

Algonquin Land Claims: Recent History

By Bill Graham, Editor

After 400 years of waiting, Algonquins will need to wait a few more years to have their land claim treaty realized. In retrospect they would never have achieved as comprehensive an agreement as the one on the horizon had there been an earlier settlement. In the past, animosity toward Algonquin and other Native petitioners was such that in 1927 the Canadian government passed a law making it illegal for Aboriginal groups to raise funds for court challenges.

With the Constitution Act of 1982 everything changed when the rights of Aboriginal peoples were enshrined in law and their right to a settlement process was established. Prior to the Constitution Act, in 1973, the Supreme Court of Canada confirmed the existence of Aboriginal title as a concept in Canadian common law. This decision called the Calder Decision plus other legal victories based on historic occupation of the land, was an acknowledgement of the rights of Native people to lay claim to title of their historic lands.

In 1983 the federal government saw the writing on the wall and began setting up formal land claims policies. This encouraged the Algonquin of Golden Lake Band (now Pikwàkanagàn) to make their first claim. Ontario and Canada entered into negotiations with the Algonquin of Golden Lake Band (now Pikwàkanagàn) in 1991 and 1992, respectively. The Algonquins represented in the claim was expanded beyond Golden Lake to also represent other Algonquin communities. A Framework Agreement was signed in 1994.

In 1994 the Chief and Council at Pikwakanagan passed a law enabling them to seek out non-status Algonquins; those of Algonquin descent who have no affiliation with Pikwakanagan but can prove Algonquin ancestry. This brought non-status communities into

the process. There are six communities that have been identified and sit together on a tribal council. They are: the Antoine First Nation, based in Mattawa, the Mattawa-North Bay First Nation, based in North Bay, the Algonquins of greater Golden Lake, based in Killaloe, the Bonnechere Algonquin First Nation, based in Renfrew, the Sharbot Mishigama Algonquin First Nation, based in Sharbot Lake, and the Ardoch Algonquin First Nation, also based in Sharbot Lake.

According to Robert Potts, who is chief negotiator for the Algonquins, this process is very important. This process involves consensus and reconciliation. As he says, "It will be done in the Canadian way"

In August 2004 an electoral process was announced that would provide the opportunity to Algonquin Electors to elect Algonquin Negotiation Representatives (ARNs) for each community of Algonquins in Ontario.

In 2005, an Algonquin negotiation team was elected to represent the interests of all Algonquins in Ontario in the negotiation of a treaty. The team consists of a Chief Negotiator and legal counsel, Chief and Council of Pikwàkanagàn and one Algonquin Negotiation Representative (ANR) from each of the nine off-reserve Algonquin communities throughout eastern Ontario. The ANRs are elected for a three-year term and seek the input of the Algonquin descendants throughout negotiations.

Both governments agreed that new agreement - in - principle instructions were necessary in order to accelerate negotiations. Ontario received its new mandate in September 2008 and Canada, in June 2009.

One question central to the whole process is: 'who is an Algonquin'? This

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Potatoes being planted at the old Hutson Farm, Matawatchan Photo: Filipa Martins

The Madawaska Messenger

By Bill Graham, Editor

Accompanying the June Highlander you will find a new information and resource document produced by the Township in cooperation with the Madawaska Highlander. This twelve-page insert will provide you with valuable information about your township and invites your feedback so that all of your questions about township operations can be addressed.

This is the first Madawaska Messenger for this year with another being inserted with the Highlander in the October issue of the paper. To a great extent your feedback will determine the content of that Messenger.

The intention of the township staff who prepared the Messenger was to communicate more directly with permanent and seasonal residents about who township staff members are and what important programs are on the horizon that will directly affect residents. For example, a 'Clear Bag' program for

the waste sites will be unfolding this summer, for which there will be public information sessions. You can learn something about the program from the Messenger in advance of the meetings.

One of the messages of this edition of the Madawaska Messenger is the hope that residents and visitors to Greater Madawaska will 'Shop Local' because independent businesses support a healthy Township. To complement this hope, the Calabogie and Area Business Association (CABA) has published its 2012 CABA Business Directory, which also is an insert in the June Highlander.

You will want to retain your copy of the Madawaska Messenger since it is your guide to township services and programs. In addition, it will provide you with a calendar of events happening throughout the township over the summer months. Also retain your copy of the CABA Business Directory, which is your guide to local businesses.

End



CANADA DAY IN MATAWATCHAN

SATURDAY JUNE 30 12PM - 4PM SEE PAGE 10 FOR DETAILS

Update from the Stacks: Reporting in from the GMPL

By Meriah Caswell

Editor's note: Meriah is the Greater Madawaska Public Library's (GMPL) new librarian. She is replacing Mary-Joan (Skippy) Hale who is now retired though still very active. Meriah will be writing a regular column with updates for you from the stacks.

The Greater Madawaska Public Library has seen some big changes in the past year. If you haven't visited the library for a while, now is an excellent time. You will notice some new friendly faces behind the desk, new furniture, and of course, many great new books on the shelves.

I am very happy to announce that the Library has hired two new employ-

ees. Sharon Shalla has been hired as the Library's new Digitization Technician. Over the next 20 weeks, Sharon will be coordinating the digitization of the library's local history collection. If you have any documents that you think may be a great addition to our collection, feel free to drop by the library and talk to Sharon- she will be happy to meet you and discuss the project. If you don't have any documents but would like to be part of this exciting project, why not volunteer? Sharon is currently recruiting and training volunteers to help with the digitization and organization of our local history documents. Drop by the library or call 613-752-2317 for more information.

I am also pleased to announce that Donna Leclaire has been hired as the new Library Assistant. Donna is a lifelong

resident of Greater Madawaska Township, and has extensive experience as an Education Assistant. We are very excited to have her on the library team. I encourage all community members to drop by and welcome Sharon and Donna to the Library.

In other exciting news, the library's public computer section has seen revitalization thanks to a grant from the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Sport. The library has purchased a new computer desk and six new chairs for the section computer section.

Be sure to watch our website at www.townshipofgreatermadawaska.com/library information about ongoing special summer programming. This year's Summer Reading Program theme is "Imagine!", and young readers will be getting great prizes for hitting their reading goals. Storytime will be running all summer, so remember to join us every Thursday morning at 10am

for songs, crafts, and great stories!
New Fiction

"Sisters Brothers" by Patrick DeWitt
Fifty Shades trilogy by E L James
"Lone Wolf" by Jodi Picoult
"Calico Joe" by John Grisham
"The Headmaster's Wager" by Vincent Lam

New Non-Fiction

"Wild: From lost to found on the Pacific Crest Trail" by Cheryl Strayed
"Escape from Camp 41: One man's remarkable odyssey from North Korea to freedom in the West" by Blaine Harden
"Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, death and hope in a Mumbai undercity" by Katherine Boo
"Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking" by Susan Cain

End

Bridge is Not for Beginners

By John Roxon

The Play

Last month I introduced the sheer joy which is bridge and outlined rudimentary bidding.

Now we'll have a closer look at the play.

Like euchre, bridge is all about winning tricks. Now before I get too deep into the play, let me introduce the players. The players are all referred to as points on a compass, north, south, east and west. This unusual naming of player positions is probably a result of beginning players getting so lost that they figured they needed a compass to find their way out of the morass. North and south are partners and east and west are partners. After the declarer is determined following the bidding, play commences with the person to the left of the declarer. For example, if declarer is north, then the person sitting in the east position would lay down the first card. For the purposes of simplicity,

let's say that the declarer is entered into a three club contract. To win, he needs to get 6 + 3 tricks. Six tricks is the absolute minimum you should be assured of winning before entering into a contract. After that, the bidding determines how many above the six the declarer will get. If the final contract is for one club, then declarer must get 6+1 tricks, which, at seven tricks would be the majority out of a possible total of 13 tricks. Clear, yes?

So, in our three clubs example, declarer will be gunning for a total of nine tricks (6+3). To help the declarer reach his lofty goal, the suit that he's in, clubs, are trump. This means that the 2 of clubs will beat an ace of any other suit. The ace of clubs, therefore, is the most powerful card on the table – but still only good for one trick. This is important to remember, especially in bidding for you could have 16 high card points, comprised of 4 aces, but all you would really have is a maximum 4 tricks without the proper support in you or your partner's hand.

Ok, so moving right along, east plays his card, let's say it's a 10 of diamonds. Declarer then draws a card from his dummy. Incidentally, dummy is what the person playing the hand gets to call his partner. This results in a temper tantrum in which the partner puts all his cards on the table, face up and says, in effect, "if you think you're so smart, then play my hand as well, a**hole". It's for reasons such as this that a husband and wife should never be partners when playing bridge. When spouses team up, the fighting usually starts during bidding and escalates when the dummy lays their hand down. This is when declarer is usually shocked at the cards he sees before him and will say something like, "why did you bid with only 5 points in your hand". Or, often worse, he will say "why the hell are we in three clubs – you have 19 high card points in your hand". The dummy then seethes until the end of play and then will dutifully point out all the bone-headed plays that the declarer made which resulted in the loss of the contract

In any case, east has played the 10 of diamonds, declarer chooses an 8 from dummy, west lays down a Jack and then declarer wins the trick with a Queen from his own hand. Simple, on the surface, but dangers lurk. It's during play that it becomes evident that declarer should have paid more attention to what the other players were saying during bidding instead of trying to blow smoke rings from the exhaust of his Montecristo No. 3.

Inherent dangers in play include, but are not limited to; "Where are the trump"; "Where's that queen"; and of course,

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Land claim (Cont)

is an especially critical question since so many Algonquins are non-status and not associated with a particular reserve. These electors (Algonquins) are the people who elect negotiators, the people who are consulted throughout the process and the people who will ultimately benefit.

