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December 19, 2003 | Volume 19, Issue 14 | Serving Cornwall and Area | www.cornwallseawaynews.com



SANTA GETS ANOTHER ORDER - One-year-old Samuel Lavictoire of Martintown gives it some thought on Tuesday, December 16th, 2003, after Santa Claus at the Cornwall Square asked him what he wants for Christmas. Checking with Samuel's father, he thinks his son asked for a "new fishing boat for his Daddy!"

Photo by John Divinski


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Specials in effect from Saturday, Dec. 20th to Wednesday, Dec. 24th. We reserve the right to limit quantities. While supplies last.

LOCAL

Building Program Students Complete Project

The students of the Building Construction and Renovation program (a joint venture of St. Mathews Catholic Learning Centre and Lincien College) recently completed the construction of storage sheds as part of their studies. The material for the sheds were donated by Perkins-Caron Rona Home Centre.

"The program offers the students the basics of building construction, giving them a distinct advantage as they enter the workforce," says Lucien Lalonde of Lincien College. Roy Perkins of Perkins-Caron Rona Home Centre added, "This program is like a garden, and we're planting the seeds for an industry that desperately needs young apprentices."

The students learn through hands-on classroom instruction and will be placed with various building constructors as part of the co-op portion of their studies. Says Dan Lortie of St. Mathews Catholic Learning Centre, "These students will have the necessary background that employers will be looking for. They will be ready to enter the workforce in May 2004 and will be highly employable."



Pictured left to right: Lucien Lalonde, CEO Lincien College; Ann Perron, Superintendent with the Catholic District Board of Eastern Ontario; Dan Lortie, Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program Coordinator; Roy Perkins of Perkins-Caron Rona Home Centre; Linda Lalonde, President of Lincien College; and students Justin Tremblay, Andrew Robertson, and Chris Quesnel.

Photo by Robin Cameron

HOLIDAY GREETINGS
From All Of Us

To our valued customers we extend our sincere gratitude and best wishes for a season that's filled with good health, good fortune and good friends.
We know we're thankful for the precious gift of your goodwill and friendship.


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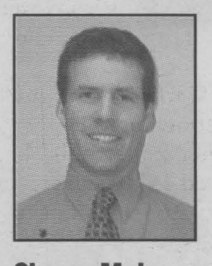
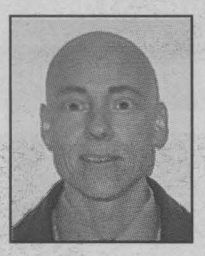
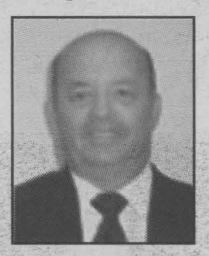
Karen Kelly
Business Manager


Shawn Maloney
Dealer Principal


Larry Ducharme


Devon MacDonald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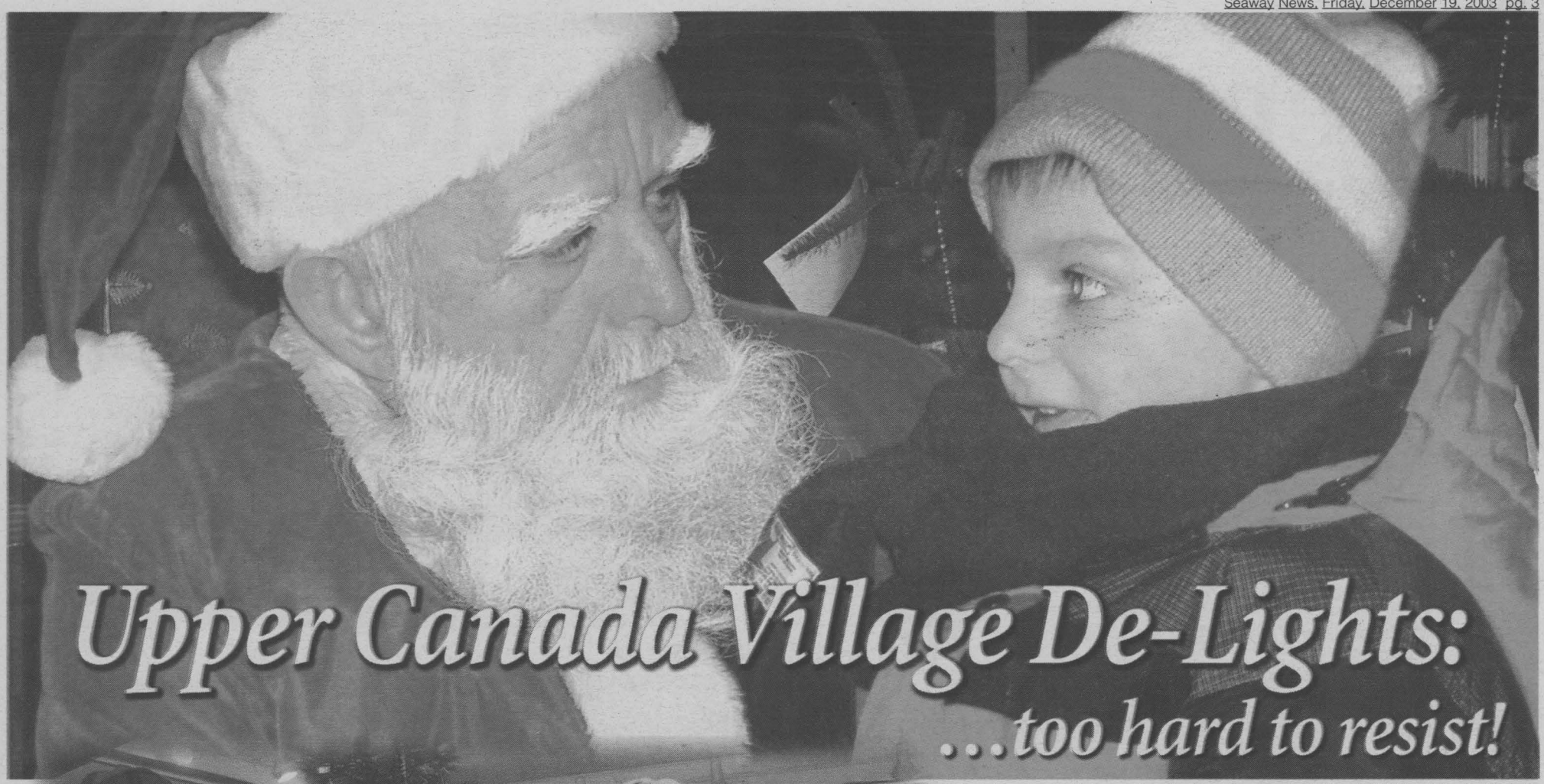
Upper Canada Village De-Lights: ...too hard to resist!



(above) ... Santa listens attentively as five-year-old Jacob White of Ingleside tells him he wants a Zamboni for Christmas.

(at left) ... After a wagon ride tour of the Village and supper at the Harvest Barn Restaurant, three generations of one family conclude their evening at the Village Store. Pictured from left to right are Paul and Carolyn Arnold and their 15-month-old daughter, Janna, of Cornwall and Carolyn's parents, Harold and Myrtle Crann of Badger, Newfoundland.





Crysler Hall alight at night.

Story and photos by Linda Mikolayenko.

Visitors to Alight at Night are finding the attractions irresistible.

For one, it's hard to resist singing "Jingle Bells" when you hear the tinkling of the bells on the harnesses of the horses. Though he wasn't in a "one-horse open sleigh," but in a "two-horse wagon," five-year-old Jacob White couldn't help breaking into song and his fellow passengers couldn't resist joining in as they rode through a winter wonderland on a crisp, clear evening.

Jacob and his mother, Lynn, were among two wagon-loads of members of the Cornwall Newcomers Club and their families who took in the 150,000-plus light spectacle at Upper Canada Village on Saturday, December 13th, 2003.

"We had a wonderful time," said Carolyn Arnold, who recently moved to Cornwall from Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

"It puts you in the Christmas spirit," added her husband, Paul.

The Arnolds made it a real family event by bringing their 15-month-old daughter, Janna, and Carolyn's parents, Harold and Myrtle Crann, who are visiting from Badger, Newfoundland.

Ever tried to resist the aroma of freshly-baked bread? Shortly after 7 p.m., baker Keith Johnston arrives at the Village Store with wicker baskets filled with whole-wheat bread, still warm. A crowd is already waiting and the 80 loaves are quickly snapped up. For anyone up to walking around the Village, Johnston invites visitors to stop in at the bakery between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Santa's Workshop is also located in the Village Store, and what kid can resist sitting on Santa's knee, especially when he's prepared to offer a candy cane treat?

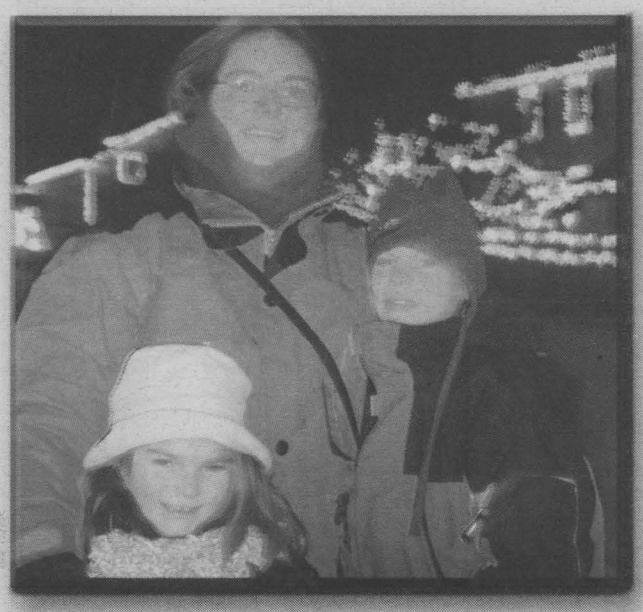
Carolyn Arnold was impressed with how good he was with her daughter as she posed for a photo.

"Santa was very warm and genuine," she said as she speculated that he might be the "real" Santa.

Lynn White agreed: "I think he is the real Santa," she observed as he engaged in a conversation about hockey with her son.

She could be right. After all, he did tell Jacob, "See you on Christmas Eve!"

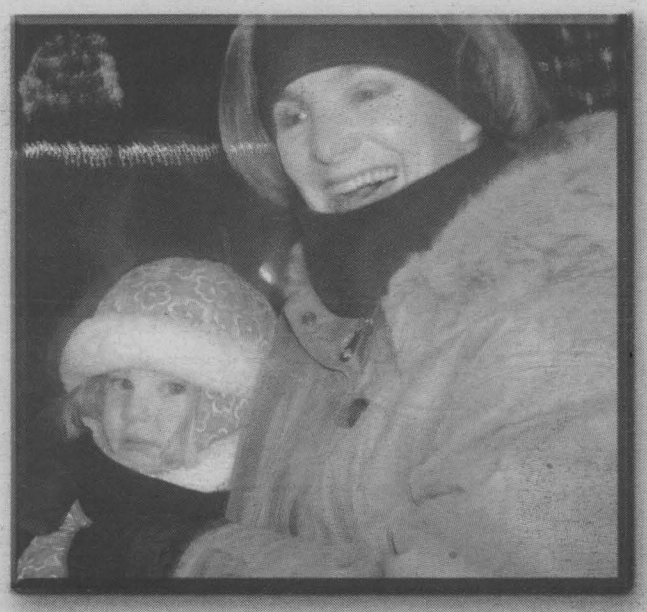
Alight at Night continues until Sunday, January 4th, 2004, but Santa makes his last appearance on Sunday, December 21st, 2003. For more information, call 1-800-437-2233 or check out www.uppercanadavillage.com.



Jennifer Randell and her children, Nellie (front) and Macailean, formerly of Halifax, take in the sights at Upper Canada Village.



Brothers Alexander, Ian, and Andrew McGrath-Santowski shed their snowsuits under the Christmas tree after heading in to have supper.



The secret to keeping warm on the wagon ride is to bundle up. Carolyn Whittaker cuddles with her daughter, Chloe.

LOCAL

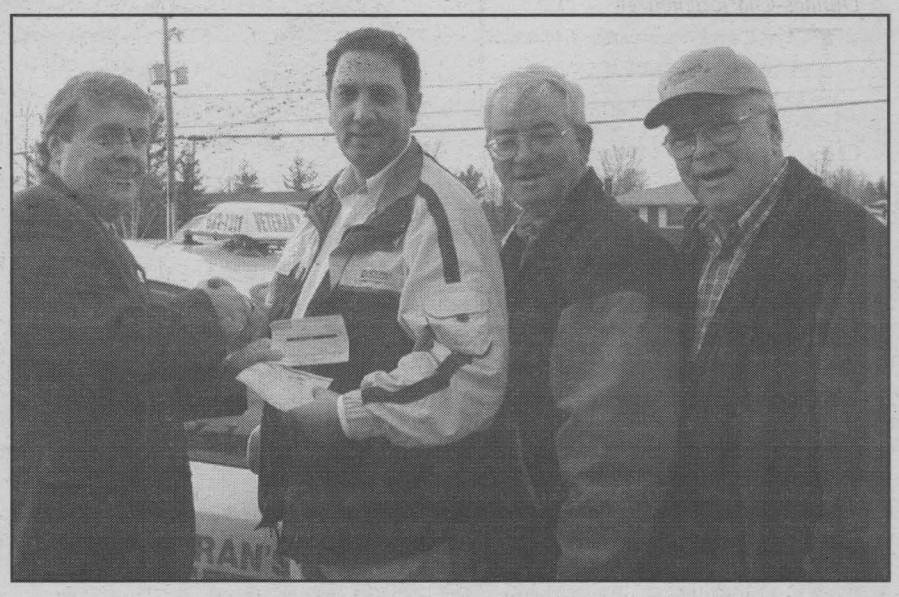
Friends of the United Way



A recent two-day "Add A Dollar" campaign at Maynard's Your Independent Grocer in Cornwall netted the United Way of Cornwall and District over $3,700. On Monday, December 8th, 2003, the money was presented by owner Bruce Maynard (centre) to United Way fundraising chair Kevin Wilson (right) and vice-chair John Divinski (left).

Over $500 was donated recently to the United Way of Cornwall and District by Veteran's Modern Cabs. The money came from a "Pennies from Heaven" collection and from the company as well. The campaign has realized just over 70 percent of its $550,000 goal which goes to support 18 agencies in Cornwall and region. Left to right: Kevin Wilson, United Way Fundraising Chair accepts the cheque from driver/owner Jamil Malik; owner Andre Desjardins; and driver/owner and President of the Cornwall Taxi Drivers Association, Rene Lortie.

Photos by John Divinski





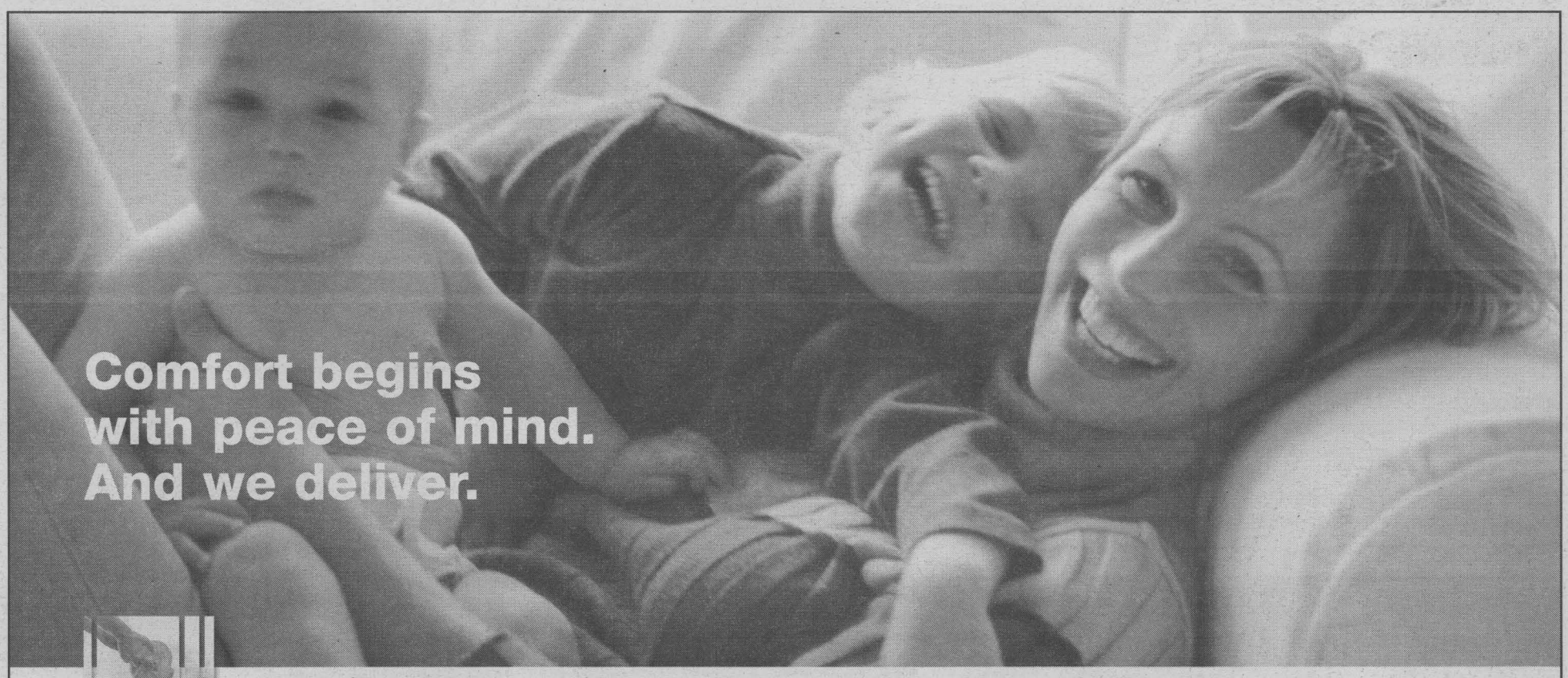
United Way of Cornwall and District received another $1,000 from the Guardian Group of Funds on Monday, December 15th, 2003. The fundraising campaign is close to 90 percent of its $550,000 goal. Left to right: Jean Marier of Guardian presents a cheque to United Way board member Paul Cardinal of RBC Investments and fundraising chair Kevin Wilson.



Upper Canada Mortgage and Investment Corporation in Cornwall recently donated $300 to the United Way campaign. Seated: Mortgage consultants Joanne Bryan-Tyrell (left) and Roze Fitch, along with Broker Brian Johnston (standing left) present a cheque to United Way fundraising vice-chair John Divinski (standing right).



Canadian Tire in Cornwall threw in $1,745 on Monday, December 8th, 2003 to top off the United Way "Add A Dollar" campaign held there in early November, to $3,000. United Way fundraising chair Kevin Wilson (right) accepts the cheque from Canadian Tire owner James Lavigne.





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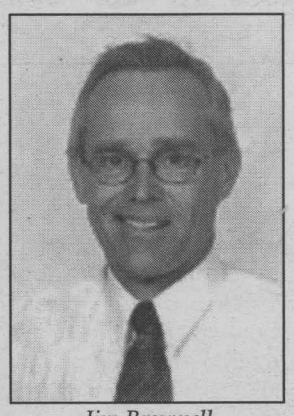
LOCAL

December Update

By Jim Brownell, MPP Stormont-Dundas-Charlottenburgh



Jim Brownell

First and foremost, I would like to wish all residents of Stormont-Dundas-Charlottenburgh a Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year!

It has been an exciting and humbling couple of months serving as the newly elected Member of Provincial Parliament for our area. Since October 2nd, 2003, I have been traveling throughout our riding, attending events, heeding our citizen's concerns, and bringing our community's concerns and needs to Queen's Park in Toronto.

In this first session of the 38th Parliament, I have been fortunate enough to be able to ask two members questions, state one Members Statement, meet and mingle with members from the Liberal caucus (including a notable meeting with the Honourable George Smitherman), and was able to bring forward my first private members bill. To say the least, it has been a busy and exhilarating couple of weeks!

In the first week of sitting, I was able to bring forward the issues of cigarette smuggling and the precarious situations of our hospitals, both in Cornwall and Winchester, by means of question period.

In both questions, I was contented with our government's responses – with both Minister Sorbara's assurances that there will not be a resurgence of smugglers alley because of the staged approach to pricing increases to the national level, and Minister Smitherman's commitment to come and tour our hospitals and witness our health care concerns firsthand.

With my first Member's Statement, I was able to congratulate the South Stormont's Cattleman's Association for all their hard work and dedication this year, particularly during the (BSE) mad cow crisis.

Being at Queen's Park, and having the opportunity to bring forward our community's concerns is the most rewarding experience for any member of parliament. Taking part in caucus meetings, and being a member of a Cabinet Committee (Community Affairs and Policy) has allowed me opportunities that past backbench members were not afforded (past government back-benchers were not able to sit on Cabinet Committees). Moreover, I was overjoyed to learn last week that I was appointed vice-chair for the Standing Parliamentary Committee on Justice and Social Policy. I attended my first meeting with this committee last week.

Just last week, I was also able to introduce my first private members bill – An Act to proclaim Heritage Day, and to amend other Acts to include Ontario Heritage Day as a holiday. As my first private member's bill, I wanted to introduce something close to both my community, and my heart. Doing something to preserve Ontario's cultural, natural and built heritage, while assisting Ontario's hospitality and tourism industry was the perfect solution. The Bill was approved in principal, and has been turned over to the Standing Committee on General Government, chaired by Jean-Marc Lalonde, MPP for Glengarry-Prescott Russell.

It has been a thrilling couple of months, and I hope to continue serving you as an active and positive proponent of our community. This monthly column's purpose is to update you on my activities, as well as give you a chance to ask me a question, or comment on my activities. So please, provide me with your input, and allow me to work harder for you!

Again, Happy Holidays to you and yours, and I look forward to hearing from you in the future!

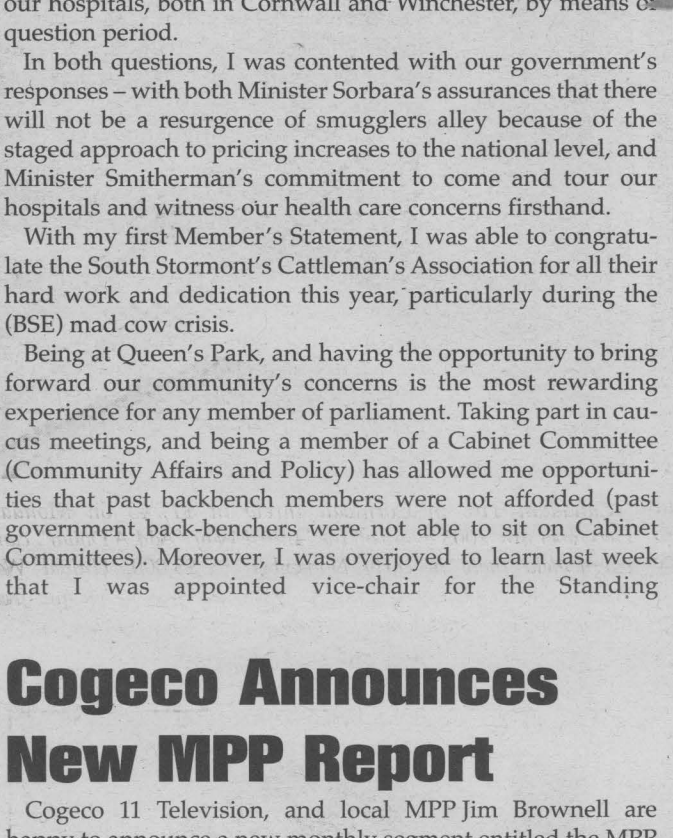
Cogeco Announces New MPP Report

Cogeco 11 Television, and local MPP Jim Brownell are happy to announce a new monthly segment entitled the MPP Report.

"I am elated that Cogeco 11 has afforded me the opportunity to speak directly to the constituents of Stormont-Dundas-Charlottenburgh," stated MPP Brownell. "I think this is a great way to engage our community."

The MPP Report's main focus will be to discuss the issues important to the region and how our local MPP is addressing said issues. Hosted by Pat Finucan, the show will be interactive, with questions from the public being compiled by e-mail (cogecotv@datacom.ca) and answered on telecasts.

The first edition of the MPP Report with Jim Brownell will premiere Monday, December 22nd, 2003 at 8 p.m. on Cogeco 11.



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HappyHolidays

With gratitude, we extend our best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season to each and every one of you.

Your business is always appreciated. Thank you for visiting us this past year. We look forward to seeing you in 2004.

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Dinosaurs, Edsels, Rotary Phones, Concordes, Etc.



with Nick Wolochatiuk
email: nuthill@glen-net.ca

Within the last millennium, century, decade or year, we've seen the rise and fall of (in approximate chronological order) the dinosaurs, continental glaciation, quill pens, the battleship, Edsels, the Galop Canal, passenger pigeons, Ditto stencils, use of hydrogen in airships, zoot suiters, black and white television sets, rotary telephones, advertisement-free white boards around hockey rinks, the Berlin Wall, the USSR, good manners, Concordes, Jean Chrétien and very soon in 2004, the Highway 401 CP's "Peanut Line" bridge.

With 2004 in its infancy, I'm going to make a prediction: unless current trends and technology are reversed, the cell phone will be the next thing to disappear from the face of the Earth. Mark my words! Let me give you some of my reasons for making this seemingly ridiculous prediction.

If I were to list some of the characteristics of current cell phones, they'd include the following: amusing, annoying, compact, complicated, counter-productive, dangerous, elitist, elusive, enslaving, expensive, handy, inevitable, innovative, intrusive, productive, sophisticated, sporadic reception, trendy, ubiquitous, unreliable, useful, etc. If my counting is correct, that makes 21. If my math and categorizing are correct, that makes five positives, two neutral and 15 negatives.

To be true to my policy of trying to be unbiased and provide both sides of the story, let me briefly delve into the five positives about cell phones.

Amusing? If we use the definition of humour as being, "the juxtaposition of the incongruous," then cell phones can provide instances of humour. Picture this scenario: a priest is about to give communion to one of the faithful. Just as the parishioner extends his hand, his cell phone loudly chimes, "I wish I was in Dixie."

Handy? You bet! You are about to enter the busy traffic pattern of an airport when your NavCom inexplicably dies. How handy it would be if you could immediately call up the tower to inform them of your situation. There are no phone booths at 1,000, a.g.l. (above ground level).

Innovative: darn right they are! The TV advertisements tell you that you can send your lady-friend (or to your mother, by mistake) a real-time image of what you are doing.

Productive: Yup! Cell phone technology can allow you to answer you clients' queries while you are pulling in perch from a rowboat.

Useful: imagine this - you are 10th in line to get the last few tickets for the theatre. Without stepping out of line, you call up the ticket kiosque to reserve your tickets.

Now that the positive attributes of having access to a cell phone have been considered, allow me to briefly discuss their two 'either way' features: compactness and sophistication.

At one time, cell phones could be described as being compact only in comparison to compact cars of the past (Chevrolet Corvair, Chrysler Valiant, Nash Metropolitan, etc.) or of the present (Pontiac Sunfire, Yugo, Trabant, etc.). It is now easy to slip a cell phone in your chest pocket (or breast pocket, if that term hasn't already been banished by the gender-neutral police), with a telltale bulge showing.

However, if the diminishing size trend continues, cell phones will become so compact that they will be tiny enough to be blown off the coffee table when the cat sneezes, or when the dog passes air. Size doesn't matter - unless the size shrinks so much that the job can no longer be accomplished. The touch pads of some cell phones (and lap top computers) are shrinking so much that we'll soon have to evolve fingers as pointed as a cat's claws to hit one key at a time.

Sophistication can be good or bad. The "K.I.S.S. Principle" suggests "Keep It Simple Stupid!." Do you remember the rotary phone you once had? Yes! Even without an instruction sheet (there wasn't one), it was easy to use: a) Pick up the handset. b) Figure out which end makes a noise; the other end automatically ends up near your mouth. c) Put the noisy end to your ear. d) Listen to see if the party line is on. e) If you hear a dial tone, dial. f) If someone talks to you, talk to them. g) Conversation over: do the reverse of step a). The cell phone instruction booklet I studied recently had 32 detailed pages. I don't think one should have to go back to university just to find out how to place a call.

Hey! I set out to explain why, unless current trends and technology are reversed, the cell phone will be the next thing to disappear from the face of the Earth. A promise: I'll discuss those 15 negatives in next week's DWW. I have to run now - I have to find my cell phone.

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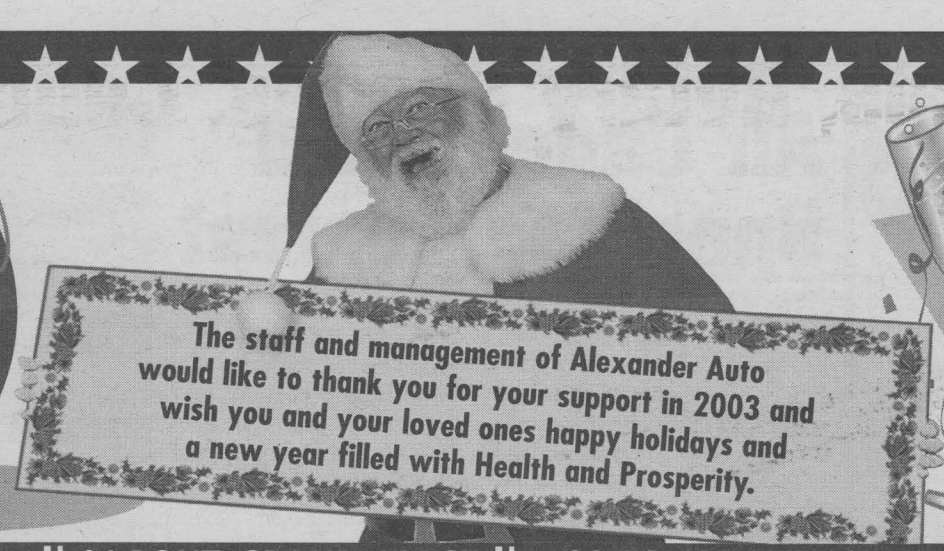



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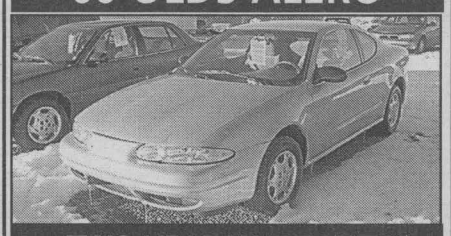

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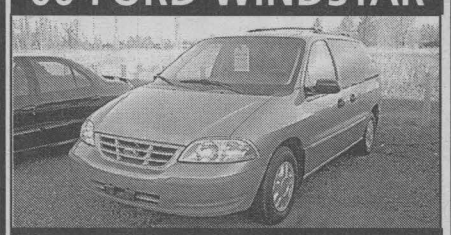

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Air Cadets Hold Speaking Contest



The Air Cadet Squadron, which is sponsored by the 325 Cornwall Kiwanis and the RCAFA Wing 424, held an Effective Speaking Contest on Wednesday, November 19th, 2003 at l'Heritage school in Cornwall with the support of representatives from the Seaway Toastmasters (Cornwall) and Glengarry Toastmasters (Alexandria) Clubs. Pictured are: front row (left to right): First place - Sgt. Marc Delorme; Second place - LAC Joel Baker; Third place - AC Sara Khan). Back row (left to right): Major Gail McDougall, Commanding Officer; Malcolm Robertson, President, Seaway Toastmasters; Helena McCuaig, Glengarry Toastmasters; Steve Whaley, Seaway Toastmasters; Sandra McCuaig, Glengarry Toastmasters; and Corporal Neil DePass, coordinator of the contest.

The First place winner will advance to the regional competition on Tuesday, December 16th, 2003 at the Royal Military College (RMC) in Kingston where he will compete in an effective speaking contest against other cadets from across Ontario.

Submitted photo

No Frills Donates To Treatment Centre



Almost $2,300, raised by the cashiers at Simon and Sherrol's No Frills, through the "Smile for the Children" charity drive, was handed over to the Children's Treatment Centre of Cornwall on Thursday, December 11th, 2003. Funds were raised through the sale of $2 "Smile Cards" from November 9th to 22nd, 2003. Left to right: Pierre Guindon, President of the Children's Treatment Centre accepts the cheque from the top three card sellers, Ashley Corriveau; Bonnie Morrisette and Sue Ladouceur.

Photo by John Divinski

Classified plus

Two Students Placed! Only Jenny Remains!


Jenny



Barbara



Hannah

Cornwall has shown their generosity by giving both Barbara and Hannah a home for the Spring Semester. Jenny, a 16 year old student is also coming to the Cornwall area to represent Germany on an EF High School Exchange program. This Christmas, you could give Jenny the gift she is waiting for, news that she will also have a host family! Students will attend local High schools and live with host families. You could be part of this exciting experience by hosting Jenny for one Semester!

Hosting an exchange student is fun for your whole family. By opening your door to a high school student, you will have the opportunity to learn about a new culture and build international friendships.

EF Foundation is a non-profit organization. All EF Foundation students are thoroughly screened, fully insured, and bring their own spending money. Volunteer host families provide, room, meals, and a caring environment.

Call your local coordinator today to learn more about how your family can make a difference for one of these students. For more information, please call Regional Coordinator Joseph Szabo at 613-933-6895, or toll-free call 1-800-263-2825.

Educational Share Foundation

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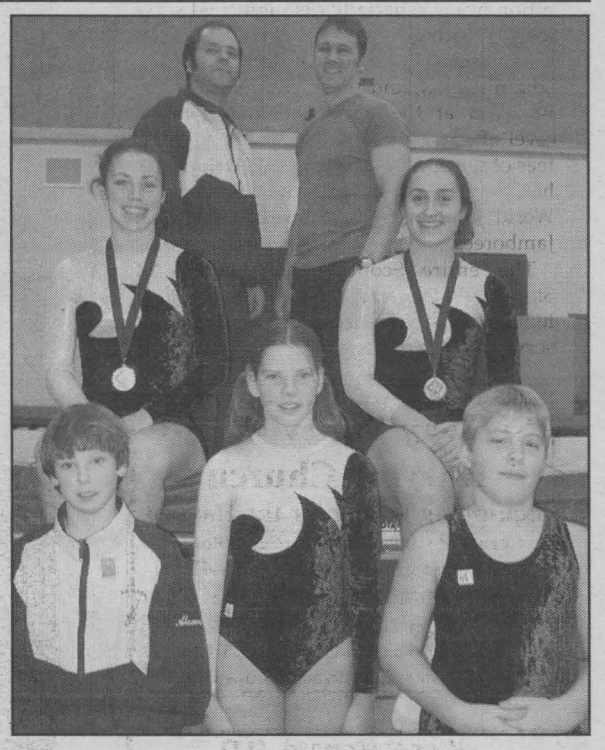
Local Athletes Return High Spirited



Cornwall Air Gliders were in Scarborough on Saturday and Sunday, November 29th and 30th, 2003 for the first Ontario Cup Qualifier towards the Provincial Championships. The team returned with great standings and a favourable outlook for the Winter Games in 2004. Their next competition is in Orangeville in January 2004. In the photo are: (clockwise from front centre) Emilie Gauthier, 14th in Provincial Level 2; Alexandre Junneau, sixth in Provincial Level 2; Marie-Josee Ryan, (Silver Medal) second in Provincial Level 3; Patrick Legare, assistant coach; Jean Junneau, coach; Gabrielle Martin (Silver Medal), second in Provincial Level 3; and Brady Lucyshyn, seventh in Provincial Level 2.

