School principal George Hollingdrake indicated to the *Press* that his school has already been working to provide extra learning time for students.

"Since February we have been adding 20 minutes to regular class time," he said. "We will continue to do so until June, although what we're doing could change because of the changes that the school board wants."

Hollingdrake explained that, if the school tries to recapture another day of class time, as requested by the board, the school would actually go over the prescribed class time, since they have already been adding 20 minutes to the school day by starting classes 10 minutes earlier and skimming the lunch hour by 10 minutes.

"I believe that with the extra PD day we will exceed the necessary time," he said. "But we will wait for information from the school councils. We will accommodate whatever the board advises."

The school lost seven-and-a-half days during the storm.

In response to a call for March Break to be cancelled to help make up time, Hollingdrake said that it would have been difficult.

"It wouldn't have been fair for the kids," he said. "They are used to having a break mid-winter, and they would miss it. We need the days of making up time, but the kids do need a break. They need a break from each other, too."

He said that, in the days leading up to March Break there are always more fights and detentions at school, but when students return after the break, they are refreshed and ready to start again.

"It's been a year we'd probably like to forget, with the political protest and then the ice storm," Hollingdrake said. "But we're dealing with it."



Marlene Leonard and her husband, Terry, talk to assessor Jonathan Lapp at one of the three Assessment Information meetings in Metcalfe. The

meetings were held on March 10, 11 and 12 and about 600 area residents brought their concerns to the pros. Press Photo — Bierworth

## Assessment questions clarified at info sessions

by Sandy Bierworth  
Press staff

METCALFE — About 600 people came to a series of assessment information meetings held in Metcalfe on March 10, 11 and 12.

About 200 people showed up each of the three days at the Metcalfe Town Hall to discuss their assessments with representatives of the Ottawa-Carleton Regional Assessment Office (OCRAO).

Jacques Laflamme, evaluations manager of the OCRAO, said the general concerns of area residents are relatively similar.

"They try to find the market value of their property and their neighbor's property," he said, adding that nobody wants to pay considerably more in property taxes than the people next door. "One of the things we always try to do is educate the public on what the assessment process is all about. That's why we're here."

One of the first questions Laflamme said many of the representatives were asked refers to January's ice storm crisis, and whether the damage to their property affects the value.

"These assessments are based on the value of your property as of June

30, 1996," said Laflamme. "The permanent ice storm damage may affect the value right now, but it won't be re-assessed until 1999."

Laflamme said a lot of people were asking the representatives if they were local after the ice storm crisis gave certain Toronto Hydro representatives a bad name when they didn't know what was happening in the rural municipalities.

He said that many people appeal their assessment without getting all the facts.

"My advice is before spending unnecessary money on appealing, you should discuss it with an assessor first," he said. "If there's an error, let's try to correct it first."

He said that while the assessment office may not be right next door, it is still only a phone call away.

"There's that understandable fear of the unknown," he said. "And these assessment forms are new. But what we try to do is explain it to people so they not only know that it's fair, but why it's fair. We're still there to offer advice."

Kenmore resident Philip Robinson came to the meeting to get some information about the new assessment process. His property was assessed for \$121,000, and he felt

discussing the system helped him understand the process better.

"I didn't have my assessment notice with me," he admitted. "But I talked to the gentleman on simple terms. He was very helpful. The people who are here know what it's all about and can talk to you and answer any questions you have."

The Ontario Fair Assessment System is being described as a fair and consistent property and tax system. Previously, all properties in Ontario were assessed under differing systems, causing some people to pay more than their share of the taxes, and others not enough.

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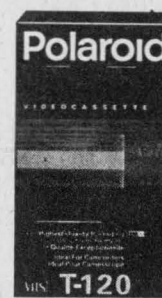
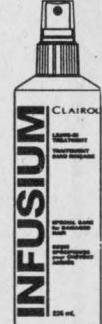
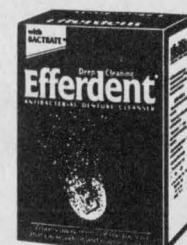
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PLUS 15% BONUS  
**5.29** ea.Blistex  
Lip Conditioner  
7 g  
**1.99** ea.St. Ives  
Hair Repair  
200 ml  
**3.99** ea.Tylenol Children's  
Chewable Tablets  
24s, all flavors  
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## OBITUARIES

## George Geertsma

George Geertsma of RR 2, Chesterville died peacefully at his home on Fri., March 13. He was 60.

Formerly of Alberta, Mr. Geertsma lived in the Chesterville area for 41 years as a farmer. He was the beloved husband of Catherine Geertsma (nee deJong).

He was born in Siegerswoude, Friesland, Netherlands on Feb. 13, 1938 to the late Andries Geertsma and Wjtske Vanderheide.

Mr. Geertsma was the dear father of Dorothy (Jacob) Huyer of Chesterville, Wendy (Danny) Hare of Brockville, Andrew Geertsma of Chesterville and Caroline Geertsma of Morrisburg. He was a dear pake to Courtney, Raymond, Jonathon, Katrina and Adrian Huyer, and Curtis and Kathleen Hare.

He was the dear brother of Sietze (Donna) of Taber, Alberta; Henny (Henry) Zandbergen of Brinston, Jack (Susan) of Chesterville, Ruth

(Herman) Stolk of Wainfleet, Trinkie (Hank) Vander-Heide of RR 2 Chesterville, Homer (Teena) of Chesterville, Jake (Wendy) of Chesterville and Bert (Loretta) of RR 2 Chesterville.

He was predeceased by his parents and one sister, Hendrikja.

Mr. Geertsma was a member of the Christian Reformed Church in Williamsburg.

Family and friends were received at the Daniels Funeral Home, Chesterville for visitations. Services were held at the Christian Reformed Church, Williamsburg on Tues., March 17. Reverend George Rowaan officiating.

Interment was to take place at New Union Cemetery, Williamsburg.

Pallbearers were Richard Andrew Geertsma, Gary Geertsma, David Geertsma, Joseph Geertsma, Albert Zandbergen and Ron Zandbergen.

## Garnet Brownlee Halpenny

Garnet Brownlee Halpenny of South Mountain died on Sun., March 8 at Winchester District Memorial Hospital. He was 81.

A carpenter with Gordon Mulligan Construction, Mr. Halpenny was born in South Gower on April 23, 1916 to the late Amos Halpenny and Lila Brownlee.

He was the loving husband of Anna Winona Francis.

He was the dear father of Terry (Diane), Brian (Joan) and Mary Jean (Dave) Short.

He will be fondly remembered by grandchildren Scott (Leann) and Andrea Halpenny, Todd (Shannon) and Craig Halpenny and Kaitlin, Amy and Paul Short, and great-granddaughter Chloe Halpenny.

He is also survived by brother Harold (Joan) Halpenny of Smiths Falls and Ted (Teresa) Halpenny of Pembroke, as well as several nieces and nephews.

Mr. Halpenny was a retired fireman with the Mountain Township Fire Department.

He was a member of the South Mountain United Church. Funeral services were held at South Mountain United Church on Wed., March 11. Reverend Fred Milnes officiated. Spring interment will take place at South Gower Cemetery.

Pallbearers were grandsons Craig Halpenny, Todd Halpenny, Scott Halpenny; son-in-law Dave Short and nephews Kenneth Halpenny and Dale Cook.

## Lorne Donald Hoy

Lorne Donald Hoy of RR 2, Mountain died on Thurs., March 12 at Winchester District Memorial Hospital. He was 86.

A farmer, Mr. Hoy was born in Mountain on Sept. 24, 1911 to the late David Hoy and Elizabeth Christie.

He was the dear father of Marie (Michael) of London, England, Gary (Dawn) of Mountain and Barbara (Pierre) of Guelph. He will be missed by his grandchildren Derek and Chris (Candy) Casselman, Melanie, Terri and Tyler Hoy, as well as great-granddaughter Karley Casselman.

## Sadie Luella Droppo dies

Sadie Luella Droppo, of Hartford Retirement Centre in Morrisburg, died peacefully on Sun., March 8 at Winchester District Memorial Hospital. She was 90.

Mrs. Droppo farmed in the Chesterville area for many years. She was born in Finch Township on June 23, 1907 to the late Simeon Droppo and Agnes Beckstead.

She was predeceased by her husband, Stanley Droppo, in 1948.

Mrs. Droppo was the dear mother of Ron (Marion) Droppo of RR 1, Chesterville and Murray (Erva) Droppo of Chesterville.

She was the dear sister of Cora Droppo of Chesterville.

She will be fondly remembered by her grandchildren Lynda, Stephen and Kimberley, eight great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by four sisters, Ruby, Linda, Hazel and Ethel; two brothers Murray and Robert; two grandchildren Larry and Karen and a great-grandson, Nolan.

She was a member of the United Church.

Family and friends were received at the Daniels Funeral Home in Chesterville for visitations.

Funeral services were held in the funeral home chapel on Thurs., March 12. Reverend Roy Harwood officiated.

Interment was at Maple Ridge Cemetery.

Pallbearers were David Ferguson, Shawn Simser, Bertron Droppo and Keith Blaine.



## On the information highway

New computer techniques are being introduced to the Upper Canada District School Board. Pictured, Guy Lemay, information services manager, instructs trustee Maria Thompson and vice-chair Art Buckland on some new techniques.

Courtesy Photo

## Counties celebrate surviving ice storm with Meltdown '98

by Sandy Bierworth  
Press staff

CORNWALL — There is some fun coming out of January's ice storm.

The United Counties have declared the week from March 22 through to the 28 'Disaster Relief Week.'

Meltdown 1998 will kick off the event on March 22 from noon to six pm at the Cornwall Civic Complex.

"We've asked every municipality to declare the week of March 22 through March 28 Disaster Relief Week," said organizer Leslie O'Shaughnessy. "The Meltdown in Cornwall is going to be great. It promises to be a good day of entertainment."

The cost of tickets for the Meltdown is a donation to the relief fund, and the featured door prize is two Canadian airline tickets to fly anywhere the airline flies in continental North America.

The concert will feature several well-known bands, including the Barstool Profits, the South Glengarry pipe band, singer Mike McAnany, the Velvet Heart Show, the Tammy McRae band and singer Sam Hill.

Between acts on the stage, businesses will have an opportunity to make donations to the relief fund.

O'Shaughnessy said the Meltdown

was planned after several businesses called the United Counties office wishing to make donations. This way, he said, their donation can be realized by the people in the counties, and they can have fun at the same time.