There have been two enrollments of Algonquins. Persons who declare themselves to be Algonquin must have obtained the age of 18 before October 1, 2004 and who were enrolled on or before November 17, 2004 and who can demonstrate direct lineage from at

least one person previously accepted as Algonquin by the Enrollment Board. The lineage charts in the application form are very detailed and vetting by elders and the enrollment committee is rigorous.

Algonquin Negotiation Representatives (ANR) are now working with their chief negotiator (Robert Potts) on an Agreement in Principle (AIP) that can be concluded with the Province of Ontario and with Canada. It is during this agreement process that the specifics of a future treaty will be decided.

Once the AIP is approved by Algonquin voters and the governments of



Bob Potts - Chief negotiator for Algonquins

Canada and Ontario, work will begin on the detailed legal wording of a Final Agreement.

The settlement is expected to include a financial package, parcels of titled land, economic development opportunities and an agreement on harvesting rights, including hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering.

Some elements of a future treaty (called Protocols) have already been put in place. For example, since 2003, the Algonquins have conducted their moose harvests using a tag system which is similar to that used by hunters throughout the rest of the province. The Algonquin harvest targets are negotiated with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and is based on that ministry's survey information.

Traditional Algonquin land represents 36,000 square kilometres in Eastern Ontario, including the City of Ottawa, our township of Greater Madawaska and Parliament Hill itself. However, no private land will be subject to the future treaty without the consent of the owner. Land transfers will be from both Ontario and Canadian crown lands.

Ratification of the Agreement in Principle is expected to begin in the spring of 2013. When ratified by the principal parties, a formal Algonquin Treaty will define the respective rights and obligations of all three parties (Algonquins, Ontario and Canada).

It is expected to take an additional three or four years after ratification before an 'Algonquin Treaty' is concluded and its provisions begin to be realized. However, after 400 years, three or four more years is not much time.

End



BogieBeat

By Skippy Hale

We have had some exciting times lately in our village. The 'Think Pink for Michelle' was an awesome example of caring. Instead of 60 or so participants, there were hundreds of runners, walkers, wheelchair folk and babes in strollers. The funds are still growing and the total is well over \$9,000.

St. Joseph School in Calabogie celebrated First Communion with three new Communicants this year: Savannah Leclaire, Neeve Allen and Skylar Mackin. Graduates this year are Natasha Kilabuk and Jacob Powell.

On May 20, Hank Schaly took 13 grades 6, 7 & 8 students down to the Cenotaph on Madawaska Street in Calabogie. It was a beautiful experience. He explained the types and uses of gardening tools and taught them how to extract the plants from the pots and to space them in the rows. Not only did the children have a gardening lesson, but the most touching part of the experience was the history lesson. Hank was a child in occupied Holland during WW II and remembers the liberation of his country by the Canadians. He stressed the sacredness of the site and how the monument is dedicated to young men, some as young as 18 years who never came home and are buried in Europe. One could tell by the looks on their faces that the message hit home. Hank has found that there has been no vandalism since he involved the chil-

dren in the decoration at the Cenotaph. Now, the children have an affinity for this special place by the lake. He gave each child a plant to take home.

While there, I spied Daryl Leclaire and Danny Cameron from the Township Roads' crew. They were putting up Canadian flags on the hydro poles. It seemed a fitting corollary to the event with the children across the street.

50 years ago, Father Pat Blake was ordained a Roman Catholic priest and celebrated his first mass at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Pembroke. He was feted by Most Precious Blood Parishioners on May 26. The church was beautifully decorated inside and out for the eleven o'clock Mass. Before Mass as folks entered the church, music and song was presented by Linda Kearns, Leader of the Music Ministry at Most Precious Blood Church. The procession into the church included fellow priests and deacons and an honour guard from the Knights of Columbus. The guest homilist was Bishop Michael Mulhall. He described Father Pat's dedication to the Lord and his duty towards his flock. Father's favourite Psalm is the 23rd and the hymn 'Like a Shepherd' was sung by the congregation. Soloist, Julie Larocque and the choir from St. Patrick's Church provided hymns for the mass. Following mass, family, friends, parishioners and guests were treated to tasty sandwiches and sweets lovingly prepared and served by members of the parish. There were several

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Bridge (cont)

“Where’s that 13th card”. There’s nothing worse than going through the bidding process, settling on a suit and then discovering that partner is only holding one or none of the declared suit. It happens and it’s not a pleasant surprise. So you look to your left, nothing. Then you look to your right and the player there just has a smug look on his face. No matter how good a player you profess to be, if six of your trumps are residing in one of your opponent’s hands, it makes for very tough sledding and often the loss of the contract.

Another danger, though not quite as severe as missing trump, is that confounded queen. Most often you’ll be aware of the king, and an ace is an ace, but the queen has a bad habit of disappearing for stretches at a time – most likely spending a bit too much time with the knave. Nothing is quite as irksome as to be merrily extracting trump, when, due to distribution, your opponent is left with the high card trump, which invariably turns out to be the queen. You try to finesse the play – where you play low to dummy’s high cards, but sometimes it just doesn’t fall as it should. Of course, all too often, that last lingering trump may just put you down one trick instead of winning the contract.

An additional distribution related danger is the 13th card. This is especially

troublesome after the entire trump has been played. Even distribution of the cards will dictate that each player will have three cards of each suit with one player having four. That’s where the 13th card resides and if that player gets command of the play, that 13th card will be a sure loser for you. Often you get an idea where the cards lay during the bidding process – if you were paying attention instead of blowing smoke rings or fixing another round. If you open with one diamond and your opponent mentions one heart, you can assume that he has at least some high card points (aces, kings, queens) in hearts, or a long string of at least 5 hearts. Knowing this, you can adjust your play accordingly. However, it’s often the player who doesn’t bid, for whatever reason (shyness, poor math skills, thinking about the cute cashier at the No Frills), that proves to be the most troublesome. You have no idea what cards they have plus you assume that they have a weak hand because they just drew from their martini instead of bidding. Both of these assumptions can be fatal.

In my last two columns I attempted to highlight some of the more salient points of bridge. Of course, the real fun is by sitting down and playing. Many people think it’s complicated, but it doesn’t have to be. Sure there are a

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Our Kinship to Food

By Susan Veale BSc.

From last October's planting, I harvested my new crop of organic garlic scapes. Scapes are the flower stock found on the stalks of the Allium family (onions, leeks, chives and garlic). As the garlic grows, the scape can be recognized by the upward curl and when it straightens, a bulbis (seed pod) appears. When in full curl, the scapes are tender and delicious to eat.

As I cut each stem, the garlic juice flowed out the bottom over my hand. The smell of the fresh juice made me pause for a moment to reflect on the goodness of that juice as well as anticipating all the other fresh fruits and vegetables that will be coming from my garden over the summer months.

A few days ago, I made old-fashioned lemonade for my daughter and her friend using the juice of fresh lemons, two sprigs of mint, and a leaf of stevia for a touch of sweetness. Her friend commented she had never tasted this kind of lemonade; she had only tried grocery store frozen brands.

Her statement led me to reflect on how smart our creator was in providing plant foods akin to ourselves.

A slice of carrot looks like the human eye. As a little girl, I can remember my mother telling me carrots are good for our eyes. Science is now aware that carrots enhance blood flow and function of the eyes.

Tomatoes have four chambers just like the heart. Independent research has shown that tomatoes are high in lycopene, a phytonutrient (gives the natural red colour), which acts as an antioxi-

dant, something great for the heart and blood.

Walnuts resemble a brain complete with a left and right hemisphere, upper and lower cerebellums. Even the little folds resemble the neo-cortex. Independent research has shown that walnuts and walnut oil supports brain function, specifically neurotransmitter activity, and it helps in lowering high blood pressure.

Independent research has shown avocados, pears and eggplant help with uterus and cervix health. The shapes of these foods are similar to the organs. Research has shown that when a woman eats one avocado per week, its properties may help to balance hormones, shed postpartum weight and help to prevent cervical cancers. The avocado takes nine months to develop from blossom to fruit. Is there a coincidence?

Sweet potatoes resemble the pancreas and may help to balance the glycemic index for those with high blood sugar. Onions look like the body's cells. Independent research has discovered that onions may help to clear waste matter from the cells.

The flesh of the pineapple is actually made of little berries and contains a natural digestive enzyme called bromelain, which may ease heartburn.

Mother Nature does provide for us. She has filled our foods with healing clues connected to our bodies. In just these few examples, we see how the garden pharmacy, full of whole, fresh, raw and local foods nourish, heal and provide fuel. If you want to keep your body in peak performance, choose foods high in nutrients found naturally within. Try to

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limit processed foods, those containing chemical preservatives such as sodium nitrite (a known carcinogen), artificial flavourings or colourings, trans-fats, emulsifiers, bleach and synthetic vitamins.

Local crops will soon be available and as a natural health practitioner, I highly recommend nature's offerings over

synthetic laden foods. If you like a challenge, make and eat one complete dinner without any processed foods and notice how you feel.

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The Healing Tree

By Robbie Anderman

BASSWOOD

Editor's note: This article introduces Highlander readers to Robbie Anderman. Robbie is an arborist, naturalist and author who lives in Killaloe. Some years ago he wrote a series of articles about the medicinal properties of our native trees.

When the Basswood Tree is in bloom it seems like a field of buckwheat flowers perched upon a large Tree, perfuming the air. The Tree swarms with nectar sucking bees who return to the hive from the 'bee tree' to make an excellent strong-flavoured honey. I know of no other tall Tree in this neck of the woods that puts forth such a floral display.

These white and yellow flowers are the most sought-after and herbally used part of the Basswood. Colonists and pioneers recalled its close cousin, the European Linden, or Lime Tree, and found the Basswood flowers to have similar qualities. One quality to be CAUTIOUS of is that the blossoms must be gathered fresh when in full bloom, as the older ones may produce symptoms of narcotic intoxication.