Photo by Chris McPhee

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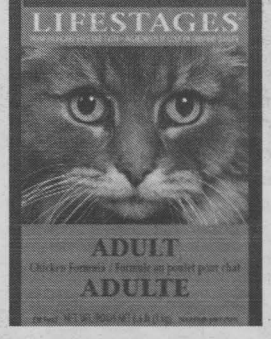

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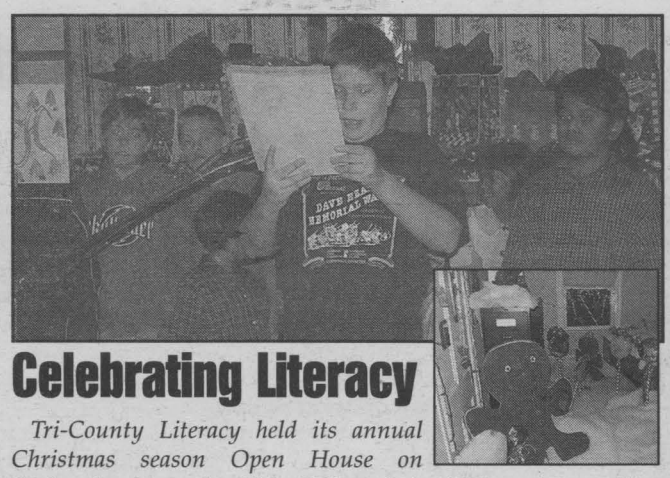
Congratulations Pizza Hut In Cornwall!

Pizza Hut Cornwall recently received a $1,000 cheque from Brian Breedy and Ginene McSwain of Pizza Hut Canada for being the first Pizza Hut in Canada to win the Mystery Shopper Award. To win the $1,000 they had to serve 10 mystery shoppers in a row and set a 100 percent satisfaction rating from all 10 shoppers. Kathryn Young, owner of Pizza Hut and her management team would like to thank their staff for the wonderful job.

File photo



Celebrating Literacy

Tri-County Literacy held its annual Christmas season Open House on Wednesday, December 10th, 2003 at their 101 Second Street West location. The evening was filled with guest readings by various local dignitaries, children from their Homework Programs (photo) and their annual Office Decorating Contest (see inset photo). The theme for this year was "Our First Noel" and proceeds from the contest were donated to the United Way.

Photo by Chris McPhee



Children Helping Children

The grade eight Art and Literacy class from St. Columban's West spent some of the day on Monday, December 1st, 2003 helping brighten the windows of the Children's Treatment Centre as part of their Community Outreach philosophy. Some of the students that participated were: (left to right) Ryan Seguin, Evan Lalonde, Pamela St. Germain, and Brian Cooper.

Photo by Chris McPhee

Local Scouter Receives Award

Local scouter John Witham has been recognized for his many years of leadership and dedication to the scouting movement, in Stormont, Glengarry, as well as provincially and nationally. John was presented with the Silver Acorn, Scouts Canada's second highest award for outstanding service to Scouting. The presentation was made at the Wednesday, December 3rd, 2003 Scouter's club meeting at the St. Andrews Fire Hall in St. Andrews, Ontario.

Mike Scott, National Commissioner of Scouts Canada, on behalf of Her Excellency the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, Governor General and Chief Scout of Canada, informed Mr. Witham that the Silver Acorn was being awarded in recognition of his especially distinguished service to scouting.

John served the area as leader, trainer, commissioner, and president. He has been involved at the provincial and national level of scouting, chairing review committees of the Scout and Venture programs. He has participated as staff and volunteer in World Jamborees and Canadian National Jamborees.

The entire Scouting membership of Stormont-Glengarry wish to congratulate him and thank him for his many years of service and dedication.

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Msgr. Rudy Villeneuve Foundation Annual Dinner

The annual dinner meeting of the Msgr. Rudy Villeneuve Foundation was held in the St. Francis de Sales Hall on Friday, December 5th, 2003. Gilles Latour, Chairman of the Benson Charity Golf Classic, presented Fr. Rudy with a cheque for $16,000, the proceeds of the fundraising event held this past August.

Since Father Rudy's birthday is December 25th, they baked a cake and celebrated his birthday as well.

Since the Foundation was formed, Fr. Rudy has donated back to the Foundation monetary gifts he receives at Christmas. Fr. Rudy is the pastor at St. Joseph's Parish in Lancaster. The parishioners raise funds in various ways and give the funds to Fr. Rudy who in turn donates them to the Foundation.



Pictured, Gilles Latour (centre), Chairman of the Benson Charity Golf Classic, presenting Fr. Rudy (left) with a cheque for $16,000, the proceeds of the fundraising event held this past August, and Jake Lamoureux, President.

Submitted photos

In 1996, Angelo Towndale and Jake Lamoureux wanted to recognize the work that Fr. Rudy, as he is best known, has done in our community. He was the first person named "Citizen of the Year" by the Cornwall Chamber of Commerce in 1972. The plan was to raise funds to provide bursaries and at the same time create a perpetual fund that would carry on long after Fr. Rudy is gone.

The Board also plans to promote the need for the return of a university in our community. Fr. Rudy and Ed Lumley were the two main players to bring in the University of Ottawa at St. Lawrence College years back.

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NISSAN SHIFT_

dec19032

POETS CORNER

By Charlie McDonald

On Christmas Eve

On Christmas Eve, when I was young,
There were treats to be eaten and songs to be sung,
Uncles and aunts would huddle in a corner and smile,
Telling us that Santa would be here in a short while.

For me, Christmas Eve was the longest night of the year,
I couldn't wait for Santa to be here,
We listened to the radio for news on his progress,
And we believed every word, I guess.

That look from mother told us it was time for bed,
In my room I counted sheep, and even read,
But it was of no use, I couldn't sleep,
So I lay as still as I could, not making a peep.

It seems I spent hours playing that game,
I have no idea when sleep finally came,
I remember waking at ten to four,
Couldn't wait to see what was in store.

Downstairs I crept, not making a sound,
The house seems so big when there is no one else around,
Santa was here for sure, the milk was drunk, the cookies gone,
I sat amidst the candies and toys, too excited to even yawn.

And now it is us who sit in the corner and smile,
Watching nieces and nephews play in their own style,
In a few short minutes they will leave,
Each will have their own memories of this Christmas Eve.

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Telecom Ottawa Comes To Cornwall



During a CDC Broadcasting Seminar, it was released that Telecom Ottawa had acquired Cornwall District Communications and will be expanding their services to include Cornwall and the surrounding area. Speaking at the conference were: (left to right) Mayor Phil Poirier, Eric Covington -previous owner of CDC, and Dave Dobbin - Chief Operating Officer for Telecom Ottawa.

Photo by Chris McPhee

Telecom Ottawa Limited, a broadband data utility and Internet service provider (ISP), recently announced a milestone in its regional expansion by acquiring Cornwall District Communications (CDC), a network provider based in Cornwall. CDC provides high-capacity bandwidth services to multi-site businesses and public organizations in the Cornwall region.

"Telecom Ottawa has made a very substantial investment into our community and improved our infrastructure," stated Eric Covington previous owner of CDC. "They are bringing new technology like Spam Filtering service, Dial-up, DSL, virus checking, Roaming and Web Design with a more robust service."

"With this acquisition, we instantly broaden our geographic market reach and expand our broadband infrastructure across Eastern Ontario," said Dave Dobbin, Chief Operating Officer, Telecom Ottawa. "We're excited by the possibilities to prudently expand across Eastern Ontario in the years ahead. It's a high-potential market that has been traditionally under-served for the kinds of services we have the ability to provide."



Christmas Eve Giveaway

Come home for Christmas. The "Holiday Inn Express," Cornwall wants to invite you home for Christmas.

If you have family in the hospital, in nursing homes, in rest or retirement homes, or in senior homes, come and stay with us on Christmas Eve absolutely free!

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Let the management and staff show you we care!

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Friday

- Partly Cloudy
- High: -6°C
- Low: -14°C

Saturday

- Partly Cloudy
- High: -6°C
- Low: -14°C

Sunday

- Partly Cloudy
- High: -3°C
- Low: -13°C

Monday

- Partly Cloudy
- High: 4°C
- Low: -16°C

Tuesday

- Cloudy
- High: 1°C
- Low: -4°C





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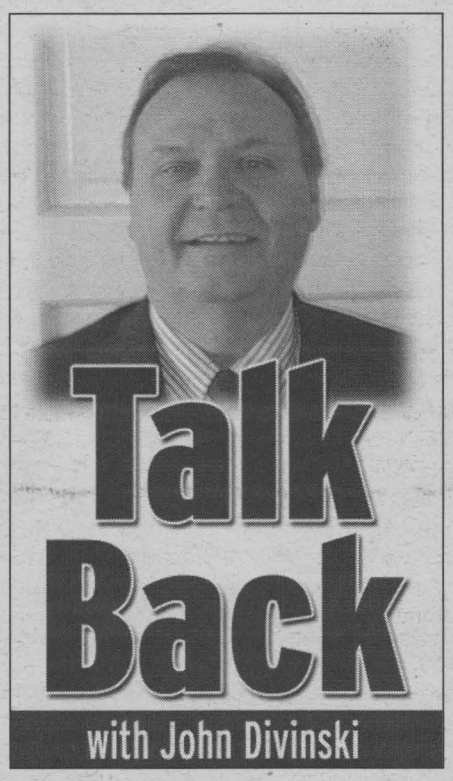
Christmas, A Hit And Myth Affair

"Christmas is too commercial!" "Christmas is not a holiday, it's a holy day." "We've taken the Christ out of Christmas." "We've lost the true meaning of Christmas."

Poppycock and bafflegab and let's throw in a little "humbug" too.

I've been reading the "letters to the editor" in the Seaway News and read the column recently of my colleague Pastor Bob Burgess and it's time for a reality check.



Let's look at our quotes.

"Christmas is too commercial!" Is it? The days leading up to Christmas are very commercial. So what? You've missed what Christmas Day really is, I think. The day itself is exactly as the Lord intended. It is a day of reflection; a day of giving when most of us are with family and friends and gifts are "given" and yes, received because we care about people and people care about us. Most of these people so-called commercializing Christmas, I believe, are just as Christian on that special day as anyone else. However, up until that point it's "hustle and bustle" as the song says. Half the fun of Christmas is the anticipation, getting ready for that special time when we see people we haven't seen for ages; getting ready to exchange gifts; to see if Santa was good to us. It's the anticipation. Why do you think kids can't sleep on December 24th? Anticipation. So before Christmas, we make sure that we are ready for that "anticipated" moment on December 25th. We shop, we spend money. Sure, the cash registers sing throughout the city. Businesses that we count on during March and August can only be there if their fiscal year is successful and much of that success–up to 40 percent and 50 percent–is achieved during the "Christmas season." So, there's lots of advertising and crowds of people and a little inconvenience here and there (just try to find a parking space near the entrance to your store or mall). If that's commercializing Christmas then I say, bring it on. It's been that way for years (thank goodness) and it hasn't hurt anyone.

"Christmas is a holy day, not a holiday." And your point is? Earle Macpherson recently wrote to the Seaway News because he is "sick and tired of hearing this season referred to as the Holiday Season." Well, get used to it because that's exactly what it is. You have to take off the blinders and stop focusing on December 25th only. If that were the only day we are dealing with then Mr. Macpherson has an excellent point, but look at the facts. Many people plan their vacation time around this season because they have long distances to travel; many industries close their doors for two weeks or so at this time. Indeed our own city hall is closed down, the week between Christmas and New Year's and what about our schools? Bottom line, people are on holidays and because of the time of year, other people make an extra effort to wish each person "happy holidays." Christmas Day may indeed be a holy day, as Pastor Bob eluded to in his column last week in the Seaway News, but the days before it and after it, for many, are hard earned holidays (vacation time). It is the "Holiday Season" and it will always be the "Holiday Season," Christmas Day notwithstanding.

"We've taken the Christ out of Christmas." If we have it's because we let it happen. Pastor Bob laments that no one says "Merry Christmas," anymore, we say, "Happy Holidays," or "Season's Greetings." He's right. It happens because we are a country of weak-kneed little dweebs who bend over backwards to be "politically correct." We don't say "Christmas" because we don't want to offend those who don't observe or recognize Christmas. Thus we mess up the season for the majority to satisfy that teeny-tiny minority who are "offended" at the very thought of this celebration. I'm not very patient with this sort of thing. I will defend anyone, their right to observe their special days as they see fit, but don't get in my way when I observe mine. In the Christian world, this is Christmas and we say "Merry Christmas," and our symbol at this time of year is a "Christmas tree," not a "Holiday tree." If you can't handle that, then there are a pile of travel agents in the area who would be only too happy to plan a trip for you to some other part of the world where you don't have to deal with this. However, don't be too upset when you walk into that travel agency if they should say, "Merry Christmas!"

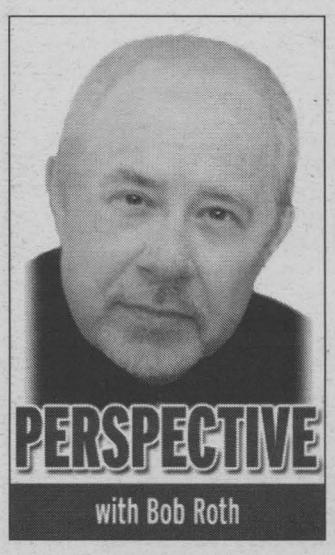
"We've lost the true meaning of Christmas." Nonsense. Sure, some kids get a little greedy at this time of year. They're kids, for goodness sakes. The Lord understands. Whether or not you read the Bible at all, most kids and adults know the story of the birth of Jesus and that Christmas has resulted from it over the years. With all that previously mentioned "hustle and bustle," churches of all Christian denominations have been holding special Christmas presentations with hundreds attending every week. Schools have been putting on Christmas pageants with the kids taking part and moms and dads and grandmas and grandpas, in the audience hearing the story over and over. Even on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, millions of regular church goers and millions more Christian wannabees jam our places of worship, to observe that special day–that special moment. We fill the coffers of those places that become the refuge of the underprivileged, with food, toys and money. We share, and despite the rush, we take time for our friends and our families. We revel in the spirit of that which is good. We haven't lost the "true meaning of Christmas." You just haven't been looking for it when it's there, right in front of you. The statement, "We've lost the true meaning of Christmas," makes more sense if you say it in the middle of July because then an argument can be made that we aren't as giving or understanding the other months of the year. But at this time, most of us are good people. Christmas lives in the hearts of most Christians who respect it for what it is, in their own way, but also–and this is important–get on with their own lives as well. I don't believe for a minute that the Lord intended all of us to drop to our knees, 24-hours a day, and pray and sing the praises, just because it's Christmas. Don't get me wrong, if you believe in that and that's what you do, God bless you. But just because a lot of other people don't, does not make them bad people. Chances are they're just as "Christian" as you are. They just approach it differently.

We are days away from December 25th and I say we're in good shape. It's Christmas and you can say "Merry Christmas." It's Christmas and you can observe the religious aspect of it and most of you likely will. It's Christmas and Santa will come with lots of toys and goodies for the children. Santa and Christmas can co-exist and the "true meaning of Christmas" is alive and well and living right here in Cornwall and SD&G!

I'm John Divinski.

Put Welfare Cheats In Jail, But Let White Collar Cheats Take What They Want

I see another welfare cheat has been "put behind bars." A 35-year-old North Stormont woman was led out of a Cornwall courtroom last week to begin a 90-day intermittent jail sentence. She had pleaded guilty to defrauding the government of $94,000 during a three-year period.



In my view, the sentence is legitimate. But what the jailing of this woman demonstrates once again is that we have two standards of justice in this country - one for the rich and one for the poor.

When poor people take money they are not entitled to, we call it theft and send them to jail. When rich people take money to which they are not entitled we call it a host of things - but seldom is it called theft and seldom is it prosecuted as such.

I could not help but contrast this welfare person's jail sentence with the recent cases involving millions of dollars in the case of "his lordship" Conrad Black and the case of civil servant George Radwanski.

Black, as anyone with a nose for news knows, recently returned millions of dollars he "took" from Hollinger corporation. I am unaware of any pending charges. There was much publicity and much embarrassment, but no charges laid, to the best of my knowledge.

Then we have the case of Radwanski, who failed to pay his income tax, was then rewarded with a top-end government job and then promptly went on another spending spree, this time using his newly acquired government credit card.

A quick refresher. Radwanski was forced to resign in June after a major scandal over his spending habits. But the real scandal was his getting the plum government job in the first place. Radwanski actually received his patronage post shortly after the government "forgave" hundreds of thousands of dollars in income tax he owed. Although he owed the government much more than the welfare woman above, he was never charged, never sent to jail, never even forced to pay back the money. Instead, he was given a plum government job - that of Privacy Commissioner (you see, it pays to come from the right side of the tracks and have friends in high places).

But after being "bailed out" (pardon the double entendre) by the government, over the income tax theft - no, sorry, we can't call it a "theft;" it is technically not "theft" when the government actually opens up the safe for you and hands you the money - you would think Radwanski would have learned a lesson about thrift and judicious use of money.

But not so. He was forced to resign in June when it was learned, among other things, that he had become the poster boy of government high rollers by engaging in such dubious activities as spending $100 on breakfast for two and $500 on a hotel room in London, England.

In addition, there is the remaining question about $200,000 worth of cashed-out vacation leave that Radwanski and three top officials took as time off and did not deserve.

To the best of my knowledge, this "gang" is still on the loose.

As the woman on welfare knows, crime doesn't pay.

Ottawa...Out With the Old And In With The...New?



Are we there yet? Have we reached the point where it's safe to declare Paul Martin's political honeymoon over - or do we have to give him at least a week?

After all, Martin's prime ministership didn't begin with Friday's (December 12th, 2003) swearing-in ceremonies - it started as far back as 16 months ago, when Jean Chrétien began his marathon farewell tour.

So it's well past time to start asking the tough questions - like why did he deserve the job in the first place? And now that he finally has it, what's he going to do for us?

Let's at least get past this idea the Chrétien-Martin handover marks the start of a new era, when it is merely the continuation of one. It's one thing for Martin to trumpet himself as the guy who's going to "change the way things work in Ottawa," as he put it Friday; it's quite another for Canadians to buy it.

Sounding more like a victorious opposition leader (which I suppose he was, in effect), Martin promised "a new sense of national purpose" and "a new agenda of change and achievement." Are we really going to buy this? The latest polls suggest we are.

Most Canadians are thrilled with Martin taking over; it's as though we appreciate the convenience of getting a brand new government without having to vote (or, as some squeamish Ontarians might think of it, without having to do the unthinkable and vote anything other than Liberal).

Part of Martin's "change" agenda apparently involves the smelly legacy of scandals uncovered by the auditor general during the Chrétien years. (Another AG's report should have been out by now, but Chrétien stalled it.) In a major fundraising speech in Toronto last week, Martin admitted the AG's reports of the past few years belonged in the "horror" section of bookstores.

"We're going to put (such scandals) into the ancient history section," Martin declared.

Great. But wait a minute. Isn't Paul Martin the same guy who was the finance minister for all those embarrassments - the billion-dollar boondoggle at Human Resources, the gun registry fiasco, the Québec advertising sponsorship debacle, the home heating rebate screw-up, the regional development subsidy mess ...?

It's fair to ask, which Paul Martin are we getting as prime minister?

Is he the saviour of cities who wants to find new ways of helping them finance transit and roads? Or the guy who who slashed provincial transfer payments to the bone - cuts that were in turn downloaded onto cities?

Is he the deficit-slaying, tax-cutting fiscal conservative who balanced the budget for the first time in decades, and promises economic prosperity ahead? Or the big spender whose final budget abandoned further tax cuts and debt repayment while ramping spending up to record levels - and stashing billions of tax dollars into untouchable funds and foundations? (Not to mention the guy whose extra "deficit-fighting" tax on gasoline we're still paying at the pumps to this day.)

Is he the sensible leader who favours a stronger, better defended Canada and has created a new super-ministry of homeland security for his faithful deputy Anne McLellan? Or the guy whose post-9/11 "security budget" offered an insulting pittance to security and defence?



Is he the reformer who wants to return ethics and transparency to Parliament, complete with strict rules on freebies for his ministers? Or the guy who shrugged off his own free trips on private jets with Canada's corporate elite, bristling that these hugely powerful millionaires are his personal friends and, well, he's not giving up his friends?

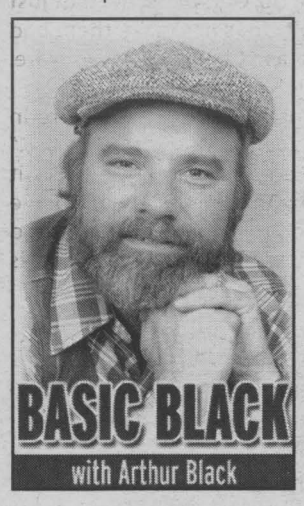
With the ceremonial stuff out of the way, we will now have a chance to judge Martin on his actions rather than his characteristically vague words. I give him full marks for his first act: sweeping his cabinet clean of ineffective, embarrassing ministers like David Collenette, Elinor Caplan, Jane Stewart, Martin Cauchon and Wayne Easter.

Trouble is, his new club of loyalists is still far too big, and there's no guarantee it'll be any better.

Look at it this way. Martin's long-suffering supporters now have a chance to show what they can do - that is, if they can do anything other than wish and gripe from the backbenches.

Perhaps they'll surprise us. If not, the rest of us have a chance to ponder whether a real change of government could be any worse.

Going To Pot



Did I ever tell you about the time I impersonated a cop?

Relax, sergeant -- it was several years ago, in another provincial jurisdiction.

I lived in the sticks at the time, the hour hand had long passed midnight and some Party-Hearties in a house down the road were making noise. 'Way too much noise. I took it for an hour and a half and then I called the cops. A bored dispatcher informed me that, as it was the weekend and due to budgetary cutbacks, no police were actually on duty, but an officer could be summoned from a nearby jurisdiction 'in an extreme emergency'.

I was younger then, with a shorter fuse and not nearly the level of urbanity and tolerance for which I am so justly renowned today. Accordingly, I slammed down the phone, said some bad words, then put on my police hat and loaded my police dog into my car. Together we drove down the road and fetched up in the driveway of the aforementioned party house.

A word about my police hat. And my police dog: The hat was a nylon mesh cap I picked up after a charity softball game between a rural police detachment and the radio station I worked for. (Over a post-game beer, the cop who played shortstop informed me that he coveted my CBC ball cap. We swapped.) The crest on the front of my new cap read ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE, SOUTH PORCUPINE. Not exactly a slogan calculated to strike fear in the heart of malfeasants, but a collector's item nonetheless.

My 'police' dog Rufus was, in truth, a mangy border collie/indeterminate mix, but I hoped that in the dark and from a distance he might pass for an Alsatian on duty.

I hammered on the front door, which was ajar, walked in, and in my best Lorne Greene voice of doom, boomed "We've had several complaints about the noise you people are making. If you can't tone it down I'm gonna have to lay charges."

What I did was totally illegal, not to mention surpassingly stupid, but it worked like a charm. Know why? Because it was a pot party, not a booze party. The place reeked of grass, and as I delivered my speech people all over the room were surreptitiously divesting themselves of baggies, stubbing out roaches and desperately trying not to exhale in my face.

What's more, they were all stoned. Instead of seeing me as the ridiculous impostor I clearly was, they figured the dope they were smoking was unusually excellent.

Know what would have happened to me if that had been a booze party instead of a pot party? There's a good chance I'd have been stomped into a carpet stain. And I'm not exaggerating. That very thing happened to a lawyer in Squamish, British Columbia two summers ago. He went to a booze party at a neighbour's house to ask them to pipe down. Two of the knuckle-dragging juiceheads in attendance kicked him to death on the spot.

All of which is a long-winded way of getting to my point, which is: why the hypocrisy about marijuana?

The federal New Democrats are doing backflips to distance themselves from their leader Jack Layton's rather brave endorsement of the substance. Politicos of other stripes are puffing themselves up to solemnly intone how they've never touched the stuff - and who can forget Bill Clinton's pathetic cavil "I smoked, but I didn't inhale."

Well, I did, Bill - and what's more, I don't personally know a single adult - not one - who hasn't tried pot at least once. It's no big deal, folks.

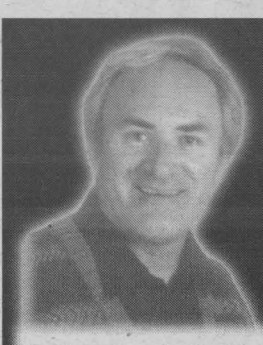
Let's finally admit it.

Am I advocating that everybody smoke pot? No. I don't smoke it anymore because it's too expensive, not worth the hassle and it makes me stupid. When I'm on grass I have all the verve and panache of a rutabaga. It also makes me hungry and lazy - two conditions I have enough trouble grappling with when I'm clear-headed.

All I'm saying is: let's stop being two-faced about it. Booze causes a hundred times the grief, bloodshed and property damage that pot does, but we turn a blind eye because through a fluke of justice and thanks to the twisted interpretations of seedy old perverts like J. Edgar Hoover and Alberta's own Emily Murphy, alcohol is legal and marijuana isn't.

The Canadian legal system is woozily staggering towards righting this absurdity, but it's not there yet, so think twice or even three times before you flout the law, even if the law is, to paraphrase Dickens, a demonstrable ass when it comes to weed.

And if you must smoke, keep it down. Because I don't want to have to put on my police hat and come over and bust you.



Canadian Trivia

with Yvan Brunet

Match the titles of the songs with the names of the Canadian songwriters who wrote them. Write your choice of letters A-G inside [ ].

SONG TITLES

1. [ ] Snowbird, Put Your Hand In The Hand...
2. [ ] You're Still The One, Honey I'm Home, From This Moment On, Up, Juanita...
3. [ ] Summer Of '69, Run To You, Kids Wanna Rock, Heaven...
4. [ ] Old Corrals and Sagebrush, Navajo Rug, Four Strong Winds...
5. [ ] Rock 'N Roll Song, A Good Song, Hot Rocks...
6. [ ] The Hockey Song, Margo's Cargo, Big Joe Mufferaw...
7. [ ] The Circle Game, Big Yellow Taxi, Woodstock...

CANADIAN SONGWRITERS

A. Bryan Adams and Jim Vallance
B. Ian Tyson
C. Joni Mitchell
D. Gene MacLellan
E. Valdy
F. Stompin' Tom Connors
G. Shania Twain and Robert John "Mutt" Lange

Score on 7: [ ]

ANSWERS: 1(D) • 2(G) • 3(A) • 4(B) • 5(E) • 6(F) • 7(C)

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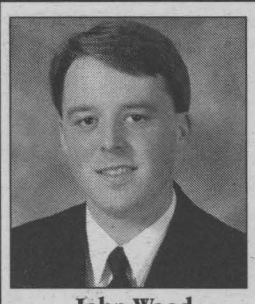
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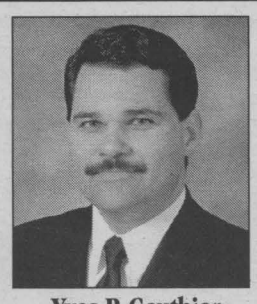
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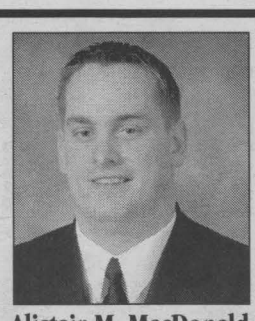
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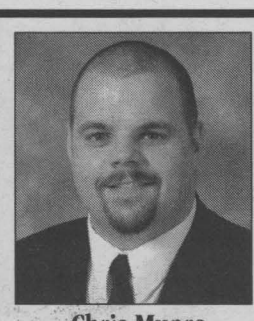
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SN1

letters TO THE editor

Update On Cover Up

Dear Editor,

This letter is to bring the readers an update on the cover up since no information is available elsewhere. Mr. Guzzo was on the CFRA morning show on Wednesday, November 26th, 2003 and although he is somewhat retired from politics at the moment, he is still referring to our local scandal the way he sees it: a cover up. Mr. Guzzo was always able to scare people that way and I'm sure now that his Bill for an inquiry has died, people responsible for the mess in the first place, can now breathe a sigh of relief, for now. The Bill died because that is what happens when we change governments (although it passed the second reading with a resounding 54-0 vote).

First, Mr. Guzzo reminded the listeners (especially Cornwallites) that we should not be afraid to use the word "cover up." How else can someone explain Project Truth? Project Truth appears to be very local, very much Cornwallite, unfortunately very real, therefore we are allowed to give it whatever name we see fit. To borrow some of Mr. Guzzo's words, I would like to suggest "Project Cover Up."

Another interesting fact that Mr. Guzzo mentioned was that the OPP have paid (and probably are still doing so), a lobbyist to rally against the Bill for an inquiry. This is an indirect attack against an honest individual with integrity like Mr. Guzzo. To serve and protect? Protect who?

Finally, it looks like the biggest battle will be with the federal government because they were in power with local representation at the time the abuse was going on. Mr. Brownell and Mr. McGuinty are already on board for an inquiry (publicly stated and recorded) but the real battle lies ahead with a renewed effort to ask the feds for an inquiry. It should not be too difficult since the timing is right, just look at Iperwash.

One day, hopefully in the not so distant future, these local high profile men (15 to be exact, but now down to 13 since two committed suicide) will no longer be around and the Supreme Court will reject any further appeals from any one of these 13 so that the way can be paved for a long awaited inquiry.

Marc H. Gauthier, Coalition for Action, Cornwall

Multicultural Canada

Dear Editor,

This country was built on immigrants. Few natives even survived into the 20th century and Canada was sparsely populated, largely by pockets of French or English-speaking settlers.

Post WWII we were flooded by caucasian Europeans, largely talented and/or eager to work hard and realize their dreams and be somebody. These years the flood continues, but we now attract less skilled, coloured people here to work hard and realize their dreams and be somebody. Europeans are quite happy where they are so you won't see many of them.

Oh, I wish our new immigrants had hockey potential, would work the land, but reality is that urban centres are where the opportunities are now.

I'm Christian, white, born here, the whole nine yards, but really, are we any better?

Reality is that we can learn a lot from them. Yes, they may look different, dress different, pray or behave different, but so did all past immigrants.

They bring with them better diets, better moral values. Can't see that?

Well, there are good reasons why Canadians are fat and dysfunctional. I'll take multicultural Canada over the American melting pot anytime.

Immigrants are an integral part of our identity, and indeed they are basically the very fabric of our society.

The alternative route is protectionism which something cannot afford as we are caught up in free trade and globalization.

Raven P. Van Leishout, Cornwall

P.S. Yes, this letter was inspired in part by Mr. Bill Michalakis.

Take My Word For It

Dear Editor,

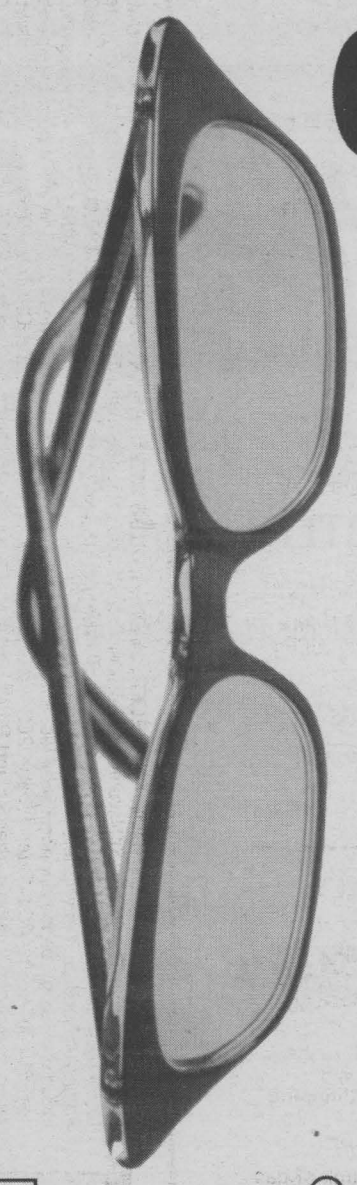
Here is a statement that is often heard in our society, and each time someone makes it, we wonder, can we really trust them? After all, it's his or her word that we are banking on. There was a time when you could really trust your fellow man, but with all the corruption that is in this old world of ours, this statement is becoming a thing of the past. Take, for instance, Entron. Trust me they said, but look at the thousands that have lost all their life savings and the higher-ups walk away seemingly scott free.

But at this season of the year, there is One who uses this statement that you can really count on. You see, a man is only as good as his word, and God, who is the Creator and Sustainer of this universe, says to you, "Take My word," "Trust Me." He is giving you the greatest gift and the greatest hope that could ever be given which is His Word. And who or what is His word?

We read in the Gospel of John, "And the word became flesh and dwelt among us." Yes, Christmas is a fantastic season. It was and is a time when God expresses His love and concern for you and I and He sent His word, His son Jesus Christ to prove it. Don't take my word, take His word for it. You can really count on it. Christmas is God's gift to mankind. Take that precious old book called the Bible this Christmas season and unwrap the greatest gift of all time.

Ken Mac Aleese, Cornwall

CLEARANCE



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One Promise That Won't Be Broken

Dear Editor,

In the Wednesday, November 26th, 2003 daily, it was announced that Cornwall's new mayor-elect would be breaking bread with the new Ontario Premier, Dalton McGuinty, that night. In the next day's Ottawa Citizen, it was announced that the previous night the Liberals held their annual Trillium Dinner with 900 guests, all of whom had paid $300 a plate to hear the Premier speak. Was our new Premier pulling a George Radwanski and charging the public for two dinners on the same night?