All donations raised by the disaster relief committee will be eligible for the four to one matching by the provincial government for aid to the victims of the storm.

About 40,000 Meltdown '98 buttons are on sale now at various businesses throughout the united counties. All profits from the buttons go to the relief fund.

As an incentive to buy the buttons, there will be 60 \$25 cash prizes awarded throughout the United Counties spotted by a special team at various locations in SD&G. The buttons are \$1 each.

Winners of the cash will be entered in a draw for \$250, which will be awarded at the Morrisburg Operating Engineers Training Institute on March 28. Because these prizes are sponsored by Molson, winners must be at least 18 years of age.

There are also 60 prizes of \$10 gift certificates for McDonald's for children spotted wearing the buttons.

## Citizens panel disbands

by Jeff Brownlee

METCALFE — The 13-member committee empowered with designing a blueprint for municipal restructuring in Ottawa-Carleton called it quits March 16 as a result of political interference.

Members of the Citizens' Panel on Local Governance in Ottawa-Carleton say that constant meddling by many municipalities in the so-called non-political process the past six months made it impossible for it to fulfill its mandate of finding a local solution to the governance question.

"The panel decided that, due to immensely destructive interference in the process by numerous municipalities, it is impossible to continue our work," said panel co-chair, Grete Hale. "We had a lengthy discussion around the usefulness of our role in light of the political manoeuvring and entrenched positions."

Last week, after the City of Nepean aired a commercial cheerleading one of three models identified in the panel's discussion paper, members warned area municipalities

to stop interfering.

But as panel co-chair Diane Desaulniers explains, the warning wasn't successful.

"Our task was difficult at the best of times," she said. "Fear mongering by a municipality makes it impossible."

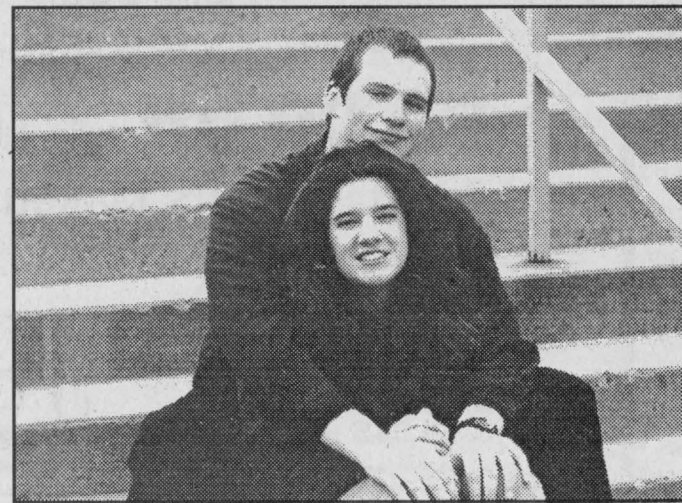
The citizens' panel was appointed last year to recommend a solution for governance in Ottawa-Carleton as a result of a '95 Harris election pledge to cut the 800 Ontario municipalities in half by 1999.

But since its first hour after inception, the citizens' panel was under constant fire.

The lack of rural representation and the absence of a representative from the second-largest city in the region, had many politicians calling the panel a mockery.

The preferred governance solution for the region was to get a triple majority municipalities, regional council and residents before it was adopted.

If no solution could attain that level of consensus, the province would move in and implement its own decision.



## Hoogenboom - Marvan

Arie and Betty Hoogenboom of Mountain and Igor and Marcela Marvan of Mississauga are pleased to announce the engagement of their children Laura Anne Hoogenboom and Michael Timothy Marvan. The wedding will take place May 30, 1998 at Chalmers United Church in Kingston.

## Church Directory

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Winchester

11:00 am - Divine Worship, nursery  
care and program for children  
40tfc

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Williamsburg, Ont.

Rev.  
George J. Rowaan  
448-2351

Sunday, March 22  
Fourth Sunday of Lent

9:30 am - Morning Service: "An Ugly  
Price to Pay", John 19:16-37  
Sunday School for all children ages 3-12

7:30 pm - Evening Service: "Praying  
For Those In Authority", 1 Timothy 2:1-8

Pastor Rowaan at both services  
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PLEASE JOIN US FOR WORSHIP  
51c

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF  
WINCHESTER, CHESTERVILLE,  
CRYSLER AND SOUTH MOUNTAIN  
Sunday, March 22

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9:30 am - South Mountain  
11:15 am - Winchester

Rev. Robert Assaly: 774-2236  
51c

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9:30 am - Prayer Team  
10:30 am - Worship Service  
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7:00 pm - Sunday Night Alive praise  
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Pastor Thurland Brown  
537 Main St., Winchester 774-3137  
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Evangelical Missionary Church  
Hwy. 31 & Ormond Rd.  
774-5170

Pastor: Rev. Bruce North  
50 Day Adventure  
Sunday, March 22

10:30 am - Morning Worship, Sermon  
topic #4: Pulpit-Pew support. Guest  
speaker Rev. Roy Stuart

Super Church for ages 1-12  
7:30 pm - Evening Service with guest  
speaker Pastor Robert Votary

Wednesday  
7:30 pm - Bible Study  
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Thursday  
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Office: 774-2512  
Manse: 774-1546  
Sunday

WINCHESTER UNITED CHURCH  
11:00 am - Worship Service and  
Sunday School

Tuesday  
12:45-1:15 pm - Prayer Circle  
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UNITED CHURCH

9:30 am - Worship Service and  
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10:45 am - Sunday Service

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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  
51c

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH  
Chesterville  
448-3262

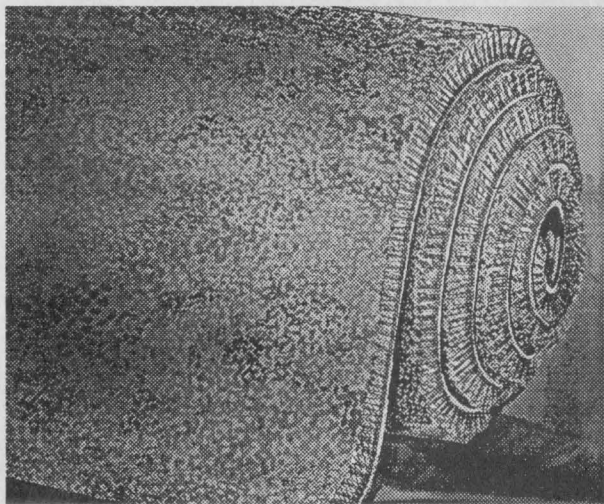
5:30 pm - Saturday  
9:00 am & 11:00 am - Sunday  
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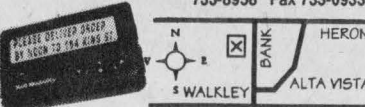
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### Youth band '98

A few members of NDDHS's Youth Band 1998 practice for the special concerts scheduled to take place at the end of the month. Back row, from left: Amanda DeVries and Margo Allen. Front row, from left: Erin Holtz and Andrew VanOverbeke. The Youth Band is made up of students from several high schools in SD&G, and guest conductor Tom Talamantes, of McGill University, will lead the band.

by Sandy Bierworth  
Press staff

MAPLE RIDGE — The halls of North Dundas District High School will soon be filled with the harmonious sounds of professional bands from all over the district as the school gears up to host the SD&G Youth Band 1998.

A series of concerts is scheduled to begin at NDDHS on Thurs., March 26 with McGill Winds and Brass Ensemble, followed the next day with the Nepean All-City Jazz Band. On Sat., March 28, Queen's University Wind Ensemble will move audience members with their sweet symphonies. Each of these concerts takes place at 8 pm, and tickets cost \$5.

The Youth Band, which is made up every two years of selected students from several of SD&G's high schools, will play at the school on Sun., March 29 at 2 pm, and will be taking to the stage of the Aultsville Hall at St. Lawrence College in Cornwall at 8 pm. Tickets cost \$7.

This is the first year that NDDHS has hosted the event and music teacher and band conductor Greg Prest is honored to be a part of it.

"It's very rare that a university would play here," he said. "I mean, the Nepean All-City Jazz band, for example, is known internationally and they're coming here. This is very exciting."

Auditions for the Youth Band took place at NDDHS on Nov. 25 of last year and out of 30 students who tried out, 26 were selected. Normally about 15 young musicians try out for the special band, but because the event is being held at the school this year, more students decided to try for it.

Guest conductor Tom Talamantes, a professor at McGill University, will be leading the band in its two concerts and professional musicians from all over the district will lead the various sections of the band in preparing for the event.

Tagwi High School and Rothwell-Osnabruck District High School are each sending two stu-

dents to take part in the event. Seaway District High School and Cornwall Collegiate School each have four students participating. St. Lawrence High School has 11 students joining the Youth Band and Glengarry District High School is sending 15 students to participate.

Band members at NDDHS are overjoyed at the opportunity to learn from the pros in a series of workshops scheduled to take place in the days leading up to the event.

"You get to play with people who have been playing for years," said Grade 11 band member Angela Paquette. "It'll be interesting to see how we work with other students. They've had different music teachers and learned different things. It'll be stressful, but it'll be fun."

Grade 11 band member Dylan Roberts agrees.

"I think it's going to be fun," he said. "It'll be a great experience. You get to see how you adapt to other people."

Band member Margo Allen said she is looking forward to working

with students from area schools.

"It's going to be a blast for all of us," she said. "We'll be with people we've met at different schools in our district. I'm think it's going to be a lot of fun."

The entire band will start working together on Wed., March 25 and workshops in which sections of the band work with the professionals and band rehearsals run all day for the following three days.

Prest said working with the professionals will give the band members a great learning experience.

"In some cases, it's not just the professionals who are going to be here, but the best of the professionals. The cream of the crop," he said. "For the band members involved, it'll be the climax of their high school music career."

Prest said hosting the event will cost the school \$13,000, and several fundraising events have taken place recently to help fill in the holes. But more money is needed, he said, and he is asking local businesses for sponsorship.

## What role for rec director?

by Lori Culliton  
Press staff

WINCHESTER — With amalgamation came some new titles and responsibilities for municipal staff in the Township of North Dundas. And in at least one area, that has caused conflict with some volunteers.

Recreation committee chairperson Donald Johnston addressed North Dundas council on Monday night to enlighten councillors of a problem that has arisen with volunteers at community centres.

"We need to know what role you hope (Director of Recreation and Culture) Matt Krisjanis to fulfil, and what role you hope to be filled by volunteers," Johnston told council.