Very edible and tasty fresh in a tossed salad, Basswood flowers are more commonly dried and used to make a relaxing tea. This tea is most known for its diaphoretic and nervine qualities.

As a diaphoretic it helps bring on sweating which helps break up weak fevers, colds, coughs, sore throats and hoarseness. It would also be good to

drink before entering a sauna.

As a nervine, the tea is a calmate for headache, insomnia, hysteria, nervousness, restlessness, cramps, nervous vomiting and indigestion. CAUTION must be exercised here, as some people have experienced nausea and indigestion from drinking Basswood flower tea. For people who don't experience such problems, this tea can be used as an alternative to aspirin for colds, especially for children.

The tea is most commonly made by steeping a teaspoon of the flowers in a cup of hot water for half an hour. A cup or two each day is usually sufficient but more can be drunk if it feels all right. Basswood flower tea has also been used for dropsy, amenorrhea, epilepsy and painful spasms. Because it thins the blood, it has been used in the treatment of arteriosclerosis. Some people have claimed it helps clear the kidneys, bladder and stomach of excess mucous.

Soaking in a long hot bath, which has had a strong brew of the flower tea added, can cool the head, promote sleep and ease nervousness. A poultice of the flowers has helped boils and other painful swellings.

In winter the most obvious recognizable signs of a Basswood Tree are the large red terminal buds. With a nutty flavour and a mucilaginous texture they're good thirst quenchers and throat-soothers. Through the years they've been relied on as an emergency food.

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“Read cover to cover”

Another Market Season Begins

By Bill Graham, Editor

The Matawatchan Community Market got a huge boost in early June when the Ottawa Citizen published a full-colour supplement called ‘Celebrating Summer’. In it the Market got a three-page spread with large colour photos of market activity and an encouraging description of our local farmers’ market. The Calabogie area also had a tourism article with photos. The township’s Economic Development Committee can be thanked for this valuable exposure.

The supplement was only included with the Ottawa Citizen sent to subscribers. There are few if any such subscribers at this end of the Township, so many will not be aware that we were in the spotlight. With a daily circulation of over 100,000 newspapers, we hope to see an increase in visits from the Ottawa area.

We don’t expect to see a human wave of tourists bearing down on the Market until July 7 since the article mistakenly named that the official opening for the season. In fact, June 30 is the official opening date of a season that runs each Saturday morning until September 1.

Opening day on June 30 coincides with Canada Day this year. It will be quite a day. The Market will begin as usual at 9:00 a.m. with coffee, baked goods and vendors continuing through lunch, which begins at 11:00 a.m. The Canada Day lunch features roast chicken, salads and a special rabbit dish from our local rabbit producer. As usual there will be freshly baked bread and take away pizza.

Between noon and 1:00 p.m. Canada Day festivities begin. Notable invited guests, including Mayor Peter Emon and John A. MacDonald, who is scheduled to arrive around 1:00 p.m. John A is supposed to arrive via fire truck with siren wailing. With this kind of transport hopefully he will not be the late John A MacDonald!

The remainder of the afternoon until 4:00 p.m. will be full of activities and fun. There will be bagpipes; live music; children’s games; face decorating and balloon creations by Lovey the Clown; a knife throwing demonstration by international champion ‘Ward Wright’; an early settler encampment & covered wagon and a log squaring & shake making demonstration.

Early in the afternoon there will be

contests and draws: for best decorated bicycle / for best Canada day costume (red & white theme) / best of luck for 50/50 donation draw. There will be give-aways, free Canada Day cake compliments of John A. and burgers, sausages and soft drinks for sale.

The most important things to remember for Canada Day is wear a hat and bring a lawn chair.

July 7, when the flood of tourists who read the Ottawa Citizen arrives, will be another notable day. The lunch this market day has a German theme. Schnitzel, German potato salad and sauerkraut are on the lunch menu. Following lunch there will be a talk by a master German butcher on sausage-making. During the last year Matawatchan has become a more interesting place to visit and shop. A route that I call the Matawatchan-Frontenac Trail has begun to flower. Besides the Market itself, there are so far two other locations along the route worthy of a visit.

The first is the Cottage of Hidden Treasures, which is located at the top of the hill near the cross-roads of Matawatchan and Centennial Lake roads. When you see the skull and crossbones logo turn into Quail Trail and travel to its end. Here you will find the work of seven local artists including the pottery of owner Victoria MacMillan. There is also clothing and jewelry and things to eat like pies, cheese, jams, jellies, cookies and other goodies. It is a fun eclectic place to visit. They are open Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.—cash only.

The next location along the trail is the Camp J Gallery. Ernie Jukes, who also writes for the Highlander, is an accomplished artist who has been painting for over sixty years. His oils and water colours capture the rugged beauty of the Madawaska Highlands. He is charming, affable and very welcoming to visitors who just drop by. The Camp J Gallery is located at 1748 Frontenac Rd

With mid-summer now here, come visit.

Looking back...



William Strong of Matawatchan circa 1912

Dear Editor

Thinking back to last year at this time I recall the Renfrew hospital and the doctors telling my husband Reg and I that I had a serious problem possibly related to the breast cancer that was detected four years earlier. If this was correct I would have a short time to live.

I was moved to the Ottawa General Hospital and placed in isolation on the oncology wing. Almost immediately doctors started a battery of tests only to find out that I had blood plasma cancer known as Multiple Myeloma. Research has found that the only way to bring it into remission is by doing stem cell transplant. If I refused or was found not to be a suitable candidate for the transplant, I was told that I would have approximately two more years to live.

It was determined that I was a suitable candidate. The transplant process started at the end of November, 2011 by the harvesting of my white cells. The cells were cleaned and after a massive dose of chemo on December 27, the actual transplant took place by introducing the cleaned white cells back into my bloodstream on December 29, 2011. It was completed, it was now a wait and see game.

For the first four days after the transplant I thought, this is a cake walk, let me out of here. However, on the

fifth day, as predicted by the doctors, my whole world turned upside down, when for many days I was so sick I didn’t know where I was. Finally I started feeling better and realized that I had made it. Thankfully, in early April, 2012 I was informed that the transplant was a success and that I was now in remission.

My heartfelt thanks go out to all those that sent cards, supplied meals and came the distance to visit me. Our community churches from Matawatchan, Vennachar, Denbigh and Griffith were all totally supportive with prayer, visits and an amazing show of love. Words cannot express my gratitude.

I wrote this letter not only to say thanks to a wonderful community but also to encourage you, if you are not feeling as you should, to contact your doctor and, of course, to have your regular medical checks.

Pat Ferguson
Griffith

The Highlander has returned and we would like to keep it coming. Most of you receive it free because of the support we get from our advertisers. If you would like to be a part of securing the future of the the Highlander become a Highlander Supporter, buy a Voluntary Subscription for \$10. Payable to the Madawaska Highlander. Mail to: The Madawaska Highlander 1837 Frontenac Rd RR#3 Griffith ON, KOJ 2R0

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Addington Highlands News

By Christi Landrie

Summer had a bit of a slow start this year, what with the rain and cold weather, but it now looks like its here to stay. The black flies are not as voracious this year, thank goodness, but the incessant humid heat makes it hard to get any yard work or gardening done. This should be a warning to the elderly, and those with breathing problems. Be careful, for the humidity can knock you down faster than the heat. Take precautions, plug in that air conditioner and stay cool.

Started as a single occasion, Music-In-The-Park has turned into an ongoing monthly event at the Denbigh Heritage Park in summer and the Denbigh Community Hall in the winter. Here, local artists strut their stuff and great stuff too. Seems the Addington Highlands have artistic people with all kinds of musical talents. Residents have been enjoying this entertainment throughout all of last year, and public demand has made it a permanent attraction. It takes place every second Sunday of the month at the Denbigh Heritage Park, starting at 1 pm. (Denbigh Community Hall in winter) For the Canada Day Weekend, however, it will not begin until after the Canada Day celebrations.

Come one, come all, you Canadian patriots. Heritage Park in Denbigh is the place to be on Sunday, July 1st. And oh my, what great stuff is in store for you all. The festivities start at 10 am, with the park opening and a pick-up baseball game, all ages welcome (*bring your own equipment*), followed at 12 noon with the Canadian Flag dedication. Contest judging comes at 12:30, prizes going to the best Canada Day outfit, best bike decoration, and best Canada Day poster. The annual children's games will begin at 1 pm, and starting at 2 pm, local musicians will entertain you with more of their great talents. The day will end with fireworks at dusk. Posters with info have been put up in various locations.

Thirty years of the Denbigh Ambulance Service will be celebrated on July 8th at the Denbigh Heritage Park with get-together at 11 am, a yummy BBQ and cake at noon, and speeches at 1 pm. The regular Sunday Music-In-The-Park will start right after the Ambulance party.

Where are all the crafty people hiding? We would love to have you with us. Come on out on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month to the Denbigh Community Hall, to mingle with other crafters, show your stuff, learn something new, or just sit and chat while

sipping some tea or coffee and working on your own projects. It's fun and informative.

Denbigh Diners meet in the Denbigh hall on the first Monday of each month at 12 noon for a scrumptious meal, complete with dessert. The next one is on Monday July 2nd.

The Matawatchan Farmer's Market will have their summer sales again this year. First opening is on June 30th, from 9 am until 1 pm, and continue every Saturday, same time, until the Labour Day weekend. Local artists and crafters have a variety of unique and colourful goods sale. It's a great place to buy something for that someone special, and you can also enjoy a delicious home cooked meal for a very reasonable price.