The Liberal Premier warned of cuts to come to slay the elephant…that $5.6 billion debt left by the previous Tory government. A good chunk of that debt has already been eliminated. Promised tax breaks to seniors on their education taxes has been eliminated. Taxes to businesses have been cancelled. Credits to parents sending children to private schools have been cancelled.

The federal government wrote a cheque for SARS, giving the Ontario provincial government $325 million, which is about one third of the $900 million the previous government felt they should have gotten had it been rightly declared a national disaster.

Recently the governing grits told us they got out of the P3 deal to build the new Royal Ottawa Hospital. The private sector is still included but the cost went from $100 to $132 million. Presumably this $32 million will be added to the previous conservative debt.

Dalton McGuinty has broken several campaign promises his first six weeks on the job. One promise that they made throughout the campaign though will never be broken: A Liberal government will not lower taxes.

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Editor's Note: Letters To The Editor are always welcomed. Unfortunately, space is limited to print letters, therefore, please keep your letters to the point. Also, some issues and viewpoints change with time, therefore we will attempt to print all letters within 2 weeks. Letters dated after 14 days will not be printed.

Seaway News welcomes Letters To The Editor. Letters should be no longer than 200 words.

All letters are subject to editing and must bear the writer's name, address and phone number for verification.

The views expressed by columnists, guest editorialists and/or Letters To The Editor are not necessarily the views of this newspaper or its publisher.

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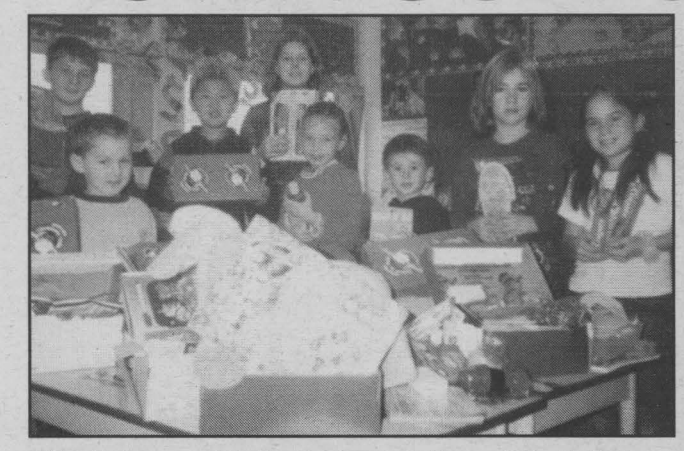
Christmas Time Traditions



Gladstone Helps Operation Christmas Child The students at Gladstone Public School collected toys, toiletries and stationery items to send overseas to needy children. They managed to fill all 17 boxes and had a small mountain of items left waiting to fill other shoe boxes. The boxes were picked up by volunteers from Operation Christmas Child, along with over $50 in cash. The packages, sorted by gender and age, should arrive in time for Christmas. A typical box included toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, face cloth, toys, snacks, pencils, erasers and paper.

Pictured above, left to right are: Jesse Arthur, Dawson Dixon, Sam Hu, Jocelyn St. Denis, Taylor MacIntosh, Nicholas Lamarche, Megan Dore and Sheila Pawis.



The View From Here Is Great! Alix Marcil climbs a rock to survey the prospects at the Strathmore Tree Farm, while (below) her younger sister, Danika, gets an even better vantage point riding on the shoulders of her Dad, Jean. The Marcil family of Cornwall was one of dozens who braved a biting wind on Sunday afternoon, December 14th, 2003 to cut down their own Christmas trees at the farm northeast of Bonville.

photo & story by Linda Mikolayenko



Gingerbread Houses For Christmas Members of Nancy Kelly's grade six class at école catholique Sainte-Thérèse in Cornwall had a classroom of gingerbread houses on Friday, December 12th, 2003, after having created the edible masterpieces from scratch. School Principal George Bougie said the project began with bags of flour, some sugar, molasses and decorations and took a week to complete. Proudly showing their work are, left to right: Patrick Beaupré, Matthew MacMillan, Derek Martelle, Nolan Léger, and Brittney Beauregard.

Photo by John Divinski



Royal Bank Staff Supports Sparky's Toy Drive For the second consecutive year the staff of Cornwall's two Royal Bank branches have dug deep to help out Sparky's Toy Drive. A beautiful Christmas basket was raffled off and $730 was raised for the local charity. Pictured from the Royal Bank, Pitt Street Branch (left to right) are: Gail Gaudet, Business Service Representative, Bob Lefebvre, Branch Manager, and Bev Fletcher, Customer Service Representative.

Photo by Robin Cameron





Community Carol Service A special Christmas choir from several city churches and choirs joined forces on Sunday, December 14th, 2003, for a community carol service at First Baptist Church in Cornwall. Besides a combined choir, scripture readings were provided by members of First Baptist, Trinity Anglican, St. Francis De Sales Roman Catholic, St. Columban's Roman Catholic, Knox St. Paul's United and St. John's Presbyterian churches. Around 100 people took in the service as the Christmas story was re-told through words and music.

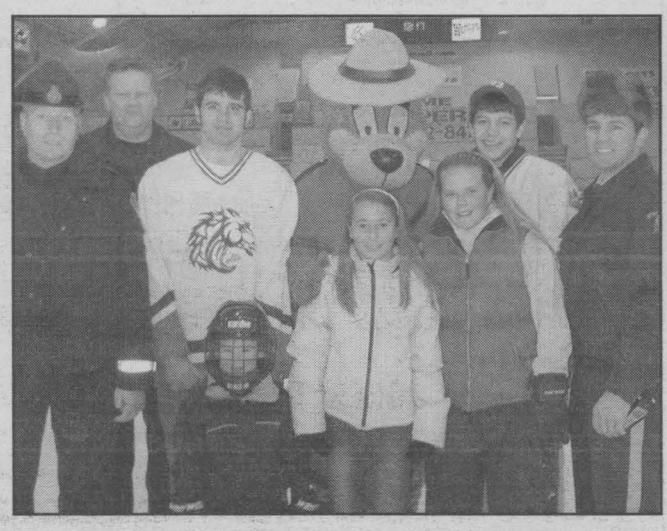
Photo by John Divinski



ROAR-ing Success Only their hairdresser knows for sure, but the rumour was that the hidden accessories for these hairstyles were plastic pop bottles. Members of the Secondary Drama Club, Evodie Gutknecht (left) as "Susssie" and Amy Ouderkirk as "Mary" rehearse their lines for a short dramatic presentation called "Peace," staged as part of Rothwell-Osnabruck's Festival of the Arts.

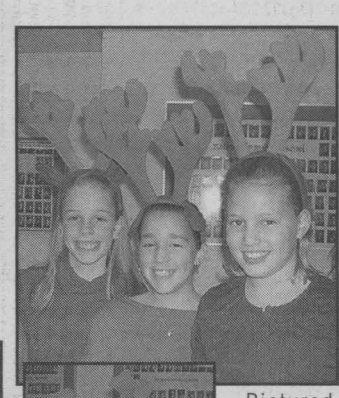
Say Yes To Skating With The Colts And No To Drugs The message was simple during a special skating session with the Cornwall Colts on Saturday, December 6th, 2003, at the Si Miller Arena. Be active through health exercise and sports and say no to drugs and alcohol. About 100 children and adults of all ages showed up at the arena for the 90-minute skate with the Colts.

Organizer Nadine Elias, Health Educator with the Eastern Ontario Health Unit, tells Seaway News, the hockey players are role models in the children's eyes and they can deliver the message of a healthy and fun lifestyle without drugs or booze. She says the problem today is that there is so much pressure on a child to be one of the gang that groups such as hers and law enforcement agencies have to reinforce the positive aspects of life on a continuing basis. Besides the skating, local groups had an opportunity to set up displays throughout the arena that visitors could visit and pick up material. Groups included the Eastern Ontario Health Unit, the Committee for Sober Highways and Waterways, Partir D'Un Bon Pas, the Cornwall Youth Centre, Operation Lookout and the various law enforcement agencies.



Besides skating with the Cornwall Colts on Saturday, December 6th, 2003 there were other special guests on blades enjoying the outing. Front row, left to right; four-year-old Olivier Juneau; 12-year-old Jenna Barnes and 12-year-old Allicia Helmer. Back row, left to right: Fern Michel, Senior Constable, Ontario Provincial Police; Gary Léger, Senior Constable, Cornwall Community Police Service; Glenn Belmore, left wing for the Cornwall Colts; "Mountie," the Safety Bear; Ian Boots, right wing for the Cornwall Colts; and Jean Juneau, RCMP.

Photo by John Divinski



Pictured from left to right are Becky Bertrand, Kandace Reid and Kailey MacDougall. Inset is Storm Tuttle.

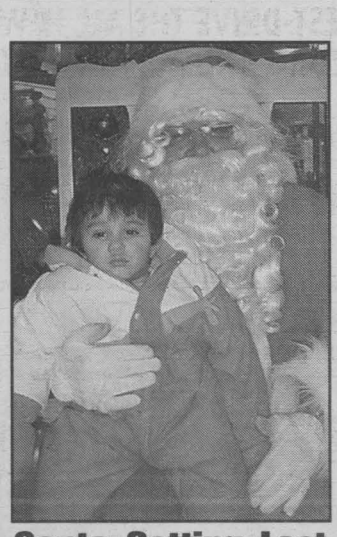
Reindeer Jive Members of the Junior Choir dress the part as they prepare to sing "Reindeer Jive," one of two numbers they performed at Rothwell-Osnabruck School's Festival of the Arts on Wednesday, December 10th, 2003 in Ingleside. In addition to the junior and primary choirs, the program included many other vocal, instrumental, dramatic and dance acts. The evening was a great success raising funds for the Rothwell-Osnabruck Arts Renewal (ROAR) and collecting items for the local food drive, as well.

Photos by Linda Mikolayenko



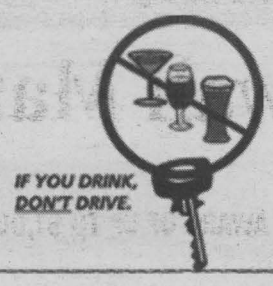
Auxiliary Annual Christmas Gathering The Auxiliary to the Cornwall General Hospital held their annual Christmas dinner at the Cornwall Golf and Country Club on Monday, December 8th, 2003. Toasting the season, seated: Pat Armstrong (left); Marie Jackson (right). Standing, Muriel Allum-Drew (left); Nancy Blake (right).

Photo by John Divinski



Santa Getting Last Minute Orders Not quite understanding what all the fuss is about, 15-month-old Ameer M. Baqi of Cornwall visits with Santa but is not very talkative with the big guy.

Photos by John Divinski



$10,000 Gift From BMO To The River Institute



Pictured left to right: Tom Kaneb, President, River Institute; Frances Mannarino, BMO, Senior Commercial Accounts Manager; Judy Prang, Personnel Banking Area Manager; and Bruce Stickle, BMO Vice President Southeastern Ontario District.

Photo submitted by Christina Collard

The Bank of Montreal recently announced a $10,000 contribution to the St. Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Sciences building. The funds are in support of the River Institute's $1.2 million research centre that recently opened at the Cornwall campus of St. Lawrence College.

"The new research centre is an important step forward for the River Institute and we are pleased with the support from the Bank of Montreal," states Tom Kaneb, President. "It will allow the River Institute to significantly expand its leading edge research on the environment and in particular, the river which bears its name."

The new facility is a state-of-the-art research centre located on the banks of one of North America's principal rivers. Its laboratories, coupled with its access to the St. Lawrence River will create research opportunities for leading environmental scientists across Canada. In addition, it will create opportunities for secondary and post secondary students throughout the region highlighted by its educational partnership with St. Lawrence College.

The St. Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Sciences, located in Cornwall, Ontario was established in 1994 as a unique community partnership involving government, education, the private sector, and the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. Its mandate is environmental research and education on large river systems with a focus on the Great Lakes, St. Lawrence River ecosystem.

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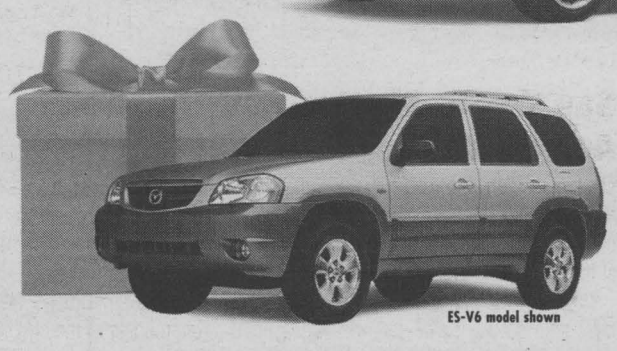

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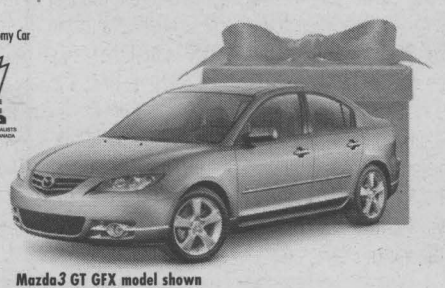

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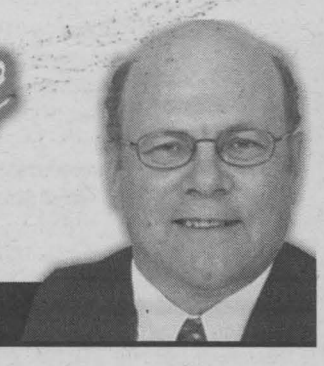
†0% Purchase Financing/60 months is available only on new 2003 MPV. 0% Purchase Financing/48 months is available only on new 2004 Tribute and 2003 Protegé. Finance examples: for $10,000 at 0% Purchase Financing the monthly payment is $208.33/$166.67 for 48/60 months, C.O.B. is $0 for a total of $10,000. 2.9% Purchase Financing 36 months is available on the new 2004 Mazda6. Finance example: for $10,000 at 2.9% Purchase Financing the monthly payment is $290.37 for 36 months, C.O.B. is $459.32 for a total of $10,453.32. Other finance rates available. ◊ No payments for 90 days applies to purchase finance offers on all new Mazda vehicles. No interest charges will apply during this first 60 days of the finance contract. After this period interest starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay principal and interest monthly over the term of the contract. */**Offers available on new cash purchases of 2004 Mazda6 GS-I4, 2004 Tribute DX-V6 2WD, 2003 MPV DX, 2003 Protegé SE and retail leases only. Offers cannot be combined. *** Starting MSRP available on the 2004 Mazda3 GS and Mazda3 Sport GS. Lease payment includes freight and P.D.E. Purchase price and MSRP offers exclude freight and P.D.E. of $925 for cars and $1,125 for trucks. Total lease obligation for the 2004 Mazda6 GS-I4 (6HD84AA00) is $16,642 including down payment of $3,250. Total lease obligation for the 2004 Tribute DX-V6 2WD (WX074AA00) is $17,087 including down payment of $3,695. 20,000 km per year mileage allowance applies; if exceeded, additional 9¢ per km applies. 25,000 km leases also available. Licence, insurance, registration, taxes and other dealer charges extra. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Dealer order may be necessary. Offers available from December 2, 2003 to January 5, 2004. $420 value is estimated based on items sold separately and subject to change. The ratings icon is a trademark of the Interactive Digital Software Association. Microsoft, Microsoft Games Studio, MechAssault, Xbox, and Xbox Live logos are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries. Portions © Day 1 Studios. All rights reserved. © 2003 Microsoft Corporation. © 2002 LucasArts Entertainment Company LLC. © 2002 Lucasfilm Ltd. & TM or © as indicated. All rights reserved. Used under authorization. LucasArts and the LucasArts logo are registered trademarks of Lucasfilm Ltd. NHL and the NHL Shield are registered trademarks and NHL Rivals is the trademark of the National Hockey League. © NHLPA. Officially Licensed Product of the NHLPA. NHLPA, National Hockey League Players' Association and the NHLPA logo are trademarks of the NHLPA are used under license by Microsoft Game Studios. ▼ National Post, Driver's Edge, February 14, 2003. ▲▲ Tests conducted in the U.S. on the 2003 Mazda6. Highest rating possible for driver and passenger frontal impact protection by the U.S. NHTSA.

Celebrating The True Meaning Of Christmas

Let's Save Christmas

Amazing Grace



with Pastor Bob Burgess
email: amazinggrace@cnwl.igs.net

We are in danger of losing the true meaning of Christmas. Christmas is a time to remember and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God who would one day die on a cross and rise from the dead purchasing salvation for mankind.

Two prevailing philosophies today are endeavouring to steal Christmas from the Christian church. One philosophy is to mythologize the Christmas stories and the other is to secularize it. In mythologizing Christmas, the world has tried to reduce Christmas to a little more than an elaborate fable or fairy tale. Over the years, songs and storytellers have embellished the legend so much that most people don't know which details are biblical and which are fabricated. Storytellers have turned the unnumbered visitors from the East into three kings and have even given them names, totally unbiblical. Popular songs have added animals in the stable scene and added snow, singing angels, and even a little drummer boy.

The other philosophy of secularizing is just as detrimental with reindeer, Santa and talking snowmen that dominate our Christmas decorations. Add to this blinking lights and the commercialism of buying presents and the true meaning of Christmas is lost in all the bedlam of secularism.

Isaiah 7:14 states, "The Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel," which is God with us.

That's the real reason for Christmas, that God sent His Son, that God became man, that God came and lived among mankind, that God sent His Son, Jesus, to be born of a virgin to be the redeemer of the world.

GLORY TO GOD, OUR SAVIOR

This Christmas, let's keep Christ as the centre of our celebrations. Let's celebrate and have a wonderful time, but let's remember the real reason for the season. Let's not miss the real meaning of Christmas this year and allow vague philosophies to rob us and destroy the simplicity, the factual, the reality of "God with us."

Pray with me today: "Dear God, I really would like to understand the true meaning of Christmas! Why did You send Jesus? Why was He born of a virgin, through a young girl named Mary? Why do I need a Saviour? Amen."

Remember as always, God loves you! He really, really does!

Second Thoughts

1. The way you spend Christmas is far more important than how much!
2. Faith in God helps us face the music even when we don't like the song!
3. Appreciate what you have before you haven't!

Things to be thankful for:

1. Wonderful Christmas movies like "It's A Wonderful Life" with Jimmy Stewart!
2. Wonderful Christmas songs that never die, such as "Silent Night" and "White Christmas."
3. The "something" that is in the air during the season. It's a "something" of joy, peace and kindness! Sounds like God to me!

Our address: Amazing Grace is sponsored by New Life Ministries and you can reach us at P.O. Box 22036, Cornwall, Ontario, K6J 4P0, or e-mail us at amazinggrace@cnwl.igs.net.

A Real Christmas Carol



By Pastor Tom Newton, Calvary Baptist Church.

As we approach another Christmas, I would like to reflect on Christmas before and after becoming a Christian. For Christmas before becoming a Christian was a day; to most of us it meant very little. This year, Christmas will come and go, and it may have little or no impact on your life. Christmas to many is the most depressing time of the year. Often, we live in the past, hoping Christmas will never end, thinking somehow life would be better, or have some meaning, if the Christmases when we were children could be revisited. Those are the best times to remember, we think. But as quickly as the decorations go up, they are taken down and boxed away for another year; so likewise our hopes and memories of Christmas past are revived for a moment, but then we are forced to wake up and face life in a New Year ahead. Not much has changed! But I am here to write about myself, and not others: when it comes to Christmas, things have really changed since I have become a Christian. How so?

You would think that after becoming a Christian, a minister of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, Christmas would have even greater meaning, but in fact, it does not! What was Christmas like before I became a Christian? I must now pull down the box of Christmas past, and behold it is filled with many sad memories. What made Christmas so bad? Sin! Are you surprised?

My Christmases past were not much different from any of yours, per se. I remember the presents under the tree, the abundance of food, the time off from school. I remember when the whole family gathered together - wait, that's not true. I don't remember a time when we were all gathered together, for by then, Ma and Dad had already divorced because of Dad's drunkenness. My older brothers and sister could tell me about such times, but I don't recall them. Then my mother remarried, and my stepdad moved in, which was not so bad, for he was a good man, a good provider, for a family of eight. But Christmas did not change much. It was still without Christ!

As years went by, the drunkenness continued, for my whole family were heavy drinkers. But now I was old enough to enjoy and really get into the Christmas spirit. Things had really changed by the time I got out of high school. In what way? For one, my Dad had died with a beer can in his hand, and my only sister was killed during my first year of college; they called it domestic violence. It happened just after American Thanksgiving. Christmas came that year as usual, but I can say one thing for sure, my poor mother was never the same. An early Christmas present, huh? It was sin that ruined Christmas - my sin, my parents' sin, all the way back to Adam's sin. Enough of Christmas past!

What about Christmas present? What has changed? Christmas has not, but I have! How so? The light of the glorious gospel of Christ lit my sin-darkened heart. That's grace! It is not true that wise men still seek Him, for the Word of God says, "As it is written, there is none righteous, no, not one: there is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God" (Romans 3:10-11). The Christ of the Bible found me in Los Angeles, California, trying to start a rock 'n roll band, deep in sin: in drugs, drunkenness, witchcraft and astrology, and immorality. Christmas then was just another day to get high, to party, and to jam, but all that would change. How so?

It was not Christmas that changed my life, nor pardoned my sins, nor gave me a new life. It was knowing Christ - the Lord Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world - by a miracle of grace! When I think of the incarnation, the Virgin birth, and the accounts of Christ's birth as faithfully recorded in the Bible for all to read, I do not think of Christmas. I think of God's unspeakable gift given to humanity, in the person of His Eternal Son: "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief" (1 Timothy 1:15).

No one really wants to talk about being a sinner and being in need of salvation at Christmas time. It is "peace on earth, and good will towards men." Many say, "Christmas brings out the best in mankind." But, in fact, one must not forget that Christ was born to die, and to die at the hands of sinners. Sinners like you and me! "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53:5).

Christmas? I can take it or leave it. The observance of a day means nothing compared to knowing, loving and worshipping the True and Living God. You might ask, "Preacher, why be such a grinch?" You see, it is not I that has stolen Christmas, but sin! I hope you come to see this, and by God's grace to call upon the only Name "under Heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

I ask you not to pity me, or feel sorry for me, as I have opened up my box of Christmas past before you all. If all that you have is Christmas, and with it just a bunch of boxes of memories of Christmas past and that's all, you are most miserable. One's future can only be changed as one comes to trust in the Christ of the Bible. Not the Christ of Christmas past, present, or future, but in the risen, exalted Son of God, even the Lord Jesus Christ.

Christ or Christmas? Which one do you have? Which one do you love and value more? I pray, as I can say by God's grace, "It is Christ and Christ alone. He is my all and all." It is not what Christmas means to me it is what Christ means to me!

Best wishes during this Holiday Season to all of you from the Newton family, and from Calvary Baptist Church.

Let's Spend CHRISTMAS Together

Never Alone For Christmas

Never in history have so many people inhabited the planet. Never in history has communication between inhabitants been so easy. Never in history have humans had the capacity to be more connected. And never in history have so many people felt alone. It is one of the great ironies of our plugged in,

By the Venerable Ross Moulton, Trinity Anglican Church, Cornwall.

interconnected, and heavily populated world that many live in isolation and loneliness. The truth is, being around people and being connected electronically, does not vaccinate us against loneliness. While almost no one needs to live in physical isolation, many identify alienation and a feeling of aloneness as one of their greatest challenges dealing with day to day life. Life partners feel they have drifted away from each other, children feel like they live on a different planet than their parents, and old people wonder if they have been forgotten by their families. Since the moment humanity evolved to the point of self-awareness it has looked to the night sky, pondered the depth of space, and wondered if we are here, all alone.

In being asked to write this article, it was suggested that I write about the "meaning of Christmas" as seen through my eyes and the faith community I represent. I am a Christian and I have been called to be a leader of a Christian community whose affiliation is Anglican. For me, the meaning of Christmas is rooted in an encounter that addresses human loneliness. Nearly 2,000 years ago people encountered a man from Galilee. His name was Jesus. Like others of his time, he was a preacher, a teacher, and a healer. Jesus was well versed in the traditions and sacred texts of his time and he was able to draw large crowds. He did all of those things well and was clearly gifted with abilities and skills.But there was something else, something unique. When people had a Jesus encounter they experienced more than teaching, healing, and wisdom. They knew they were in the presence of more than a charismatic guy to whom people would listen in considerable numbers. People didn't know why and they couldn't explain how but they knew, in the depth of their souls, when they were in the presence of Jesus they had come close to God in a way they had never experienced before. For many, life was never the same again. For some the change was tangible: they could walk whereas before they were lame, they could see whereas before they were blind, they were healthy whereas before they were sick. But it was more and they struggled to find words to talk about it. It was as though they had been born all over again. Life was new, life was different and the loneliness and brokenness that overshadowed life was gone. God no longer seemed far off and remote. In fact, when people were around Jesus, it was as if God was right there, close and intimate. God was with them.

As those who encountered Jesus cast about trying to find language to articulate this "God with us" experience a voice from the past echoed in their minds. It was the ancient voice of the Hebrew prophet Isaiah. A voice speaking to a long ago king who trembled in the face of formidable political circumstances. Isaiah assured this vacillating king that he had nothing to fear and a child would be born as a sign of God's favour. The child would be called "Immanuel," literally meaning, "with us is God." Those people of long ago were given a new lease on life, a sense of hope, a promise for the future. "Immanuel," God with them, made all the difference. The memory of that promise allowed people, in Jesus' time, to find a language to talk about the experience they had when Jesus came into their lives. God was with them too!

The early Christian community found a variety of ways of talking about their experience: in Jesus God was with them. St. Mark's Gospel and St. Paul's writings describe the spirit of holiness resting on Jesus. The writer of the fourth gospel, bearing John's name, speaks of the eternal word or self-expression of God being present in human form in Jesus - "and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us." Luke and Matthew develop similar and yet uniquely different accounts of Jesus' miraculous in Bethlehem. In all of these accounts a mixture of theology, myth, history, prophecy, and legend swirl together and find a diversity of expression. At the root of each however is the desire to express a profound truth - we are not alone, God is with us.

Each year the immediate images of Christmas pass. Visions of a stable, a star, shepherds, a baby lying among the hay, mysterious visitors from the east, and chorus of angels drift from our minds as we pack up the holidays for another year. What remains, as the images fade, is the indelible meaning they represent. Christmas means we are never alone, God is with us. This is the season of "Immanuel." This Christmas may you know God is with you today and always.

Pakistanis Celebrate Eid In Cornwall

Eidul Fitr is the biggest religious festival for Muslims all over the world. Eidul Fitre marks the end of a month of fasting and prayers. Eid is a gift to the faithful who have followed a month of fasting aimed at instilling in them the virtues of generosity, restraint, tolerance and piety. It is an occasion that brings people together to celebrate the festive day and overcome the animosities that divide them. It is a day of thanksgiving for the bounties of the Almighty and an occasion to share in the riches with the needy.

The Eidul Fitr was also celebrated in Cornwall with usual happiness and fervor. The day started with the Eid prayer at the Al-Rashid Islamic Institute in which over 500 people belonging to different communities participated. St. Lawrence Intermediate School and CCVS had also announced two days of special leave for Muslim students so that they could fully participate in the festival. The Muslim students of other schools also took one day off to celebrate the occasion.

On the occasion, the Pakistani community living in Cornwall organized an Eid get-together at a local hall which was attended by a large number of men, women and children, including Madam Holly Robertson of T.R. Leger School, and her husband, Gary Robertson.

More than 250 Pakistani Muslim families reside in Cornwall and a number of them have made huge investments in motels, hotels, cabs, grocery and other stores and as such they have become a part of the Cornwall society.

The organizers of the function, Mrs. Talat Tahir, Mrs. Shabnam Mufti and Mrs. Huma Salman Khan distributed special gifts among the children. The organizers thanked the participants for attending the function and said that they would organize a grand function on the occasion of Eidul Azha. Mr. Syed Shah Umer Alam was MC of the function.



Pictured in front is Faisal Malk. Back row, left to right are: Mrs. Talat Tahir, Mrs. Huma Salman Khan, Mrs. Shabnam Mufti, Mrs. Holly Robertson and Gary Robertson.

Submitted photo

Cornwall Electric Announces Sale Of Fiber Optic Network

Cornwall Street Railway, Light and Power Company Limited ("Cornwall Electric"), a subsidiary of FortisOntario Inc., and Telecom Ottawa Holding Inc. ("Telecom Ottawa"), an affiliate of Hydro Ottawa, recently announced the sale and purchase of Cornwall Electric's fiber optic network to Telecom Ottawa.

The fiber assets include approximately 70 km of fiber optic cable in the City of Cornwall used by Cornwall Electric for the purpose of monitoring and controlling its transmission and distribution system, and by a small number of government-affiliated and commercial customers for internet services and private networks.

Michael Pescod, Regional Manager of Cornwall Electric, commented that, "The fiber optic assets represent a relatively small portion of our business, and the sale allows Cornwall Electric to concentrate on its core business of providing electrical service to its customers. Through agreements with Telecom Ottawa, Cornwall Electric will continue to use the fiber optics to communicate with its substations and to control and monitor its electrical system." Telecom Ottawa is a broadband data utility and internet services provider based in Ottawa with operations in Eastern Ontario. The company has a large broadband infrastructure that enables the provision of bandwidth capacity for data networking, high-speed internet access, e-business applications and multimedia services. It also delivers ISP capabilities such as e-mail, web hosting, wireless and remote internet access. Telecom Ottawa is a subsidiary of Hydro Ottawa Holding Inc.

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Full-time Studies
There is still time to apply for the following full-time programs starting January 12:
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Call 933-6080, ext. 2532 for your Guide to Full-time Studies.

Happy Holidays
St. Lawrence College will close at noon Dec. 24 and re-open at 8:30 am January 5.

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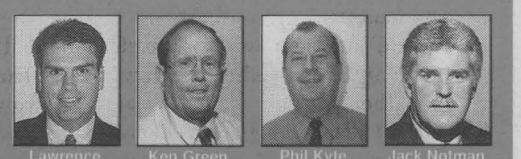

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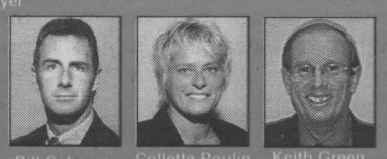

LOCAL

A Rosy Picture For Cornwall In 2004

Team Cornwall's quarterly breakfast meeting on Thursday, December 11th, 2003, had some good news and some challenges to deal with. Well over 150 business people from Cornwall, showed up at the Galaxy Cinema to hear and see the annual report presented by Paul Fitzpatrick, Manager, Economic Development and Recreation Department in Cornwall. Fitzpatrick told the crowd, 2003 showed the "state of our economy continues to be strong." Highlighting businesses that have located here or have moved into bigger buildings or renovated existing buildings, the construction activity represents millions of dollars in expenditure and a continuing confidence in the future of the Cornwall area. Next year shows signs of the trend continuing, but Fitzpatrick pointed out there will be challenges to meet. At 5.2 percent, according to November statistics, our unemployment rate is lower than the provincial and federal rates and that translates into potential difficulty in new businesses finding qualified people to work. Fitzpatrick told Team Cornwall members, the issue is being addressed although no solutions were offered at this time. Another challenge, according to the economic development manager, is finding space for new businesses. The city has purchased land that has increased the size of the industrial park but they are always looking for more opportunities for those businesses that ask questions of this area. Although these are concerns, Fitzpatrick emphasized that these are good concerns to have. It means we have been successful in the past of enticing businesses that employ area citizens.



Paul Fitzpatrick



Over 150 people jammed into the foyer area of the Galaxy Cinema on Thursday morning, December 11th, 2003 for some breakfast and some networking before adjourning to Theatre #1 for a report on Cornwall's economy by the Manager of the Economic Development and Recreation Department, Paul Fitzpatrick. The meeting was sponsored by Team Cornwall.

Photo by John Divinski



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A Christmas Gift For Baldwin House

The owners of Bill's Sports Bar and Deli on Thirteenth Street played Santa Claus on Monday, December 15th, 2003 as they delivered food, gifts and money for Baldwin House. This is the ninth year that the donation has been made which comes from patrons and staff of the establishment. Left to right: Bar Manager Rudy Jodoin; owners Mark and Julie Beauchamp; and Executive Director of Baldwin House, Debbie Fortier.



Photo by John Divinski

Thank you and best wishes to our clients and their families this holiday season.

From all of us at BMO Nesbitt Burns.



We would also like to extend our holiday wishes to the organizations we supported throughout the year.

Heart & Stroke Foundation	Arthritis Society	Cancer Society
March of Dimes	Alzheimer Society	Juvenile Diabetes
Multiple Sclerosis	Msgr. Rudy Villeneuve Foundation	Community Living
Children's Treatment Centre	River Rats & Black Sox Baseball	Minor Hockey
United Counties Basketball	CHEO	Agape Centre
Glen-Stor Dun Lodge	Canadian Mental Health Assoc.	Baldwin House
Youth Bowling	Special Olympics	United Way
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Being A Buddy Pays Off!

SD&G OPP Community Services Officer Constable Joel Doiron received a call from St. Finnan's School Principal Michael Crossan advising that he had identified four winners in a lottery established for students caught "Being Buddies" in school. As a reward for their actions and being selected, Cst. Doiron attended the school yard in the Computer Sense Community Services Truck and each student was taken for a police vehicle ride to the local Dairy Queen for a treat. Pictured are Constable Joel Doiron with the boys, who are wearing the OPP Junior Constable badges that were presented to them. Being a Buddy does pay off, after all!



Photo submitted by Joel Doiron



Funky Santa's Christmas List

- ❑ Electronic Tuners
- ❑ Effects Pedals
- ❑ Metronomes
- ❑ Violins
- ❑ Banjos
- ❑ Guitars
- ❑ Sax
- ❑ Harmonicas
- ❑ Music Books
- ❑ Keyboards
- ❑ Organs
- ❑ Accordions
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- ❑ Clarinets
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LETTERS TO SANTA

Dear Santa,

My name is Klyne McDonald and I am eight months old. I am a very happy girl and very lucky to celebrate my first Christmas with so many people that love me! All I would like for Christmas this year are things I need like diapers, wipes, food and formula because I love to eat! Also, can you please bring my Daddy a guitar song book because I love when he plays and sings to me, it makes me smile and gets me all excited! I will leave you cookies and milk and sugar for your reindeer. I love you lots!

Klyne McDonald

P.S. I would also like my two front teeth to go with my two bottom teeth. Thanks.

Dear Santa,

My name is Tyler Fourney and I am 5-1/2 years old. I am in Kindergarden at Ste-Therese School. I have tried to be good this year but it was hard. For Christmas I would like an NHL hockey jersey of the Toronto Maple Leafs, a goalie helmet and anything else you might want to bring me. I love watching videos and playing games on the computer. Please bring my little brother Zackary some toys to play with, too. Zackary and I will leave you some milk and cookies.