"There used to be volunteers who took care of some things that are now done by Matt (Krisjanis)," he explained. "The volunteers see man-

aging the facilities as Matt's job now."

A situation was cited whereas upon visiting a facility Krisjanis found that the heat was much too high in the building. But an uncooperative attitude came from the volunteers, Krisjanis said, who saw it as his job to turn the heat down.

"We need a change of attitude for this to work," Krisjanis told council. "I see it as a big sandbox... everyone is playing in each of the four corners of the sandbox, but nobody is playing together in the middle."

He likened the sandbox metaphor to the four municipalities inside North Dundas.

Mayor Claude Cousineau admitted that the same problem exists within North Dundas council. "We are representatives of North Dundas township but we are all still pulling for our own wards," he said.

In regard to smaller programs within the township, Johnston said that nothing had changed. "We want them to continue," he said. "We have spoken to volunteers and told them what we want."

Council decided to hold a joint meeting with the recreation committee in the future. Krisjanis indicated that a meeting would help to regain the confidence of volunteers.

"I would like to hand over the facilities to the volunteers in each community and let them take care of it," Cousineau said. "But council has to decide if they want Matt in charge of everything, or if we let the individual communities be self-sufficient."

"I don't want to see recreation committees fold. But it's difficult to work with volunteers when there is a paid director."

## Hit-run at new lights

WINCHESTER — Upper Canada OPP are looking for information in a hit and run accident that occurred at the north junction of County Roads 31 and 43, at Winchester.

Police report that on Wed., March 11 at approximately 9:15 am a southbound 1987 Dodge Reliant was stopped at the traffic lights on County Road 31.

The car, driven by Deanna Bertrand, 17, of Winchester, was struck by another vehicle turning

north onto County Road 31 from Winchester. The vehicle then left the scene, headed north on County Road 31.

The collision resulted in light damage to the Bertrand vehicle.

The driver of the second vehicle has not yet been located. Anyone who may have information relating to this accident or the other involved vehicle is asked to call the OPP at 774-2603 or 1-888-310-1122 for the attention of Constable P. Como.

## WDMH anniversary dinner planned

by Lori Culliton  
Press staff

WINCHESTER — It's happy birthday to Winchester District Memorial Hospital this year, and there are upcoming events to help celebrate the hospital's 50 years in the community.

Human Resources director Jean Holmes revealed that a committee has been established at the hospital to come up with events throughout the year to celebrate the hospital's birthday.

First up in the celebrations will be a gala dinner-dance on June 6. Holmes said that live music and a catered meal will highlight the evening. Tickets are already being printed and will be ready by mid-April.

No menu has been confirmed yet,

but the band "Club F" will entertain for the evening. Tickets will cost \$30 or \$60 for a couple.

"The goal of the dinner is not to make money," Holmes said. "This is not a fundraiser, it's just an event. We want to cover costs."

"It's 'fun' with no 'd'." Other events being planned include a garden party by the hospital auxiliary to coincide with Dairy Fest in August. An open house for the hospital will also be held then, offering tours of the hospital.

"Other events are being planned but they're not yet finalized," Holmes said. "We hope to space the events out over the year. We're also hoping to repeat the Christmas Wish Tree in December."

The actual anniversary date of the opening of the hospital is in December.

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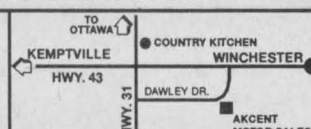
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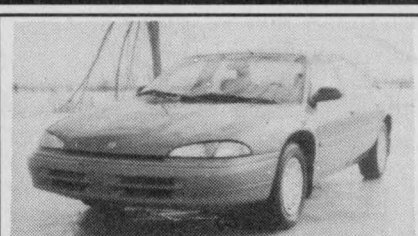
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## Editorial/Opinion

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Published by TwoMor Publications Inc.  
545 St. Lawrence St., Box 399,  
Winchester, Ontario, K0C 2K0  
Tel: 613-774-2524, fax: 613-774-3967  
E-mail: winpress@storm.ca



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The Winchester Press was established in 1888 and is published Wednesdays at Winchester, Ontario.

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

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## EDITORIAL

### How low can it go?

To para-quote a mega-store's catchphrase, "Watch for falling gas prices."

It's a commuter's dream come true.

That's right. Drivers have been exclaiming and delighting over the decline in the price of gas which began last Wednesday. Prices have been lowered to under 49 cents a litre for the first time in years.

At the station on County Road 31 outside of Winchester the price of regular gas sits at 48.3 cents per litre as of Tuesday. There's no word on whether it will fall even lower, but automobile drivers can only hope.

As independent gas retailers complain that they can't keep up with falling prices in competition against the big oil company chains, it's time for consumers to rejoice and enjoy a reprieve in the gas price war.

Nobody knows how long these low, low prices will last, or if they will go even lower.

But for many drivers pumping gas is a joy and as long as the prices stay down, the cars will line up.

### Will he stay or will he go?

Time is ticking for Jean Charest to make a decision.

The decision, having already been put off another week, would seem to have already been made for him.

Public opinion, much-hyped by the media, is that the federal Tory leader is the only man in the country who can save Canada against Bloc Quebecois leader Lucien Bouchard.

It would seem that, if Charest were to not agree to fight Bouchard, he would lose public support and his career (and hopes for a Prime Minister-ship) would be over.

However, consider this scenario: Charest declines the overwhelming offer of provincial leadership in Quebec, and Bouchard wins the next provincial election, thus setting him up to lose a referendum.

Because most signs point to a victory separatist enthusiasm, a certain Bouchard wining is in doubt even now.

And wouldn't that hurt Bouchard much more than losing the election?

The only reason Bouchard is the leader of the Bloc is to fulfil his dream of separating from Canada. To shatter that dream would be a bigger victory for federalists than winning an election.

And Charest would be left alone to pursue big things federally, living his own dream of someday becoming Prime Minister.

Will he go to Quebec? Probably. But we would have much more respect and confidence in him as a man and as a leader if he stood up to the masses and declared his own destiny.

L.C.

## This week in...

### 1948

Fire, believed to have been started from an overheated stove-pipe, caused considerable damage to the upper storey of the farm house of Clare Maude Summers, about one mile east of Cass Bridge. The blaze was first discovered by William J. Hitsman of Winchester, mail driver of R.R.#4, who was in the house delivering a COD parcel at noon. As Hitsman placed the parcel on the kitchen table, sparks from the stove pipe above fell on it. Finding it impossible to get up the stairs because of the smoke, he called the Winchester Fire Brigade and the chemical truck was dispatched with some members of the local fire brigade.

The town hall was the centre of interest when the local Jo-Anne Shoppe presented its annual fashion show and tea. Three revues were staged and were attended by over 700 people, mostly ladies. The stage and modelling platform was decorated in a manner similar to previous shows. The hand-painted sign at the front of the stage was designed by Robert Woods, and added much to the attractiveness of the setting.

About 60 Centurians and guests were present at the 100 Club Luncheon, held at Hotel Winchester when an interesting program was presented under the direction of Centurians W.A. Rowat and F. Erle Helmer. The luncheon was presided over by the new president, Centurian Walter MacDonald. Grace was said by Centurian E.M. Shaver and the creed recited by Centurian William Servage.

### 1958

Business at the Ontario Cheese Marketing Board's \$350,000 cheese storage plant at Winchester is on the upswing. According to figures presented in the annual financial statement the Winchester plant, from the period April 1, 1957 to November 30, 1957, operated with a net income of \$16,358.51. Excess of income over expenditure following \$8,895 in depreciation was \$7,463.51.

Winchester auto license bureau was a busy place the first three months of the year. More than 5,500 car and truck licence plates were purchased in the last three weeks before the March 12 deadline. Car owners purchased 3,350 sets of plates with another 2,000 sets going for various types of trucks. In addition, 1,900 chauffeur's permits were sold and 2,500 operator's permits went across the counter.

On March 18 Radio Station CJET, Smiths Falls, moved to 630 on the dial and extended its hours of operation from 6 am to 12 midnight. For the past two and a half years, since its inaugural broadcast, CJET has operated as a day-time station only at 1070 on the dial.

What was once Morrisburg's Main Street would be a typical example in the mammoth St. Lawrence Power Project of the "Price of Progress." Once a busy thoroughfare made up of a combination of stately old buildings and modern business places, Morrisburg's former Main Street was to be a mass of debris. Only two of the many buildings remained and they were destined to the wrecking crews.

### 1968

A Canadian pioneer, Orrin John Wylie, celebrated his 100th birthday at Glen-Stor-Dun Lodge. Wylie had lived the greater part of his life in the district and was widely known. His many friends wished him good health and many more returns of the day.

Disapproval would probably be the best word to describe the overall feeling which existed at the first meeting of the Interim School Organizational Committee for Cornwall and the United Counties. Meeting in Cornwall with a 10-member representation from the Ontario Department of Education, representatives from every school board area were on hand to discuss the many problems of regionalization as laid down by the department.

Winchester had a new service organization which would be known as "The Winchester and District Lions Club." At an organizational meeting held in the Country Kitchen which was attended by L.T. Nolan, District Governor of A-4 of Lions International and J.B. Rowan, president of the Metcalfe and District Lions Club, the first executive was elected.

### 1978

A continuous pour of concrete was seen taking place at the Chesterville dam project across the Nation River. The new dam was the beginning of a South Nation water management and land reclamation project. Work on the new structure was right on schedule and the completion date was set for the fall of 1978.

A spokesman from the Ministry of Natural Resources office in Cornwall denied charges that a proposed conservation scheme would cause serious problems for farmers in the area. Fish and wildlife supervisor Bill Lannin said the plan, which was approved in principle by the ministry last January, would be instituted without the approval of landowners in the area. Lannin maintained that farmers who were complaining had been consulted by the ministry before the plan was approved.

Regulation play didn't decide it. A three-team round-robin playoff eliminated one hopeful but still couldn't produce a winner. So tournament officials had to use total points over the day's play to finally decide a 1978 Dundas County Senior Elementary



Boys' Basketball Champion. Maple Ridge forced a three-way tie for the title by upsetting previously undefeated Iroquois 17-16 in the final game of the tournament.

### 1988

In the darkest hours of the night, surveyors would be using one of the most advanced systems in the world to map Mountain Township. The high tech method being used, Global Positioning Systems, or GPS, would utilize satellites, computers and an atomic clock accurate to within a billionth of a second, to help produce a map precise to within a few centimetres. The map work, part of a provincial push to standardize all municipal maps, was scheduled to take two years and cost \$50,000 with all but \$1,700 subsidized by Queen's Park.