Can you hear the drums? The heartbeat of the Earth Mother, calling out to all who love Her to come and join in the festivities dedicated to Her: join in the dancing, the prayers, and the fellowship at the local PowWows. The first one is August 11-12 at the Mohawk Tyendinaga Territory in the Bay of Quinte in Deseronto. Following that, the Algonquin Nation celebrates its annual PowWow on August 18-19 at the Pikwaganagin Reserve in Golden Lake. The one yours truly has attended dressed all in white, for several years, so I know it's a big one, where you can

purchase some pretty special handmade Native crafts, clothes, drums, etc. Next up is the 18th annual Silver Lake PowWow, located between Sharbot Lake and Maberly. September 15-16 will see the Curve Lake PowWow, just north of Peterborough. There is only a nominal fee for these events, and it always goes to the upkeep of the grounds. This is a very spiritual time for most Natives, a sentiment that can be felt while there. Bring your family and friends and join in this special time of reverence for the Creator.

Last, but not least, folks, don't forget about the great annual Countryfest coming up Sept 14 and 15, held also at the Denbigh Heritage Park. More info on that will follow.

Has anyone seen two canines cavorting around? Frances Rosenblath lost both her pet dogs on June 10th. Naila, a medium sized black and grey blue tick, with a bit of orange on her neck, and Daisy, a small beagle. If you spot them, please call, 333 2247, and leave a message for Frances. She would love to have them back home, safe and sound.

End

A man who carries a cat by the tail learns something he can learn in no other way.
Mark Twain

Home-grown Tobacco at Black Donald

By Howard Popkie

My grandfather John Stubinski was born in the 1800s and came to Black Donald in 1910. He lived at a farm just across the field from my house. He had a barn at his farm made from square timbers covered by twelve inch rough lumber. I remember it had three inverted star cut-outs at the peak of the roof to keep out witches etc. When I was about eight years old I would always visit the barn when I came to visit Grandpa's place.

He'd dry them hung-up in the barn with a string. When it was dried out and brown it had a very nice smell. It was very inviting to an eight year old boy to chew some like Grandpa did. I never used tobacco all of my life and I chalk it up to the early days when I would get sick from chewing it.

When you grow your own, you have a lot of free tobacco so in the old days they would buy a clay pipe that was so large you could fill it and smoke it all day.

In those days you grew all of things that you buy today in stores. One of the things grown was his tobacco plants.

I have one of those old pipes made in the 1800s that measures nine inches long with a bowl that is two inches wide.

End



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Community Calendar

CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULE

GRIFFITH AND MATAWATCHAN

St. Andrew's United Church
Aug to Jan. Sunday Worship 11:30 a.m.
Feb. to July Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.

Our Lady of Holy Rosary Catholic Church
Sunday Mass 11:00 a.m.

Hilltop Tabernacle
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6:00 p.m.

DENBIGH AND VENNACHAR

Vennachar Free Methodist Church
424 Matawatchan Road 613-333-2318
Sunday Worship 10am

St. Luke's United Church
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

The New Apostolic Church
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays 8:00 p.m.

Burnstown

St. Andrew's United Church
Sundays at 10:15 a.m.

CALABOGIE

The Calabogie Bible Fellowship Congregational Church
The Mill Street Chapel at 538 Mill St.,
Regular service – Sundays 10:30 a.m.
Information: 613-752-2201

Most Precious Blood Catholic Church
504 Mill St., Rev. Father Pat Blake
Sundays 10:30 a.m.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church
Mount St. Patrick
Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Calabogie St. Andrews United Church
1044 Madawaska Dr. (on the waterfront)
Church Services Sunday Mornings at
8:45 a.m. Communion
1st Sunday of every month.

A mind that is stretched by a new
experience can never go back to its
old dimensions.
Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Calabogie

Canada Day – July 1
Canada Day Breakfast:
at 8:00 a.m. at Calabogie Community
Centre
Art Show – Silent Auction:
8:00 to noon at Community Centre and
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the
United Church
Bike Parade – Decorate your Bike and
join the parade: At 3:45 p.m. at the
Community Centre,
Madawaska Street Events: At 4:00 p.m.
onwards on Madawaska Street
Fabulous Fireworks: At dusk
on Madawaska Street.

July 7: Bass Fishing Derby
(Adult & Juniors) 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
at Barnet Park in Calabogie sponsored
by Calabogie Fish & Game Club
613-752-0453

Pre-school Program: Storytime is
held every Thursday from 10am to 11am
at the Library. It is aimed at children from
0-6.

Calabogie Seniors' Dinner & Meeting,
last Thursday of each month, 5 pm
Community Hall. from Oct. to April.
Barnet Park from May to Sept.
All seniors 55+ welcome. 752-2853

Calabogie Women's Institute meets
usually second Thursday monthly, 7:30
pm. at Calabogie Home Support Office
next to Pinky's Bar & Grill at 5056
Calabogie Rd.; April meeting is 3rd
Thursday at 6:30 pm including pizza
dinner. New members welcome. 613-752-
2598

Calabogie Arts and Crafts
Every 2nd Monday (if holiday, then 3rd
Monday),
10:00 am – 1:00 pm, Community Hall,
prospective members most welcome
(\$15 per year), 752-1324

Lion's Club Bingo every Wednesday,
7:15 pm, Calabogie Community Hall,
752-0234.

**The Calabogie and Area
Ministerial Food Bank**
538 Mill Street, 2nd and 4th Thursdays of
the month 9:00 am to 10:00 a.m.
For emergency situations, please call 752-
2201

Dacre

Dacre Canada Day Celebrations: July 1
Barbecue & refreshments / Children's
games /
Horseshoes / Cards / Fire works.
At the DACA Centre

Burnstown

**Burnstown Heritage House and Garden
Tour** –
Sat. June 30 – starting at 12:30 p.m..
\$25/person, Tickets available by May 31
by phoning Jane at 433-3389. Proceeds to
Burnstown United Church.

Griffith & Matawatchan

Matawatchan Community Market
June 30 from 9 a.m. to noon
Lunch served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Canada Day – June 30
Begins at noon with speeches by Mayor
Emon and John A. MacDonald
Antique covered wagon exhibit, knife
Throwing, live music, BBQ, kids' games
contests, and much more
Bring a Lawn Chair

**July 14: The Kid's Annual Fishing
Derby** at Holleran's Hideaway in
Matawatchan, sponsored by the Griffith &
Matawatchan Fish & Game Club

July 14: Kid's Survival Night
at 3941 Matawatchan Road (Wayne
Swayles),
sponsored by the Griffith & Matawatchan
Fish & Game Club

**Wednesday July 18 at 7:00pm
in the Griffith Lions Hall
Community Appreciation Night**
Sponsored by the Denbigh and Griffith
Lions Club. Guest Speaker:
Mary Cook

Denbigh – Griffith Lion's Club Bingo
Bingo June 26, July 10 and July 24

Bert's Music Jam
Every Wednesday 5 to 7:30 p.m.
Pine Valley Restaurant

Sylvia's Foot Care
Every six weeks
St. Andrews Church (Matawatchan)
Call Annabell Marshall 333-1752

**Northern Lights Seniors
Fellowship Lunch at noon**
Meets the third Wednesday of each month
With a Meeting following at 1:30 p.m.
Griffith Lion's Hall
General Wellness assessment by local
Paramedics available at each lunch
Diabetes Outreach Program
every 3 months
contact Lois Robbins at 333-1082.
All Seniors Welcome

Denbigh

Canada Day – July 1
At Denbigh Heritage Park
Baseball at 10 a.m., Flag dedication at
noon and many activities following in the
p.m.

**30th Anniversary of Denbigh
Ambulance**
July 8 at 11 a.m.
At Denbigh Heritage Park
B.B.Q at noon with music to follow

Music in the Park
Every second Sunday 1 to 3 pm
at the Denbigh Heritage Park

Diners Club
Dinners are held the first Monday of the
month at the Denbigh Community Hall
at 12 noon. Full Course Meal \$6.00.
Contact Faye Mieske at 333-2784 or
Irene at 333-2202 for information.

St. Luke's United Church, Denbigh
Exercise Group - Tuesdays 9:30 a.m.

continued on page 10

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9 TO 12 A.M. – MARKET VENDORS ON SITE - GOOD MEALS AVAILABLE
1 PM - WORDS OF WELCOME BY MAYOR PETER EMON

SPECIAL ADDRESS - THE HONOURABLE SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD
FATHER OF CONFEDERATION

*MUSIC, BAGPIPES, DANCING & SING-ALONGS: FEATURING OUR OWN LOCAL ARTISTS

*CHILDREN'S GAMES: ORGANIZED BY G-M RECREATION COMMITTEE

*FACE DECORATING AND BALOON CREATIONS: BY "LOVEY THE CLOWN"

*KNIFE THROWING DEMONSTRATION BY INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION "WARD WRIGHT"
– ALSO VISIT WARD'S EARLY SETTLER ENCAMPMENT & COVERED WAGON

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Calendar (Cont)

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End

Do you know the difference
between education and
experience? Education is
when you read the fine print;
experience is what you get
when you don't.
Pete Seeger

Griffith and Matawatchan News

By Garry Ferguson

It's apparent from the latest newsletter that the Griffith & Matawatchan Fish & Game Club is still healthy with a hearty board of seven in the wheelhouse to steer us through another year of activities. Since non-members, who will not have received a newsletter, are always welcome at these activities, we like to include a list so no one will miss out on the fun. By the way, membership is only a Sir Wilfred (for pensioners like me who may not have seen one in a while, that's a \$fiver) and can be picked up at local stores or at any event from a board member. If you don't get your address correct or if you scribble like a drunken doctor on the sign-up card then you'll be SOL when the September newsletter is mailed out.

You may have missed the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and the Lake Cleanup (Yaah, right! You thought the AGM was a church service and you went to the wrong lake) but there's still lots to come. From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, July 14 at Holleran's Hideaway, the Kids' Annual Fishing Derby will happen, followed by the Kids' Survival Night at Wayne Swale's spread. Apparently, this is the second Survival Night. Word is that the kids aced last

year's ordeal but they're still not sure about a few of the adults.