Love always, Tyler Fourney
xxoo

Dear Santa,

My name is Bailey and I'm almost four years old. I was a good girl this year. Can you please bring me some doll clothes and diapers, a new doll, some craft things, a toy car and truck, a train set, a Barbie and new jamas. Can you please bring a new toy for my baby brother Cameron, he's only seven months old. And please don't forget a treat for my dog Toby. Thank you. I will leave you some milk and cookies.

Love, Bailey & Cameron Fraser

Dear Santa,

Hi, my name is Connor Nixon and I am seven years old. I have tried very hard to be a good boy for Mom and Dad this year. Sometimes it's hard when you have a little brother though. For Christmas this year I would like to have a Gamecube, Ma Kart Double Dash game, walkie-talkies, Bey-Blade RC, Break the Safe game, air hockey table and anything else you would like to bring me. It would be great if you could also bring something for my two Nannys and a new Bey-Blade for my Dad so we can battle with them at night. My brother says he tries hard to be a good brother, too, so maybe you should bring something for him also. I will leave cookies and milk by the fireplace for you and sugar for your reindeer.

Connor Nixon

Dear Santa,

Hi, my name is Brady Nixon and I am five years old. I am always really good for Mom and Dad. Sometimes I bug my brother but I can't help myself. This year I can't wait for Christmas and Santa to come. I would like the Ninja Turtles castle and Ninja Turtles to go with it. I would also like some Imaginex sets and some games for my Gameboy Advance SP. Anything else you would like to bring for me would be great. I look up to my big brother Connor, so make sure you bring him lots of good stuff, too, and something special for my Aunt Coco. Thank you for all the great stuff you brought me last year. I will leave treats for you and the reindeer by the fireplace.

Brady Nixon

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I would like a Playstation One game and the Game System, a train, and a Bob the Builder toy. My Mom and my Grandmother told me that I was good all year. Can you get my cat Ginger something for Christmas, he has been good all year, too. There is something else I would like, a Color 'n' drive set. Thank you Santa Claus. Have a safe trip on Christmas Eve Santa.

Your friend, Dylan Beckstead

Dear Santa,

Hi Santa, I hope this letter finds you well! I am fine and am getting excited about Christmas. My Grandma and Grandpa B are coming to stay with us for a couple of days just before Christmas - I can't wait! I'm sure we will have loads of fun. My Mommy says that if I am a good boy that you might bring me a few things to unwrap Christmas morning. I have been trying very hard to be on my best behaviour, but must tell the truth and admit that sometimes I slip up, but only when I am tired or feeling under the weather. My Memère always says that I am good, and she is usually right, so I guess you can believe her and put my name on your 'nice' list. If it's not too much trouble, I would like to have a pair of skates (and helmet), some cars, and maybe a book or two. Could you also bring something for my cat Peaches, she has been very good too (and patient with me)! I will leave something out for you and the reindeer, and any elves that might be helping you the night of Christmas Eve! Thanks a lot Santa!

Your friend, Reid Wilson

Dear Santa,

My name is Jacob Primeau and I'm four years old. I've been a good boy this year. For Christmas this year I would like a Finding Nemo movie, a jeep, police station, John Deere tractor and wagon, Hulk movie, army pants, Chomper and Shane and Chuga Chuga. Oh, I almost forgot, don't forget to get presents for Mommy, Daddy, Uncle Dougie and Aunt Carol.

P.S. I will leave some cookies and milk for you and the Mrs.

Love you very much, Jacob Primeau
xxxxx ooooo

Dear Santa,

Hi, I'm eight years old. For Christmas this year I want an Ashley or Mary Kate doll, a Sensation Barbie, a Sagwa the Siamese plush cat and lots of fun games I can play with my family on the weekends. Thanks! I will leave you some Coca-Cola to drink and some chips for you to share with your reindeer.

Ashley-Kristen Berry

Dear Santa,

I'm four years old. For Christmas I want Play-Doh, dinosaurs, books, puzzles and little cars with a race track.

Timothy Berry

Dear Santa,

I'm 22 months old and I love helping my Mommy with chores so please bring me a toy vaccum that really works and a housekeeping set available at Sears. Also some books, puzzles and little cars of my own since my big brother Tim doesn't always want to share with me. Thank you lots!

Jeremy Bellefeuille-Berry

Dear Santa,

Hi, I'm Lina, I am three years old. This year I am really excited to see you. I will try not to be so scared. Thank you for the nice gifts from last year. I am trying to be good for my Mommy, Daddy and my brothers. I would like a candy cane, pony, a blackboard, teddy bears, crayons and blocks. I will leave you cookies and milk and sugar for your reindeer.

Love, Lina Ruggiero Digirolamo

Dear Santa,

Hi, my name is Michael and I am three years old. Thank you for my nice gifts from last year, I was so glad to see you. I hope this year I will see you again but for a little bit longer. I have something to tell you, I have a sister, her name is Madison. This year I would like cars, racing cars, crayons, teddy bears, train track and a little something for my sister. I will leave you cookies and milk. I love you.

Love, Michael

Dear Santa,

My name is Dylan Primeau and I am two years old. Thank you for the presents you gave me last year. I am trying to be good for my Mommy and Daddy, but sometimes it is very hard. I would like cars, tools, clothes, crayons, Play-doh and blocks. I will leave you cookies and milk and sugar for your reindeer.

Love, Dylan Primeau

Dear Santa,

My name is Alexa Turgeon and I am three years old. Thank you for the gifts last year. I am trying to be good this year. I would like a pony, a blackboard, a doll, a castle for my Barbie and clothes. Oh, and don't forget a little present for my brother Blake, who is three months old. I will leave you some milk and cookies and sugar for your reindeer. Have a safe trip.

Love, Alexa Turgeon

Dear Santa,

My name is Daneka Seguin and I am one year old. I can't wait to see you, I hope I won't cry. I would like to have a doll, clothes for my baby, stroller, educational toys and clothes. I will leave you cookies and milk and sugar for your reindeer.

Love, Daneka Seguin

more letters to santa on pages 40 , 41 and 43



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Designing Memories

Community Showcase



with Linda Mikolayenko

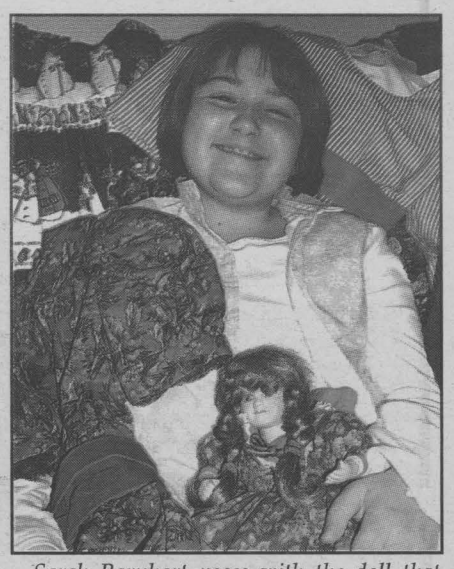
Sarah Barnhart's Christmas memories are hanging in her closet.

When Sarah was five, her Aunt Anne gave her a doll as an early Christmas present. Sarah fell in love with it, and decided she wanted a red and green dress with "pouffy" sleeves, just like the one on the doll. Her mother, Arlene, did her best to oblige. With the right combination of material and patterns and Arlene's sewing skills, the dress was completed in time for Sarah to wear it for the school Christmas concert and to church on Christmas Eve.

That began a new tradition for the Long Sault mother and daughter. Now, each year, Sarah designs a new Christmas dress and Arlene takes it from there.

"She tells me if it's going to have short sleeves, long sleeves, how long it's going to be, what it's going to look like. I try to sketch it out and then we go over it," says Arlene. "She has a clear mind; she knows exactly what she wants - that's the beauty of it."

The biggest challenge for Arlene is finding the material that will match what Sarah envisions, as she can be very specific about what she wants. One year it was "snowmen playing in the snow;" another year it was "angels playing musical instruments." However, most times she has been able to find a perfect match locally. This year, her search took her to a fabric store in an Ottawa suburb.

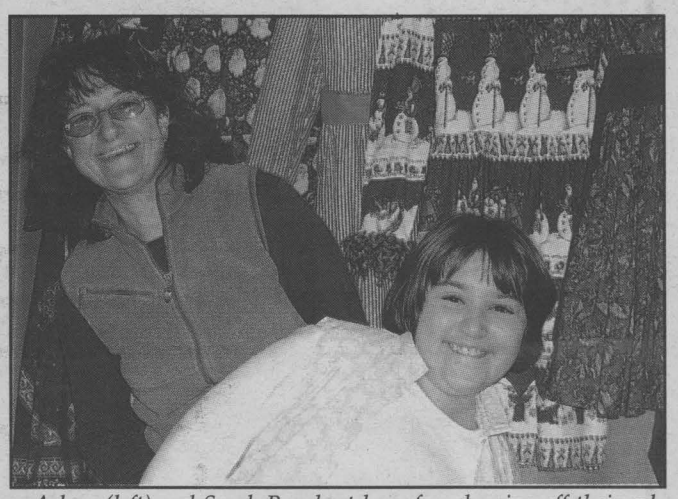


Sarah Barnhart poses with the doll that inspired her first Christmas dress. The doll, with a dress decorated in green holly and red berries, also winds up to play a musical tune.

Sarah is now 11 years old and her design for 2003 is a knee-length skirt with a long vest that goes down to her ankles which she wears with a white pullover sweater.

"It looks like it's snowing in the daytime," says Sarah of the light blue cotton/polyester material, covered with small, sparkling snowflakes.

This annual project results in more than just a new Holiday garment. It is a tradition that brings the two of them closer together. And stitched into each dress, is also a connection with family history. The thread and buttons Arlene uses once belonged to Sarah's great-grandmother.



Arlene (left) and Sarah Barnhart have fun showing off their collection of Christmas dresses, designed by the daughter and sewn by the mother.

Arlene is grateful to have "a little girl that wants to wear dresses" and grateful that she learned to sew in her grade seven Home Economics class when she attended Bishop Macdonnell School in Cornwall. She hopes that Sarah will also learn to sew next year when she is in grade seven.

Does Sarah want to be a fashion designer some day? No, she thinks she might like to be a nurse, instead. But she does intend to keep her Christmas dresses "forever."

Preserving Heritage Garments

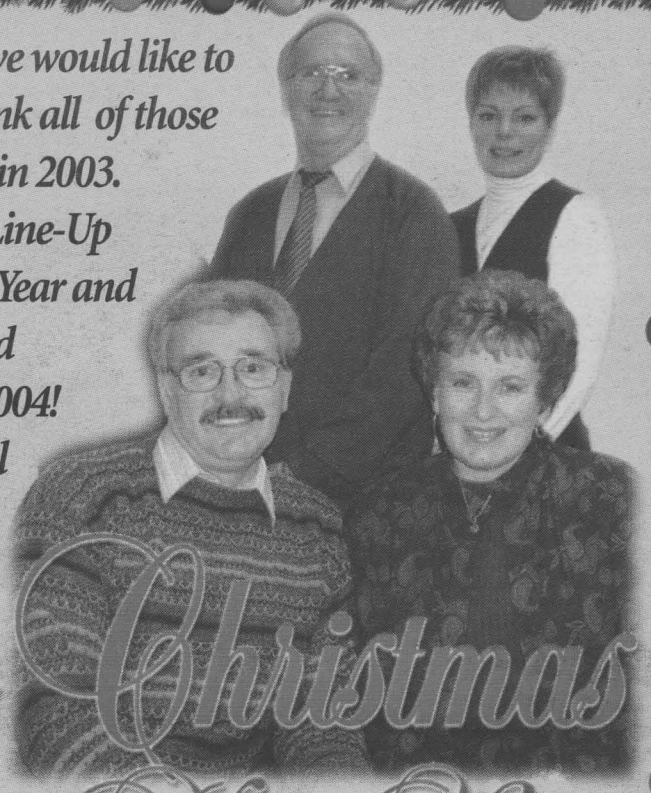
If Sarah Barnhart wants to preserve her dresses for a long time, keeping them in a dark closet is a good idea, says Susan Robinson Peters. Peters is a heritage consultant in Morrisburg and she says that light, especially sunlight, can fade colours and can even cause the breakdown of the fibres.

"The process of actually hanging it causes a bit of strain on the shoulders, and also on the seams on the side, depending on how heavy the garment is," says Peters, noting that this would not be too bad on a little girl's dress.

"A lot of people will take a precious garment like a wedding gown or christening gown and seal it in plastic, and that is absolutely the worst thing to do!" advises Peters. She also does not recommend plastic bins or cardboard boxes.

Although she sells special archival boxes as part of her business, Peters says that a good alternative to acid-free boxes and tissue, is to fold the garment, using the fewest number of folds, and wrap it in a plain, white cotton sheet or pillowcase.

From all of us at Jolly Tours, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who travelled with us in 2003. We have a Fantastic Line-Up scheduled for the New Year and we look forward to seeing you in 2004!
Ken, Sylvie, Chris & Carol



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Last Minute Gift Ideas...

Snow Day $79. Saturday, Feb. 7th and Feb. 28th
Elvis Story $117. Friday, March 5th
Tom Jones $128. Monday, March 15th
Roger Whittaker $115. Monday, March 15th
Stars on Ice $95. Saturday, April 17th
Englebert Humperdink $138. Monday, May 3rd
Grey Cup $245. Sunday, November 21st
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Producers: January 17th-18th, March 27th-28th, April 17th-18
Spain Costa Del Sol: February 24th-March 17th
Palm Plaza-Daytona: February 13th-March 4th, March 6th-April 26th
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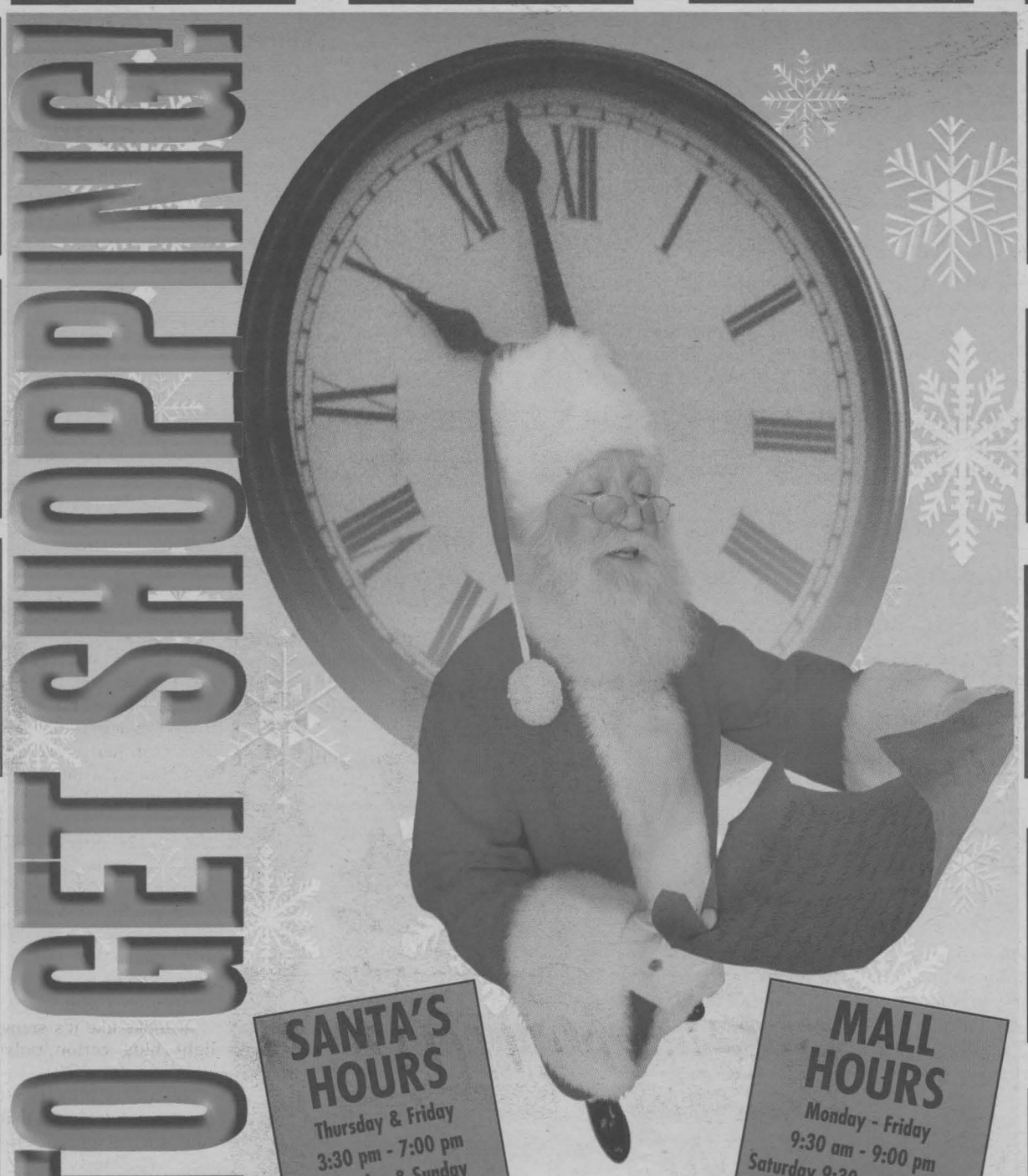

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Tax Benefits of Mutual Fund Corporations

Do you own non-registered investments? Are some of those investments in mutual funds? When it comes to mutual fund investing, the discussion generally – and rightly – focuses on what stocks, bonds or other investments are in a particular fund. As appropriate and necessary as that discussion is, there's another area of fund investing that's worth considering: whether your investment is best placed in a mutual fund that's structured as a trust or one that's structured as a corporation. The following introduces you to both with special emphasis on the tax and portfolio rebalancing advantages of mutual fund corporations.

Originally most funds were formed as mutual fund corporations (M.F.C.), but as the mutual fund industry evolved, mutual fund trusts (M.F.T.) became the preferred structure because they were better vehicles to flow-through income than M.F.C.'s. Recently, the fund industry renewed its interest in M.F.C.'s because they can hold multiple classes of shares, each representing a different investment strategy. This has certain tax advantages for investors that cannot be achieved with M.F.T.'s.

Generally when an investor sells an investment in one fund to purchase units of a different fund, any capital gain (loss) is immediately taxable. However, because of a special rule in the Income Tax Act, investors who switch from one class to another within the same M.F.C. do not trigger a disposition, and therefore will not realize an immediate capital gain or loss. The adjusted cost base (ACB) of the investment in the M.F.C. remains unchanged, and tax on any gain is deferred until the investor switches out or otherwise redeems out of the M.F.C. structure.

This can have a significant impact on your investment strategy as well as your taxable position. If, for example, you were to decide to liquidate a mutual fund because it had appreciated in value by a significant amount and you wanted to purchase another mutual fund that has recently been in the "dog house"(ie. Sell High – Buy Low!). This would normally entail a capital gain and 50% of that gain would be taxable at your marginal tax rate. If this same "switch" (sell and buy) were made among a group of mutual funds that were all under the same corporate class structure, there would be no deemed disposition for capital gain purposes and therefore, taxation is deferred until you liquidate out of the corporate structure itself. You can rebalance your non-registered portfolio without having to incur immediate tax consequences!

Commissions, trailing commissions, management fees and expenses all may be associated with mutual fund investments. Please read the prospectus before investing. Mutual funds are not guaranteed, their values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated.

Portions of this article were provided by AIM Trimark for the investment professionals at First Choice Insurance & Investments and Cartier Partners Financial Services Inc.

Disclaimer : This article offers general information with regards to financial planning and is not meant to offer advice to a specific person or situation. You should always consult a financial planning professional before making a decision on the suitability of any products, concepts or strategies presented.

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Kraft Canada Contributes $1,000 To Salvation Army

The Salvation Army is pleased to announce that the Kraft Canada Cheese Operations in Ingleside and Williamstown are showing their support with a $1,000 donation.

The Salvation Army Community and Family Services operates a year round Food Bank, helping several hundred children and families in the surrounding area on a monthly basis. We also offer counselling to clients, collect and distribute knitted items throughout winter, and manage our Thrift Store, where we accept donations of clothing and furniture and re-sell to the public. We also offer programs for seniors, youth, men and women.

"We're grateful to Kraft Canada for this generous donation during the holiday season," says Major Rex Paddock. "The contribution will be used for our Christmas Food Basket and Toys for children program, which helps local children and families have a happier Christmas."

Through its Kraft Canada Cares community-giving program, the Kraft Ingleside and Williamstown facilities are able to financially support different local charitable events and organizations such as the Salvation Army. In the last four years, the Kraft Canada Cares program has contributed more than $25,000 to local organizations.

"As a large employer in the area, we're committed to giving back to the community," says Jeff Reed, Plant Manager, Kraft Canada. "During the Holiday Season, we want to do what we can to help the people of our community who need our help to have a happier Holiday Season.

Kraft Canada has two operations within the region. In Ingleside, the facility is located at 70 Dickinson Drive. In Williamstown, it is located at 19590 Glen Road. The operations produce many leading brands of Kraft products, including Kraft and Cracker Barrel cheddar cheese. Together, the two operations employ approximately 375 people.



Pictured left to right: Lori Cleary, Ingleside; Anna Rubaj, Ingleside; and Major Rex Paddock, Corps Officer, the Salvation Army.

Photo submitted by Anna Rubaj

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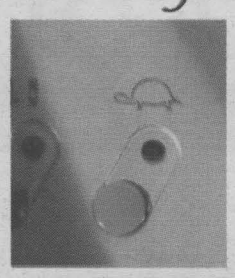
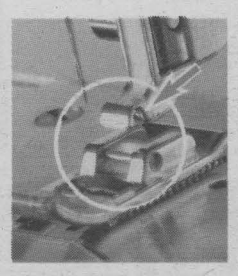
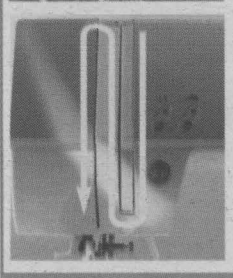


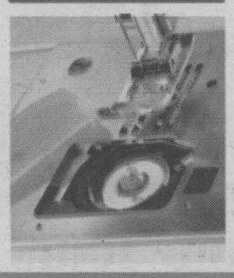
Slow Sewing Button - From fast, straight seams to intricate sewing and decorative work - the machine lets you sew at fast or slow speed. Simply touch the slow sewing button and the machine will sew at half speed.



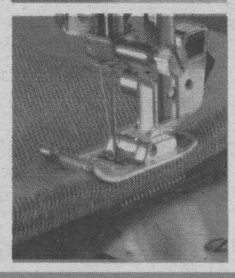
Change Presser Feet In A Snap - Snap on/off convenience lets you change all presser feet in seconds. It's fast, easy and simple.



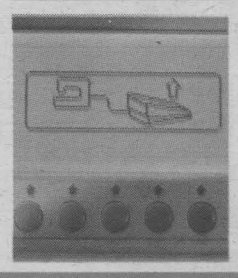
Quick Threading System - Threading can't be easier. Just follow the marked threading path, insert the thread into the thread guides and your machine is ready to sew.



Top Drop-In Bobbin- You are in constant control of the bobbin thread thanks to the machine's unique top drop-in bobbin with transparent cover. It also makes bobbin insertion, removal and cleaning exceptionally easy!



Optimum Power Control (OPC) - You always have maximum power, even when sewing multiple fabric layers thanks to the electronically controlled needle piercing power. Convenient for accurate finishing of denim and high-piled fabrics at every speed!



Audible and Visual Signals - When you are busy sewing, nothing is more convenient than audible and visual warning messages. They remind you to raise or lower the presser foot, check the upper thread or tell you that the machine's memory is full.

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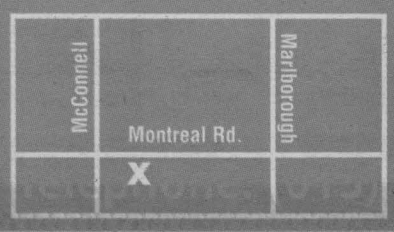

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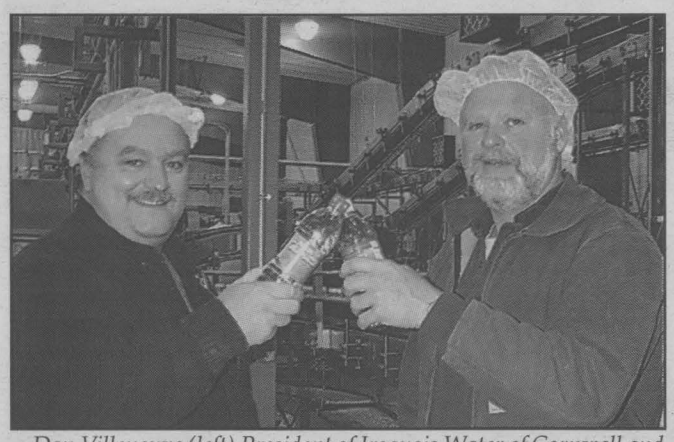
LOCAL

Aqua Gilgamesh - The Miracle Water?

The name Dr. Russell Beckett may not mean a lot to you right now, but there is a possibility in the months ahead that his name will be a household word in many North American homes. In Australia, Dr. Beckett's homeland, his name is well-known for introducing people to water, but as they say down under, "Unique Water." Dr. Beckett, with a Science Masters and a PhD in Biochemical Pathology, in his studies, has concluded that "many people in the world who drink from natural water sources containing carbonate sediments, bicarbonate ions and relatively high levels of mineral ions have superior health and longevity." His goal was to create this exact type of water that could be bottled and sold to everyone so that they may enjoy the same opportunity to a better and longer life through water intake. As a result, Beckett has patented a magnesium bicarbonate formula that he has developed that will be known around the world as Aqua Gilgamesh. Dr. Beckett is quick to point out that the water is not the answer, "it is the carrier," of the ingredients in the water that create what appear to be astonishing results in those that are using the product.



Dan Villeneuve (left) President of Iroquois Water of Cornwall and Al Wagar (right) President of the Aqua Gilgamesh Water Distribution Centre in Cornwall, toast the new working arrangement at the bottling plant on Cornwall Island.

Photo by John Divinski

This "mineralized water" is prepared in Canada by Iroquois Water on Cornwall Island, under the supervision of Dr. Beckett and company President Dan Villeneuve.

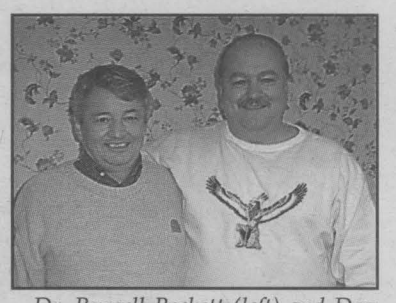
Although the "mineralized water" is not available to the general public yet, an "Aqua Gilgamesh Distribution Centre" has been set up at 500 Boundary Road in Cornwall at the end of Second Street East. The centre is owned and operated jointly by Al and Brenda Wagar (Cornwall Colts) and Garry Atchison, an area school principal and his wife, Penny.

Those behind the launch of this product, believe when consumed, the product provides among other things, an increase in energy, and a decrease in certain ailments such as arthritis. Indeed, locally, there are several clients who have been using the mineralized water for some time now and have offered testimonials to Iroquois Water.

Fifty-year-old Nancy Pilgrim, a retired nurse in Cornwall, in a letter dated October 9th, 2003, wrote, "I have been taking the Aqua Gilgamesh for six weeks now. I have found that the cramps in my leg from the knee to the thigh that only occur in the early evening and early night, have disappeared. I also find that I have more energy and feel more alert as the day goes on."

Dr. Beckett has received similar testimonials around the world and each time he points out that there is no such thing as a "miracle water." It's the ingredients in the water that makes the difference.

The jury is still out on the perceived benefits of such a product but locally, many believe in its powers. President of the local distributors, Al Wagar, says this will be his group's way of "doing something worthwhile for the community." He indicated when public sales begin, they will be "setting up a scholarship fund" based on a portion of the sales of the water so that they can give back to the area in which they live.



Dr. Russell Beckett (left) and Dan Villeneuve.

Submitted photo



Nancy Pilgrim

Submitted photo

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Important notice: Prices already discounted 2% for cash and carry, applicable taxes extra. No return, no exchange and no refund. Prices are effective until December 24, 2003. If an error occured in this ad, it will be pointed out at the store counter. Some items may differ from the illustration, the written description always prevails. According to the market fluctuation, prices may vary without notice. The buyer has to inspect the goods and determine that they are fit to his intended purposes, before purchase.On all products identified «1st quality materials», the manufacturer's existing warranty applies.

Midget "A" Royals

After dropping two consecutive games in Ottawa, the Bumpers Pub and Billiards Cornwall Midget "A" Royals picked up three points in league action, climbing in the standings, midway through the regular schedule.

First, on the road in Manotick, the Royals, lead by goaltender Stefan Guindon's 38 saves, fought to a 1-1 draw against the Osgoode-Rideau Senators. Cornwall's goal was scored by Shawn Wells, on a powerplay.

At home, against the Capital Crusaders, the Royals took an early command of the game, and never looked back on their way to a 6-3 victory. Cornwall's attack was lead by two goal performances from versatile Brook DiGiosia and Jordan Scheffer. After a scoreless first period, Ron Belmore's club opened the scoring on a rebound by Tim Hebert. The blueshirts continued to dominate the second period, which ended 4-1. The Royals scored again early in the third period to take what appeared to be a commanding lead, but the never-say-die Crusaders scored two quick goals of their own to narrow the margin to 5-3. Pat St-Jean put an end to the visitor's hopes with a late third period goal to preserve the victory for goaltender Eric Monnin, who was called upon on numerous occasions to make key saves.

"AA" Rapids

The Kastner's Major Peewee "AA" Rapids were in action in Spencerville on Thursday night, December 11th, 2003 against Rideau St-Lawrence Kings. It was a banner night as the team came up with a 5-2 win against their rivals from down the 401. Adam Wensink exploded for four points, collecting his first hat trick of this year's campaign while Joey Porporo had a three-point night collecting a goal and two assists. Rod Archer sealed the deal with a roofer of a shot from the top of the slot to put the rapids up 3-0. Stone McCauley was cat-like with a number of key saves to preserve the win. Assists went to Colton Robinson, Ty Perry, and Jonathan Jasper.

Major Bantam Boys

The Cornwall Lions Major Bantam Boys closed out the first half of their season with lopsided wins at the recent Tri-Meet.

The host Lions defeated Brockville Blues 58-35 in a game dominated by the Lions' Forwards. Andrew McAllister led the Lions with 18 points while Jordan Wurah added 14 and Dave McDonell had 10.

In their 68-33 win against the Osgoode Bedrock it was the Lions guards that led the charge. The Lions connected on nine three-point shots with Jordan McAllister hitting five himself. McAllister finished with 19 while Skylar Chretien had 10 and John Wurah five. On the day both Wurah and Fraser McLeod hit the first threes of their career with the Lions.

Men's Major Bowling

Yum Yum Chips took first place recently in Men's Major Bowling league play. They tied Paul's Pals for first place but due to a better won/loss record between the two teams, they were given first place for the first regular season. Yum Yum Chips defeated Doug's 2-4 13.5 - 7.5. Leading the team was Justin Lowery 304-809, Peter Marion 312-734, Shawn Labelle 707. Scott Dumoulin tossed 310-738 for Doug's.

Mike Brunet was the top bowler for the second week in a row with 361-301-906, but Tirecraft Auto still lost 12-9 to Paul's Pals. Helping Brunet was Don Cole 740 and Mort Belmore 356. High scores for the Pals were Dave Lauzon 310-821, Gord Cluff 774, Al Gordon 717, and Warren Waugh 702.

The last match saw Paquette Glass win 14-7 over Filion Trophies. Dale Abrams rolled 676 for Paquette and Jason Riley had 681 for Filion's.

The bowler of the month for November, sponsored by Labatt's Blue, was Gord Cluff with a 264 average and 894 triple.

Season's Greetings to all our sports contributors and Cornwall Minor Sports Teams. Continue submitting your updates throughout the holiday season.

Merry Christmas from the Team at Play It Again Sports

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Starting on January 1, 2004, new rules governing federal political financing will set out clear limits for everyone.

- As a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada, you can give up to $5,000 in total per year to each registered political party, including its registered riding associations, nomination contestants and candidates.
- You can also give up to $5,000 in total to the leadership contestants of a registered party per leadership race, and $5,000 per election to each candidate who is not of a registered party.
- The maximum tax credit has been increased to $650 for eligible political contributions.
- Corporations and trade unions (with some exceptions) can give up to $1,000 per year in total to the candidates, nomination contestants and registered riding associations of each registered political party, and can give up to $1,000 per election to each candidate who is not of a registered party.
- Corporations and trade unions cannot make contributions to the registered parties themselves or to their leadership contestants.

For more details on these and many other important changes to the *Canada Elections Act,* click in the Political Financing box on our Web site at **www.elections.ca** or call **1 800 463-6868.**

TTY 1 800 361-8935 for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing

Elections Canada

Understanding Why Diet Based Weight Loss Is Usually Not Permanent!

Get Fit Cornwall



with Jason Christoff

There is a catchword used in the diet industry, the word is "metabolism." It is true that people with a slow metabolism gain and keep weight on and that people with a fast metabolism have a hard time gaining weight. What is sometimes not mentioned is that "metabolism" is just a measurement of how much muscle tissue resides on ones body. Muscle demands 10 times as much food as other tissues on the body!

The less muscle tissue on one's body, the slower that person's metabolism. If two people eat six donuts, each person will gain the same amount of fat on their body regardless of age or weight. How much fat each person keeps on permanently depends on his or her "metabolism." The more muscle a person has on their body the higher their metabolism will be. A high metabolism means less fat stored permanently. In short, muscle eats fat like a machine! Understanding muscle's fat burning power allows for a quick and easy explanation to why diets are only short-term solutions.

People who are interested in diets have concerns about their weight. Those people are gaining weight because their muscle tissue is deteriorating and thus their metabolism is starting to slow. The majority of self-prescribed diet regimes and those of diet clinics restrict calories to the point where half the weight being lost is muscle tissue. If fat is burned off by muscle tissue and the lack of that tissue causes weight gain why would anyone choose a solution that destroys more muscle? This is because most people simply do not know that when they lose 10 pounds on a diet that up to five pounds of the weight loss can be pure muscle tissue.

If someone starts a diet because they gain one pound for every piece of cake they eat, how confused will that person be when they eat the same piece of cake and gain two pounds? This will always be the very confusing end product if someone loses muscle in their frantic attempt to lower the numbers on the scale.

Get out there, have fun and make sure to increase your muscle tissue when you are attempting to control your weight. It is the only solution that will work long term.