The Winchester Chamber of Commerce hoped to chart a business which would add wind to their businesses. The local chamber was looking to expand its membership and would elect a new executive with a mandate to turn the organization into a full-fledged Chamber of Commerce.

Organizers had called it quits after holding two teen dances at the Vernon Community Hall. Only 43 teens paid the \$2 admission fee Saturday night to watch rock band Sanction perform and the low turnout signalled the end, said Nancy Crate, teen dance organizer. Organizers lost \$13 on the night but they had already pumped several hundred dollars into the event; money that was raised from a previous dance.



## One last hooray!

I've never been good at saying good-bye. At parties, (the kind that doesn't showcase Tupperware) I'll wait for a lull in conversation, tell people I'm going for more dip and fancy egg things (every party has them; it's the law) then instead duck into the master bedroom where all the coats are (another law) blanket atop the eight-foot mountain of garments and find my parka. Then I sneak out, being sure to ask at least one person to pass on my good-byes to the host and "that the dip was **amazing**," even if it really tasted like Cheez Whiz made during the Trudeau administration.

It's this very reason (not the Cheez Whiz, but my lack of good-bye graces) that I requested space for one final Rural Roots column.

I recently moved from the Winchester area to the Lindsay area, where my wife and I will be part-time farming, writing, performing, building a home on her parents' farm and, subsequently, learning new ways to curse contractors, trades people, township development fees, and ornery cattle.

ME: Excuse me. Could you and your fellow bovine please see fit to individually walk into this here chute so that we may properly inoculate you for parasites?

COW: Hmm...I'll have to think about it...Okay, I've thought about it, and I've decided that no, I'd rather charge and pin you against the wall.

ME: Very well, then. Perhaps, we can take this opportunity to discuss your behavior in the pole barn every time I deliver you a round bale of straw.

COW: Look, I'm sorry we surrounded you that time. I had no idea Mabel would pick that time and location to, well, you know...it must be something she ate.

ME: She's excused. Besides, that why I wear rubber boots.

COW: Yes, but it's hardly the proper manner to treat a newcomer to our area.

We sold our 55-acre home property in Mountain Township in early December, some eight or nine months after it was put on the market. It was a frustrating period, fraught with anxiety, discouragement, false hopes and countless 'Olympic-worthy-last-minute-house-cleaning-for-the-folks-who-REALLY-want-to-buy-this-time' rushes. I sometimes wonder if Butch, our real-estate agent and wonderful former neighbor, might do better to now include "therapist/counselor" on his business card and door shingle.

### Rural Roots

by Denis Grignon



That, of course, would give literal meaning to his "The Doctor is In" ad he periodically includes in this paper and fend off any potential criticism from those members of College of Physicians who don't moonlight as real-estate agents. Butch's exuberance (and the generators he so willingly loaned to anyone with a pulse) will be one of my fondest memories of my time in the Land that Ice Remembered.

Call it fate, call it luck - the bad kind - or call it a test of my abilities to flush a toilet with snow, but we were, indeed, still in the

area during the Ice Storm. We suffered no flooding basement, no leaking roof and a table hockey game, along with a propane lantern and numerous make-believe round-robin tournaments, kept Nancy and I content. (read: kept us from strangling each other).

But it was during those 12 hydro-less days that I learned more about the community I'd lived in than the previous three years since I'd moved there. It was clearly evident in the few hours we volunteered at the Winchester curling-rink-cum-shelter where benevolence and unselfishness reigned, and that stark contrast between rural and urban life.

RURALITE: Hey, please thank all your other city friends for those, um, donations.

URBANITE: Our pleasure, Cousin. We knew you'd be needing bath gel and cases of pumpkin pie mix.

RURALITE: Er, yeah. Geesh, this storm sure is taking its toll on us out here. Farmers are throwing out milk; basements are flooding, people are willing to lick your boots for D-Cell batteries.

URBANITE: Yes, I feel your pain. Why just yesterday, I had to re-program my VCR...TWICE!

RURALITE: My sympathies. Now excuse me as I search for snow to melt.

There are many that deserve my thanks for embracing us into the community while we lived there. I might not have re-enlisted myself in pickup hockey had it not been for the Dellaires who ignored the fact that I played right wing with the dexterity of a houseplant. There's the folks with the Dundas Players, knowing I couldn't act my age let alone a scripted part, who gave me a shot at

• continued on next page





### Music camp

Margaret Brown, left, and guest conductor Jim Fraser, of the Seaway Valley Singers, presented Emily Millard, centre, with a cheque for \$175 to help send her to a five-day music camp in Bolton,

Ontario, this summer. The Grade 9 Seaway District High School student enjoys singing and playing piano and guitar and said she is looking forward to attending the camp. Press Photo — Bierworth

## Coroner investigates 'in custody' death

MANOTICK — During the period of March 9-15 members of the Manotick detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police investigated 86 general occurrences and 12 motor vehicle collisions.

The OPP and the coroner are investigating the death of Ross Truax, 59, of Cobocok, who was an inmate at the Rideau Correctional and Treatment Centre. On March 10 he was pronounced dead at the Kemptville Hospital after he became ill at the facility. Truax was in a washroom area of the institution when he became unconscious. Inmates and correctional officers saw this and immediately began first aid. Nurses from the centre and Rideau Township fire fighters performed CPR until the ambulance arrived and transported him to hospital where he was pronounced dead. The coroner has ordered an inquest. This is mandated by the Coroners Act for all "in custody" deaths in Ontario.

On March 11 a Wicklow Crescent, Manotick homeowner's vehicle was stolen from her work place in Ottawa. Later in the day she discovered that someone had entered her home. Fortunately nothing was stolen and there was no forced entry. Police believe that the culprit(s) used the garage door opener to gain access to the house. Residents are reminded not to leave their garage door openers or their vehicle permits in their vehicles as this may lead thieves to their home.

There was an attempted break and enter at a Stagecoach Road

home on March 12. The person responsible tried to get into the house by kicking one of the doors open. A reinforced door frame prevented the criminal from getting into the house.

On March 13 vandals broke into the garage of a Marlene Crescent, Manotick home. They restricted their activity to that area, smashing bottles and throwing garbage around. Anyone who may have information about this is asked to contact the investigator, Constable Teena Stoddart at 692-2525.

RCA stereo components, loose change and a suitcase were among the items stolen from an Edgewater Drive, Manotick home on March 13. Entry was gained by forcing open a patio door. The house was left unattended from 10 am to 10 pm.

Between 8 am and 3 pm on March 13 a black 1994 Polaris snowmobile, VIN2239065 was removed from a 2nd Line Road property in Rideau Township. The owner advised the investigating officer that a suspicious vehicle had been seen in the area earlier that week. These incidents should be reported to the police immediately by calling 1-888-310-1122.

The same day a Metcalfe resident reported that his black 1990 Polaris VIN1755382 was stolen from his property. The person responsible dragged the machine then drove it down Victoria Street where the tracks disappeared.

At approximately 12:45 am a 1995 Ski-Doo MXZ VIN103500158 was stolen from a Drew Henry Drive

property in Manotick. The owner, who heard it being started, followed the tracks and eventually lost them. Anyone with information concerning this or any other crime is asked to contact Crimestoppers at 231-TIPS (8477).

Sometime last weekend a 1975 Boler two-person camping trailer, serial number 1582, was taken from a Fairmile Road home. The trailer was equipped with a small fridge and stove as well as brown curtains.

A St. Mark High School student reported his wallet was stolen from his coat on March 11. It was left unattended for a few minutes in a classroom. A small quantity of money and personal identification was taken.

Around 3:30 pm on March 15 Constable Ken Ferguson was alerted to the fact that four youths were walking on the Rideau River by the Kars bridge near open water. By the time he arrived to investigate, the children were gone. Area residents are asked to remind children to stay away from lakes, rivers and streams.

A 33-year-old Osgoode man will appear in court on April 2 to face impaired driving charges. The accused was stopped in the village on March 11 at around 9 pm.

Last week police were advised that some young people have been trespassing on private properties in Kars during the lunch hour. Youths should be reminded that unless they have permission to be on someone else's property, they should stay off it.

## Morrisburg assessments skyrocket

by Sandy Bierworth  
Press staff

MORRISBURG — Two assessment information meetings were held at the Civic Building in Morrisburg on March 16 and 17, giving residents of South Dundas Township a chance to discuss their concerns with the pros. And there was much to discuss, said Valuation Manager Zig Majewski of Regional Assessment Office #1 in Cornwall.

While the village of Iroquois and the former townships of Williamsburg and Matilda were last reassessed in 1988, the biggest increase in values came to the residents of Morrisburg village, which has never been reassessed, meaning the values they had before this year were based on the 1940s market. The village had been offered a chance for reassessment, but had always declined, he said. But with

the new system, every part of Ontario has been reassessed based on the market value of the property for June 30, 1996.

"Someone in Morrisburg might have had a value of \$2,000 before, and now all of a sudden it's \$200,000," said Majewski. "It can be really scary. What we try to get them to understand is that their property taxes are not going to go up 200 per cent."

The tax rate is a municipal decision and is calculated by dividing the projected annual operating budget of the municipality by the tax base.

Majewski said the 16 representatives who were on hand at the Morrisburg meetings to meet with the public were qualified staff, the majority of whom were local assessors.

"Even though the value of your property may have gone up, your

property taxes won't necessarily go up," he said. "With the new system, everybody is treated fairly. It's an easier way of understanding the assessment process. Generally, the people who come here have been pretty satisfied when they leave."

The Cornwall office has been flooded with calls from concerned residents, which Majewski said is not uncommon at assessment time.

"People are concerned about how they're being treated," he said. "They come in here and want to see their neighbors' assessments. It's no problem, the information is all right here. We find their property in our files, and compare their assessments with similar properties in the area."

Anyone who was unable to come to the meetings but wishes to talk with an assessor can contact the Cornwall Regional Assessment office at 613-933-7100, or toll free at 1-800-267-7194.

## Fast action saves Crerar family home

by Jeff Brownlee

VERNON — A spark from a fireplace is the suspected culprit of a blaze that caused an estimated \$10,000 damage to an Osgoode Township landmark March 15.

No one was injured in the fire that broke out around noon last Sunday at Crerar's Honey on Hwy. 31. Homeowners Ian and Betty Crerar were at church in Vernon when flames engulfed the back room of their home.