The free Annual Redneck Golf Tournament and Pork Roast, where everyone, except some unlucky pig, has a good time, will play out on August 04 at Hollerans' – the Cliff and Pat variety – on Hutson Lake Road. Golf starts at 2 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m. Bring your own lawn chair or sit on the ground with the pets and fight the dogs for your supper. Registration for a 50/50 Take Bass Fishing Derby will begin at 6 a.m. (I think that's somewhere about the middle of the night) on Saturday August 11 at the Centennial Lake boat launch. Each team of two will trade in 50 loonies to get a crack at what could be some pretty serious currency.

A good-sized dollop of praise should be directed at The Club for its interest in the safety of junior hunters. Over \$4200 was given out, in the past year, to finance junior hunting and firearms courses. When I started carrying a gun to hunt – no, it was not a muzzle-loader – I was shown the end into which cartridges were to be inserted and told not to point the other end at anyone, especially myself. For all club information, log on fishandgameclub@gmail.com.

There's an odd tilt to the Denbigh Griffith Lions Club's July agenda. It's about to thank the community when it should always be the other way 'round. Be that as it may, the Tabbies will throw an evening-time (7ish) appreciation party on July 18, at the hall, to thank the whole community for its help in reaching its goals. Broadcaster and story-teller Mary Cook will be there to delight with her stories of depression-era life in Renfrew County. That'll be well worth the trip to Griffith.

There will be no more Food and Fellowship lunches until the third Wednesday in September (19th) but the bingo will continue on every second Tuesday. The next three bingo dates are June 26, July 10 and July 24 while the big car show is on for August 25. If you're out on the roads anytime in the afternoon of August 31, take a drive by one (or both if you're feeling generous) of the Lions' toll road sites in Denbigh on Highway 28, near the fire hall, or at the Matawatchan Road/Highway 41 junction and pry loose a few loonies for the bucket. You'll brighten the day of some sweating, thirsty, black fly hating, mosquito swatting Lion. Details concerning any or all club events are readily available from your nearest, friendly Lion.

The regular 2012, nine-to-one, Saturday Matawatchan Market gets off the mark in a big way on June 30 because the Hall Board has scheduled Canada Day celebrations to run at the same place on the same day. It'll be a great occasion for socializing: you'll be able to chit-chat, chugalug, (Kool Aid) chomp chicken, cheer and wave a flag all at the same time. There's a German-sounding market day coming up on July 07 with schnitzel on the menu and a retired German butcher to give sausage-making lessons. Guess we should break out the oompah music and crazy leather shorts. (I couldn't pronounce lederhosen) An article in a June issue of the Ottawa Citizen provided the market with some good coverage when it was featured in a Celebrating Summer supplement. The article will be proudly displayed at the hall for those of us too cheap to buy a Citizen.

I'm writing this section while applauding – you'll have to take my word for it because clapping isn't that impressive in print – for the incredible Canada Day program that our Hall Board has organized. As well, its members must have collaborated with the Market Board to ensure an hour for revelers to digest the roast chicken lunch before the celebrations gets under way with a welcome by Mayor Peter Emon

continued on page 14

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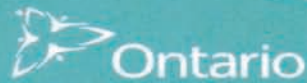
Lakelands Family Health Team is pleased to announce that

Dr. Anne Wilson

will be joining the practice as of the 9th of July. She will be accepting new patients at both the Northbrook and Denbigh sites. Please call to make an appointment.

Northbrook 613-336-8888

Denbigh 613-333-1333



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<p>29 Partridge Dr New home located on quiet street in Calabogie. Geothermal heating, ICF foam insulated, 4 bdrms, 2 full baths, 3 pc ensuite, finished lowerlevel. Attention to detail thru-out. MLS #816271 \$289,000</p>	<p>1018 McNabb Rd  Three bedroom cottage on Calabogie Lake. Screened porch w/cathedral ceilings, woodburning fireplace, open concept lv/dn/kit area. Walk to golf course, stunning sunsets. MLS #827471 \$339,000</p>	<p>185 Viewmount Dr  Uniquely designed 2 storey home in "Peaks Village". Cathedral ceilings, flr to ceiling windows, 4 bdrms, 2 full baths, workshop, screened upper porch, stone fireplace, paved drive. Deeded access to Calabogie Lake. MLS # 834492 \$339,000</p>	<p>3200 Highway 132  Private woodland setting on 7 acres w/walking trails & creek. Laminate flrs, 3 bdrm, double garage, decks w/above ground pool. Close to Renfrew & Calabogie. MLS #829094 \$249,900</p>	<p>12620 Lanark Rd  Duplex in village of Calabogie. Recently renovated. One bdrm apt on main flr, 2 bdrm apt on second & third flrs, both units have separate entrance, parking. MLS #767210 \$199,900</p>
<p>52 Whipporwill Valley Lane  Cottage on Calabogie Lake with 245 ft frontage. Seasonal, 2 bdrms, dock & decks, close to ski hill, golf, ATV/hiking trails. MLS #826114 \$249,900</p>	<p>9 Carnegie Cres.  Custom built home plus salon w/separate entrance. Open concept lv/dn/kit, 4 bdrms 4 baths, master ensuite. Distinctive solarium on two sides w/ceramic flrs. Possibility for B&B, home business, in-law suite. Zoned tourist/residential. MLS #817024 \$449,900</p>	 <p>Mike Labelle</p>	<p>4809A Calabogie Road  Family home with 4 bdrms, ensuite bath, finished family room, double+ garage plus exercise room, private backyard, perennial gardens. Minutes to all amenities of the village, golf, ski hill. MLS #836225 \$274,900</p>	<p>74 Whipporwill Valley Lane  Fully finished waterfront home w/360 frontage on Calabogie lake. Open concept lv/dn/kit, 3 bdrms, 2 baths, screened porch, waterfront bunkie/storage. Private setting close to ski hill, golf, ATV trails. MLS 82411. \$489,000</p>
<p>6695 K & P Trail  Attractive waterfront home w/225 ft frontage on Calabogie Lake. Docks, sand beach, screened porch, 3 bdrms. Private location, family oriented. Fabulous view of lake & surrounding hills. Walk to golf course. MLS #811420 \$449,900</p>	<p>329A Church Farm Rd.  Year round living on Calabogie Lake. Bungalow w/hrdwd flrs, wood walls & ceilings in open concept lv/dn/kit area wall-to-wall windows overlooking tiered walkway to decks & dock. Separate oversized garage w/sleeping loft & 2pc bath. MLS #827087 \$465,000</p>	<p>BUILDING LOTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 2 Dickson Rd - MLS #833884 \$32,900 * 3 Dickson Rd - MLS #832467 \$36,900 * 0 Dickson Rd - MLS #833893 \$99,900 * 177 Pheasant Run - MLS #829964 \$39,900 * 13 Bill Hodgins - MLS # 820532 \$45,000 * 0 K&P Trail - MLS #829140 \$309,000 		

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Behind the Tunes

By Peter Chess

Sun Records

If it is even possible to trace the origins of a music genre to any one source, for rock and roll, that source would be Sun Records in Memphis Tennessee, and if there is one man without whom the revolution in American popular music seems impossible to imagine, that man would be Sam Phillips.

Sun Records, with its bright yellow label, eleven sunbeams and a rooster crowing at dawn which is so graphically synced with the music coming from the grooves of those 45 rpm vinyl discs. Sam Phillips was a radio engineer from Florence Alabama who really got into music in the late 40's. In Sam's words "when negro artists in the south wanted to make a record they just had no place to go. Rhythm & blues record men like the Bihari Bros from the west coast would come south into Tennessee with a tape recorder and set up a studio in a garage to record Negro blues singers. So I set up a studio in 1950 just to make records with some those great Negro artists, which was called the Memphis Recording Service." Those artists included Howlin' Wolf, Little Walter Horton, Bobby 'Blue' Bland, Junior Parker, BB King and Ike Turner. Memphis at the time was a hotbed of the blues.

There was also a strong tradition of white, hillbilly country music, including bluegrass as popularized by the great Bill Monroe and his contemporaries. Phillips originally leased his recordings to the Bihari brothers on the Modern and RPM labels and then to Leonard Chess of Chess records in Chicago, who also traveled south to record R&B artists. It evolved over a few years that the more affluent northern labels signed away most of Sam's roster of artists and to keep things alive he created his own label, Sun Records, which was almost exclusively a blues label. It featured local artists like James Cotton, Willie Nix and Arthur Crudup. Phillips kept up a steady stream of blues releases, getting by, but barely so, until 1954 when Sun#209, featuring an easy going version of "Big Boy Crudup's song "That's Allright" backed by a bluegrass tune was released. The singer that day was Elvis Presley, of course, and of the ten sides he recorded at Sun, five were blues and five were country.

Taken together they established a whole new mode of music. This synthesis had been stumbling along previously, as artists like Bill Haley came out with white covers of black material and in retrospect it seems like a natural progression. But at the time, Sam Phillips was the only man to really sense the nature of that connection and capture its

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magic on vinyl. With his background in recording "race" music, he was able to exploit it to its fullest. Says Marion Keistor, his secretary at Sun: "Over and over I remember Sam saying "if I could find a white man who had the negro sound and the negro feel, I could make a million dollars. " It appears that with Elvis, Sam had found the key. All his successful artists of the new music, now called rockabilly, were poor, white southern boys who had lived in close contact with black people and who had obviously absorbed a great deal of their culture. Carl Perkins, son of a sharecropper, raised on a plantation, learned his guitar from an old black man. For Charlie Rich, he picked up black music from working in the cotton fields. Jerry Lee Lewis remembers sneaking off to juke joints to hear BB King, Sunnyland Slim and an array of honky-tonk piano players traveling though. Elvis recalled "I'd play along to radio or the phonograph. I dug the real low down Mississippi singers, like Big Bill Broonzy and Big Boy Crudup. Sinful music some people called it, which never bothered me, I guess." When "That's Allright" was first played on Memphis radio by a colourful DJ named Dewey Phillips (no relation), he had to get Elvis to mention in an interview that he went to Humes High School, thus letting his listeners know that Elvis was white, because most people listening thought he was black.