Jason owns several fitness clubs across Ontario and also acts as a personal fitness coach.

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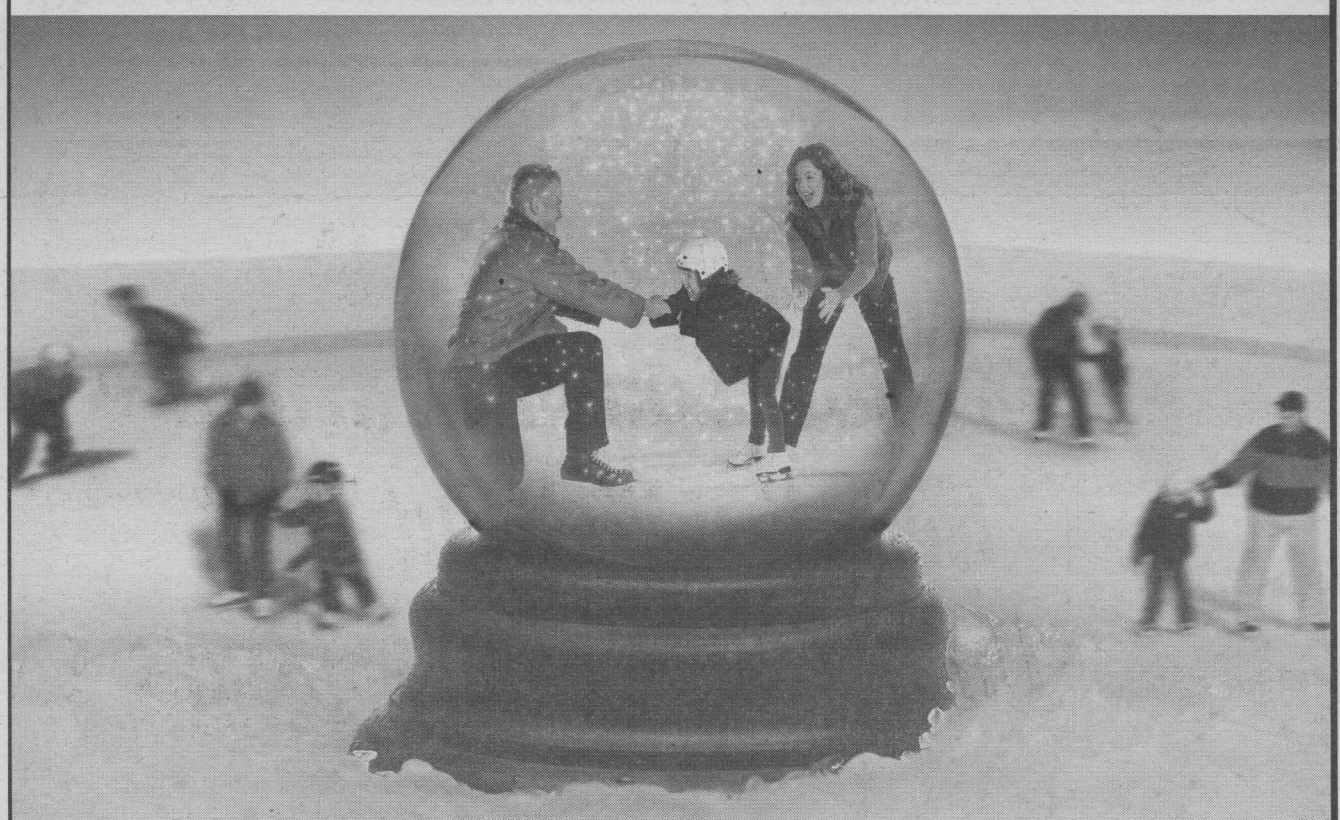

We'd like to thank you with a way to glide through the season with a smile: enjoy Free Holiday Skating, compliments of your local Tim Hortons. Let us show you our appreciation for being a part of Cornwall. Visit us for a schedule of ice times and locations, then come on out and join in the fun.

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Atom "B" Royals

Cornwall Costume Shop/Innovative Converting Inc. Atom "B" Royals have been busy playing a total of six games in 10 days. The stretch started on Sunday, November 30th, 2003 with a road game in Kemptville. The first place Kemptville team won the game 8-0.

On Thursday, December 4th, 2003 in home game action against North Dundas, the Cornwall Royals fought hard only to lose 6-2. Their two goals were scored by Jarret St. John, one unassisted and the second assisted by Shawn Lalonde and Josh Ruest.

The next night, Friday, December 5th, 2003, on another road game in Long Sault, the South Stormont team came out strong giving our Royals a tough game. Chris Gaudet scored with Bryan Belanger and Justin Savard assisting. The Royals' second goal came from Jarret St. John, assisted by Shawn Lalonde. South Stormont won 11-2.

In Tournament action in Prescott on Sunday, December 7th, 2003, the Royals lost both games. The first was 6-0 to Smiths Falls. Player of the game (hustler award) went to Brook Laforest. The second game, which was very exciting against South Dundas, stayed tied 3-3 well into the third period before South Dundas broke open and won 6-3. Cornwall's goals were scored by Jarret St. John (two goals) and assisted by Shawn Lalonde and Josh Ruest, and the third goal went to Justin Savard assisted by Chris Gaudet. Player of the game (hustler award) went to Jarret St. John.

In their final game of the 10 day stretch, the Royals faced North Dundas who are now tied for first place in their division. The Royals managed one goal by Chris Gaudet assisted by Joey Hanley and Justin Savard before North Dundas won the game 8-1.

Club 55+ Action

By Lee Kirkey

The first half of the schedule is just about over. Can't wait for the New Year, maybe I will be able to find the head pin.

Other bowlers don't seem to have trouble finding the strike zone: Maurice Champagne 635, Thelma Goulet 633, Noella Brodeur 625, Conrad Godard 618, Roy Poapst 613, Cliff Merpaw 612, Val Currie 239, 202; Kirke Dupuis 250, Aline Givogue 227, Lorraine Barkley 225, Ren McCourt 217, Harvey Primeau 215, Art MacRae 214, Shirley Eastman 212, Glady Roy 204, and Helen Amyotte 203.

Attendance Winners: Marion Johnston, Norma Major, Alice Amelotte, Roy Julien and Lillian Quig.

You better be good because Santa Claus is coming to town!

Char-Lan

Bantam "B" Rebels

In league play, the Rebels met with the Morrisburg Lions and defeated them on home ice 7-3. Scoring for the Rebels were Ryan Delorme, Grant MacDougall, Shawn Fontaine, Shane Laframboise, Joey MacDougall (2), and Leslie MacLeod. Picking up the assists were Mike Robertson, Will Lang, Alex Glasgow, Jymie Jasper, Leslie MacLeod and Dylan Munro.

In league play recently the Char-Lan Bantam "B" Rebels played the Cornwall Royals at the Si Miller Arena. The Rebels defeated the Royals 5-2. Scoring for the Rebels were Leslie MacLeod, Alex Glasgow (2), Mike Robertson, and Shawn Fontaine. Assist went to Joey MacDougall, Shane Laframboise, Dylan Munro, Shawn Fontaine, Andrew MacKay, and John Lang. Andre Gaucher got the win in nets.

At home, the Rebels hosted the Long Sault Selects. The game ended in a 4-4 tie. Scoring for the Rebels were Mike Robertson (2), Andrew MacKay, and Leslie MacLeod. Assists went to Andrew MacKay, Mike Robertson, Kevin McLeod, Shane Laframboise, and Joey MacDougall. Emily MacIntosh was strong in nets.

Novice Selects Team 2

The South Stormont Novice Selects Team #2 "Green Machine" broke its unbeaten record recently losing to South Stormont Team #3 9-5. Scoring for the "Green Machine" was Nicholas Lamarche with four goals and Bradly Cryderman with one. Assisting on these goals were Eric Jarvo and Cole Blanchard.

In previous league play, South Stormont Team #2 beat both Alexandria Team #2 9-6 and South Stormont Team #1 9-6. Leading the way in scoring against Alexandria was Lamarche with six goals and one assist, Parker Krol connected with a goal and an assist, Blanchard and Robyn Campbell each added a goal and Brendan Graveley had one assist.

Against South Stormont Team #1 Lamarche scored six goals while Krol added three goals and one assist and Bradly Cryderman added another assist. The Green Machine has a strong defensive presence with Krol, Mathew Turner, Blanchard, Tegan Tate, and Bryce Rutley on the blue line and Dylan Beauvais in nets.

PUBLIC SKATING SCHEDULE
2003/2004

Cornwall Civic Complex ~ 1:00pm-3:00pm

Sunday, December 21st, 2003†	Sunday, December 28th, 2003†
Monday, December 22nd, 2003*	Monday, December 29th, 2003*
Tuesday, December 23rd, 2003*	Tuesday, December 30th, 2003*
Friday, December 26th, 2003*	Friday, January 2nd, 2004*

*Free Skating Sponsored by Tim Hortons from 1:00pm to 3:00pm

Bob Turner Memorial Centre ~ 8:00pm-10:00pm
Saturday, December 20th, 2003* Saturday, December 27th, 2003*
Saturday, January 3rd, 2004*
*Free Skating Sponsored by Tim Hortons from 8:00pm to 10:00pm

†Adults: $2.00 ~ Children: $1.50 Dates & prices subject to change.
Please call 938-9400 to verify skating times.
Visit our website at www.cornwallciviccomplex.com

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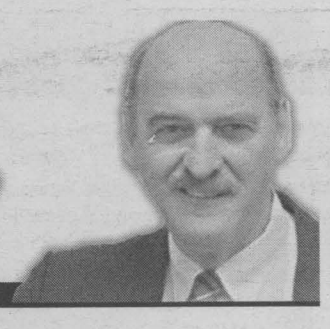


with Bill Gallant

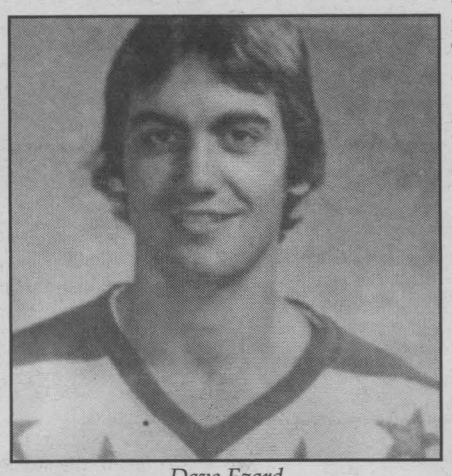
By the time you read this the Cornwall Colts will have just one remaining game on their 2003 schedule. That will be Sunday, December 21st, 2003 at 7 p.m. at the Si Miller Arena. It's been a good year thus far for the Colts in what will soon be their 30th game played. If they take these next two games, the Colts will complete the 2003 portion of the regular schedule with a very impressive 22 wins and a pair of ties.

Starting in January 2004, they will have another 25 games remaining before the playoffs and that includes 11 at home and 14 road trips. As it now stands, the Colts are holding down second place in their division, just in back of Cumberland and third place in the overall standings. A team closing in on the Colts is the Gloucester squad, and the Colts will be hosting them here on Sunday night, December 22nd, 2003.

To Messrs. Wagar and Loney and the entire Cornwall Colts organization, thank you for a very exciting and effective season to date, and we wish all a very Merry Christmas and continued good luck in the year ahead.

My thanks and Season's Greetings also to all the readers that participated and loaned photos this past year. We were very happy to share those pictures with all Sports Chips readers and look forward to continued participation in 2004. As a matter of fact, I am expecting one of those photos to be available for next week's column.

A very special end of season this week to a very good friend from the Cornwall Royals hockey era, the late Dave Ezard. Dave was always a true and trusted gentleman on the bus during our many long discussions while travelling to the many cities in the QMJHL. We'll talk again David, when we meet up someday in that big hockey rink in the sky. You are sadly missed but never forgotten.



Dave Ezard

In closing the column this week, I can't help but add a parting shot to those TV moguls for their ultimate insult to hockey fans last week. There I was watching the pre-game warmup by your talking heads. It was a good warmup, and it was also nice to watch as you proceeded with the cameras to the face-off at centre ice for what I expected to be a great Toronto Maple Leafs game. Then you proceeded to once again treat your avid viewers with a most despicable insult. You even had the gall to tell everyone watching that tonight's game "should be a great match" just before you switched off the screen and your talking heads began talking again about nothing in particular. Say good night Bill.

"AA" Rapids

The Innovative Converting Minor Bantam "AA" Rapids found out why Ottawa Valley are tops in the standings. In Stittsville, the Rapids lost 4-0 to the Titans. On a positive note, goaltender Travis Coughlin had a strong performance between the pipes.

On Saturday, December 6th, 2003, the Rapids rebounded with a strong performance defeating the Kingston Predators 6-1. Scoring for the Rapids was Brett Michaud with the hat trick, Brock Bissonette, Kale Perry, and Sean Rudy. Collecting helpers were Alley Bero with two, Michaud with two, and Tren Thomas.

Peewee "B" Royals

The Cornwall Kia Peewee "B" Royals took part in a tournament hosted by the NGS Braves in Maxville on Saturday, December 6th, 2003. The Royals faced the Casselman Predators in their first game. The only goals scored were in the second period for both teams. The Predators edged the Royals 2-1. The lone goal was scored by Andrew Branchaud with assists going to Chad Parthenais, and Cameron Paul.

The Royals then met the Alexandria Glens where both teams skated to a scoreless first period. The Glens were first to get on the scoreboard but the Royals responded with a goal by Branchaud from a Paul and Parthenais passing play. In the third, the Glens went up 2-1 and with just minutes to go, Nicholas Sanseverino buried the puck into the mesh to tie the game at 2-2. Assists on this goal went to Brock O'Connor and Shawn Fontaine. The game ended in a 2-2 tie. A five minute three on three was exciting with chances at either end but still settled nothing. A five player shootout was the deciding factor giving the Royals the victory. Nicholas (Cujo) Dilabio shutout the Glens shooters and scoring for the Royals were Pat Gendron, Parthenais, and Paul.

With this victory the Royals advanced to the "B" final where they met the strong skating Goulbourn Rams. The first period ended with a goal scored by each team. Scoring the goal for the Royals was Reid Lepine, assisted by Christian Leger, and Parthenais. With many chances and few bounces the Rams edged the Royals 3-1. Goaltender Chris Maloney held the Royals in the game with a scoreless third period.

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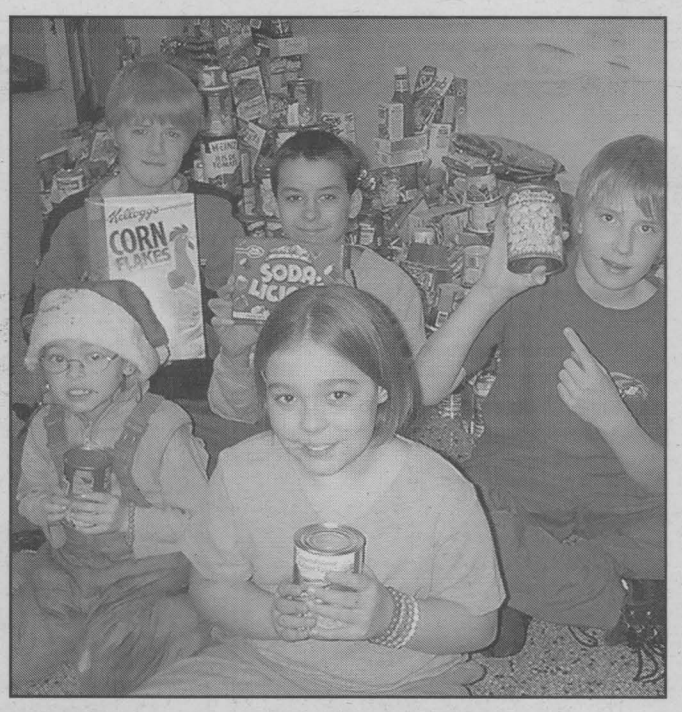
Greeting Cards Turned Into Money

Fortis Inc., which owns Fortis Ontario, which in turn operates Cornwall Electric, usually sends out Christmas greeting cards at this time of year. This year, they opted to save the money and share it with deserving groups in municipalities where Fortis is located. In Cornwall, on Monday, December 15th, 2003, Fortis donated $1,000 to the Children's Treatment Centre. Left to right: Fortis Ontario President and CEO Bill Daley, along with Cornwall Electric Regional Manager Michael Pescod, present the cheque to the President of the Children's Treatment Centre Board, Pierre Guindon.

Photo by John Divinski



Students Collect Food

Students at St. John Bosco School in Cornwall are making sure no one goes hungry over Christmas. On Wednesday, December 17th, 2003, over 1,500 items of food were packed into boxes and delivered to St. Vincent de Paul Society for distribution to the less fortunate over Christmas. Front row, left to right: six-year-old Shawnia Labelle and her nine-year-old sister Beth-Ann hold two of the many cans of goods that will end up in homes this Christmas. Back row, left to right: 12-year-old Dylan Hampsey; 14-year-old Adam Dion; and 12-year-old Patrick Lalewicz show off a few more items of food that will go into special hampers this Yuletide Season.

Photo by John Divinski

Because you always apologize when you are sorry. Because you always rewind the tape before you return it. Because you always refill the coffee at work. Because you try and eat healthy when you can't when telemarketers call during dinner. Because you're you. Because you are pleasant on the phone when you are sorry.

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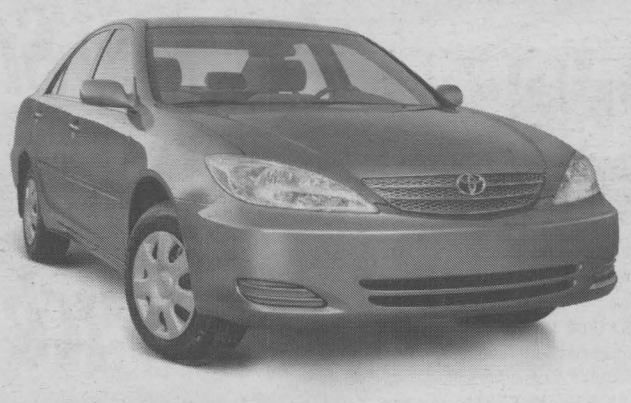

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Word Weavers
Your Local Writers' Group

Grandmothers Are Special

By Linda Kuno

I first became suspicious when my grandmother picked me up from school wearing a black leather jacket and riding a motorcycle. I knew she had taken her last divorce hard, but this is ridiculous. I better warn Mom before she shows up at work to pick her up.

"Susie! How many times do I have to tell you, don't slam that door?" Irene called from the kitchen.

"Sorry Mom, but that's the least of your problems," she said dropping her backpack on the hall floor.

"What did you do now?" her mother accused.

"Nothing, but how long has it been since you talked to Grandma?"

"Last month. The day her divorce became final. Why?"

"Good thing you're sitting down for this. Grandma picked me up at school on a Harley."

"A what? You can't be serious? Your grandmother used to have a liking for Harleys, but I thought she outgrew that years ago."

"How am I going to go to school tomorrow and face all my friends? I can still hear the chant from the kids waiting for the school bus. 'Go Mama go. This lady has a Harley, but her hair is gray and gnarly. Go Mama go. Susie's Grandma drives a Harley'."

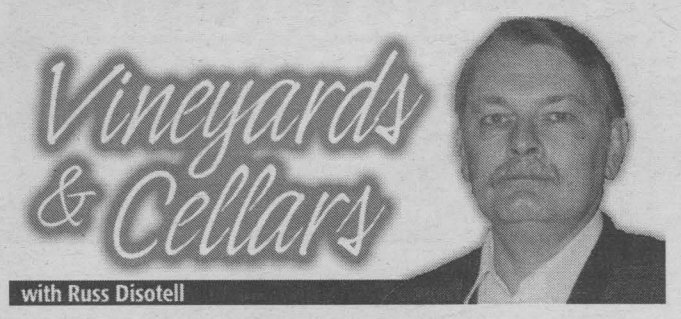
"Maybe you should look at the positive side. How many kids' grandmothers do you know that have the strength and audacity to ride a Harley at 72 years old?"

"Let me know if you feel the same way tomorrow when she picks you up at court."

"Maybe I better call her."

ENTERTAINMENT

Canadian Wines At The Holiday Table



Last column we looked at Christmas entertaining, featuring a number of imported wines. This week we'll highlight some Canadian wines that will be sure to delight your guests or thrill your hosts. Once again they'll have to fill a number of roles so we're looking for wines that are versatile. Since Christmas comes but once a year, we want only wines of the finest quality.

Most usually found in Austrian red wines, Zweigelt is a varietal that is relatively unknown to Ontario consumers and even more rare in Ontario vineyards. You will wonder why when you taste The Wine Rack's Ancient Coast Zweigelt 2002, a red wine of stunning complexity and quality. The bold nose has layers of intense blackberry aromas intermingled with hints of oak, spice, chocolate and coffee. Dense cassis, plum and currant fruit dominate the flavour, nicely complemented by a light spiciness, which shows through on the long, flavourful finish. The palate is soft and supple, making for easy drinking enjoyment, with just the right proportion of soft tannins and crisp acidity. Will perform admirably as an aperitif or as match for pasta, pizza, finger foods or barbecued fare if you still have the grill in operation.

Jackson Triggs serves up another outstanding vintage with their Proprietors' Reserve Gewürztraminer 2002 (CSPC# 526269), also available through The Wine Rack. In January 2002 I used the words stunning and sterling to describe the 2000 vintage and it seems little has changed. The nose features generous spice, citrus fruit and floral aromas. Intense grapefruit intermingles with rich flavours of lime, citrus, apricot and spicy lychee nut on the palate. The generous fruit is nicely balanced by a wonderfully refreshing citrus acidity. The finish is lavish and lingering and just slightly off dry. Invigorating as an aperitif, this stellar Gewürztraminer will admirably pair with chicken, turkey, ham, fruit and cheese or Asian cuisine.

The LCBO has a number of candidates for our table. If you're serving seafood at your soiree, then look no further than Mission Hill Private Reserve Pinot Blanc 2002 (CSPC# 300301) from British Columbia. It offers bold pear and ripe apple fruit with a round, lengthy lemon and citrus finish. A brisk acidity balances the ample fruit, producing a refreshing aperitif and a fine example of Pinot Blanc as a food wine. Also consider chicken and white meats as partners.

Mission Hill also produces a tasty Sauvignon Blanc 2002 (CSPC# 118893) that features the characteristic Sauvignon combination of grass and grapefruit, with hints of tropical fruit, firm acidic backbone and outstanding overall balance. Try it with grilled vegetables, freshwater fish, chicken or simply prepared pork.

Cave Spring Gamay 2001 (CSPC# 228569) is an easy drinking charmer, with juicy cherry and raspberry fruit and hints of pepper and spice complexity from light barrel aging. Dry, soft, round and approachable, it will reward a match with almost any fare, but especially veal or grilled salmon.

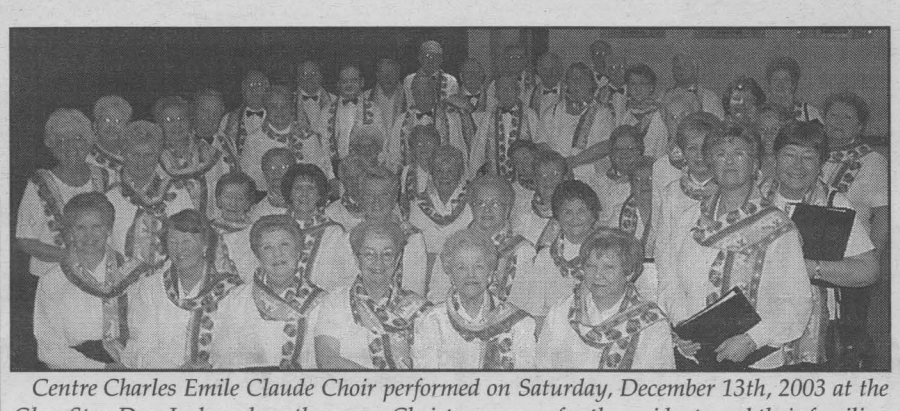
Baco Noir is said by some to be Ontario's answer to Shiraz. Pelee Island Baco Noir 2002 (CSPC# 485128) shows why. It highlights big, jammy raspberry and dark fruit flavours with a hint of pepper and smoky oak, blending seamlessly with soft tannins and a pronounced acidity to produce a supple, almost velvety texture. It is a natural for beef, steak, Cornish hens or Swedish meatballs.

Centre Charles Emile Claude Choir

The Centre Charles Emile Claude choir is a French Senior choir of 60 members ranging from 55 to 92 years of age. The choir was established two years ago. Norma Rouleau is the Choir Director and the Pianist is Moe Lemieux.

The choir volunteers their services by singing at different foyers – Chateau Cornwall, McConnell Manor, Glen-Stor-Dun Lodge, Versa Care, and St. Joseph's Villa, among others.

The choir sings in French and English, and Norma Rouleau, Choir Director says she believes they are the only senior choir in the region with 60+ members.



Centre Charles Emile Claude Choir performed on Saturday, December 13th, 2003 at the Glen-Stor-Dun Lodge where they sang Christmas songs for the residents and their families. Photo by Emmanuel Lalande

The Italian Community of Cornwall is hosting
New Year's Eve "Italian Style"
Wednesday, Dec. 31st, 2003
9pm - 1am
Masonic Hall, 333 Second St. East
$25 per person - $5 children 14 and under
• Prizes • Champagne at Midnight • Italian Lunch Buffet • Party Favors • DJ • Cash Bar
For tickets call Maria at 932-0610 or Tina at 938-8540
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COMMUNITY DIGEST

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AGAPE CLINIC - Agapé Centre will be held on Friday, December 19th. The VON will be holding a free Nursing Clinic from 11:00a.m. to 3:00p.m., at the Centre on McConnell Avenue. A registered nurse will be available to give general health counselling. Appointment please call 938-9297. Walk-ins also accepted.

COOPER MARSH CONSERVATORS present ***"An Astronomy Workshop"*** to introduce young people to the wonders of Space (suggested 8 to 12 years of age). It will be presented on Monday, December 29th, 2:00p.m. to 8:00p.m., at Cooper Marsh. Register by Friday, December 26th. Information: Dan 932-2720.

CORNWALL SENIORS CLUB - Seniors Wellness Clinic. On Monday, December 22nd, the Cornwall Seniors Club, 119 Pitt St. will hold a wellness clinic from 11:00a.m. to 3:00p.m. A registered nurse from VON will be available to give general health counselling. Clinic is open to all Seniors. Information: Pierrette or Lauraine at 932-3451.

SENIORS' WELLNESS CLINIC - Morningside Place, Avonmore will be held on Tuesday, December 23rd, 9:00a.m. to 1:00p.m. Sponsored by ScotiaBank and the residents of Morningside Place. Clinic is open to all Seniors in the area. A registered nurse from VON will be available to give general health counselling. Information: Pierrette or Lauraine 932-3451.

UPPER CANADA VILLAGE presents ***"Alight at Night"*** until Sunday, January 4th. Everyone is welcome to come and see this great event. Bring your family and friends! Information: 1-800-437-2233 or 543-3704.

Cornwall & Areas Authentic
Ye Old English Fish 'n Chip Shop
Saturday, Dec. 20th
Fisherman's Platter
(English fish, breaded sole, scallops & shrimp) served with rice & salad, homemade chowder
$11.99
Sunday, Dec. 21st
Roast Turkey Dinner
w/ Cranberry Sauce, Soup, Potatoes & Veg Homemade Dessert
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HOLIDAY HOURS
Wed., Dec. 24th ....11am- ?
Thurs., Dec. 25th ....CLOSED
Fri., Dec. 26th 11am-8pm
Wed., Dec. 31st ....11am- ?
Thurs., Jan. 1 ....Noon-7pm
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Sunday noon-7
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December 25 ...CLOSED
December 26 ...CLOSED
December 27 ...10:30am-8:00pm
December 28 ...10:30am-8:00pm
December 29 ...10:30am-8:00pm
December 30 ...10:30am-8:00pm
December 31 ...10:30am-5:00pm
January 1 ...CLOSED
January 2 ...10:30am-8:00pm
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ATM



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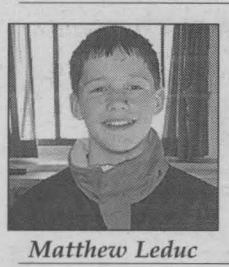
Scuttlebutt



Matthew Leduc

Matthew Leduc of **École catholique Sainte-Thérèse** in Cornwall knows the plan and what has to be done. After the school's grade six class created numerous gingerbread houses as a project, a reporter asked what they were going to do with them. Matthew was the first to answer, "We're gonna eat 'em!"

Chamber of Commerce President **Terry Landon** has the worst luck in the world. Recently, 15 people were gathered for breakfast and everyone threw their credit card into a hat. The last one out had to pay the tab. Thanks Terry!

Former **CJSS broadcaster** and voice of the **Cornwall Colts, Scott Rogers** has returned to Cornwall after an absence of several years. Scott will begin working at **Cornwall Toyota** in the Sales Department, in the New Year.

So ... "The Jersey Farmer" working for The Red Cross??

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A very *"Merry Christmas"* to all our **Cornwall Transit** drivers for the wonderful job they do all year transporting people safely everyday. Wishing all of you a *"Happy and Safe New Year."* Keep up the good work!

Warm and *Happy Chanukah* to our *Jewish community* who begin celebrations on Saturday, December 20th, 2003.

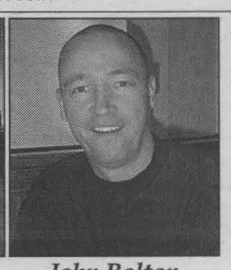
*Get well wishes to **Barb Benton** after having her appendix removed.*

Special thanks going out to **Theresa** and **Pat** from **Shalteck Construction** for the great Christmas supper over at **Papa Gedoro's** Saturday, December 6th, 2003. From the Shalteck employees.

Seaway News management and staff would like to wish a very *"Merry Christmas"* and the *"Best of the Season"* to all our customers, readers and friends.

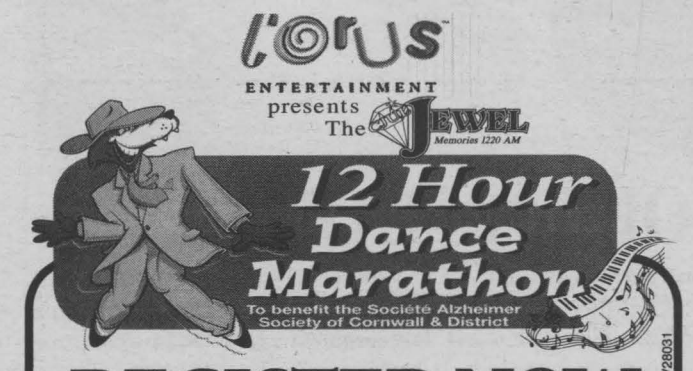


Frank Holiday



John Bolton

Look who's back on the airwaves. **Frank Holiday,** who's been selling radio air time in Cornwall on behalf of a series of radio stations stateside, is doing the morning shift, 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. on **96.1, The Valley. John Bolton,** also a former Cornwall radio voice, can be heard on the same station.



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Merry Christmas
Happy Holidays

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David Thomas

Director-designate of Education for the Upper Canada District School Board, **David Thomas,** was in attendance at the official opening of the **Kinsmen/Vincent Massey School** on Cumberland Street. He started working for the public board on Monday, December 1st, 2003 and will replace current director **Gino Giannandrea** in March, 2004.

READ IT AGAIN

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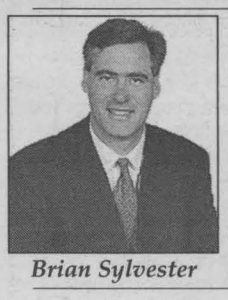
Why do the good people living in the **Cumberland-Timothy area** have to put up with the **dog barking** all day long - day after day?

Thanks **Joanne** for all the wonderful **"Avon" service** all year! Hope you have a wonderful Christmas. By the way, how are your snowmen?!

A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages. "Mama, look what I found," the boy called out. "What have you got there, dear?" With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered, "I think it's Adam's underwear!"



Brian Sylvester

Former Mayor **Brian Sylvester** has turned philosopher. Overheard at a Team Cornwall meeting: "A short pencil is better than a long memory."

Congratulations to the **Mayor** of North Stormont, **Dennis Fife** who was named **Warden of the United Counties** last week. Other wardens we have known say the biggest change they see during their one-year term is in the odometer reading of their vehicle which seems to move as much as the speedometer.

Pet Tip of the Week: Remember to keep the Christmas cookies away from your pets. They have their own treats that are much better for them. Also, keep tinsel and small shiny ornaments away from your pets, especially cats. If ingested, it could cause blockages in the intestines and a visit to the vet.



Kevin Wilson

United Way fundraising chair **Kevin Wilson** tells the worst jokes in the world. Get him to tell you the "moth story" and see if you don't agree.

Ernie Seguin has written a neat song about being 60. Ask him to sing it for you.

*Many thanks to **Gaby** at **Cornwall Nissan** for the excellent after sales service. I really appreciate it.*

-Bill Paquette

Seaway Pet Corner



"It's tough being Santa to every dog!" Pebbles is a one-year-old Boston Terrier owned by Rob, Anne, Chris and Addie Matos.

Submitted by Louise Ratelle

Bring in your favourite pet photo along with a small caption and we'll publish it so all our readers can enjoy it too!

Drop in to our office at 329 Second Street West.

DEADLINE IS TUESDAY 5PM



OOPS! We don't think this was part of the plan at the corner of **Marlborough and Water Street** on Monday, December 15th, 2003. A snow plow apparently toppled the bus stop in front of **Napoleon Delicatessen**.

Police would make a lot of money if they would patrol the 'no parking' fire zones at the malls. It's a shame the number of people abusing these laws. If the police have no need for this windfall, it could go to the Salvation Army or the Agapè Centre.

Jessica Lenneau would like to extend a thank you to **Angela** at **Angel's Pantry** for helping her out in a time of need and helping to spread Christmas Cheer.

The daily paper hopes **Don Boudria** will be back in cabinet after the next election. The likelihood of the "rat packer" achieving that is less than **George Bush** appointing **Jean Chrétien** as a security advisor!

DETOUR TO LOGAN'S

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Sat., Dec. 20 9:30am-7:00pm Tues., Dec. 23 9:30am-7:00pm

Sun., Dec. 21 9:00am-5:00pm Wed., Dec. 24 9:30am-4:00pm

LOGAN'S GALLERY Gift Shop

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***Three Cheers For Oprah!** During a recent taping of The Oprah Winfrey Show, her guest was Tommy Hilfiger. On the show, she asked him if the statements about race he was accused of saying were true.*

Statements like..."If I'd known African-Americans, Hispanics, Jews and Asians would buy my clothes, I would not have made them so nice. I wish these people would not buy my clothes, as they are made for upper class white people." His answer to Oprah was a simple "Yes." After which she immediately asked him to leave her show.