A neighbor passing by and their son, Dan, who lives next door, spot-

ted smoke and flames and reported the blaze.

"Someone came into church and told us that our house was on fire," said Ian. "I couldn't believe it."

The fire had Osgoode Fire Chief Gerry Bennett worried when he arrived on scene.

"The flames were right over the roof," he said. "I thought we were going to lose a township landmark."

But firefighters from both Metcalfe and Osgoode, using three tankers and two pumper trucks contained the fire to the single room before it could spread to the rest of

the 140-year-old home.

The fire department also managed to save a saxophone, an amplifier, a couch and chair and a piano from water damage.

"The crew did an excellent job," said Bennett. "It was a good save."

Since the damage was contained to one end of the house, the Crerars are still able to live in the home and conduct the day-to-day operations of their family-operated honey business out of their home-based office.

"It's always something," said Ian. "We just get over the ice storm and now this."



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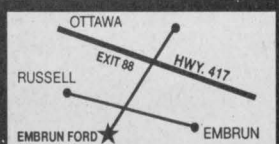


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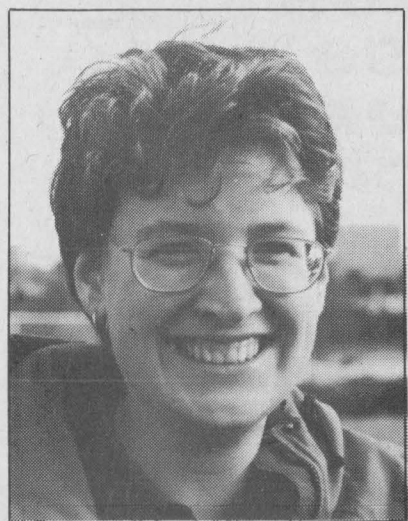
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Sarah Whittam

John and Janet Whittam are proud to announce that their daughter Sarah has graduated from the Westcoast School of Massage Therapy in Vancouver with full accreditation.

## Rural roots

• continued from previous page

their inaugural play a few Springs back. Marc Calder was tireless in setting up our computer and linking us to That Highway without veering off into a cyberspace ditch.

Dr. Gray and associates kept my dog and cats happy, all the while suffering through my pasty face and squeamish demeanor.

But, mostly, I have to thank Judy and Stephanie who not only stood alongside us in that Ice Storm Battle Trench, but proved to be the best neighbors we could have expected...without a fee. I expect I'll be back periodically to visit, since I owe them and many others in their community so much.

And I'm talking about a heck-of-a-lot more than just Cheez Whiz.

(Denis Grignon is a professional standup comic, broadcaster and former Mountain Township resident. His Rural Roots column appeared in this paper for more than a year).

## SD to close road

WILLIAMSBURG — Cedar Glen Golf Course in Williamsburg is planning to expand from nine holes to 18, but a section of the headline road adjacent would have to be closed.

The concern was brought before South Dundas council at their March 12 meeting, and the council will make preparations to close the section of the headline road on concessions five and six.

Golf course owner Denis Casselman approached the council with the request, saying that the road is

shown on the map of the area as being unopened.

"We'd put a gate on it during the summer and open it for the winter because there are a lot of ski-doo trails that run through there," Casselman told council.

"I don't see a problem with closing the road," South Dundas mayor Johnny Whitteker told Casselman. "I think this will be a good addition to the Williamsburg area. One of the great things about a golf course is that it provides recreation and it doesn't cost the municipality."

## School board learning subtraction

HAWKESBURY — Before finalizing its 1998 Short-Year budget, the Upper Canada District School Board will have to gain a better sense of what the next 20 months hold. The school board decided at its regular meeting on Wednesday, March 11 that several matters need to be addressed before budget figures can be realized.

The board received a preliminary report in regard to preparation of its

1998 Short-Year budget. A benchmark budget of \$159,486,000 was established with a guarantee of about \$150,258,000 in funding from the government. This would leave a funding shortfall of \$9,228,000.

A thorough review of all budget items was conducted to reduce expenditures by \$6,058,000 and produce a total budget of \$153,428,000. This leaves, at present time, a budgetary shortfall of \$3,170,000.



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# Facts to consider before selling in a down market

What goes up, must come down. This too applies to the stock markets.

What do you do in a falling stock market? Sell all of your stocks before they bottom out and consider yourself lucky with the money you made?

The answer is a simple no. "On any given day, which way the market is headed is anybody's guess," comments Eric Grove, Vice President of Marketing, AGF Group of Funds. "Over the long term one thing is for certain; stock markets across the globe have and will continue to prosper over the long term, characterized by daily ups and downs."

Nonetheless, if you are an investor who has never before experienced a market downturn in stock prices (commonly called a bear market), how you react to these shifts is crucial to the long-term success of reaching your financial goals.

There are numerous investment tips to help investors prepare and make it through the gyrations of the market.

## Investing does not have to be complicated.

"Don't invest in anything you don't understand," suggests Grove. "One of the advantages of investing in mutual funds is that it takes much of the guesswork out of investing. Each fund has professional fund managers who have fund investment styles to match your objectives."

## Keep the proper long-term perspective.

Canadian stock markets have yielded positive returns over 90 per cent of the time over any five year period since 1924. That figure jumps to 98 per cent over any 10 year frame and to 100 per cent over any 20 year frame.

## Do not fear short-term market drops.

They are a fact of life and they can be your strongest ally. When stock prices drop, remember they are more than likely to eventually go back up over the ensuing months.

For example, there were about 16 'bear markets' during the period 1956 to 1997 in which the market declined in excess of 10%. During the same period, however, there

were over 41 'bull markets' (market upswings) posting more than 10% gains, each with an average gain of approximately 19%.

"A greater risk than being caught in a down market, is the risk of not being fully invested when the market comes back," Grove points out.

In many instances, this situation can provide an excellent buying opportunity to buy stocks and bonds at a lower value before they rise again.

## Do not attempt to time the market.

"Timing the market by waiting to buy investments when they bottom out and by selling them when they reach their high point is a trap many people fall into," says Grove. This type of "market timing" causes investors to miss unexpected high performance days in the market.

"By missing just the 10 best days over the past 10 years, an investor making a \$1,000 investment in the TSE 300 Index would have given up over \$707, or an average of 3.4% compounded annually, of additional growth as compared to an investor who stayed invested over the entire

period," explains Grove.

## Diversification reduces risk.

"Diversification is one way to reduce risk in a market downturn," claims Grove. It's long been understood that different asset classes or geographical regions react differently to changes in the economy and the stock markets.

Diversifying across asset classes, global regions and fund management styles will serve to balance your portfolio and reduce overall risk. Therefore, a drop in one sector is not as likely to adversely affect your portfolio and allow you, at the same time, to access the best opportunities, wherever they may be found. "It is a case of not placing all of your eggs in one basket," notes Grove.

## Make the markets work for you by profiting through monthly payments.

Investing a pre-determined dollar amount at regular intervals, say \$50 per month, is called dollar-cost averaging. This type of averaging smoothes out your average cost because you buy more shares when markets decline and fewer shares

when markets rise. This discipline prevents an investor from buying over-priced investments.

## Long-run inflation is a greater threat than short-term market gyrations.

Inflation erodes your purchasing power. "Maintaining your purchasing power is the key to protecting your standard of living," notes Grove. "Market drops do not have the same negative effect on a portfolio as does inflation."

## Determine your financial goals prior to investing.

"You should invest with a goal in mind so that you will know how soon you will need your money and how much risk you can handle," advises Grove. Applying a disciplined approach, in conjunction with your financial advisor, will greatly add to your chances of reaching your financial goals, whether it is early retirement, saving for a vacation or buying a house.

Make the most of tax-sheltered growth using Registered Retirement Savings Plans (RRSP), Registered Retirement Investment Funds (RRIF), and/or Registered

## Educational Savings Plans (RESP).

Maximize your RRSP contributions every year to reduce taxes in the short term and enjoy tax-sheltered growth over the long term.

## Work with a qualified financial advisor to help you develop, implement and monitor your financial plan.

"Market downturns are inevitable and they shouldn't cause undue concern," says Grove. "If an investor worries about market shifts, he or she should consult their financial advisor and rebalance their portfolio to better suit their risk level. Mutual fund investments are long-term investment vehicles. Just as a committed gardener doesn't inspect his or her prize roses by pulling them up by the roots each day, so should a committed investor not look at the five or seven day performance but the five or seven year returns," adds Grove.

For further information, contact: Shannon Bowness, Langdon Starr Ketchum, (416) 480-0702 ext. 317 bowness@langdonstarr.com

## Retirement income

# Will you run out of money before you run out of time

Canadians recognize that they are responsible for ensuring that they have enough financial resources at their disposal during retirement.

How can each individual manage their retirement resources? The answer is simple and it applies to those who have reached or about to reach retirement.

With Canadians expected to live well into their 80s yet retiring in their early to mid 60s, retirement savings will have to stretch over a longer period of time. There are, however, ways to bridge this "retirement shortfall".

"In today's environment of low inflation and low interest rates, many traditional income-oriented investors need to add equity investments to their portfolios to increase total returns prior to retirement" comments Eric

Grove, Vice President of Marketing, AGF Group of Funds, a leading Canadian mutual fund company.

"However, many of these individuals may be deterred by potential short-term price volatility which could erode a portion of their savings."

There is a way to circumvent this dilemma and take part in the strong equity markets.

A Systematic Withdrawal Plan (SWP) allows mutual fund investors to make regular withdrawals of a fixed dollar amount or a fixed percentage which is used as a source of income, or to supplement retirement income.

A commonly used strategy involves using a SWP combined with both an income-generating and equity growth components.

Using a SWP, an investor is

able to buy income-oriented mutual funds and reinvest any distributions from the fund back into the fund or into other securities held in the portfolio — including growth-oriented equity funds.

"Instead of having to rely on annual distributions as a form of income, you decide the level of income you need by redeeming mutual fund units as required to generate a regular income stream," comments Grove.

"If an investor chooses an income level lower than the portfolio's long-term growth rate, not only do they allow for a consistent stream of income, but you may also receive the potential benefit of increased returns over the long term as the remainder of the investment continues to compound within the growth component of the portfolio."

Investor Tips on Systematic Withdrawal Plans (SWP):

• A SWP allows you to make regular withdrawals of a fixed dollar amount of a fixed percentage on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual basis.

• A SWP allows you to decide the level of income you need by redeeming mutual fund units as required to generate a regular income stream.