Within eighteen months of the release of "That's Allright" Sam sold Elvis's contract to RCA for \$35,000. A miscalculation of no small proportion, but the money kept Sun on a sound financial footing and there followed a period of remarkable activity. Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash, Charlie Rich, Jerry Lee Lewis, Roy Orbison, all achieved national prominence, while a stream of local artists like Sonny Burgess, Bill Riley, Onie Wheeler, Warren Smith and Charlie Feathers enjoyed good regional success.

This golden period of rock and roll was, however, short lived, in large part due to the greed of the large record companies, watering down the talent produced to suit the bottom line and the payola scandals that followed, resulting in a dearth of "whitebread" music—think "Bobbies".

The direct link to "race music" was severed and the original Sun artists were left to forge their own way without the creative and free thinking space that Sun Records had provided them. As for Sam, he became a man of diverse financial interests, was one of the original investors in the Holiday Inn chain and maintained Sun Records until the mid '60s, out of loyalty to the few artists that stayed with him, but was never as involved personally in the creative process as in the heyday of Sun Records.

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Rua Grinbergs, Bodyworker

He has left a remarkable legacy of both rhythm and blues and the white adaptation of it, which became rock and roll. It is one of the more astonishing chapters in American popular music, which has affected us all and for which, I am, personally grateful. Sam Phillips was inducted as an original member to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 1986, the Rockabilly Hall of Fame (the only non performer ever), the Blues Hall of Fame and the Country Hall of Fame. He died July 30 2003, one day before the original Sun Studio was dedicated as a national landmark.

End

G/M News (Cont)

at 1 p.m. Limited space, in this article, doesn't allow me to list all the planned events – but I'll try. Good old Sir John A. MacDonald (sure hope he's sober this time 'round) will be there to address the assembled. There'll be music – including the pipes – lumbering demonstrations, a clown, a covered wagon and an early settler's encampment, contests of all sorts, games, even a knife-throwing demonstration by an international champion. Remember to congratulate Sir John on the Confederation thing, wear your red and white, shake the hand of every Hall Board member and, above all, be safe: stand behind the knife thrower.

End

Rural Vignettes

By Antonia Chatson

Editor's note: Tony Chatson has been a resident of Denbigh for many years, but grew up on a farm near Shelburne in south-western Ontario. The rural experience in Ontario is fairly universal whether it is Renfrew County or Dufferin County. In Rural Vignettes she will share with you her memories of rural life in the 1950s.

HERE WE GO LOOBY LOO, HERE WE GO LOOBY LIGHT, HERE WE GO LOOBY LOO, ALL ON A SATURDAY NIGHT.

It was always at noon that the phone would ring on a Saturday, when our neighbour Elgin Looby would be in having his lunch and we would be in having ours. As my father knew who it would be, he always answered the phone. 'Of course we would love to come over tonight, we'll see you later.'

And thus would commence our evening of entertainment. I could never understand how Elgin, who had worked hard all day, milking eight cows, by hand, morning and evening, then everything in between, and Edna, who like most

farmer's wives worked out and did not return home until 5 o'clock when she had to wash the separator, had enough energy to entertain at night. But that was their life and they loved it.

We would drive over in the Model A and park it somewhere on the lawn approximating where we thought they might like it to be. Then we stumbled up to the front door in the dark, as they had no outside lights and we were forever forgetting a flashlight. Inside there was lots of light and lots of laughter. My parents and Elgin and Edna would talk about things for a while. Then, as if on a sudden impulse, Elgin would ask, 'How about a game of crokinole?' He loved to play it with my parents because he knew they were beat before they began. Both Elgin and Edna were past masters at the game, and for once my father's analytical mind was no match for the skill that they displayed. My mother would practice at home, but instead of using her thumb and index finger to shoot the men, she used her index and middle finger, sliding the middle finger under her index one. Actually, she scored more hits than did my father. There was always a lot of rowdiness during the game, with Elgin moving men into a higher scoring circle or swearing that the man he hit was so much over the line that it had to be off

the board. I never saw anyone before or since who could wipe off two of his opponent's men then have his man go into the centre hole. Finally, not when anyone was tired but when Elgin and Edna had gained a score which was hundreds above what my mother and father had obtained, that Elgin would grin widely and shaking his head, say 'Well, Roy, I guess we'd better call it quits for tonight'. Then the crokinole board would be put away and the table laid for a "light" snack before we went home.

The light snack would begin about midnight. Edna would go to the kitchen and make a mound of tomato sandwiches. Then there would be those marshmallow cookies, a cake and biscuits that Edna would have made and squares. Then, on cue, Edna would ask Elgin to go down to the cellar and fetch up a jar of preserves. A few minutes later, Elgin would appear, very red in the face trying to twist open the top on a bottle of peaches or plums. 'What did you do to this jar Edna? I just can't get the lid off.' Edna would smile smugly, then Elgin would turn to my father. 'Roy, maybe you can get it off'. He would hand the jar over to my father who took it, braced himself and prepared himself to physically manhandle that jar until he emerged victorious. We all watched with great anticipation. He would brace himself, screw up his face, flex his muscles, and then when he had assured himself that he had everyone's attention, got ready to do mighty battle with the unruly lid. Imagine his, and everyone else's surprise when it easily came off, spun onto the floor and knocking my father off balance so that he nearly joined the lid on the floor. Elgin would slap his thigh and roar with laughter and after the initial surprise my father realized that he had been "had". Year after year, Elgin pulled this one and my father always responded in like manner, as did we all when we first reacted with surprise, then with laughter.

Then, as we were eating, and we were expected to put away a goodly amount, the jokes would begin. I can vividly remember two jokes that once again he would tell every year, because they tickled his fancy.

'How old would a body be if they had just eaten a bushel of beans?' We would dutifully feign ignorance as Elgin would leer at each of us in turn. 'Farty, of courser he would shout and laugh his head off, as did we.

'There was once a farmer who had a sick cat, so he phoned the vet and asked him what he should do about it. "Well," the vet replied, Give it a cup of castor oil and I'll be round in the morning to check on it.' The vet appeared the next morning and asked the farmer to take him to his sick calf. "Calf," the farmer exclaimed, "it was the cat who was sick." "Oh, my heavens," replied the vet, "where is it now?" "Well, the farmer said, "he's out in the orchard with nine other cats - three digging holes, three covering them up and three scouting out new territory."

Well, this time we did not have to dissemble as that joke always stood the test of time - and our laughter was sincere.

About 1:30 or 2:00 a.m. the party would break up and we would stumble back out to the Ford, chug our way homewards; full, satisfied and chuckling, make it through the back door, light the lamps that lit our way upstairs to bed and crawl into bed under the damp covers. For a few minutes we would call each other from one room to another. 'Wasn't that a good shot Elgin made, when he shot those three men off the board and he never even hit a peg?' 'Did you see how he tucked into those sandwiches?' 'I wonder if he'll have any new jokes for next Satu.....?'

End

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City Girl

By Filipa Martins

One Day at a Time

“Just take it one day at a time” reminds my friend who also farms. When raising farm animals (along with human kids), taking things one day at a time is great advice. Some days are so filled with excitement that taking it one hour at a time seems more manageable. When I talk about rural living to others, one of the challenges for me has been life and death. Most of the time, animals are sent for processing for meat and it is not always easy to send them off. Other times, I don’t get to be the one to choose when their time has come. On those occasions, my heart breaks.

Here is an excerpt from an unusually full farm day:

6:47 AM, it’s damp outside. A thin dreary rain moistens my face as I open the door of my egg-layer coop to let them out to the yard. I watch them run out; one finds a worm and runs off with it dangling from its beak as five hens chase it at full speed hoping to steal the treat. I go on to the next coop. This one is an improvised shelter designed to transition a batch of chicks we incubated at home from their home in my greenhouse, to outdoor living in



a moveable coop. They have a small fenced yard to play outdoors. I notice that the chicken wire fence is lifted off the ground in round shape, an animal got through. The door to the coop has not been tampered with and is still locked. Nothing got in. I let out a deep breath and whisper a thank you. I open their door and they pour out, they are all different colours, some are miniature chickens and look like small caramel-coloured pigeons, others have shiny black and copper feathers. They are about four weeks old now. I have taken a special liking to this batch of chickens. The miniatures are my fa-

vourite and I sometimes sit and cradle the baby chicks in my hands and watch them fall asleep.

7:16 AM, I have finished watering and feeding and prepare to leave. Something is not right. There is a leg sticking out from under the coop. It’s not moving. I look inside the little door and my stomach sinks. There seem to be two in there. I can see they are gone.

7:49 AM, breakfast has to be made, we continue with our daily work.

12:28 PM, I am alone. With my work gloves and a bag in hand I walk slowly, my legs feel heavier than ever. I don’t want to do this. It must be done. I stand outside looking at that leg. I reach in and take out the first. The rain is still falling, much heavier than earlier. My face is already wet, I begin to cry. They are in a corner, as I remove two I see there are more, and more I count them. By the time I finish I am wailing like a child. Why does this happen...

2:53 PM, my friend arrives to return my ‘billy’ goat who went to her farm for a “sex (reproduction) vacation”. He seems very content. He politely empties his bladder outside her car, which is quite civilized for a ‘billy’. We walk him out to pasture with the other goats. I feel the dread of having to manage this escape artist.

3:07 PM, Louise, my pregnant goat is bawling. Is she just happy to see Hans or is she going into active labour?