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2 BDRM APT, 4-pc. bath, F/A gas, private drive. One side of duplex, very nice. $495/mth, plus utilities. First & last. No pets. Call 932-5362.

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AVAILABLE JAN. 1ST, 2 bdrm apt. 44A Anthony, close to bus stop. $600/mth, everything paid. Washer/dryer hookups, parking. Call 932-0968.

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BACHELOR APT. Fridge, stove & utilities included. $400/mth. Close to transportation. Clean & quiet. References. No pets. Call 938-3936.

AVAILABLE JAN. 1ST, 2 bdrm apt. Washer/dryer hookups, parking. No pets. $550/mth, includes heat, lights & satellite. Call 349-0793 or 932-4270.

1 BDRM APT in Ingleside. $415/mth, includes utilities. Call 543-3604.

SPACIOUS 1 & 2 BDRM APTS. Clean & quiet. Reasonable rents, locker space, parking, coin-operated laundry. References required. Call 931-2633.

SECURITY BLDG. Apts for rent. Bachelor, 1 & 2 bdrms, starting @ $410/mth. Includes fridge, stove, heat, electricity, parking, laundry room in building. No pets. Call Monday-Saturday, 8am-8pm, 933-9471.

2 BDRM APT, with fridge, stove, utilities included. Washer/dryer hookups. Clean & quiet. References. No pets. $600/mth. Call 938-3936.

LARGE 1 BDRM APT w/4-pc. bathroom & full basement. 231 Prince Albert, one block from College. Could be shared by 2 students. $400/mth, plus utilities. 933-0560, leave message.

4 HOUSES FOR RENT

LANCASTER AREA, 3 bdrm house. Parking, laundry hook-ups. $650/mth, plus utilities. Call 551-0909.

8 REAL ESTATE

COMMERCIAL GARAGE for sale. Price drastically reduced! Now only $69,900. Terms can be arranged. Call Latreille Real Estate Inc. for details, 938-3800.

13 OFFICES/ STORES/BLDGS

STORE FOR RENT - Approx. 1,000 sq.ft. Available immediately. Le Village area. For more info, call 528-4030.

14 OUTSIDE CANADA

FLORIDA CONDO FOR RENT. Month of February, 2004. 2 bdrms, 1-1/2 baths, large livingroom, pool tennis courts, etc. No pets. Non-smokers only. St. Petersburg location. Call 931-9404.

22 ARTICLES FOR SALE

NEW BLACK LEATHER brief case, 3 compartments, 15-1/2"wide X 11" high. Call 525-3349.

18 ROOMS FOR RENT

FURNISHED ROOMS FOR RENT
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Call Peter 938-6131
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22 ARTICLES FOR SALE

SCHUBERT PIANO, apartment size, with bench, mahogany finish, in mint condition. Asking $750. An excellent Christmas gift. Call 932-4781.

PRE-FINISHED HARDWOOD FLOORING, huge variety, factory prices, AAA quality. Greenland Hardwoods Inc. 18077 Tyotown Rd. 932-8188.

3-PCE. PROJECTOR TV UNIT for sale. Call 933-7667.

22 ARTICLES FOR SALE

VILAS BEDROOM SET, 5-pce. w/box spring & mattress, good cond. $800. or B.O. Sectional livingroom set, good cond. $175. or B.O. Wall unit for 27", $200. or B.O. Diningroom set w/corner hutch, $500. or B.O. Call 937-0836.

QUEEN SIZE MATTRESS & cover, box spring & frame. Good condition. $225. Call 933-2519.

AUTOMATIC DRYER, exc. cond.
Also, 10-ft. satellite dish w/25-ft. steel pole & all controls, exc. cond. Call 528-4717.

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POOL TABLE, 3x6 slate with accessories. $200. Call 937-3626.

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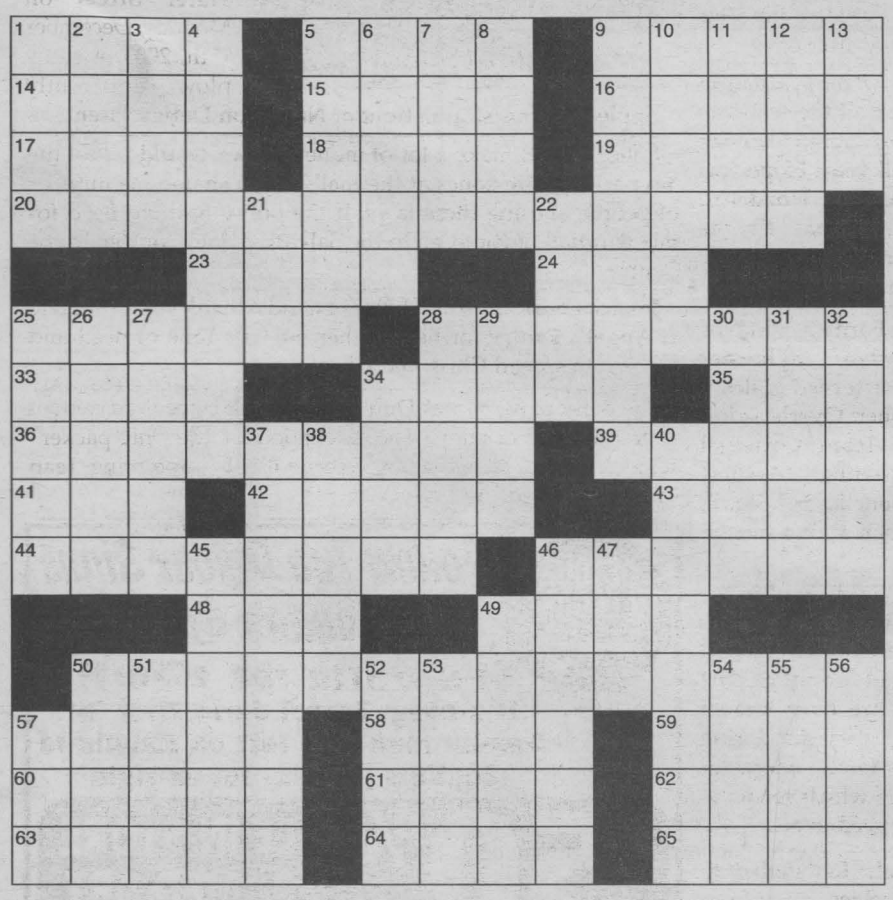
1. A way to fix firmly
5. Humanistic discipline
9. Give out
14. Pier, side of porch
15. Short high tone produced as a signal or warning
16. Nigerian monetary unit
17. Monetary unit of Iran
18. At some prior time
19. Below deck
20. Pilgrim home
23. Grayish-brown eagle
24. God of sky (Scandinavian)
25. Diminished
28. In a way, wards off an attack against
33. Gael, for one
34. Athapaskan language
35. Expresses surprise
36. Sorghum
39. The largest city in Africa
41. They __
42. Heron genus
43. The second letter of the Greek alphabet
44. Heedlessness
46. Too much noise
48. A lyric poem with complex stanza forms
49. Root of taro plant
50. Intrigue
57. Larceny
58. Part of O'Henry story title
59. Swiss river
60. Zellweger
61. Mastery (Scottish)
62. Small slender gull
63. Chamois of the Pyrenees
64. Totals
65. One of the coasts

CLUES DOWN
1. Stringed musical instrument
2. A blue dye
3. Type of brace
4. Fan palm
5. Be plentiful
6. Annual income (French)
7. High ____.
8. Type of first draft
9. Type of mind
10. Pakistani city
11. Big cat
12. Paris airport
13. Small amount
21. Mined mineral
22. Native American people
25. Mongol emperor of India
26. Yogi __
27. Purgative leaves
28. Whittles
29. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
30. Foreman
31. Soviet city
32. A group of fish
34. Turfs
37. In a way, assigned
38. Brook
40. A way to get rid of
45. Dancer
46. In a way, flows
47. Oklahoma town
49. Capable of wounding
50. Home (French)
51. A Russian river
52. Siberian river
53. Aromatic ointment
54. Mother of Cronus
55. Strays
56. Torn apart as if by wind or lightning or explosive
57. Denotes three



answers on page 38

HOROSCOPES

December 20th - 26th

ARIES – March 21/April 20
Don't let a run-in with an acquaintance ruin your good mood early in the week. This person is just in a bad mood and is taking it out on you.

TAURUS – April 21/May 21
You have to be determined if you want to get anything done this week. Don't let a few minor setbacks discourage you. Those closest to you admire your diligence.

GEMINI – May 22/June 21
You have to be patient this week while waiting for a close friend to answer an important question. Don't force the issue or you may not get the response that you're hoping for.

CANCER – June 22/July 22
A close friend gets you mixed up in a difficult situation. Remain calm, and you're sure to come up with a way to get out of this mess. That special someone asks you an interesting question on Thursday.

LEO – July 23/August 23
Don't back down from a challenge during the middle of the week, Leo. Take charge of the situation, and show everyone how strong you really are.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
A lot of people are depending on you this week, Virgo. Don't let them down. An interesting meeting on Tuesday holds romantic possibilities.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
While you don't want to take sides, you're going to have to when it comes to an argument between two friends late in the week, Libra. Listen to both sides, and use common sense.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
You receive a lucrative business offer this week, Scorpio. While you're enticed, don't make any hasty decisions. Wait until things calm down and you can think clearly.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
Early in the week, you meet someone who steals your heart. Don't be afraid to get to know him or her better. Just because you've been hurt in the past doesn't mean that this person will hurt you too.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
Stand your ground when a business associate confronts you about a decision. You know that you're making the right choice. An important relationship kicks into high gear.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
Don't be too hasty when it comes to a career decision early in the week. Get advice from others, and do some research before making your choice.
PISCES – Feb 19/March 20

A friend of a friend needs your help with a personal matter. Offer your assistance, because you know that he or she is too shy to ask for it. Your efforts will be appreciated.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES
PHONE: 933-0015

Classified Advertising (G.S.T. included)

CASH RATES
- $9.00/week 24 words or less, (25¢ each additional word per week).
- $16.50/2 weeks. 24 words or less, (23¢ each additional word per week.).

DEADLINE: Wednesday 12 noon before publication. The advertiser agrees that the publisher shall not be liable for damages arising out of errors in advertisements beyond the amount paid for the space actually occupied by that portion of the advertisement in which the error occurred, whether such error is due to the negligence of its servants or otherwise and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of advertisement beyond the amount paid for such advertisement.

COMPANIONS' CORNER

To Place Your Ad: write your ad of 24 words or less and enclose $28.50 plus your name, phone and proper mailing address (postal code) (this is only for our records). This will be for 2 insertions. Over 24 words, 23¢/ additional word/week. Deadline is 12 noon Wednesday.

Mail to Companions' Corner, Seaway News, 329 Second St. West, Cornwall, Ontario K6J 1G8.
Mail pick up, no charge.
Mailed replies: $6.00

For Readers:

To respond to an ad, there is "no charge", just send your letter to the appropriate CC number, c/o Seaway News, 329 Second St. West, Cornwall, Ontario K6J 1G8.

COPY CHANGES

Customers are allowed one copy change prior to ad publication. Copy changes, after the ad has been published, are treated as a "new ad" and will be paid for accordingly. On "sold" items, no credits are issued. However, in the case of cancellations, once an ad has been placed and paid. There is no refund or credit given.

NOTICE

It is our wish to serve you through the classifieds, however, Seaway News can't possibly verify the legitimacy of all ads. **DO NOT SEND MONEY OR GIVE YOUR CREDIT CARD NUMBER** to any company offering employment. Legitimate firms do not charge potential employees for a job.

Opportunities to earn money at home by assembling products, etc. should be examined carefully. Check references of these companies. Do not send money or give your credit card number until you are satisfied you are going to get what you bargained for.

LET THE BUYER BEWARE.

Published weekly and distributed by Seaway News, 329-2nd St. W., Cornwall K6J 1G8. The Publisher will not be responsible for any errors in any advertisement after one insertion.

Advertising is accepted on the condition that in the event of a typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item together with reasonable allowance of signature will not be charged for but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the applicable rate.

In the event of a typographical error advertising or services at the wrong price(s), goods or services need not be sold. Advertising is merely an offer to sell. The offer may be withdrawn at any time.

There shall be no liability for non-insertion of an advertisement beyond the amount paid for such advertisement.

The Publisher reserves the right to edit, revise, classify or reject an advertisement.

The views of contributing writers are not necessarily the viewpoints of this newspaper or its publishers.

Letters to the editor are welcomed. They may be reprinted with changes in spelling or grammatical construction. All letters must be complete with signature, address and phone number. If not, they will not be printed.

SEAWAY NEWS
Serving Cornwall and Area

CALL 613-933-0015

Classifieds

CALL 613-933-0015

Deadline: Classified Word Ads: Wednesday at noon

22 ARTICLES FOR SALE | 22 ARTICLES FOR SALE | 22 ARTICLES FOR SALE | 30 HOME SERVICES | 38 HELP WANTED | 38 HELP WANTED | 38 HELP WANTED | 38 HELP WANTED | 38 HELP WANTED

FOR THE BEST DEALS IN TOWN!

ORTHO SELECT 5 Year Warranty		CHIRO 15 Year Warranty		ORTHOPEDIC 20 Year Warranty	
39" Set	Reg. $299 $199	39" Set	Reg. $499 $299	39" Set	Reg. $599 $399
48" Set	Reg. $399 $249	48" Set	Reg. $699 $399	48" Set	Reg. $799 $499
54" Set	Reg. $399 $249	54" Set	Reg. $699 $399	54" Set	Reg. $799 $499
Queen Set	Reg. $489 $299	Queen Set	Reg. $899 $499	Queen Set	Reg. $899 $599

39" MATTRESS $99

BERGERON SLEEP SHOP & HOT TUB
1005 FIRST ST. E. dec19033 932-2214

AT LOW PRICE! 1st quality materials ... unbeatable prices! No GST over $1,000 purchases! Ice salt 20kg $2.99. Floating floor no glue 25-yrs .89¢ sq.ft. Colonial moulding 8-ft. casing .99¢, baseboard $1.15. Interior classic door $29.99. Tile .35¢, ceramic .89¢. Spruce 2"x3"x7' $1.05. Polythene tarps 6'x8' $1.99. Carpenter's apron $9.99. Cordless drill 18V $39.99. Cordless air compressor $59.99. Jump start 1000A $59.99. Cash & carry prices. Valid from December 20th-24th, 2003. Bargain Building Materials, 613-527-5090.

23 ARTICLES WANTED

WANTED - WE PAY CASH for Carnival Glass, Moorcroft, antique furniture. Call 931-1647 or 525-1596.

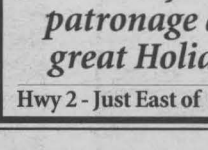
I ♥ THE CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE

SAVE MONEY NOW!
Refinances, purchases and debt consolidations. Pay off high interest loans & credit cards.
5 Year Mortgage 5.05%
UPPER CANADA MORTGAGE
930-2592 SN1

23 ARTICLES WANTED

WANTED



Old Fishing Lures & Wooden Duck Decoys
Old Blue Flower/Bird Crocks & Jugs, Traps
938-8839
nov21034

26 FARMERS MARKET

LOG CABIN CHRISTMAS TREES. Spruce, cut your own, wagon rides, hot chocolate, $20. Weekends, follow signs to 6th Line Road, 7 kms north of Avonmore. 538-2382.

26 FARMERS MARKET

CEDAR & PINE LUMBER. Hardwood lumber. V-joint Pine & Cedar siding. Hardwood flooring. Specialty orders. Shavings, bags or in bulk. Firewood, split & delivered. Robertson's Sawmill, Martintown. Call 528-4262.

30 HOME SERVICES

MIKE SAUVE CARPENTRY - Complete Home & Business Renovations including siding, soffit, facia, window & door installations. Specialty: interior finishings. Free estimate. 933-1042.

Marlin Orchards & Garden Centre

Lots of Great Christmas Ideas!
20%-50% OFF GIFTWARE

Closing for the season
December 21st, 2003
Re-opening in March 2004

Thank you for your patronage and have a great Holiday Season

Hwy 2 - Just East of Cornwall • 931-1213
DEC19034

30 HOME SERVICES

STRIPALL - Century Home Restoration. Furniture stripping, refinishing & repairs. Staircases, floors, doors, archways. No job too big or small, antique or not. Kitchen cupboards completely restored & refinished starting @ $1,500. Free estimates. Long Sault, 534-8494.

CLOTHING REPAIRS, Alterations & Lettering. For all your sewing needs, call Leo at 933-7995.

HARVEY LAFRANCE Masonry Contractor, Brick, stone, block, chimney repairs. Free estimate. Satisfaction guaranteed. Reasonable rates. 937-4801.

MEAL PREPARATION. Let "What's Cooking" do the work for you. We buy the groceries, prepare your meals & deliver to you. Call Jennifer, 938-8008 or Leslie, 931-1684.

RILEY'S PAINTING. Now specializing in new homes. Drywall & ceiling repairs, water damage, wallpapering & odd jobs. Light truck available. 20-yrs. exp. Reasonable rates. 938-8839. Pager#930-8851.

MAN WITH PICK-UP for hire. Will do household moving. Call 936-0896 or leave message.

SEAMSTRESS / COUTURIERE: Alterations. All zippers. Modifications. Call Denise at 938-6532, leave message.

ERNIE'S CLEAN-UP SERVICE. Cedar hedge & tree trimming, fencing, house painting, snow blowing, yards, basements, lawn cutting. Call 938-1684.

35 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

SMALL EXPANDING BUSINESS for sale. Suitable for motivated, creative individual. Everything you need for start up. Training included. For further information, call 938-9627.

PARAMED

HOME HEALTH CARE

REQUIRES

Home Support Workers

(Level II, III)

& PSWs

in North and South Glengarry and North Stormont

PLEASE SEND RESUME:
ParaMed Home Health Care
812 Pitt Street, Unit 16
Cornwall, Ontario K6J 5R1
Attention: Donna Tinker
OR
e-mail: phs_cornwall@extendicare.com
Fax: (613) 932-4120

ParaMed is an equal opportunity employer

DEC19033

AURELE ST. JEAN PLUMBING

PLUMBER WANTED

Immediate opening for full time plumber.
All inquiries will be kept confidential.
Call Pierre 932-3434

DEC19031

38 HELP WANTED

ATTN! WORK FROM HOME on-line. $500-$1,500/mth P/T. $3,000(+) F/T. 1-888-957-7384. www.noworkjustpay.com

38 HELP WANTED

WORK AT HOME around your schedule! Full training provided. Unlimited earning potential! www.lifestylesyourway.com 1-888-719-6125.

40 AUTOS FOR SALE

1992 PONTIAC GRAND AM, 6-cyl, 4-dr, 191,000 kms, new tires, new brakes, exhaust done in 2002, e-tested, remote start. Asking $1,700. Call after 5pm, 936-9548.

PRIVATE FLEET LOOKING FOR A CLASS A TRUCK MECHANIC

- Full Time
- Competitive Wages
- Company Benefits Plan

Send résumé to:
Box #277
C/O Seaway News
329 2nd Street West
Cornwall, ON
K6J 1G8

DEC19034

AUCTION SALES | AUCTION SALES

AUCTION SALE

COLLECTION OF STERLING SILVER
December 24th thru New Year

Sugar castors, ewers, mustard & pepper pots, high domed entrée dishes, marrow scoops and serving spoons; cake baskets, tea caddies, snuff boxes, candelabras, taureens and tankards. Whatever pleasures these treasures hold, may your Christmas be sterling and your New Year hallmarked with prosperity and good health - God Bless.

Flora Grant Dumouchel and Family

FLORA GRANT DUMOUCHEL
AUCTION SERVICES
Ingleside, Ontario 613-537-2925
www.theauctionfever.com
DEC19033

AUCTION SALE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27TH, 10:00 A.M.
COMPLETE LIQUIDATION OF COBERS CORNERS CONVENIENCE STORE
3932 Wales Road in the Village of Newington - across from the Fire Hall

To Be Sold: Balance of grocery and dry goods inventory as well as coolers & equipment.

Owner & auctioneer not responsible for loss or accident.
Terms: Cash or cheque with proper I.D. Sale to be held inside.
Sale order: Grocery & dry goods at 10 am, to be followed by equipment at approx. 12 pm.

Peter Ross Auction Services
Ingleside, Ontario Tel: 537-8862
www.theauctionfever.com
DEC19032

REAL ESTATE REAL ESTATE REAL ESTATE REAL

40 AUTOS FOR SALE

VEHICLE FOR SALE - Tired of being offered second rate vehicles, especially with a credit problem. Call Car-o-line Auto's, 613-448-2488, long distance toll free 1-877-820-5598. Over 50, 90's vehicles to chose from. Now on line www.car-o-line.com

41 BABYSITTING

BABYSITTER AVAILABLE in Sandywoods Estates, Williamstown. Stay at home mom w/3-yr-old daughter. University educated. Big play area. Lots toys. Smoke & pet free. Call Sheila, 931-9665.

CHILDCARE IN A loving environment. Educational, safe, indoor/outdoor play. Nutritious meals & snacks. Non-smoking. Full & part-time. Lots of TLC. References. 936-1889.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR an affordable babysitter with numerous activities & flexible hours? Have Carrie take TLC of your children. References & receipts. Call 932-5553.

Holiday Greetings

From All Of Us



Century 21®
SHIELD REALTY LTD.
465 PITT STREET 938-2121

Wishing you a festive season filled with good friends, good times, and glad tidings. Thanks for making it all worthwhile!



MONIQUE WILLIAMS
Sales Rep. 938-2121



TODD THOMPSON
Sales Rep. 938-2121



ERIC PEDERSEN
Broker 938-9690

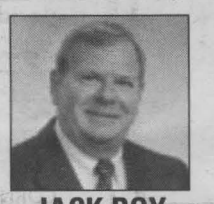


BROOKE MacCRIMMON
Sales Rep. 938-2121



SHERRY McCULLOUGH
Sales Rep. 938-2121

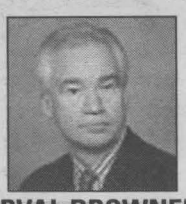
MOE LEMIEUX
Sales Rep. 932-9386



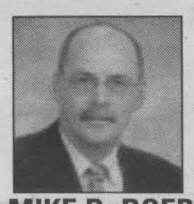
JACK ROY
Sales Rep. 931-1290



MAURICE DROUIN
Sales Rep. 933-6146



ORVAL BROWNELL
Assoc. Broker 932-7061



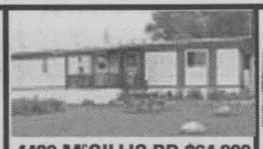
MIKE DeBOER
Broker 936-3124



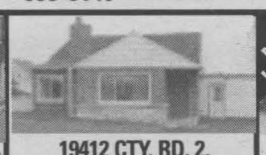
MICHAEL VANDER MEER
Assoc. Broker 938-2121



410 BEDFORD $39,900
WHY RENT, WHEN YOU CAN OWN!
(A-MLS Z3102) Sgl family home with private drive & private yard for under $40,000. Start building on your future.
MONIQUE WILLIAMS 938-2121



4439 McGILLIS RD $64,900
(Formerly Cornwall Twp Rd 38) (M-MLS Z3598) 1100 sq ft, mobile on 120x202 lot. Move-in condition. Screened porch & many updates.
MONIQUE WILLIAMS 938-2121



19412 CTY. RD. 2, SUMMERSTOWN $89,900
(J-MLS Z4332) Great property. Fabulous location. Lot 116x114. 2+1 bdrms, hdwd, 1-1/2 baths & much more.
MONIQUE WILLIAMS 938-2121



1909 CONCORDE AVE. $169,900
(A-MLS Z4710) SUNRISE ACRES. Wonderful location. Move-in-condition. Raised bung with att garage, 53x149 lot.
MONIQUE WILLIAMS 938-2121



621 GUY ST. NEW PRICE - $119,900
(A-MLS Z4423) Large 4 bdrm brick bung, hdwd flrs, lot 50x130 with garage. QUICK POSSESSION, IF NEEDED.
ERIC PEDERSEN 938-9690



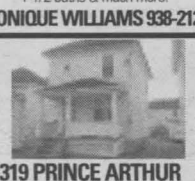
EMILY CRS. $127,900
(A-MLS Z4517) Large 3 bdrm semi with 2 baths, 2 frpls, garage & large lot.
ERIC PEDERSEN 938-9690



INVESTMENT - $47,000
(A-MLS Z1620) Maint-free dbl tenement. Central location. Gas heat. Excellent long-term tenants.
ERIC PEDERSEN 938-9690



515 THIRD ST. WEST NEW PRICE - $52,900
(A-MLS Z1947) Come on over to view this 3 bdrm home featuring a large kit & dining rm, garage, patio & quaint front porch. Just to name a few. All this could be yours.
BROOKE MacCRIMMON 938-2121



319 PRINCE ARTHUR $41,900
(A-MLS Z3880) THE PRICE IS RIGHT! You can't afford not to consider this 3bdrm, 2 storey starter home.
SHERRY McCULLOUGH 938-2121



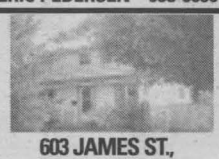
3502 MARYDALE AVE $145,900
(A-MLS Z3963) Rosedale Terrace area. Welcoming front foyer greets you to a warm cozy kit with dining nook area. Surrounded by mature landscaping & 24' abv grd pool.
SHERRY McCULLOUGH 938-2121



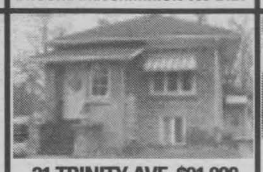
1332 LOCHIEL $179,900
(A-MLS Z3544) Backs onto parkland! 2 storey, 4 bdrm. Brick & siding. L-shaped work-in kit with some blt-in appliances, fin rec rm warmed by gas frpl. Oodles of closets & storage. Interested?
SHERRY McCULLOUGH 938-2121



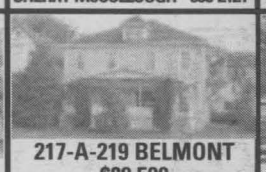
1349 STORMONT DRIVE $144,900
(A-MLS Z3619) Invite a crowd without cramping your style. Open concept living, dining & eat-in kit. Well established neighbourhood. Interested?
SHERRY McCULLOUGH 938-2121



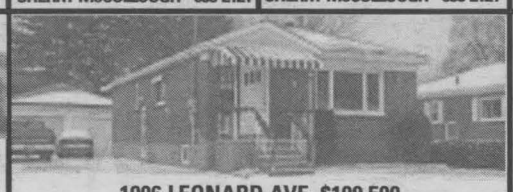
603 JAMES ST., RIVERDALE $119,000
(A-MLS Z4525) Excellent family home! 1+2 bdrms, 2 baths, det garage, 16x32 ingr pool, fully fenced backyard.
SHERRY McCULLOUGH 938-2121



21 TRINITY AVE. $91,900
(A-MLS Z4560) Ready to retire? Low maintenance raised bungalow within one block of shopping. Interested?
SHERRY McCULLOUGH 938-2121



217-A-219 BELMONT $89,500
(A-MLS Z4267) Well-maintained triplex. Some recent updates (electrical, plumbing, roof, flooring), parking.
MOE LEMIEUX 932-9386



1006 LEONARD AVE. $109,500
(A-MLS Z4628) RIVERDALE AREA. 3 bdrm, brick bung with over 1000 sq ft, central air, dbl det garage, lot 50'x148'.
MOE LEMIEUX 932-9386



107 THIRD ST. WEST $86,500 - "A GEM!"
(A-MLS Z4049) Well-maint 1-1/2 storey, 1250 sq ft home intensively renovated. 2+1 bdrms. Make it a point to come & see this home. You won't be disappointed
MOE LEMIEUX 932-9386



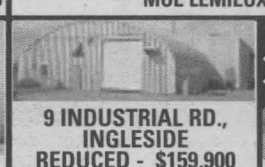
9-UNIT APT. BUILDING $329,900
(A-MLS Z3550) Nets $40,000. Downtown location.
JACK ROY 931-1290



1200 ONTARIO ST. $79,900
(A-MLS Z4623) 2 bdrm mobile home with dbl det garage & carport on 105 x 249 lot. Price includes lot south of 12th St. allowance.
MAURICE DROUIN 933-6146



FIFTH WEST $74,900
(A-MLS Z0149) Semi-det, 1160 sq ft with att garage, 3 bdrm, eff gas heat, paved drive. 2 available. Call now.
MIKE DeBOER 936-3124



9 INDUSTRIAL RD., INGLESIDE REDUCED - $159,900
(O-MLS Z3882) Steel 5600 sq ft building with in-floor gas heat. Two 14' doors, 18' ceilings, some office space. Large serviced lot. Couldn't build at this price.
MIKE DeBOER 936-3124



50 ACRES HOBBY FARM
(M-MLS Z4638) 50 acres hobby farm, newer brick bung, older barn & outbuildings.
MIKE VANDER MEER 938-2121



NEWINGTON $75,900
(O-MLS Z3119) 1500 sq ft bungalow with det garage/shop, country kit with new oak cupboards.
MIKE VANDER MEER 938-2121

LOTS & LAND

ROXBOROUGH GARDENS - Large high lot	$6,100
CTY RD 18 - 11 acre lot	$24,900
417 COMMUTERS - Lot with a view	$16,900
AVONMORE RD. - Private 4 ac treed lot	$19,900
LONG SAULT AREA - 148x167 lot	$19,000
MOOSE CREEK - Lot with great view	$16,900

MIKE VANDER MEER 938-2121



521 ANTHONY REDUCED - $125,000
(A-MLS Z3965) Spotless & well-decorated 3+1 bdrm bung in good residential neighbourhood. Fieldstone frpl, hot tub in lower level, 1-1/2 car garage. Many improvements.
MIKE VANDER MEER 938-2121



DUPLEX $46,900
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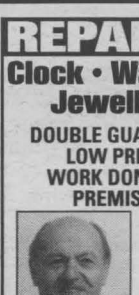

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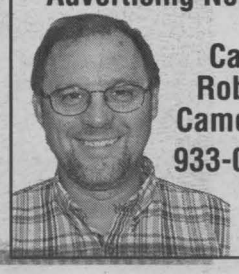

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- Build this home as a wood-sided farmhouse with wrapping verandah, or as a stately brick traditional.
- Plans include details for both facades.
- Enter the foyer and you'll be greeted by double doors opening to the den on the left and a spacious living room with fireplace on the right.
- The dining room is separated from the living room by a plant bridge and pair of columns.
- It has double-door access to the rear yard.
- The kitchen includes entertainment-sized space with a centre work island and an abundance of counter space.
- The sunny breakfast room has double doors to the rear deck.
- The full-sized family room features a three-sided fireplace and a corner media centre, plus access to the rear yard.
- A staircase from the family room leads to bonus space over the garage totaling an additional 687 square feet of unfinished space.
- Four bedrooms on the second floor cluster around a centre hall.
- The master suite and one family bedroom have walk-in closets.

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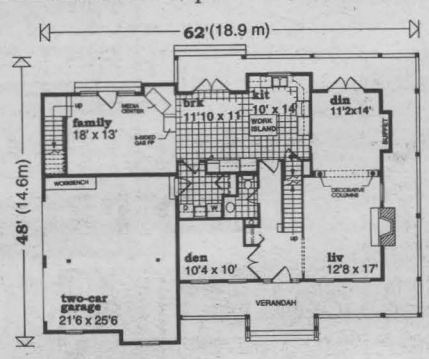
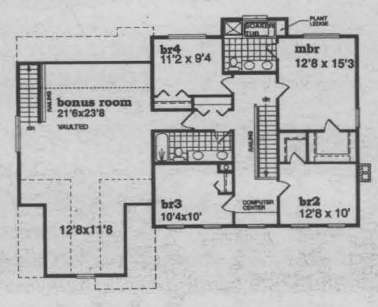


first level 1452 sq.ft.



second level 1100 sq.ft.
bonus room 709 sq.ft.

Installing A Programmable Thermostat

(NC)–When cold weather approaches, many Canadians look for ways to cut down heating costs. One of the most efficient ways to conserve energy is by



installing a programmable thermostat. While older thermostats operate at one setting all day, programmable thermostats adjust the temperature in the home for waking and sleeping hours, even weekday and weekend schedules.

Follow these step-by-step tips for installing a programmable thermostat.

What You'll Need:

- Programmable thermostat
- Drill and drill bit
- Standard screwdriver
- Screws and drywall anchors
- Safety goggles

Removing the old thermostat:

- Disconnect power to the thermostat, and remove the thermostat cover.
- Locate the wires from the furnace, and remove them.
- Label original wires with labels supplied with the new thermostat.
- Remove the body of the thermostat.
- Spread the wires apart to prevent them from falling behind the wall.

Installing the new thermostat:

- Place the new thermostat base on the wall where the previous thermostat was located.
- Mark the wall through the mounting holes on the base.
- Remove the base and, using marks for reference, drill holes for mounting. Be sure the drill bit is thinner than the screws you'll be using.
- Feed the wires through the base of the thermostat and screw it into position.
- If you're mounting the thermostat onto drywall, use the drywall anchors that come with the new thermostat kit.
- Attach the labeled wires to the corresponding terminals on the base. Be sure to follow wiring instructions carefully. If in doubt, consult a qualified electrician.
- Finish by attaching the thermostat to the base.

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OBITUARIES

MacDONALD - James Angus

Passed away at the Hotel Dieu Hospital, Cornwall, Ontario on Saturday, December 6th, 2003, age 74 years. Dear son of the late Daniel MacDonald and the late Lillian (McAteer) MacDonald. Beloved husband of 53 years to Marie (Longtin). Loving father of Richard (Louise), Ken (Rita), Brian, and James MacDonald all of Cornwall, Ontario and Joyce MacDonald (Bob) of Kingston, Ontario. Dear brother of John MacDonald (Freida) of Prescott, Ontario, Lillian White, Mary MacDonald (Bruce) and Catherine MacDonald all of Cornwall, Ontario. Sadly missed by grandchildren, Kim, Andrew, Ross, Bridget, Dan, Julie, Kellie and James, and nine great-grandchildren. Predeceased by brothers, Donald and Lawrence. Rested at Wilson Funeral Home. A Knights of Columbus Prayer Vigil was held during the visitation. The Mass of the Resurrection with Commendation and Farewell was celebrated by Reverend Gary Ostler in St. Francis de Sales Roman Catholic Church on Tuesday, December 9th, 2003. Rite of Committal followed in Notre Dame Cemetery. The pallbearers were Euguene Legault, Ray Marion, Joe Meehan, Peter Desrosiers Jr., Darwin MacDonald and Emile Pitre. Funeral arrangements were under the care of Wilson Funeral Home. James was a retired employee of Domtar, Member of the Knights of Columbus Council #11531, St. Francis de Sales Parish.