• A SWP is ideal if you are at or near retirement and want to use accumulated savings to cover immediate living expenses as well as continue to participate in the long-term growth of equity markets.

For further information, contact: Shannon Bowness, Langdon Starr Ketchum, (416) 480-0702 ext. 317 bowness@langdonstarr.com

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# Iroquois asks for new signs

by Sandy Bierworth  
Press staff

IROQUOIS — The village of Iroquois has requested six new road signs, one at each road going into the village, announcing "Neighborhood Patrol."

The request came to South Dundas council at their March 12 meeting. The signs, which would be 18 inches by 24 inches, would cost the township \$50 each, for a total of \$300, and residents of the village would patrol the residential areas.

The patrol is not to be mistaken for a neighborhood watch, councillor Audrey Rooney said. A watch is neighbors watching neighbors and reporting suspicious activity to the OPP, and a patrol is neighbors actually driving around watching for suspicious activity.

Though no final decision was made on the issue, mayor Johnny Whitteker suggested that council see if they can add the new signs to existing ones to save the cost of new poles.

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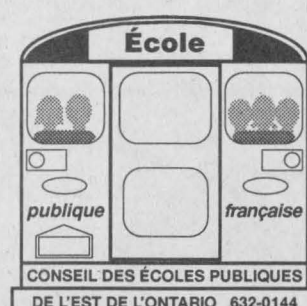
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### Closer look

Visitors to the Embrun Spring Fair and Show last Friday afternoon look over the many pieces of heavy equipment set up outdoors. The show which ran from March 12 - 14 at the Embrun Community Centre, attracted good crowds. Press Photos — Fetterly

## Farm update

## Seminar promotes additive for cattle

Dianne Fetterly  
Agricultural editor

WINCHESTER — The benefits of amino acids in dairy cattle rations was hashed out at a dairy meeting held here last week.

According to Rhone-Poulenc sales rep Alain Lajeunesse, studies found that including Smartamine in dairy rations had both health and production benefits. Smartamine provides amino acids — methionine which can be deficient in high soybean meal rations and lysine, which can be deficient in high corn rations.

He quoted 17 trials completed on herds across Canada which found an increased milk volume of 1.9 kg per day and an increase in milk protein averaging .15 per cent. There was a greater impact on milk protein with fresh cows and no significant change to milk fat. The target group of cows in the trials was between 50 and 150 days in milk and production was adjusted to 150 days in milk.

Lajeunesse also claims that a specially formulated coating on the Smartamine tablet, keeps the tablet intact in the rumen and breaks down in the abomasum, allowing the amino acids to be absorbed in the small intestine where it is most useful.

Lajeunesse was one of four speakers at a dairy meeting sponsored by Fred's Farm Supplies.

Other speakers at the March 12 meeting included agronomist Paul Sullivan, who discussed plant fibre and alternative feeds; Ralston Purina district manager Scott Wilson, who spoke on the cost of on-farm feeds; and Dr. Barry Sutherland, the ruminant technical service manager for Ralston Purina. He discussed the effects of fibre on butterfat.

## Lefleche tops seed show



The Russell County Soil and Crop Improvement Association's seed and forage show exhibits attracted attention at this year's Embrun Spring Fair and Show. Press Photo — Fetterly

EMBRUN — Nice weather ushered in this year's Embrun Spring Fair and Seed Show sponsored by the Russell County Soil and Crop Improvement Association.

A dance and awards ceremony highlighted the event which ran from Thurs., March 12 to Sat., March 14 at the Embrun Community Centre. Awards were presented as follows:

Russell County Soil and Crop Improvement Association award (for best booth): Caisse Populaire Embrun;

Cooperative agricole d'Embrun Ltée. (most points in corn): Ferme Troitrefles;

Caisse Populaire Embrun Inc. (best hay): Ferme Herminie; Paquette. Insurance/Bourdeau Insurance (champion soybeans): RFD Bourbonnais;

BDO Dunwoody Ward Mallette (most points in hay): Ferme Herminie;

CIBC Embrun (champion corn silage): Ferme Troitrefles;

Royal Bank agricultural services (grain and cob corn): Jacques and Suzanne Lafleche;

The Cooperators Phyl Ryan and Associates (most points in cereals): Ferme Herminie;

Gerard Savage Memorial award (most points overall) Jacques and Suzanne Lafleche;

Cannamore Farm Equipment (champion haylage): Ferme Herminie;

Lapointe Drainage Ltd. (most exhibits): Ferme Herminie and Jacques and Suzanne Lafleche.

### CFFO workshop

KEMPTVILLE — The Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario will explore the implications of larger farm enterprises at a workshop slated for Tues., March 31 at the University of Guelph, Kemptville campus.

Sponsored by the Dundas Farmers Association, the workshop will run from 9:45 am - 3:30 pm.

Those interested can contact one of the following members before March 28: Brian Vandenberg, 613-774-0207; Jack Van Gilst, 613-984-2448; Alex Oosterhof, 613-924-2266 or Derrick Noort at 613-774-3616.

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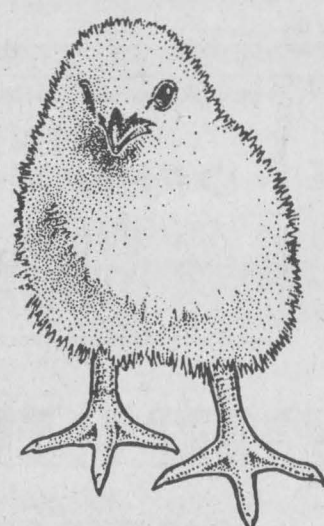
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# Vet recommends 21-day program

Dianne Fetterly  
Agricultural editor

WINCHESTER — A good, well-balanced ration for up-close dry cows will ensure a healthy, productive cow after freshening, says a well-known veterinarian.

"You should think of an up-close program as an investment," Dr. Evan Ferguson of Peterborough told farmers attending a dairy information meeting organized by the Dundas Veterinary Services Thurs., March 5 in Winchester.

According to Ferguson, an up-close program, started 21 days before a cow freshens, will provide increased milk production, more milk protein, better reproduction, healthier calves and healthier cows after freshening.

He explained that up-close dry cows' needs are different from far-off dry cows or fresh cows, and should be treated accordingly.

"Up-close cows require 14 - 16 per cent (protein) but because of the growing calf, their feed intake decreases during this time," Ferguson said.

He suggests increasing the ration, concentration and including high quality vitamins and minerals. Six milligrams of selenium, six grams of niacin and a glucose precursor, such as Rumancin to reduce Ketosis was also recommended. Ferguson also advised farmers to cut down or stop feeding salt.

## HOW TO FEED

Ferguson outlined his plan for feeding up-close dry cows.

He recommends: feeding long stem hay to provide lots of fibre; limiting corn silage; increasing grain

to six to eight pounds a day; ensuring bypass protein; giving concentration at .75 per cent of body weight per day; ensuring cows are comfortable; and adding anionic salts.

Anionic salts (chloride, sulphur) balance out positive cations such as potassium and sodium which can contribute to milk fever. For this reason it's also important to analyze forages for potassium, chloride, sodium and sulphur levels. TMR should be introduced carefully, he added.

While anionic salts are very effective, Ferguson says farmers feeding forages with high levels of potassium may have difficulty reducing the levels by feeding salts. Because anionic salts aren't very palatable it's hard to get the cows to eat it. Anionic salts are also quite expensive, he added.

## FRESH COWS

Ferguson outlined the goals for fresh cows as follows: to milk well, peak in milk production early; reach maximum feed intake early; minimize disease and minimize the negative energy balance.

His feeding program to help achieve these goals includes: feeding three to five pounds of long stem hay; increasing nutrient intake (10 per cent); increasing concentration to adjust for the lower feed intake; considering the higher requirement for bypass and fibre; and considering yeast and niacin requirements.

When feeding in free stalls, he suggests feeding a high group TMR and adding hay.

"It's important to get some hay into fresh cows for at least a week. Good body condition is also important, he added.



Winchester Public School principal George Hollingdrake (left) accepts an agricultural education package from Dundas Federation of Agriculture Winchester Township co-ordinator Keith Durant.

Press Photo — Fetterly

## DFA donates teaching kits

Dianne Fetterly  
Agricultural editor

WINCHESTER — As a means of promoting the importance of agriculture to local children, the Dundas Federation of Agriculture has given a video and teaching kit to area schools.

Presented to the schools last week by federation of agriculture township reps, the kit is a prelude to the annual Dundas Farm Fair slated for Wed., April 8.

The educational package is aimed at Grade 3 or 4 students but are also suitable for younger children, said DFA member Dawn Runnalls.

The video deals with fruit, dairy and sheep production but the ideas and activities in the kit can be adapted to existing studies, she said.

The package is intended to develop children's skills, attitudes and knowledge about agriculture; make them aware of how food gets to their table; give them an appreciation for a reliable, safe source of food; and help them understand the differences and connections between city and country life.

The video and teaching kit were prepared by Niagara North and Niagara South Federations of Agriculture.

## Generator repair offer to reimburse generosity

TORONTO — The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs will compensate individuals who loaned generators to ice storm-stricken farmers in eastern Ontario, through the Generator Repair Program.

"The generosity of these individuals is overwhelming. It is a visible measure of the strong sense of community found in rural Ontario that makes this province such an outstanding one in which to work and live," said Harry Danford, parliamentary assistant to the OMAFRA.

Under the program, farmers who loaned their generators will be reimbursed up to 90 per cent of repair costs, to a maximum of \$500. In special circumstances, OMAFRA will consider reimbursement of more than \$500, but applicants must receive pre-approval before proceeding with repairs.

To be eligible for the assistance, the owner of the generator must reside in Ontario, but outside the ice storm-affected area. If a generator was loaned but not distributed through the OMAFRA depot system, the owner must provide verification that the generator was used on an eastern Ontario farm as part of the relief effort.

"The people who loaned generators did so without a second thought. I am pleased, though, to be able to assure those individuals that a program is in place to repair loaned generators that may have been damaged," said Danford.

Application forms and further program details are available through local OMAFRA offices or by calling the OMAFRA head office in Guelph at 519-826-3549 or 519-826-3551.

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## OFA elects committees

by Alvin Runnalls  
OFA provincial director

TORONTO — OFA committees were chosen at the Feb. 18 board of directors' meeting and the eastern parts of the province are well-represented. Normally, the provincial committees are selected in January, but like so many other things, they were delayed by the ice storm. Each OFA committee has five members, two of whom are recommended by the executive, but all five must be elected by the board of directors. Most on committees are members of the board, but any OFA member can put his or her name forward for a position on a committee.