3:19 PM, after watching the baby goats playing and catching up, it’s time to leave. As I begin to walk away I see the ‘billy’, Hans is his name, get right through the electric fence. It must be off. There’s only one way to find out. This city girl reaches out to the wire. Touching the wire I see that it’s dead. After some troubleshooting, the fence is back on. Hans is introduced to it and gets the message to stay in (for a few hours at least).

4:29PM, Hans decided that the black flies were unbearable, broke out of his pasture, broke into his pen, walked into his shelter and had a long lazy nap. I must check the electric fence in case he damaged it while escaping. I take him back to pasture. Lots of good grazing hours left in a day.

4: 57 PM, Louise is still bawling; even louder and more frequently. I bring her into the barn and we keep watch.

5:47 PM, back at the coop. Since their new coop will not be built before night time, the 4 week-old chicks need to be gathered and returned to the safety of the greenhouse for the night. As we try

continued on page 20

The Cloyne and District Historical Society

By Garry Ferguson

Several years ago I received a request to act as a tour guide for a bus load of people who had an interest in local history. I was to give a running commentary as the bus made its way through (snicker) Miller and Matawatchan. When someone finally convinced me that there was no mistake and that no one was pulling my leg, I found out that the folks who made up the group were members of an active – and indeed very serious - organization called the Cloyne and District Historical Society (CDHS). I never did determine how they fingered me for the job: the drums had gone silent and no one was talking. When I met the bus near Boyd MacDonald’s house in downtown Miller, I discovered that I already knew several of the members and that I had competed in sports against the driver in the days when there were high schools in Denbigh and Flinton. I’m not sure whether or not they were just being nice, but they said the tour was a success.

Through friends, now serving as board members of this rapidly expanding organization, I learned that the CDHS not only celebrated its annual summer opening on June 23, 2012, but also marked its fortieth anniversary with a BBQ, live music and tours of the museum. The original version - born in 1972 if my math is correct – named the Pioneer Club, evolved and was incorporated in 2001 under the present name. The log museum was built in 1981 and opened in 1982.

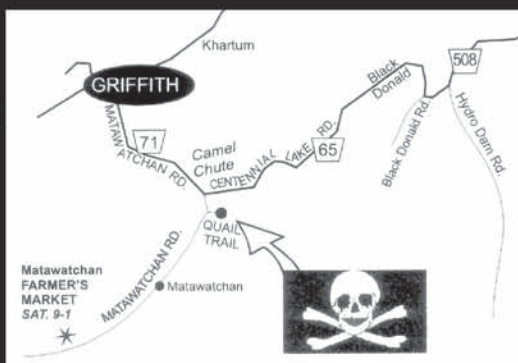
The society, with a governing board of eight as well as support from 50 members and 85 patrons, has its centre of operations at the museum in Cloyne where over 2000 artifacts and a huge body of recorded information are stored. If an application for a Trillium grant is successful, the facility will be greatly expanded (including inside washrooms) and more resources for research will be procured. I’m wondering if the existing outhouses will be put on display as part of our history now; thank goodness, almost ex-stinked.

continued on page 20



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Bogie Beat (Cont)

presentations made: from Mayor Peter Emon on behalf of the Township, a plaque; from Jodie Weller, Principal of St. Joseph’s School, a donation to the Missions in his name; from Andy Bray, Trustee of the RCCDSB, a School Bell; from a distant cousin, Elaine Rolfe, a collage of his ‘Flying Father ‘ days; from the Knights of Columbus, a Papal Blessing. Words of Congratulations were voiced by Skippy Hale Chairman, Most Precious Blood Parish Council, Cathy Hunt, Chairman St. Patrick’s Parish Council, MJ Blimkie and Sister Margaret Blake, his sister. Father Pat thanked everyone for coming and all

the volunteers for their contributions of goodies and time. Bishop Mulholl offered the Grace.

At suppertime, Father’s family and close friends enjoyed a delicious sit-down dinner prepared and served by parish members. All in all, it was a grand day and Father Pat was most pleased.

For all of the volunteers who made this a wonderful day, it was a labour of love aptly convened by Sharon Ladouceur. bogiebeat@gmail.com or (613) 752-9944 for news from the ‘Bogie

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Dark Sky – Bright Future The Madawaska Highlands Observatory

By Lois Thomson

It's well known that the abundant natural resources in the Madawaska Highlands area have been the source of sustenance and the basis of our economy for millennia. What isn't well known is that our dark night skies have become a rare commodity in Southern Canada and the United States. And if an Ottawa entrepreneur can finalize funding for a new observatory, our oldest natural resource could become our newest economic asset.

Hunting, fishing and harvesting began with the Algonquin peoples and continues today in various forms. With the arrival of the Europeans came unsustainable methods of forestry, trapping, mining and agriculture that have seen a steady decline over the last century along with a corresponding decline in population. Our economy continues to be based on our natural resources, but now in the form of tourism. A world class observatory in the Madawaska Highlands would be an excellent tourist attraction. It would bring a very desirable type of tourist, those who appreciate nature and the workings of the universe. It's expected that an observatory would draw families, scientists and eco-tourists to our beautiful highlands. The proposed Madawaska Highlands observatory will have 40" and 30" wide-field telescopes available for visitors. It's not just one big telescope for scientists. The visitor telescopes will provide highly detailed views of the planets and moon and extremely spectacular views of star clusters, galaxies and nebulae. The nebulae will show color and 50,000 stars will be visible in a single field of view when viewing the largest globular clusters. This year the Delta Aquarid and Perseid meteor showers will combine in late July and early August to create what most consider the best and most reliable meteor display for the Northern Hemisphere. We'll be able to see it just by looking up for now, but imagine the experience through those wide-field telescopes!

The Madawaska Highlands Observatory (MHO) was the brainchild of Ottawa entrepreneur, Frank Roy. He agreed to an interview about the project,

but didn't want to mislead anyone into thinking it was a done deal. He explained that the observatory wouldn't happen until he secures final funding, which he is hoping he will know about this July. If not, he'll keep trying. This will be a privately owned endeavour, not a government project. If you have \$4,000,000 dollars to invest, this is a great time to get on board. And there are opportunities for naming rights to key components of the facility as well as VIP privileges—\$1,000,000 to have your name or your company name on the Visitor Centre or \$500,000 will buy naming rights on the most powerful telescope in Canada. Or \$1,000 lifetime VIP pass to special night-time activities, such as meteor showers. Frank Roy's passion for the project is contagious. Even though everything you ever wanted to know about the MHO is on Frank Roy's web site www.madawaskahighlandsobservatory.com, he enthusiastically described the project to me, emphasizing the huge potential it has for the region. He has done a lot of research and conducted studies that conclude the MHO will potentially attract over 80,000 national and international tourists a year, create 40 full time jobs at the site, with another 100 spin-off jobs in the area (restaurants, inns, tourist attractions, etc.). The facility will have LEED Platinum certification, which is the highest standard for green building construction and operation. It will be energy self-sufficient and off-grid with PV solar, thermal, and well water heat recovery. It will be built with local construction materials, granite and oak, and create minimal construction waste.

The web site is well worth a visit even if you have to visit a neighbour to borrow their high-speed connection to do so. At the top of the main web page is a link for downloads of economic impact studies, scientific studies, 3-D animations and more.

From the web site: "The setting in the spectacular Madawaska Highlands of Ontario, offers an unparalleled vista in southern Canada; a natural sky free of artificial light with a stunning view of the Milky Way with its massive bulge covering half the southern sky and casts

a distinct shadow where over 10,000 stars are visible to the unaided eyes. "The Highlands of Eastern Ontario feature a spectacular pre-Cambrian landscape and offers some of the highest elevations in the Province. The facility will be located on a peak with ~450 meters elevation with sufficient space for the entire facility including a star festival. The site will have an unobstructed 360° view of the entire sky and a superb view of the surrounding terrain. It will be easily accessible from Provincial Highway 41 at Griffith."

"The facility will have guided tours of the most powerful telescope in Canada, the Visitor's Centre and the visitor telescopes. The Visitor Centre will host several display areas for astronomy, cosmology and a 140-seat HD theatre where professional astronomers will be invited to speak on research conducted at the facility as well as recent developments in astronomy. It will also include a boutique, snack bar and washroom facilities. The Visitor Centre will also contain the telescope control room and large 4K displays with spectacular images taken at the facility."

The visitor centre will have displays about the history of astronomy including an area dedicated to the cultural lore of the Madawaska Highlands' first star-gazers, the Algonquin peoples.

The peak described in the web site is on the Matawatchan Road, a couple of kilometres from Hwy 41. The road will cross some private land and continue about three kilometres to a 100 acre plateau on what is now Crown land. Crown land can only be transferred to a private owner if it can be proven that its use will provide a direct benefit to the community. Tourism and eco-tourism fit exactly into The Ministry of Natural Resources' Land Use Plan for the Madawaska Highlands.

But none of this will happen until the funding comes through. Even then, a lot has to be done before construction can begin. The MHO will need an environmental impact assessment, public forums, traffic studies and council approvals. This will all have to take place before people from around this little blue planet of ours can experience infinity in the Madawaska Highlands.

End

A man begins cutting his wisdom teeth the first time he bites off more than he can chew.
Herb Caen

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Out on the First Concession

By Wes Bomhower

Peachy DIDN'T Come Home

It was early autumn, 1944, and the war in Europe was still raging. My oldest sister's husband was in the thick of it over there and she lived with their two children in a small rented house in the village some five miles from our farm.