LAMOUREUX - Alcide A.

Passed away at the Hotel Dieu Hospital, Cornwall, Ontario on Monday, December 1st, 2003. Mr. Alcide A. Lamoureux, in his 87th year, born in Hanmer, Ontario and formerly of Cornwall, Ontario. Dear son of the late Napoleon Lamoureux and the late Elisa Lajambe. Beloved husband of the late Jeanne Lamoureux (Geoffrion). Loving father of Richard Lamoureux (Gisèle) of Cornwall, Ontario and Denise (Mrs. Pierre Marcotte) of Lyn, Ontario. Dear brother of Mrs. Florence Auty of Cornwall, Ontario. Also survived by son-in-law, Keith McMillan of Cornwall, Ontario, grandchildren, Marc and Guy Lamoureux, Julie Crosby, Karen McMillan, Jean Marcotte and great-grandchildren, Jason, Patrick and Jeremy Lamoureux, Brittany and Nicholas Tardiff and Christine and Stephanie Crosby. Predeceased by daughter, Mrs. Paulette McMillan, brothers, Telesphore, Philias, Wilfrid, Yves, Emile and Rene Lamoureux, sisters, Mrs. Rose Miron, Mrs. Ida Payette, Mrs. Mary Lajambe, Miss Aurore Lamoureux and Miss Anita Lamoureux, step-sisters, Mrs. Edna McCourt and Mrs. Irene Laughlin and step-brothers, Adalbert Lalonde and Edouard Lalonde. The funeral took place on Thursday, December 4th, 2003 from Lahaie and Sullivan Cornwall Funeral Homes East Branch to Nativity Co-Cathedral with cremation at South Branch Crematorium. Msgr. Rejean Lebrun of Nativity Co-Cathedral officiated, assisted by Msgr. Rudy Villeneuve, Rev. Gerald Poirier, Rev. Raoul Poirier and Rev. Mr. Marcel Aube. The pallbearers were the Nativity Guards.

ALLEN - Benjamin Robert

Passed away peacefully at home with his family by his side on Sunday, November 30th, 2003, age three years. Beloved son of Robert and Valery Allen. Dear brother to Jackson Allen at home. Loved grandson of Richard and Florence Allen and Bert and Louise Suggars all of Cornwall, Ontario. Rested at Wilson Funeral Home. Funeral services were held in the chapel of Wilson Funeral Home on Wednesday, December 3rd, 2003. Rite of Committal to take place at a later date in Notre Dame Cemetery. The pallbearers were Terry Lauzon, Dale Allen and Ben's grandfathers, Richard Allen and Bert Suggars. Rob and Val would like to express special thanks to Dr. Coulombe, Chantal Matte and Bayshore Nursing Services for all their assistance. Funeral arrangements were under the care of Wilson Funeral Home.

LAPOINTE - Michel Emile

Passed away suddenly at his residence on Sunday, November 30th, 2003. Mr. Michel Emile Lapointe, in his 62nd year, born in Ottawa, Ontario and formerly of Morrisburg, Ontario. Dear son of the late Jacques Lapointe and Olga Ouimet. Loving father of Glenn Lapointe (Jen) and Julie (Mrs. Leo-Paul David) both of Cornwall, Ontario and Shelley (Mrs. Jeff Robertson) of Monkland, Ontario. Dear brother of Jacques Lapointe (Carole) of Hull, Québec, Jean Lapointe (Gisèle) of Florida, Marthe (Mrs. Grant Bray) of Vancouver, British Columbia and Lise Marleau (John) of Cornwall, Ontario. Sadly missed by grandchildren Cameron, Corey and Ryan. Also survived by his wife, the former Marcella Lefebvre. The funeral took place on Wednesday, December 3rd, 2003 from Lahaie and Sullivan Cornwall Funeral Homes West Branch with cremation at South Branch Crematorium.

CAMERON - George

Passed away at the Kemptville District Hospital, Kemptville, Ontario on Saturday, November 29th, 2003. Mr. George Cameron, in his 83rd year, born in Cornwall, Ontario and formerly of Ingleside, Ontario. Dear son of the late Edmond Cameron and the late former Irene Cain. Beloved husband of the late Norine Cameron (Kerr). Loving father of Brian Cameron (Marlene) of Kanata, Ontario, Patricia (Mrs. Wayne Morris) of Kemptville, Ontario and Gail (Mrs. Brian Myers) of Ingleside, Ontario. Dear brother of Edmond Cameron (Patricia), Mrs. Kathleen Wood, Mrs. Ursula Cleary, Mrs. Joan Bates all of Cornwall, Ontario, Barbara (Mrs. Bob Douglas) of Long Sault, Ontario and Mrs. Elizabeth Wolfe (Clifford) of Smiths Falls, Ontario. Also survived by grandchildren, Leah-Anne, Craig, Jennifer, Steve, David and Paul, and great-grandchildren, Joshua, Ryan, Tyler and Austin. Predeceased by daughter, Mrs. Marlene Tessier and sister, Mrs. Helen Lepage. The funeral took place on Wednesday, December 3rd, 2003 from Lahaie and Sullivan Cornwall Funeral Homes West Branch to St. Columban's Parish with cremation at South Branch Crematorium. Rev. Kevin Maloney of St. Columban's Parish officiated. The pallbearers were Paul Tessier, David Tessier, Craig Cameron, Tom Cleary, Jeff Bates and Steve Morris.

GODARD - Jérôme

Passed away at the Kingston General Hospital, Kingston, Ontario on Friday, November 28th, 2003. Mr. Jérôme Godard, in his 76th year, born in Cornwall, Ontario and formerly of Cornwall. Dear son of the late Adelard Godard and the late Antoinette Denis. Beloved husband of Augusta Godard (nee Sauvé). Loving father of Gaston Godard (Judy) of St. Andrews West, Ontario, Pierre Godard (Lucy) of Cornwall, Ontario, Yvon Godard (Melissa) of Long Sault, Ontario and Hélène (Mrs. Charles Mallat) of Cornwall, Ontario. Dear brother of Guillaume Godard (Marie-Rose) of Lancaster, Ontario, Denis Godard and Jean-Marie Godard (Lorraine) both of Gatineau, Québec, Agathe (Mrs. Hermas Jolicoeur) of Cornwall, Ontario, Anita (Mrs. Oscar Lalonde) of Ottawa, Ontario, Pauline (Mrs. Jacques Constantineau) of Gatineau, Québec and Françoise (Mrs. Serge Guenard) of Hull, Québec. Also survived by grandchildren, Tanya, Tracy, Shaun, Candice and Emily. Predeceased by daughter, Denise Godard, brothers, Vincent, Charles and Gaetan Godard and sister, Mrs. Lina Ouellette. The funeral took place on Wednesday, December 3rd, 2003 from Lahaie and Sullivan Cornwall Funeral Homes West Branch to Memorial Chapel with cremation at South Branch Crematorium.

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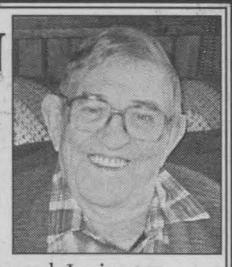
92 NOVENAS

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN (never known to fail). Oh, most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the Sea, help and show me, herein You are my Mother. Oh, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech You from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none who can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are, my Mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse in thee (3x). Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3x). C.F.

IN MEMORIAM | IN MEMORIAM

BENTON Myles Duncan



December 25th, 1916
June 22nd, 2003

No one knows how much I miss you,
No one knows the bitter pain
I have suffered; since I lost you
Life has never been the same.
In my heart your memory lingers,
Sweetly tender, fond and true;
There is not a day, dear Dad,
That I do not think of you.

Happy Birthday & Merry Christmas Dad
All my love, Colleen

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LETTERS TO SANTA

Dear Santa,

My name is Corey Patrick and I'm seven years old. I've been trying hard to be a good boy this year. Thank you for all the nice gifts you brought me last year. I've made a new list and I'm hoping you'll bring me these things: the Spider-Man body armour, the Green Goblin body armour, a K'nex building set, Lego, art supplies, a punching bag, bigger jeans, the Hulk Fists and Bionicles (the red ones). Have a safe trip Santa and thank you for everything you'll leave me. I'll have a snack ready for you!

With hugs from, Corey Patrick

Dear Santa,

My name is Samantha Patrick and I'm five years old. I've been a pretty good girl this year and I've made a list of things I'm hoping will be under my Christmas tree. Thank you for my special presents last year and I hope you'll have a safe trip to our house. I would like: a tea set, Clickets, purple socks, a purple unicorn (from Barbie's Swan Lake movie), a Barbie doll in a white dress, some storybooks, a purple headband, purple bellbottoms and new markers and paper. I'll leave some treats for you and the reindeer, and thanks Santa for anything you leave for me.

With hugs and kisses,
Samantha Patrick

Dear Santa,

My name is Nolan Leroux and I'm six years old. My brother's name is Cory and he's five years old. Thank you for the presents you gave us last year, they were really loved by both of us. This has been a very tough year for our parents so Cory and I really hope that this Christmas will fill our families with lots of love and laughter.

We have tried to be very good but boy can that be tough. This year, Santa, I would really like a Nintendo Game Cube, a new game for my Gameboy, Mousetrap game and a new bicycle because mine is in very bad shape and my Dad says it will give him a break from having to fix the old one all the time.

Hi Santa, it's Cory now writing to you. This year, Santa, I would like a Hungry Hippo and a Guess Who game, a red Power Ranger and some Spy Gear. And also, like my brother, I would like a new bike, mine is just too small you know.

Well, we have to go now so Nolan and I will leave out some goodies for you and Rudolph. Oh, and can you also bring Mom, Dad and our dog Skip some nice presents, too, please?

P.S. If you have any hockey sticks lying around, we really each need one, we promise not to use them as light sabers in the house. Thanks a lot Santa.

Love, Nolan & Cory Leroux

AUTO TIPS

Febreze Auto Has Vehicle Owners Smelling Fresh Air Clean

Everyone loves that new car smell, but with Americans spending more time behind the wheel than ever before, sometimes our cars don't smell so fresh and new. Refreshing automotive interior fabrics is no small challenge, considering that they can be exposed to every type of odour imaginable, from cigarette smoke and pet odours to greasy fast food spills, soiled athletic clothing, work uniforms, and musty and moldy odours.

If you are looking for something to combat those everyday odours, try Febreze® Auto from the makers of Febreze Fabric Refresher. According to Stephanie Headley, assistant brand manager in charge of Febreze Auto, rather than attempting to mask odours with heavy-duty perfumes like other "deodorizers," Febreze Auto utilizes a patented formula that safely eliminates odours at their source.



"The only thing worse than being stuck inside a vehicle filled with the smell of smoke, pet odours and countless other scents, is the addition of heavily perfumed 'air freshener' on top of it all," Headley points out. "Using a patented formula, Febreze Auto's low perfume scent eliminates the odours and leaves your car smelling fresh air clean, so the more people use it the more they love it!"

Available at auto parts and accessories retailers nationwide, Febreze Auto is perfect for anyone who spends time in their car. Whether you're shuttling the kids to practice or using the car as your mobile office, there are new reasons every day to use Febreze Auto.

Lead-Acid Batteries Top Recycling List

American motorists who buy new automotive-type batteries help the lead-acid battery remain as the nation's most highly recycled consumer product. The lead-acid battery industry, with help from consumers and retailers, recycled 97.1 percent of spent battery lead from 1997 to 2001, according to a new report issued by Battery Council International (BCI).

The lead-acid battery industry, which is the largest user of lead in the United States, has been recycling and reclaiming lead from its spent products for nearly 75 years. Battery Council International, a not-for-profit organization that represents the international lead-acid battery manufacturing and recycling industry, has tracked the lead recycling rate from spent (or used) automotive, truck, motorcycle, marine, garden tractor and other lead-acid batteries since 1987.

Historically, the recycling rate of battery lead has consistently ranked higher than other recyclable commodities. The EPA website shows the year 2000 recycling rates of other materials:

- Aluminum cans, 54.6 percent
- Glass bottles, 26.3 percent
- Paper, 45.4 percent
- Tires, 26.1 percent

Along with the lead and plastic from spent batteries, lead-acid battery recyclers also reclaim scrap lead from the production process and return the materials to manufacturers for use in new batteries. In a continuous cycle, the battery industry reclaims and reuses lead and plastic, keeping these materials out of the waste stream.

"This high recycling rate for battery lead is the result of a successful collaboration among members of the battery industry, retailers and consumers," said Keith Wandell, President of BCI. "It proves that a workable infrastructure helps boost consumers' participation in recycling."

Battery Council International was instrumental in developing model battery recycling laws that prohibit the disposal of spent lead-acid batteries and require them to be collected through a take-back program with retailers of new batteries. Those laws are now on the books in 37 states. The BCI model battery recycling legislation was designed to promote the industry's highly effective, reverse distribution battery collection infrastructure. Today, most major retailers and auto parts stores collect spent batteries from consumers who buy replacement batteries.

"Lead-acid battery recycling in the U.S. was one of the most significant environmental success stories of the 20th century and the trend continues into the 21st century," said Mr. Wandell.

Brake Safety Compromised With Contaminated Brake Fluid

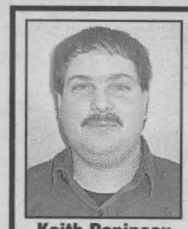
Six fluids that require periodic replenishment or replacement in most vehicles are the engine oil, transmission fluid, antifreeze/coolant, windshield washer solvent and fuel. Number six, the one most often neglected, is brake fluid. You've known about topping off brake fluid, you may say, but changing it?

According to the Car Care Council, brake fluid in the typical vehicle can become contaminated in two years or less. This is because the fluid absorbs moisture, which works its way through the hydraulic system. Under heavy braking conditions, such as encountered in mountainous or hilly driving or when towing a trailer, moisture in the overheated fluid vaporizes (boiling point of water is lower than that of brake fluid) and braking efficiency is reduced.

Even under normal driving circumstances, this condition can develop if the brake fluid is seriously contaminated. Not only is the contaminated fluid vulnerable to vaporizing, it also can freeze.

Brake fluid must maintain a stable viscosity throughout its operating temperature range. If it's too thick or too thin, braking action is impaired. Beyond the vaporization hazard, moisture creates an additional problem for owners of vehicles equipped with anti-lock braking (ABS) systems. Rusted and corroded ABS components are very expensive to replace.

How does a car owner know when to have fluid changed? The Council recommends replacement every two years or 24,000 miles. It should be included with brake pad or shoe replacement, the Council emphasizes. In between, as a preventive measure, a professional brake technician should check the condition of the fluid with an accurate fluid test safety meter, which is inserted into the master cylinder reservoir to record the fluid's boiling point.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LETTERS TO SANTA

Dear Santa,

Hi, my name is Tyler Turgeon and I am five years old. Thank you for my nice gifts from last year. I am trying very hard to be a good boy at school and for my parents. I would like to have racing cars, cars, clothes, educational toys for my school, crayons, a book to read in French class and something else. Don't forget my sister Alexa and my baby brother Blake. I love you Santa. I will leave you cookies and milk.

Love, Tyler Turgeon

Dear Santa,

Hello, my name is Zoltan Gingras-Seguin, I am now two years old. I think you will remember me, I am the one that is on the bad list! I must say, I keep Mommy and Daddy busy. I know I have not been a 100 percent angel, but if I was, people would start to wonder. I have reason why I am bad, at times my sister Zoey drives me this way. Well, thanks for all the great gifts last year, I love my Ride On Pooh. This year I guess my brother and sister deserve something nice, and Mommy and Daddy too because they have to put up with me. Don't forget the great grandparents I have, they deserve something really special. Now for me, wow there is just soooo much stuff to choose from. I would love all the Bob The Builder stuff in the world and everything else I see, but some Bob stuff and whatever else you think I would use would be great. Thanks again for all the great gifts last year. And this year all the presents can be left at my new house and not at Grandma's, it's just too busy up there. I will leave you some cookies and milk. Have a safe trip!

Love, Zoltan Gingras-Seguin

Dear Santa,

Hello, my name is Zoey Seguin, you probably remember me from last year because I am now nine years old. To start this letter off, I would like to thank you for all the great gifts last year, I have really enjoyed my stunt bike. This year I am a bit more older so Mom and Dad say I have quite the attitude, but I try hard to behave. My brothers drive me crazy but they deserve something nice for Christmas, and Mom and Dad because they put up with us, and Grandma and Grandpa of course something extra special because you know they are extra special. Now my list...well Santa, I am asking for a real four-wheeler. I know it is a lot of money but if you bring me that I won't ask for anything big again. If you can't bring me that, then I would like some of the new movies, a pro skateboard, clothes, slippers, PJs and anything else you would like to bring me. This year could you please leave our presents at our new house? This is a better place because it is too busy up at Grandma's. Have a great trip, and of course I will not forget to leave you a treat for your big trip.

Love, Zoey Seguin

Dear Santa,

Hello, my name is Michel Gingras-Gaspe, I am seven years old so you probably remember me from last year, I'm the good one (wink, wink!) Ok, I want to tell ya I love the stunt bike last year and all the other great presents. Well, I want to ask for presents for my Mom. She has to put up with my brother you know, not me because I am the good one, well maybe me at times, I can give her a hard time but can you bring her something special just because I love her and I really don't have lots of money myself. And I have a brother Trevin who, you know, we don't always get along but I really do love him, so could you bring him something nice too? Now me, well I see so much that I like, here are a few things: Walkman, remote control car, stunt bike gloves and anything else you would like to bring me. I will leave you a treat for your big night.

Love, Michel Gingras-Gaspe

Bonjour cher Père Noël,

Nous sommes les amis de la garderie Les Petits Poucets du Centre de Ressources Familiales de l'Estrie. Nos éducatrices peuvent vous assurer cher Père Noël que nous avons tous été super gentils cette année et elles croient fortement que nous méritons tous de belles surprises pour Noël donce elles nous ont aidé à rédiger une liste de ce que nous aimerions recevoir en cadeau...Jacob - Bob le bricoleur, Gabriel - tortue verte et des dinosaures, Sara - une Barbie et sa famille, Paul-André - un camion vert pour travailler, Toby - une surprise, Sadie - un bébé et des jouets, Alyssa - une Barbie avec une maison et des meubles et de la vaisselle, Amanda - un bébé avec une bouteille et un pyjama, Samuel - un cadeau, Nikolas - des éléphants et le roi lion, Joël - un vrai quatres roues comme au Kiddy Kars, Kaitlyn - une Barbie, Gabrielle - une Barbie, Olivia - deux Barbies, Sean - des casse-têtes et des camions, Brianna - une Barbie, Alexandre - une télévision et un train, William - jeep et une motocyclette, Brady - des camions, des autos et des animaux.

P.S. Père Noël il ne faudrait surtout pas oublier nos éducatrices, nos parents et grand-parents aussi. Merci beaucoup. Nous t'attendons sagement.

Dear Santa,

Hi, it's been a long year. I'm really excited for Christmas, I know you've been watching me and you've seen how hard I've been working on being a good boy. This year I would like Ninja Turtles, Spider-man, a scooter, Play-Doh, any games, a CD Walkman so I can listen to my own songs, PlayStation games (Spider-man 2), and anything else you want to bring. If you'd like you can leave my Mom and Dad something, too!

P.S. I have a really old dog (Bear-Doggie) who would love some new tennis balls and bones.

Love, Nick Upper and Bear-Doggie

Dear Santa,

My name is Shawna MacMillan, I am 10 years old. I would like a TV, VCR, stereo, make-up, clothes, porcelain dolls, books, bedspread, slushy maker, microscope, night light, socks, barrettes and elastics. I will leave milk and cookies, and carrots for the reindeer.

Love, Shawna MacMillan

Dear Santa,

My name is Kyle Ouelette, I'm three years old. For Christmas I would like a transport truck, cars, and some PJs. I would also like to get some Bob the Builder toys, and Dora the Explorer toys. I have been a very good boy all year.

P.S. I will leave you some milk and cookies and carrots for your reindeer.

Love, Kyle

Dear Santa,

My name is Joshua Ouelette, I turned six years old on December 3rd, 2003. I have been a very good boy all year long. For Christmas I would like Power Rangers, Ninja Turtles, some cars, trucks, PJs, and some board games also. I will leave you some milk and cookies and sugar for your reindeer. Merry Christmas Santa.

Love, Joshua

Dear Santa,

My name is Rebecca Froats, I am five years old. For Christmas I would like a toy fairy, a chalkboard (a big one), a crystal ball, a toy pony, a Barbie dress, Barbie glasses, Barbie barrettes and jewellery. Thank you Santa for last year's presents, and say hi to Mrs. Claus.

Love, Rebecca

Dear Santa,

My name is Danielle Froats, I am seven years old. For Christmas I would like baby clothes, Click Its, jewellery, fairy dress, make-up, books (any kind), video now, and a crystal ball. Thank you Santa for last year's presents. Can you say hi to Rudolph and Mrs. Claus?

Love, Danielle

Dear Santa,

My name is Nathan Deschamps, I am five years old. I want to thank you for last year's gifts. I tried to be a good boy all year, but it's hard sometimes. This year I would like a yellow hummer (but not a real one), Highway 35 game for the PS2, Hot Wheels cars, Hungry, Hungry Hippo game, some Play-Doh, and whatever else you think I might like. I will leave milk in your Santa cup and cookies in your Santa plate.

P.S. I love you Santa.

Love, Nathan

Dear Santa,

My name is Jordan Deschamps, I am four years old. Thank you for coming to my birthday party, and thank you for the gifts you gave me last year. I was a good boy most of the year. This year I would like a black hummer, a drum set, any PS2 game, some Hot Wheels cars, and anything else you think I would like. My brother is leaving you milk and cookies, I will leave carrots for the reindeer.

Love, Jordan

P.S. Can you also leave a ring for myself and a ring for my brother Nathan?

Dear Santa,

My name is Andrew Poirier, I am four years old. I would like some candy, a fast car, wooden puzzles and a light bright.

Love, Andrew Poirier

Dear Santa,

My name is Ryan Poirier, for Christmas I would like a new ball, candy, a big truck and a new book.

Love, Ryan Poirier

Dear Santa,

Hi, my name is Madeline Leadston, I am five years old. For Christmas this year I would like Kelly Jumping Fun Castle, Barbie video camera, shoes, earrings and Bratz. I will leave milk and cookies for you.

Love, Madeline

more letters to santa on pages 41 and 43

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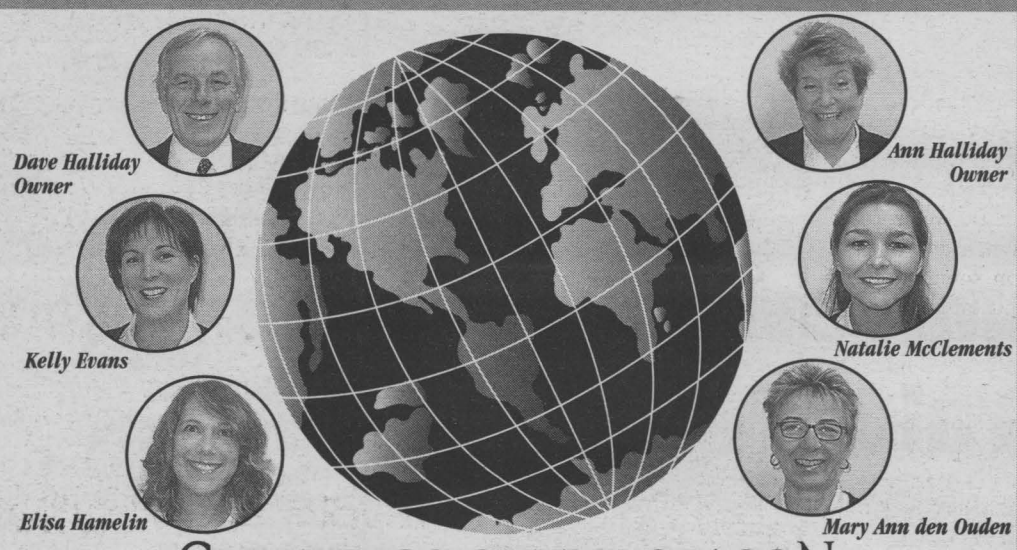

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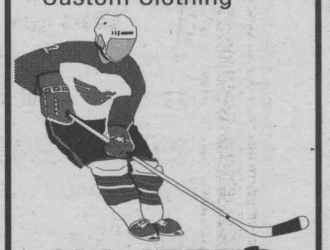
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LETTERS TO SANTA

Dear Santa,

I have been a good girl for the first nine months of my life. I would like lots of toys, some clothes, and my two front teeth. I will leave some milk and cookies for you and carrots for your reindeer.

Love, Shyanne Lavery

P.S. Mommy is having a new baby girl in the beginning of the New Year, please leave her something, too.

Dear Santa,

My name is Shaelyn Disotell, I am four year old. I have been pretty good all year, I hope you come and see me! This year I would like a rocking horse, a Dora book, a new doll house and some new dolls. I will make sure to leave you some cookies and milk and sugar for your reindeer.

Lots of love, Shaelyn Disotell

P.S. Please don't forget my Nanny, Papa, Mommy and Daddy.

Dear Santa,

My name is Melanie Deschamps, I am nine years old. For Christmas I would like a Video Now, Game Boy Advance SP, clothes, cotton candy maker, make-up, tennis balls, hockey stick, hockey net and hair dye. I will leave you cookies and milk and cookies for your reindeer.

Love, Melanie

Dear Santa,

My name is Katie Spurr, I am nine years old. I would like a Video Now, Game Boy Advance SP, clothes, cotton candy maker, make-up case, hockey stick, tennis balls, hockey net and hair dye. I will leave cookies and milk for you and carrots for your reindeer.

Love, Katie

Dear Santa,

My name is Connor Leadston, I am six years old. This year for Christmas I would like a teddy bear, Pooh Bear mat, my own popsicle maker and a Red Ranger costume. My sister is leaving you milk and cookies, so I will leave carrots for your reindeer.

Love, Connor

Dear Santa,

All I want to have is a happy Christmas, my Mom and family are finally happy. I will leave cookies and milk and sugar for your reindeer.

Jeremy Deschamps, age 11

Dear Santa,

My name is Maxwell Benson, I am two years old. Thank you for the presents you brought me last year. This year I would like a black race car, a car carrier, and a big, big, big fire engine. I will leave you a snack and some carrots for your reindeer.

Thank you, Max

Dear Santa,

My name is Kash Lanoue, I am three years old. I would like a big truck, a small truck, Mega Leggo blocks, something for Little Bear and Spek, our two dogs. I will leave milk, cookies, carrots and sugar. xxxooo and Happy Birthday to Jesus.

Kash Lanoue

Dear Santa,

My name is Zoey Lanoue, I am four years old. I would like puppy teddy bear, princess dolls and a Little Mermaid doll. I will leave cookies and milk.

Love, Zoey Lanoue xxxooo

Dear Santa,

My name is Donovan Thompson. For Christmas I want a Play Station and games for my brothers and sisters to play. Love you and God bless the world, I will leave cookies and milk.

Donovan Thompson

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I would like to have a VCR and a TV, and a mini-snowmobile. Thank you. I like Santa and Christmas.

Sincerely, Dakota T.

more letters to santa on page 43

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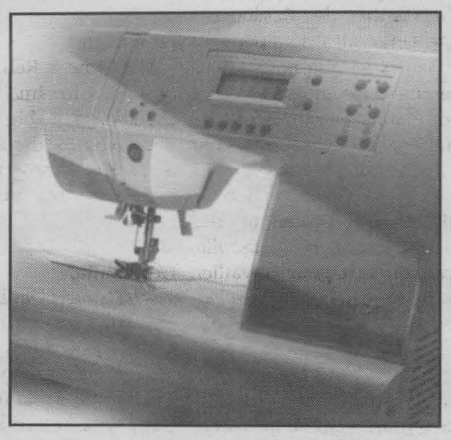
CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE

The New Face Of Sewing

Introducing a new generation of singer computerized sewing machines! The Quantum 9900 Series represents an artful combination of advanced technology and computer power in three completely new sewing machine models, the Quantum 9910, Quantum 9920 and Quantum 9940. Thanks to the latest computer technology, each model incorporates a range of features for convenient, trouble-free sewing that will lead to hours of sewing pleasure. No matter how experienced you are in sewing you will be amazed by the exceptional versatility of the new Quantum 9900 series. Not only do these computerized sewing machines offer state-of-the-art technology, they also feature a fresh, modern look. The flawless stitch quality, plus ease of use makes these three machines appealing to all levels of today's sewing enthusiasts. If your specialty is "crafting," home décor, garment construction or tailoring you will find what you are looking for.



The Quantum 9910 offers 169 stitch programs, including one alphabet style in both upper and lower case, plus numerals and four professional buttonhole styles. The LCD display shows selected stitch number and optimal width and length settings. The memory capacity allows a combination of 20 characters, including letters, numerals and/or punctuation marks. You can also mirror image a variety of utility and decorative patterns.

The Quantum 9920 offers 348 stitch programs and two alphabet styles, numerals and eight professional buttonhole styles. The LCD display shows selected stitch as pictogram with optimal width and length settings as well as icon functions. The Quantum 9920 also includes a memory capacity of 40 decorative and/or alphabet stitch programs, plus a pattern editing function. Additional features include: reverse image of utility and decorative patterns, single pattern and continuous pattern options, elongation of satin stitches (up to five times) and centre position straight stitch auto back-tack function.

The Quantum 9940 offers 525 stitch programs including three alphabet styles, numerals and 12 professional buttonhole styles. The LCD display shows the selected stitch as a pictogram, stitch and presser foot recommendations icon functions, plus visual warning messages. Memory capacity is 60 decorative and/or alphabet stitch programs, plus pattern editing function. In addition to the features listed for the Quantum 9920, the Quantum 9940 also features: elongation of selected utility and decorative patterns (two times), pictogram operation-no text reading, audible and visual warning messages, basting function for quick piecing and last but not least, slow sewing button for all of your delicate and intricate sewing work.

The following features can also be found on all three of our Quantum 9900 series machines. The automatic needle threader, exclusive Singer underplate one-step buttonhole system, top drop-in bobbin with see through cover plate, needle up/needle down, a popular feature used for precision sewing of corners and curves, adjustable pressure with three settings for sewing multiple layers, drop feed for darning, and free motion work. It also features 24 needle positions ideal for quilting and top-stitching, twin needle function that automatically halves the stitch width, sewing speed up to 900 stitches per minute, built-in accessory storage and last but not least, optimum power control (OPC) that provides extra piercing power when sewing multiple layers of heavyweight fabric. All of the above plus a 25 Year Limited Warranty make these "must have" machines.

Test out the new Quantum 9900 Series from Singer and see for yourself how this new generation of sewing machines is a significantly better value than most comparable machines on the market. For more information visit www.singershop.com.



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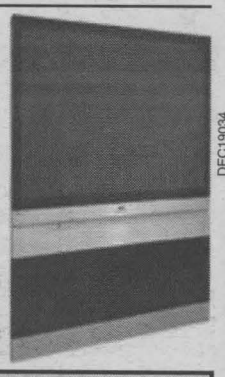

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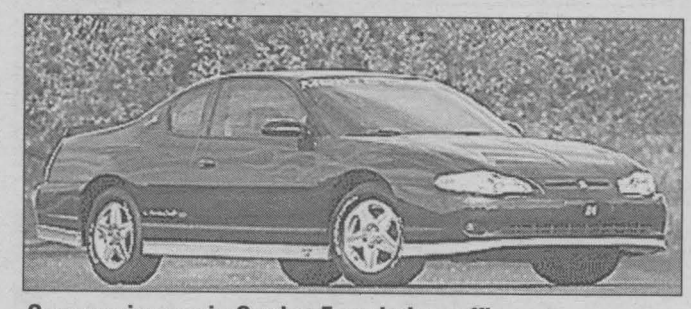


Gomez wins car in Gordon Foundation raffle

Gabriel Gomez of Brookline, Massachusetts, will have a new set of wheels, courtesy of Jeff Gordon.

Gomez was announced as the grand prize winner of the Jeff Gordon Signature Edition 2003 Monte Carlo SS Chevrolet, a fundraiser for the Jeff Gordon Foundation.

Gordon will present the Monte Carlo to the winner at his race shop in January.

"I am so pleased with the success of this fundraiser," Gordon said. "Special thanks to everyone who participated."

All 2,000 tickets purchased directly benefited the Jeff Gordon Foundation -- a non-profit organization established in December 1999 by Jeff Gordon that benefits the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society -- the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the Marrow Foundation and Riley Hospital for Children.

The Foundation is dedicated to help support the physical, social and intellectual needs of children and their families throughout the United States.

Mike Wallace, other celebs visit troops abroad

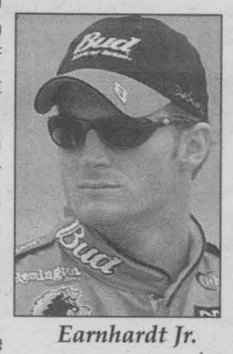
After a busy race season, Mike Wallace isn't settling down just yet. This week, the driver embarked on a United Service Organizations (USO)-sponsored sojourn in support of United States service people abroad.

Wallace left Sunday on a six-day, five-country tour. He joins comedian Robin Williams, New York Yankees baseball player Jason Giambi, professional wrestler Kurt Angle and model Leeann Tweeden on the trip.

"It's a pretty way cool trip, considering the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General (Richard) Myers is hosting it," Wallace said. "It's a pretty big honour to be asked to go and it's a real exciting trip."

Burton's No. 99 may run partial schedule in '04

Jeff Burton's unsponsored No. 99 is committed to running at least 14 races in the Nextel Cup series in 2004, but Roush Racing President Geoff Smith said Wednesday there is a chance it might only be 14.



Earnhardt Jr.

Burton and Roush said last week that Burton would return to the team for next year, with or without sponsorship. Previous backer Citgo announced in June it would not be back after this season.

"We've got a business plan for 14," Smith said. "That's without even having started the season. Our plan is to run all 36. That's what we're designed to go run. But I don't want to unequivocally say that nothing is going to interrupt that. As we add sponsorship, it automatically adds races. We have to keep that one open."

Earnhardt Inc.

Dale Earnhardt Inc. has downgraded its unsponsored No. 1 Chevrolet team from full-time to really, really part-time. John Andretti will drive the car in the Daytona 500, then Martin Truex Jr., will get it for seven races prior to a full-season effort in 2005.