Jack Wilkinson, president of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA), reported to the OFA board on safety nets. He stated that both federal and provincial expenditures are decreasing rapidly. Some provinces with poor farm group relationships with their governments are more vulnerable. He is concerned that there is too much backroom dealing between provinces and the federal government which will continue to undermine the safety net program. He feels that we need a unified safety net program across the country. Wilkinson wants OFA to become more proactive in the safety net battle and get behind the CFA to lobby for adequate funding and consistency of programs.

Wilkinson is also concerned about the federal downloading of environmental issues.

OFA general manager Gerry Gartner spoke about the eastern Ontario ice storm compensation package. OFA is lobbying both federal and provincial governments to get them to co-operate and take responsibility for compensation for easterners affected by the ice storm. The agreement must respect two principles: all costs not covered by insurance must receive full compensation; and all registered farmers should be eligible for compensation.

Consultations have been taking place across the province seeking input on the draft Nutrient Management Planning Strategy. Gordon Garlough, DFA past-president, and I attended a session at Alfred College on March 6, along with other eastern Ontario county representatives. It is certainly true that if a farmer keeps close tabs on his nutrient management program, it will be to his financial interest and will be an environmental benefit. However, we should be asking some tough questions of those who are pushing this plan: Will it be confidential? Will it be mandatory? Will there be a lot of unnecessary book work? Who will pay for it? Who will supervise? Will farmers be the only ones who have to comply? What about golf courses and other businesses? These are among the many questions that were asked. Uncertainty and unanswered questions create suspicion, so we hope that those making the decisions will listen carefully to the grassroots input.

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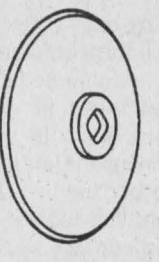
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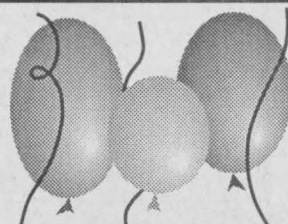
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## Williamsburg WI discusses emergency plan

by Joyce Patterson

WILLIAMSBURG — The March meeting of the Williamsburg Women's Institute was held at the Park Lane Seniors' Support Centre in Williamsburg.

President Isobel Williams opened the meeting with a welcome to all. Fifteen members and two visitors answered the roll call, "Wear your oldest piece of jewellery and tell its history". An interesting display of rings, brooches and bracelets were shown and discussed. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted and the treasurer's report was given.

The president announced that the Federated WI Convention of '98 will take place at Loyalist College in Belleville on July 3, 4 and 5. She also announced that two members had attended the 1998 Emergency Plan Workshop which took place at Avonmore.

Guest speaker was Philippe Geofrion, a volunteer from the Red Cross, who gave much information on the recent ice storm and offered steps that should be taken to address the emergency plan. He also gave out copies of a valuable booklet put out by the Red Cross, entitled "Expect the Unexpected — Plan for Emergencies". These are available from the Red Cross.

Peggy Thompson was convenor for the evening program. The motto was "Friendship is like diamonds, precious but rare". She gave the group some interesting material about Canadian Amethyst carvings. The group also viewed a video about two miners who worked for INCO in Indonesia nickel mines.

There will be a workshop at the Seniors' Support Centre on Sat., April 25. Diane Saunders will be demonstrating tole painting, Cathy Hunt will do a workshop on stained glass, and Mary Bowring will be demonstrating weaving. The charge for the day is \$6, which includes lunch. Everyone is welcome.

## Growing old just a bad habit

by Norma Wylie

WINCHESTER — Doris Ennis welcomed the ladies to the Winchester United Church Women's meeting on Monday, March 9 by saying, "Growing old is no more than a bad habit which a busy person has no time to form."

Lillian Moore led the worship service using the theme, "Not Two Gospels", reading scripture from Galatians 1:8-9 and closing with prayer.

Doris Ennis thanked all who took part in the UCW church service on Feb. 22.

Doris Ennis and Orma Earl took part in the World Day of Prayer held on Fri., March 6 in the Presbyterian church. The theme was "Who is my neighbor?"

Gloria Nelson reported sending five birthday and nine anniversary cards and a letter of thanks from Bob Weagant for help in the Snow Suit Fund at Christmas.

June Armstrong reported that knitted afghans for children 30 by 45 inches were needed for the children's hospital.

Doris Ennis reported on the presbyterial held at Morewood and announced the annual presbyterial to be held at Cardinal on April 14.

The next meeting is scheduled for Mon., April 13 in the form of a pot luck supper and Easter Thank-offering. Unit one is in charge. All ladies are welcome.

A delightful lunch was served and the meeting closed with, "Go now in peace".

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### A touch of Dutch

The Dutch Corner in Embrun opened on Thurs., March 12. The store specializes in cheese and Dutch products. Pictured, owners John and Tina Van Vlaanderen dressed the part for their grand opening.

Press Photo — Cooke-Erwin

## Hospital dance tickets cut to \$30

by Marjorie Phillips

WINCHESTER — The regular monthly meeting of the Winchester District Memorial Hospital Auxiliary was held on March 12.

President Joan Faringer opened the meeting at 1:30 pm with greetings and the Hospital Auxiliary Prayer. The February minutes were read by Marj Phillips.

Business arising from the minutes included a discussion regarding the volunteer tea on April 22 at 11 am. This event will be sponsored by Nick Lee (Odonto Corp.). Also, the cost of the hospital's 50th anniversary dinner and dance, to be held at the Winchester Community Centre on June 6 has been changed from \$100 to \$60 per couple or \$30 each.

Joan Faringer gave an amusing account of Elinor Jordan and herself and their escapade in attending the Montreal Trade and Buyers Show. They showed their mettle as in spite of a series of misadventures they survived the big city and accomplished their mission.

The meeting was well attended: Winchester was represented by eight members, Morewood by two, Morrisburg by four, Summers/Cass Bridge by three members, Chester-ville by six and two others. Chester-ville auxiliary presented a notice of an auxiliary soup and sandwich card party to be held on April 1 at the Laprade Centre in Chester-ville at noon. The cost is \$4. They also showed a beautiful knitted sweater and mittens to be sold in the gift shop.

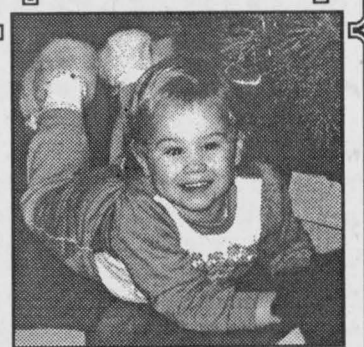
Hospital administrator Joseline Sikorski detailed the work she has

been doing in an attempt to meet the government's restructuring guidelines. Services to be put into practice, such as chemotherapy, ophthalmology, breast screening and orthopaedics are high priorities in trying to meet the needs of the area and cause the hospital a guaranteed state of existence.

The closure of the third floor occurs as the move to more cost-effective ambulatory care and day surgery become more common. If the hospital is to be granted a B2 classification, that is one with 24-hour medical care, on-site surgery, many clinical services (those mentioned above) the need to match the right skills with the right person becomes imperative. The auxiliary is aware of the difficult job which she faces, as well as the hardship and disorientation we all experience with change.

The various reports were presented and approved. Liliast Lancaster gave the Gift Shop report (189 hours), Rita Bray gave the In Memoriam Fund report, Hilda Vandekemp gave the volunteer co-ordinator's report (200 hours worked), Graham Barkley gave the Sunshine Circle report (hour total 29). Marion Carkner is busy working on the spring conference to be held on April 15 in Morrisburg. Marj Phillips is working on the dessert and card party to be held at the Nor-Dun Centre on April 27 from 1:10 pm to 3:30 pm.

A cheque for \$25 will be sent to the memorial fund in memory of Mrs. Black, a former auxiliary president.



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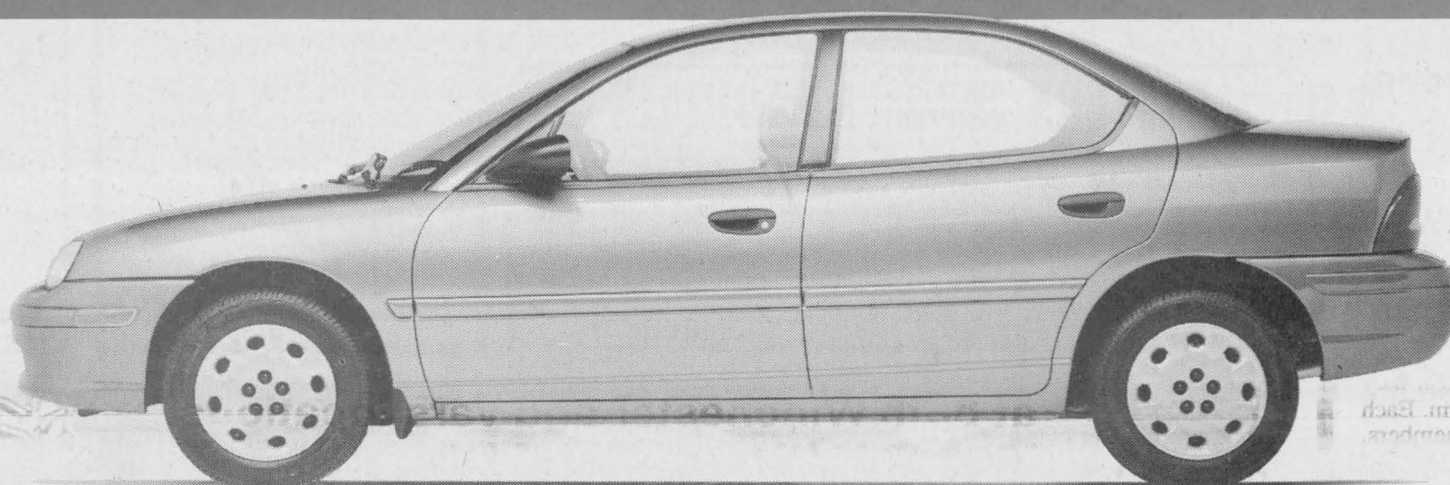


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# New business in Williamsburg

by Sandy Bierworth  
Press staff

WILLIAMSBURG — When her tenant vacated the house she owned at the beginning of February, Williamsburg resident Anne Allen had a dream. She partnered up with her friend Carol Green and turned the yellow two-storey house into a second-hand clothing shop.