The Wood Brothers Change Location

The Wood Brothers, for 50-plus years an institution in the hamlet of Stuart, Virginia, have moved their shop to Mooresville, North Carolina.

Kodak Has Plans In the Works

Kodak seems to be leaning toward taking its sponsorship to a third Dodge team at Penske South. Reportedly, Penske has bought into the No. 77 team (it had switched from Ford to Dodge) and will run Craftsman Series driver Brendan Gaughan instead of Dave Blaney.

Sponsorship Concerns

With sponsorship a serious concern, owner Bill Davis is sending Kenny Wallace and Stacker 2 back to the Busch Series.

New Driver Announced

Johnny Sauter is the new driver and Kevin Hamlin the new crew chief for the No. 30 AOL Chevrolet at Richard Childress Racing.

Green Returns

Jeff Green returns as driver in the No. 43 Cheerios Dodge at Petty Enterprises.

New Crew Chiefs

Bill Wilburn is out (no replacement yet) as crew chief of the No. 2 Miller Dodge for Rusty Wallace and Penske South.

Mike Ford has left Evernham Motorsports to be Dale Jarrett's crew chief (his fifth in less than three years) at Robert Yates Racing.

Doug Randolph is the new crew chief for rookie Scott Riggs in the No. 10 Chevrolet (from Pontiac) of MBV Motorsports.

Dave Charpentier is the new crew chief for Ricky Craven in the No. 32 Tide Chevrolet (from Pontiac) and owner Cal Wells.

Chris Andrews has been promoted from engineer to crew chief of the No. 31 Cingular Chevrolet.

Affleck Named Daytona 500 Grand Marshall

Actor, director and writer Ben Affleck, who stars in the upcoming Paycheck, will give the command "Drivers, start your engines" in NASCAR's biggest, richest and most prestigious stock car race in the world. His Grand Marshal duties also include leading the 43-car field in the pace laps from the Grand Marshal pace car.

Affleck continues the tradition of high-profile celebrities, athletes and politicians that have participated in or attended the Daytona 500, NASCAR's annual season-opening event for its premier racing series.

International superstar actor John Travolta served as Grand Marshal in the 2003 Daytona 500 to join a list of esteemed past Grand Marshals including Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas and NFL Hall of Fame quarterbacks Terry Bradshaw and Jim Kelly.

Top drivers testing at LVMS in January

Some of the biggest names in NASCAR have signed up to test at Las Vegas Motor Speedway January 26th to 29th, 2004 in preparation for the UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400 NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series event and Sam's Town 300 NASCAR Busch Series race.

Seven of the eight active series champions are among the 26 drivers who are scheduled to participate in NASCAR Preseason Thunder-Las Vegas.

Four-time champion Jeff Gordon, current champion Matt Kenseth as well as Tony Stewart, Bobby Labonte, Dale Jarrett and Bill Elliott are among the drivers who will be preparing for the March 7 UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400.

Kenseth, who also is the defending champion of the UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400, will test his Busch car in preparation for the March 6th, 2004 Sam's Town 300 as well.

Other NASCAR drivers scheduled to test include Ward Burton, Ryan Newman, Sterling Marlin, Jamie McMurray, Casey Mears, Jimmie Johnson, rookie Brian Vickers, Las Vegas Kurt Busch, Mark Martin, Greg Biffle, Ricky Rudd, Ricky Craven and Jeremy Mayfield.

NASCAR Busch Series drivers Jason Leffler, J.J. Yeley, Mike Bliss, David Reutimann and Ashton Lewis Jr. also are scheduled to participate. Teams will be allowed to test for two days.

Hendrick penalized points for Homestead violation

NASCAR officials announced Wednesday that car owner Rick Hendrick has been assessed a penalty of 25 car owner points, resulting from a rule violation involving Hendrick Motorsports' No. 60 Chevrolet during the NASCAR Winston Cup Series season-finale weekend at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

The No. 60 was slated to be driven at Homestead by Kyle Busch. The car failed to pass the event's initial inspection process on Nov. 13 and was confiscated by NASCAR, which led to the team not participating. The car was found to be in violation of Section 12-4-Q of the NASCAR Winston Cup Series Rule Book (parts and/or equipment used that do not conform to NASCAR rules).

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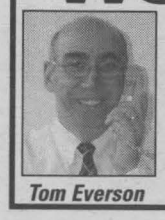
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LETTERS TO SANTA

Dear Santa,

My name is Brandon MacMillan, I am seven years old. I would like the movie Home Alone, a TV and VCR, also a surprise. I will leave milk and cookies for you and carrots for your reindeer.

Love, Brandon MacMillan

Dear Santa,

My name is Dayton Holt, I am 11 months old so my Mother is writing to you for me.

This is Dayton's first Christmas, he doesn't know what it is all about but all his family wants to make it very special for him so that he will have these memories to look back at when he is older. He is a lucky little boy to be able to spend his first Christmas with four generations of family. Dayton loves Elmo and Winnie the Pooh, so it would be nice if Santa could bring him Shake-Rattle and Roll Winnie the Pooh, and Chicken Elmo. Dayton also likes books read to him, so he would like some new books that Mom can read to him.

Santa, we will be leaving special Christmas cookies and milk for you and carrots for the reindeer.

Love, Dayton Holt

Dear Santa,

I'm Erick Lavigne, I'm six years old. For Christmas I'm hoping I could get a CD player, remote four-wheeler, CDs, TV, some games and some clothes. I've tried to be a good boy, but it's hard. Hope Mrs. Claus is doing well.

P.S. Don't forget, I'll leave some milk and cookies for you and sugar for the reindeer.

Love you, Erick

Dear Santa,

Hi, my name is Jessica Lavigne and I'm eight years old. For Christmas I would like a for real kitten, French books, Scooby Doo, TV, movies, hamster, art, clothes, games, balls, Santa teddy bear and a glass doll. I will leave you milk and cookies and sugar for your reindeer. I hope you have a very Merry Christmas and to the elves, too!

P.S. I hope Mrs. Claus is doing well. I tried to be a good girl this year.

Love, Jessica

Père Noël,

Bonjour! Mon nom est Colby et je suis deux ans. Pour Noël je voudrais un gros auto rouge, un tracteur de construction, des livres pour que maman et papa peuve lire a moi, car je ne lit pas encore.

Maman et moi on fais des biscuit pour toi et aussi vous laisse un verre de lait! Pour tes chevreuil on vous laisse des carottes et des cube de sucre. Joyeux Noël et bonne Année a toi et Mère Noël.

Colby Carrière, xxxxooo

Dear Santa,

My name is Kaelan Leroux, I'm six years old and I'm in grade one. I've worked really hard up until now and these are the things I'd like for Christmas: Gameboy Advance SP with games, remote control boat and airplane, a new ski sled and maybe a new computer game.

I also have a special sister who's one and her name is Jazzy. She's my best friend and I'm sure she'd love anything musical and maybe a doll (she's always playing with my cars and trucks). Happy Holidays everyone!

Love, Kaelan and Jasmine
xoxoxo

Dear Santa Claus,

It's me, Kameron Simpson. I'm trying really hard to be good but sometimes it's difficult. Since I'm only three years old, my Nanny Simpson is writing this letter for me. I'd like so many things that my Mom, Dad and Nanny keep saying "just add it to your list and Santa will decide."

I loved everything you brought me last year so I'm sure I'll love anything you bring me. I really like Spider-Man so if you could leave me some Spider-Man Play-Doh I'd be really, really happy. I also like Buzz, Woody and Hokey Pokey Elmo. Don't forget my big brothers Chris (12) and Anthony (8). We'll leave you cookies and Coke. Nanny put the picture of you and me on the fridge. I love you Santa!

Kameron Simpson

Dear Santa,

My name is Taylor Tyo and I am eight years old. I've tried to be a good girl all year long. I loved what you brought me last year and here is a list of what I would like this year: a toy cat that purrs, cat and dog stuff, ballet shoes and clothes, Swan Lake Barbie movie, a new dress and a pair of tap shoes. I will appreciate whatever else that you can think of. Thank you Santa, and I love you very much.

Love, Taylor xoxoxo

P.S. I will leave you cookies and milk like I do every year and sugar cubes for your reindeer.

Dear Santa,

My name is Ashley, and I'm eight years old. My Nanny is helping me to write my letter. Thank you for last year's gifts, and I'm excited for this year. I would like a Sponge Bob Square Pants, Bratz doll, shirt and pants, socks and gel markers, CDs, stickers and whatever else you want to bring me. I love you Santa.

Love, Ashley Stang

P.S. Roller blades and Barbie dolls. Thank you Santa.

Dear Santa,

Hello, my name is Emma Mary Van der Burg Princess and I'm three years old. How are you and Mrs. Claus? Are you and your elves making a lot of toys? I was a really good girl at Auntie Ann's house! For Christmas I would like: a Barbie car, baby stroller, microphone to sing rock and roll, crib for my doll and the Swan Lake storybook (with pictures). That's all I want Santa. My brothers and sisters will leave you milk and cookies. I love you very much!

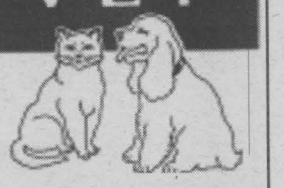
Your buddy, Emma Van der Burg

more letters to santa on page 38

ask the VET

Friskies

Q How do I choose a dog as a family pet?



A

Choosing a dog for your family is a little like buying a television - they come in various makes and models, different sizes, different needs. The major difference, however, is that a dog is a living creature that comes with a 12 to 18 year commitment for you to love and nurture.

When choosing a dog, you need to consider the age and personality of your children, your lifestyle (whether you live in an apartment or a farm, whether you walk miles daily or stay close to home), the breed, temperament and age of the dog. If you choose a mixed breed dog, they sometimes display less genetic or hereditary problems. By choosing a stray, a life can often be saved. If you choose a purebred dog, you can better predict the size, coat, behaviour and even some health aspects.

If you pick a puppy as your pet, their personalities are easier to shape than an older dog. But puppies require training, so for families that don't have the time or inclination to train, then an adult dog from a loving home might be the wisest course.

Keep in mind that large dogs may frighten or accidentally injure small children. They also can cost from three to six times more to feed than smaller dogs. Small dogs can get hurt in rough play or if they are required to do things outdoors that are beyond their capabilities. Aggressive breeds may be good with your family, but the risk and liability will be yours. Energetic breeds of dogs, regardless of how cute they are, may be the wrong choice for sedentary families or people with little patience.

Choosing a dog as a pet is a longtime commitment. Never buy a dog on impulse.

Tips

It may be a good precaution to buy pet insurance for your new puppy at least until three years of age in order to cover unforeseen veterinary expenses.

For More Information About Your Pet ... Contact

Hospital Member

St. Lawrence Valley Animal Hospital

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Dr. M. Viezel
Dr. V. Harrison
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$1700† IN NO CHARGE FEATURES

Per month for 48 months with $2,668 down. Freight and P.D.E. included. $0 Security deposit.

The Special Edition Civic includes air conditioning with micron air filter, CD player, power locks and more.

3.8%* Purchase Financing AVAILABLE ON ALL 2004 CIVIC



$298* 2004 ACCORD LX-G $26,100** MSRP

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Includes 160 hp, 2.4 litre i-VTEC™ 4-cylinder engine, plus more.



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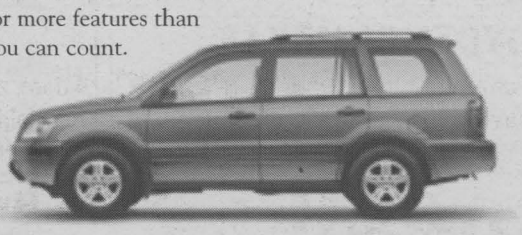
$478* 2004 PILOT EX $41,000** MSRP

Per month for 48 months with $5,118 down. Freight and P.D.E. included. $0 Security deposit.

This truck seats 8, but has room for more features than you can count.



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HCFI Now don't forget to read this stuff, it's important too. Lease and finance offers are available, on approved credit, only through Honda Canada Finance Inc., until December 31, 2003. Lease payments shown are for 48 months and include $1,010/$1,095/$1,240/$1,240/$1,240 for freight and P.D.E. with 96,000 km allowance (12¢/km exceeding 96,000 km applies). *Based on a new 2004 Special Edition Civic Sedan, 5-speed Manual/Accord LX-G Automatic/Pilot EX/Odyssey LX/CR-V EX, 5-speed Manual (model ES1534PX/CM5644E/YF1844E/RL1854PK/RD7784E) $198/$298/$478/$378/$328 per month for 48 months. A.L.R. 6.8%/6.8%/5.8%/5.8%/5.8% (total lease obligation of $12,172/$18,977/$28,062/$22,827/$19,930). Down payment or equivalent trade of $2,668/$4,673/$5,118/$4,683/$4,186 (zero down payments available), plus first monthly payment required. Option to purchase at lease end for $8,904/$13,050/$20,910/$15,778/$15,080 plus taxes. **MSRP does not include freight and P.D.E.($1,010/$1,095/$1,240/$1,240/$1,240). *3.8% conventional financing is available on all new, in-stock 2004 Civic Sedans and Coupes for 24, 36, 48, and 60 month terms (Offer excludes 2004 Civic Hybrid). Financing example: $20,000 at 3.8% per annum equals $366.53 per month for 60 months. C.O.B. is $1,991.80 for a total obligation of $21,991.80. Down payment may be required. ‡Calculation for $1,700 in no charge features is: Civic DX Coupe/Sedan with manual transmission is $16,100. Value of additional SE features are $2,403 - based on dealer installed accessory pricing. Additional charge to consumer is only $700. Savings to consumer is $1,703. */**Taxes, licence, insurance, registration and maintenance fees are additional. Dealer may sell/lease for less. †See Car and Driver magazine, January 2003.,††Source: Association of International Automobile Manufacturers of Canada. **See your neighbourhood Ontario Honda dealer for details.**

dec19032

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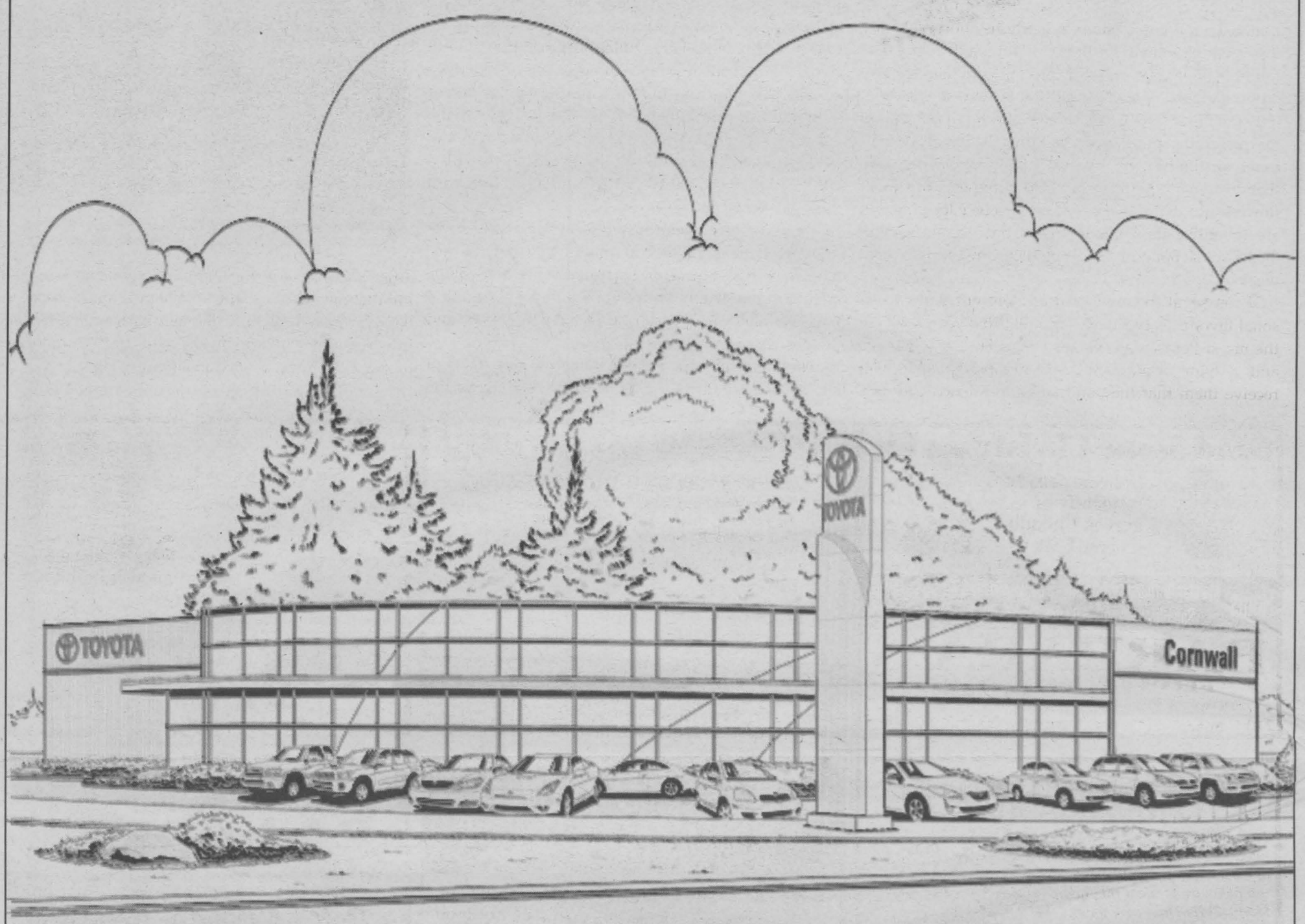
the feeling never ends



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Cornwall, ON K6J 5X7
Telephone: (613) 932-1106
Fax: (613) 932-9841

1-888-TOYOTA-8 ○ toyota.ca

Sure some things were left behind on moving day. Like other dealerships.

When Cornwall Toyota relocated to 1875 Brookdale Avenue, it didn't just acquire a bigger plot of land. It set the standard. To be more specific, it's now Cornwall's largest indoor showroom. So when you visit, you can give your full attention to the cars without being distracted by the cold. And, you'll feel even more at home knowing that Cornwall Toyota is equipped with 6 service bays and a customer lounge complete with satellite TV and email access, in case reading magazines isn't your thing.

To top it off, the all-new Echo Hatchback, Sienna and Camry Solara Coupe are on display. So come experience the new dealership. And join Toyota Canada Inc. in congratulating Raymond Irwin, the Dealer Principal and Dave Lafreniere, the General Manager, along with their team on making Cornwall Toyota Cornwall's finest.

SMALL BUSINESS PROFILE

Barb's Flowers Emphasizes Quality

When you sit down and talk to Barbara of Barbara's Flower Boutique, located at 213 Cumberland Street in Cornwall, she doesn't mince words when it comes to describing the flowers that she offers her customers. "Quality - customers know that," she said. You may be able to buy cheaper flowers elsewhere, but they won't last as long. Barbara sticks to her guns and offers only top quality to her customers. "You know, my customer's name goes on each card, but my name is also on every label as well." And that is why she deals in only the finest flowers and plants. It is not hard to shop for quality, the number of petals on a flower speaks volumes for the type of product it may be. She suggests that customers purchase a mixed bouquet of fresh cut flowers and that the types of flowers be chosen to create not only a good colour balance but also a longevity factor, so the bouquet can bring pleasure for up to three weeks.

Of course, at this time of year, Poinsettias are a seasonal favourite, and Barb says, that this year, they are the nicest Poinsettias she has ever seen. Large blooms and a high petal count. She reminds people who receive them that they are native to Mexico and as a result do not like the cold weather, so avoid drafts, and do not over-water them. They come in an assortment of colours besides the traditional red.

There must be something to it. How many flower shops in Cornwall can say movie star Lou Gossett Jr. shopped at their store? Barbara can! Gossett dropped into her shop a few years back, while filming a TV movie at Upper Canada Village. Apparently Gossett always bought his leading lady a dozen yellow roses on the first day of filming and Barbara's Flower Boutique was recommended as "The Home of the Perfect Rose," as well as excellent service. Barbara and her staff offer the same to her local customers with a wide selection of quality flowers, plants, along with small gift items and fruit baskets.

Although this is a very busy time at Barbara's Flower Boutique, there is still time to send flowers out of town, to be delivered in time for Christmas. The shop will be open Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday 12 noon to 4 p.m., Monday and Tuesday 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Quality as well as friendly personal service has kept her in business for the past 29 years. She enjoys the artistic side of creating floral arrangements as well as interacting with people. "When I make someone happy, I am happy too," she says. Barbara and her staff invite everyone to drop by her shop at 213 Cumberland to say "Hi" and see what quality is all about.



Barbara Collette, owner of Barbara's Flower Boutique shows off one of her many beautiful Christmas centrepieces.

Photo by Robin Cameron

Send Some Christmas Joy



We can deliver locally or across Canada and USA



Tower of Fruit *Golden Reindeer Hurricane Bouquet*

Hours Monday to Thursday 8:30 am - 6:00 pm; Friday 8:30 am - 9:00 pm; Saturday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm; Sunday 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

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BRRRIGHT wishes at the HOLIDAYS

The chill is in the air but we're filled with warmth when we think of all the great people we've had the pleasure to meet this year. Merry Christmas, everyone!

The Staff & Managerment



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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Management & Staff

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A Note of Thanks to Our Customers

When we think of all the faces we've come to know in the past few years, it gladdens our hearts and gives us much to celebrate this Christmas. So to all of you, who have given us so much joy, we offer our gratitude and best wishes for a very merry season.

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Season's Greetings

Dave, Charlie and the staff wish you and yours the very best this Christmas season. Thank you for your support throughout last year and the last 12 years.

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No Level Of Smoking Is Safe For An Unborn Child

If you have wondered if quitting smoking abruptly might cause stress to a developing baby or if choosing a milder cigarette for the duration of your pregnancy is a safe option, the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) has the answer to these and other questions in a toolkit that is now available online at www.Pregnets.org. Designed for health care professionals and pregnant women, the toolkit is user friendly and has been developed to provide accurate information about pregnancy and quitting smoking.

The bottom line is that pregnant women should stop smoking because there is no known level of smoking or exposure to second hand smoke that is safe for them or an unborn child. "Quitting smoking is not easy and bringing it up with health care providers can sometimes be difficult," says Dr. Peter Selby who is the Project leader of PREGNETS and head of CAMH's Nicotine Dependence Clinic. "Although we strongly encourage women to speak with their health-care provider, this toolkit is a great opportunity for both patient and doctor to get started on addressing the challenges of quitting smoking during pregnancy."

Smoking during pregnancy is a major public health problem because it can lead to serious health problems in newborns and children. The benefits of quitting smoking to both mother and child are significant. The baby will get more oxygen, his/her lungs will work better, is more likely to have a normal birth weight, is less likely to have colds and ear infections, may have fewer asthma and breathing problems and is more likely to be born at term. There is also a better chance that the baby will go home with the mother from the hospital.

Cornwall Alumni Dinner 2004

~ 3rd Annual Cornwall Alumni Dinner & Dance ~

Saturday, March 6th, 2004

6:00pm-Reception ~ 7:00pm-Dinner ~ 9:00pm-Dance
Tickets: $40 per person ~ $320/Table of 8

Relax. It's taken care of.
RAMADA* INN & CONFERENCE CENTRE
Event to be held in the St. Lawrence Room Ramada Inn, Cornwall

Rick Shaver - Gala Dinner 613.933.0014
Joel Cote - President, SLC Alumni Cornwall Chapter 613.933.6080 - Ext. 2571
Tyler Forbes - SLC Alumni Development 1.800.228.4664

* Not To Be Missed ~ Presentation of the Dobbyn Award *

St. Lawrence COLLEGE

DEC19031





Last year, former students, teachers and friends gathered for a fun-filled semi-formal evening...

Don't miss this year's dinner & dance...

It's going to be the best yet!

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LET'S Celebrate

Each week, every Let's Celebrate ad will be entered into a draw for a Gedoro's Dining Card (Value $135.), courtesy of Seaway News.

WINNER AMY MEEK
Pick up your prize at Gedoro's

Gedoro's
Fine Dining in Casual Comfort
Wednesday, December 24 - Open 11am 'til 7pm
Christmas Day Open 4pm to 8pm
Fri., Dec. 26 & Sat., Dec. 27 - Open at 4pm
Sunday, December 28 - Closed
Monday, December 29 - Open at 4pm
New Years Eve - 3 seatings from 4pm
New Years Day - Open at 3pm A La Carte Menu
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To Place Your Ad : Phone or Write Your Ad of 24 words or less and enclose $9.50 handling charge, plus $7.50 for a photo. Over 24 words, 25¢ per additional word, per week

DEADLINE: TUESDAY - 5 P.M.

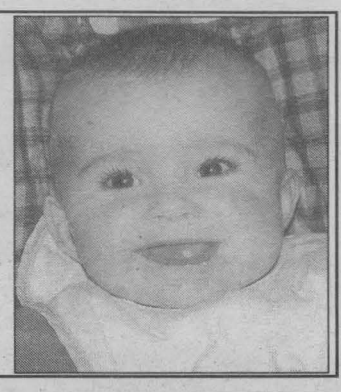


Happy 3rd Birthday
Emily Belisle
celebrating on December 20th
May your Guardian Angel always watch over you
We Love You
Daddy, Mommy, Brianna, Grandpapa, Grandmaman Belisle
avec amour

HAPPY 18TH BIRTHDAY TO
AMY MEEK
WHO CELEBRATED ON DECEMBER 18TH!
Oh, and congratulations on getting your driver's licence on Tuesday, November 25th.
P.S. I see you traded your toy car for a Ford truck.
Love Mom, Colin, Misha & Pitou



Baby's 1st Christmas!
Klyne Jonah McDonald
born on Monday, April 14th, 2003
at the Winchester Hospital
Proud parents are Kelly (Froats) and Joey McDonald
We love you sooo much!
Mom, Dad, Jared, Charly, Grandma, Grandpa, Aunt Kerry, Uncle Terry, and new little cousin Abby
XOXOXO

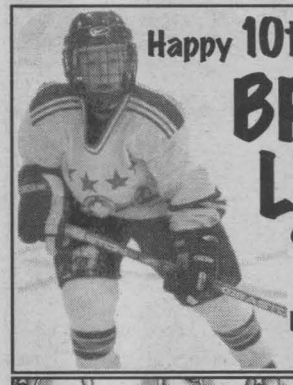


THE BIG 40!
FOR DEBBIE ROY

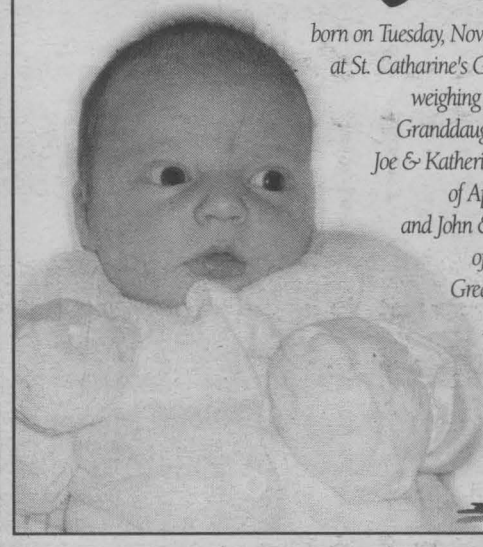


celebrating on December 20th
From Lise, Denis, Kyle, Kayla, Stephanie & Nicholas

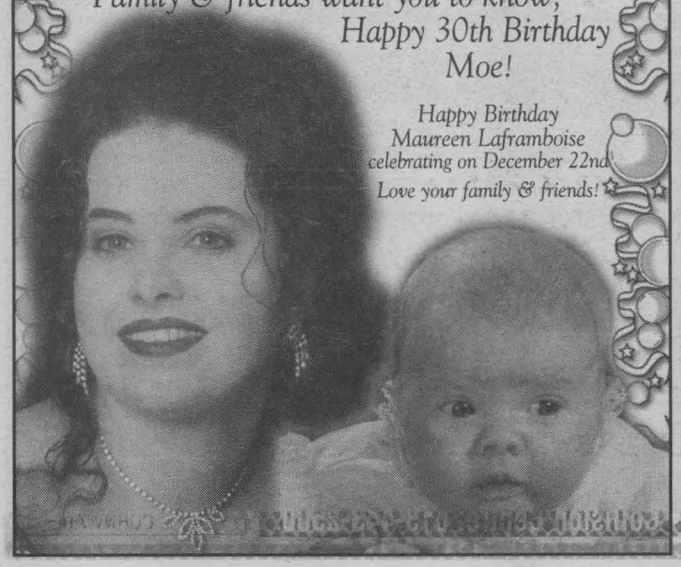
Happy 10th Birthday
BRANDON LABELLE
"Budman"
celebrating on December 19th
Love, Mom, Dad & Hannah-Mae
X♥X♥

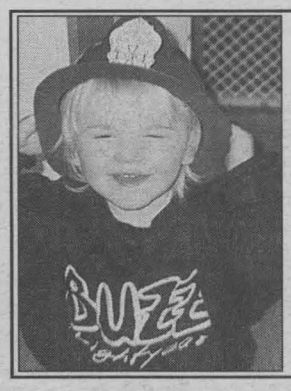


O'Farrell
Terry and Susan (nee Fisher) are pleased to announce the birth of
Fiona Elizabeth
born on Tuesday, November 25th, 2003
at St. Catharine's General Hospital
weighing 8 lbs.
Granddaughter for Joe & Katherine O'Farrell of Apple Hill
and John & Jeanette Fisher of St. Catharines.
Great-granddaughter for Edna Benton, Marie McCarthy and Peggy Shaver.



You're Still A Babe!
In '73 a major storm marked the day that you were born.
Family & friends want you to know,
Happy 30th Birthday Moe!
Happy Birthday
Maureen Laframboise
celebrating on December 22nd
Love your family & friends!





Happy 3rd Birthday
"Mr." Dawson Dupuis
celebrating on December 21st
Love, Mommy & Daddy
X♥X♥

Holy Moly Poppa's 60!
celebrating on December 22nd
Love Gige, Lynne, Chelsea, Madyson, Gilles, Taylor, Eric, Eileen and Hazen



Lordy, Lordy, Look Who's 40!
celebrating on December 18th
Gotcha!
Your sister, Karen



LOCAL

Eighth Annual Safe Driving Breakfast

Cornwall Transit honoured their employees during the Eighth Annual Safe Driving/Safe Worker Award Breakfast held on Wednesday, December 10th, 2003 at the depot. Four out of 31 full-time Operators have 20 years or more of accident-free driving and have an excess of 500,000 accident-free kilometres in that time.



Mayor Phil Poirier assisted in paying tribute to local Transit Operators at the Eighth Annual Safe Driving/Safe Worker Award Breakfast. In the photo with the Mayor are (left to right): Fernand Hamelin - Manager of Municipal Works and Services, G. Rheal Emmell - retiree after 26-1/2 years, Christine Seguin, three years, Mike Berthiaume, 1-1/2 years, and Mayor Phil Poirier. Photo by Chris McPhee

The top 10 drivers for the year 2003 are: Bob Campbell (25 years), Kim Blanchard (22 years), Claude Contant (21 years), Marty O'Shaughnessy (20 years), Kevin Lafave (19 years), Tim Paulin (17 years), Dan Bazinet (17 years), Dave Ingram (17 years), Terry Mallette (15 years) and George Secord (14 years).

"The implementation of the Awards Breakfast has helped foster a sense of pride and professionalism within Transit ranks and it has almost eliminated preventable accidents," stated Manager of Municipal Works and Services, Fernand Hamelin. "Over the eight years, we have experienced very few preventable accidents and as a result, our Bus Operators have built an enviable safe driving record. This is no small accomplishment when you consider they drive 40-foot, 30,000 pound vehicles that run 50,000 hours and 1,000,000 kilometres annually entering and exiting urban traffic every two blocks."

"I have seen quite a few changes over the years," stated recent retiree G. Rheal Emmell, who has been with Cornwall Transit for the past 26-1/2 years. "I have lots of good memories from over the years. It is a great job. Now I am going to continue to stay active through the Knights of Columbus."

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Maison Baldwin House Director Recognized



Debbie Fortier (left), Executive Director of Maison Baldwin House of Cornwall has become the first recipient of the Award of Excellence presented by the Coordinating Committee to End Family Violence. The award was announced in mid-November at the committee's annual luncheon, however Fortier was unable to attend at that time. The award, recognizing the work done by Fortier and Maison Baldwin House for abused women and children, was presented by Committee Chair Sarah Kaplan (right) on Wednesday, December 10th, 2003.

Photo by John Divinski

Corn Maze Contest Winner



Natasha Lafave, grade four Bishop MacDonell School student, won this TV/CD/radio at McMaze for answering all the questions in the Corn Maze contest correctly. The TV/CD was donated by The Brick. The contest closed Friday, October 31st, 2003, and all questions were Canadian-based, to fit the new school curriculum. Contest was open to all school students that visited McMaze between September 30th and October 31st, 2003.

Submitted photo

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$11,888 OR $126 /biweekly

01 FORD F-150 XLT
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99 MERCURY SABLE LS
(stk #4685-1) auto, 6 cyl, air, cruise, pwr grp
$9,888 OR $105 /biweekly

*Payments are based on a bi-weekly (130 payments) 60 month purchase with $2000 down, plus tax, admin., 7.99% A.P.R.O.A.C. Prices are plus taxes, example $10,000 at 7.99% over 60 months + $299 admin fee + 15% taxes + $2000 trade or downpayments = total cost $12,092.60 with $2,171.75 C.O.B. 130 payments of $93.02. Rates may vary

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Leather For Less!
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Price Breakthrough!
18 Cu. Ft. Fridge

- 2 sliding SpillSafe glass shelves
- 3 fixed door bins (1 with gallon storage)
- 2 clear humidity controlled crispers

All 5 Pieces!

5 Piece Dining Set
Only $379
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Amazing Value!
Features a 45" round wood top table and 4 upholstered chairs with metal frames.

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Queen Size Set $599 King Size Set $899

Sealy Posturepedic

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CANADA'S ONLY FURNITURE SUPERSTORES

1360 Marleau Avenue, Cornwall 932-2684
HOURS: Monday to Friday: 9am-9pm
Saturday: 9am-6pm; Sunday: 11am-4pm

*O.A.C. All applicable taxes and a processing fee of $55 is due at the time of purchase (Eg. $1500 purchase with $55 PF equals an APR of 2.98%). Balance due January 2005. All items available while quantities last. Prices, terms and conditions may vary according to region. Selection may vary from store to store. Pick-up discounts not available on some items. See store for delivery included areas. Not applicable to previous purchases and markdown items. See store for other convenient payment options. †Custom orders require 25% deposit.