The Counts, Please store at 12364 County Rd. 18 in Williamsburg opened for business on March 14, bringing in line-ups of customers in the early hours of the morning and clearing piles of new and used clothes of all sizes and styles from the crowded closets and shelves in the clothing rooms.

The clothing is sold in the bedrooms upstairs, and the downstairs sitting room and the adjoining

kitchen is being transformed into a coffee shop. The grand opening of the store is set to take place in two weeks, after the coffee shop and menu is completed.

Allen said the partnership helped fulfil a dream for both store owners.

"It happened by accident actually," she said. "When my tenant left, I told Carol I had plans for the house, and she came over and said, 'So what are you going to do?', and I told her I've always wanted to start a second-hand clothing shop here. Then she threw her arms around me and said 'That's what I've always wanted to do too.' So we started getting ready."

Green said the store was set up in the house to keep a more comfortable atmosphere for the customers.

"We wanted to keep it homey," she said. "We didn't want it to look too much like a store as opposed to a

house. We wanted to make it seem like you're just visiting a friend's house and looking through their closet to see what clothes they have."

After the coffee shop holds its grand opening, store hours will be 8 am to 3 pm Monday and Tuesday, then Thursday to Saturday. The store is closed on Wednesdays and Sundays to correspond with the hours of the neighboring tea room on County Rd. 31 in Williamsburg.

Green said customers who are unable to come in during the day can make an appointment to look around in the evening.

Allen said she feels the store fills a need in the community.

"Williamsburg needs a good quality second-hand store," she said. "But we decided that there was not enough business in clothing to support the store, so we opened a coffee shop downstairs. We didn't want to be in competition with any other businesses here, so we decided to open when the tea room is closed, and offer a different menu than it does. Also, anyone who brings their car in to Canadian Tire first thing in the morning now has a place they can go to get a cup of coffee and some home-baked goods while they wait."

Green agrees that coinciding with competitors' hours was a good idea.

"We're not trying to knock anybody out, we just want to fill in the slots," she said.

While the pair is still trying to work out the organizational bugs in the store, business was good on their first day.

"Just ask our feet," said Green, laughing. "We're tired, but we're happy. It's definitely worth it."

Allen added, "It's been a good experience for all of us."

The merchandise is donated by neighbors and friends and the women are asking anyone who has clothing in good repair that they no longer need or want to either donate it to the store or put it on consignment.



## Bridal show

Chesterville business owners Jacques Lemieux, of Jumpin Jack's, and Virginia Patenaude, of Virginia Leigh Originals, stand at Patenaude's booth at the Chesterville Bridal Show, which was held at the

Faucet on March 12 from 7:30 pm to 9 pm. The show was held to announce that the hall can be used for stags or showers at no charge.

Press Photo — Bierworth



Anne Allen and Carol Green opened their second-hand clothing store and coffee shop on March 14 in Williamsburg. The store is a dream-come-true for the two friends.

Press Photo — Bierworth

## Elliott to perform

MORRISBURG — Popular CBC comedian Lorne Elliott will visit Morrisburg in April. He will give a concert at Upper Canada Playhouse on April 18.

Tickets are expected to go quickly as Lorne Elliott is very popular in eastern Ontario. Call the box office for ticket reservations.

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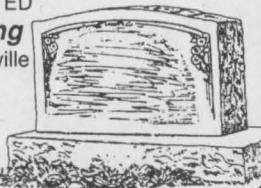
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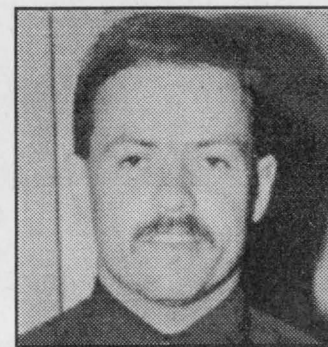


Rosalind Drewery's

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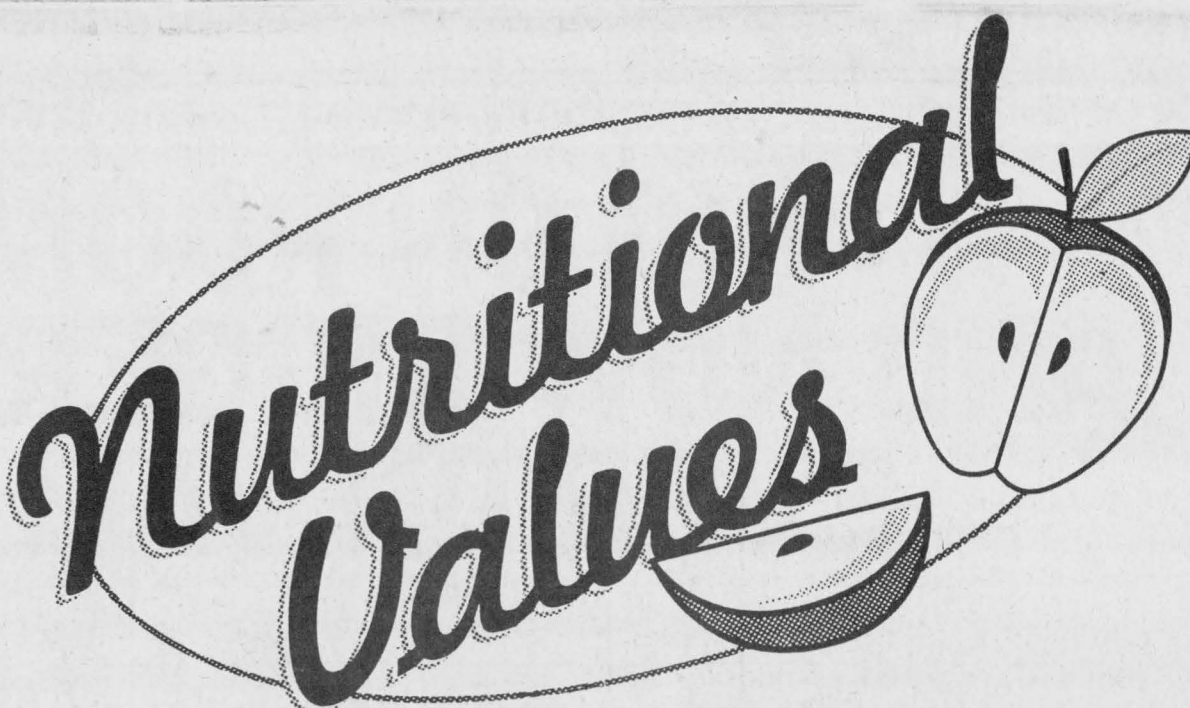
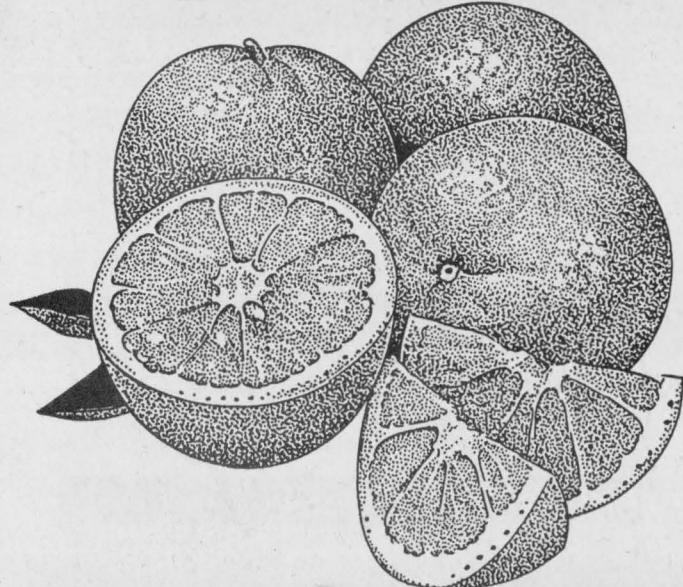
Product of USA, \$1.96 kg

89¢ lb.

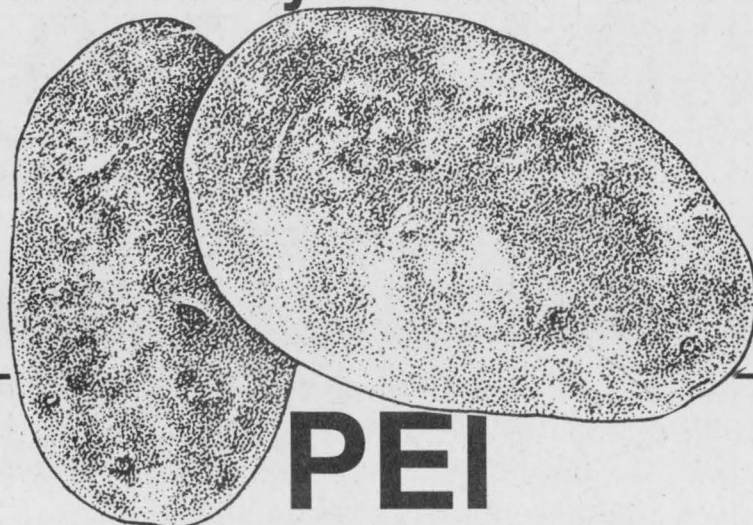
## Oranges

Product of California, 138s, seedless

\$1 59 doz.



for March Break  
from Valley Produce & Deli



PEI Potatoes  
\$2 79  
20 lb. bag

## Cadet Smoked Ham

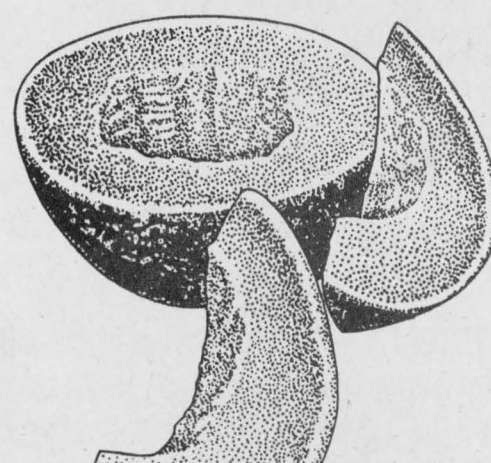
\$7.91 kg

\$3 59 lb.

## Cantaloupes

Size 23, product of USA

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\$3 79

2%, 1%, Skim  
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