I would be fifteen years of age, my younger sister, 'Peachy' being eight years old and the only one still attending the one-room school about three miles away. (Her name was Bernice but Dad nick-named her Peachy and the name stuck.) She was usually home from school by 5:15 in the afternoon, but this day I had rounded up the cows and started the milking and still there was no sign of her. Dad was away at a neighbour's doing some carpenter work and we didn't have a telephone as yet, so Mom dispatched me on my bicycle to go looking for little Peachy. I stopped at two neighbours to inquire about her. The children there said Peachy had left the school with them but she had decided to turn toward the village instead of coming home. Oh God Peachy, I wondered, where are you now? I pedaled like hell for the village, stopped at my older sister's house, and there was Peachy nonchalantly playing with our little niece and nephew.

I didn't ask her any questions but told her we had better be on our way home because the sun was setting and it would soon be dark. We said goodbye to our sister and the children and headed out the County road.

In the meantime, Dad had arrived home from work to face my very worried mother who had finished the milk-

ing herself. She was so distraught over Peachy's disappearance and she had not heard anything from me yet either, so Dad set out on foot looking for us. We three met in the darkness where the County road came through a forest and in my whole life I had never seen Dad so angry! He was not a man to ever lay a hand on any of us children--he left that up to Mom--but tonight was different. Dad, in a crusty tone, asked Peachy why she went to the village instead of coming home from school. Not receiving a satisfactory answer, he gave her two smart cuffs on the behind and growled. "Don't ever do it again, you hear?" Peachy cried most of the way home but

to the best of my knowledge she was a model child from that point onward.

Looking back over the years, and after raising a family myself, I realize how frightened Mom and Dad must have been. And if we had only had a

Bridge (Cont)

myriad of conventions (cuebids, drurys, garbage stayman, epsilon, flip flop - to name a few) that you could learn if you decide to play at competition level, but these aren't necessary to have fun. As a matter of fact, you should stay away from most conventions in order to have the widest prospect of players available to stage your own bridge tournament. No, bridge is not for beginners, but you sure can have a helluva good time. *End*

telephone, it would have been so much easier on everyone at the time, but it was at least another ten years before my parents finally had the hydro and telephone installed in the old farmhouse.

Those were the days!

By three methods we may learn wisdom: First, by reflection, which is noblest; Second, by imitation, which is easiest; and third by experience, which is the bitterest.
Confucius

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PLAY BALL!

By Ernie Jukes of Camp J

It was a bright and sunny early summer day as we arrived in Montreal's east end. I had just hitchhiked from St.Catharines up to Matawatchan. You could cover many miles that way in those days. I got there in time to hook up with a logging truck that was going to Quebec. My older cousin Warrant Officer Grant Millar had said that if I could get to his RCAF base in St. Hubert that he would treat me to my first big league baseball game. Well here I was and had a lot of time to talk and think baseball on the way while getting there. I had recalled an older fishing friend Lefty Coderre who had actually pitched for the Montreal Royals many years before. This was going to be an event.

I had also remembered my own first games as a ball player. Wonderful games we had as just kids playing Bantam ball at Kernahan Park in St.Kitts. I had started out as a pitcher but since I couldn't strike many out they soon moved me to shortstop, I guess cause I could run a bit. There was lanky Gary Fletcher on first, Johnnie Wilson on second, Bob Clout on third, with Julius Kovach in field and Ernie Wignall in field or pitching. I don't know that we won many games but we had a lot of fun. Just getting to the games was an adventure. I also don't know how we did it but our coach often squeezed most of the team into his car, including the dark and stinky trunk. We were all so eager to play.

However my cousin Grant, who also played ball, assured me this was an important day in the sport as we moved with a giant crowd of 20,000 people into the old Delorimier Downs Stadium. This was the top Canadian park in the International League. The buzz all around us was about the first black man to play in an all white professional baseball league. His name was Jackie Robinson. His coming to Canada in this sport made sense for many reasons. It isn't all hockey.

Even today a lot of baseball fans do not realize that the first organized game of baseball was played in a small town 40 miles east of London, Ontario, called Beachville. It was in Upper Canada then and the date recorded was June 4, 1838. Dr. Adam Ford of Denver (who was brought up in Beachville) verified the date in a letter to the U.S. hall of fame stating that Doubleday's claim to having the first game in 1846 was all bunk.

But on this exciting day in 1946 the stadium was filled with anticipation of what this young American black athlete was going to do. "Amazing" could be the adjective to best describe the game and his efforts. Robinson certainly did not disappoint any one. The speedy 2nd baseman cracked a homer over the left field wall on to Lariviere Street, hit some singles, stole a few bases and scored three runs...a one man dynamo. He won the hearts of Canadians that day and eventually the respect of ball fans everywhere.

End

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City Girl (Cont)

to reach and gather them we see how it all happened. Out of fear they crowd in the corner. They climb on top of each other, 3 and 4 deep. The little ones at the bottom of the pile can't get out, can't breathe. We work quickly and get everyone out safely.

6:08 PM, Louise is in labour. We can see the feet. It's the first goat labour I witness. I have my camera rolling, with the human kids watching in awe. We encourage her gently; Bart the llama is standing at the door. Also watching and humming. He hums every time goat babies are born. The first baby is born. Looks healthy, the kids are laughing with joy, and once again my eyes are

flooded in tears. I always cry when watching new life. It was the same way with my cow.

6:19 PM, the second baby is born. We decide to give the new mother some peace and leave her to her new kids.

9:17 PM, dinner done, kids asleep, kitchen moderately tidy and I run the checklist of evening chores mentally. All is done. I flop down on the couch. It feels like the first time I have sat down all day. The day is done. I let out a big sigh and whisper a thank you for the healthy delivery of the twin goats, and all that I learned this day. I close my eyes certain there is nothing left to do...Nothing. Then, in walks my husband "Hey Fili, did you start writing your City Girl article yet?"

End

Historical Society (Cont)

Any of our readers who plan to venture as far afield as Cloyne this summer may want to stop in and look around. Those from the Denbigh area may recognize much of their own history now on display. Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. every day from June

23 until Labour Day and admission is by donation only. For the well-heeled among us who may want to support the effort in a bigger way, the CDHS is a registered, not-for-profit, charitable organization and is authorized to issue receipts for tax purposes.

End

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UP THE LINE

By Wes Bomhower.

Editor's note: As Wes Bomhower's stories about the First Concession wind down, he has begun a new series about his early days working for Hydro. This is the first in this new series.

THOSE EARLY YEARS

These stories tell of a chapter in my life after I left the 'First Concession' and went out into the world to make a living. I found employment with Ontario Hydro's Construction Division and we lived in camps all across the province wherever there were new lines to be built, and there were many in post-war 1947. The camps were much like the lumber camps of old, complete with a cook cook's helpers and also a 'bull cook', who of course was just a general clean up man who had nothing whatsoever to do with cooking. There would be anywhere from 50 to 125 men in camp at any given time, so a bull cook was kept quite busy looking after the bunk houses, washrooms and so on.

Some of the camps were prefabricated 'ten test' buildings, but mostly in those early years, army tents large and small were utilized, from the bunk houses to the kitchens and dining areas and wash rooms to the storage tents. An immense

wood burning range served in the cook house and each bunk house had its pot-bellied stove, sometimes a converted oil drum. Often the firewood available was not properly dried out, so a night man made his rounds all night long keeping the fires stoked because a tent can cool down quite rapidly in winter.

The bunks for sleeping were mostly double deckers and the larger tents could accommodate eight or ten of these, the result being sixteen to twenty men under one roof. Everyone learned to get along with each other or they were not around very long. There was always good food in the dining area and plenty of it; if you went hungry, it was your own fault. Some cooks were better than others, of course, but on the whole we were pretty well fed. A lot of the camp locations were some distance from civilization and hydro lines, so we made do with Coleman gas lanterns for lighting and the cook, having no refrigeration available, usually had a screened in meat house, (much like the modern gazebos) near the kitchen where sides of bacon and hams were hung. Fresh meat was delivered quite frequently from the closest wholesale butcher or National Grocers.

We began our work day at 7:00 A.M. which meant we were out of bed & heading for the wash tent by 5:30 or

so and then filing into breakfast shortly after 6:00. Our water supply was usually the closest lake or river for the kitchen and wash room and two men were kept busy with a truck or tractor and wagon and huge water tanks. The drinking water was sometimes the same source, but depending on the quality, the drinking water would be from a local well. Each bunk house had a large galvanized pail with a cover and it was part of the bull cook's chores to see that each pail was kept full of fresh water for drinking. Outside toilets were large, four-holer affairs and were built some distance from the bunk tents with a small oil stove for heat in winter.

Some of the camp foremen forbade alcohol of any description in the camp, but a lot of them were drinkers themselves, so as long as we behaved and didn't let things get out of hand, we enjoyed a beer or whatever when we could. Very few of us could afford to drive a car in those days, but if someone had a car and was going out to the closest town for an evening, he usually had a car full with everyone throwing in a bit of money for gas. Local taxis did a good business especially on weekends as did any bootleggers in the vicinity. There was a lot of gambling on rainy days and some evenings and it usually took place in the wash room tent where any noise created would not bother the non gamblers. Sometimes the camp foreman partook of this form

of entertainment also and large sums of money were often lost or gained.

For board and lodging in the camp, one dollar and fifteen cents per day was deducted from our pay cheques, so of course if a man was close enough to go home on weekends; he saved a bit of money. The average hourly wage was seventy cents per hour, the sub-foremen, linemen and truck drivers making a few cents more and we were paid twice monthly, or roughly every two weeks. A pay period for two weeks was normally 88 hours, but sometimes a rainy day or two could mean less than 80 hours, or if we were fortunate enough to work some overtime, we were paid time and a half for our effort. One of my co-workers, over a pint of beer, once commented. "No one has ever seen the other side of life until they have lived in a hydro camp for awhile". His words held a lot of truth indeed, and looking back, I would not trade those early years for anything else on earth. There was a lot of camaraderie and we all learned how to cope with each other on a daily basis. Most of us formed a bonding friendship with each other that would last the rest of our lives.

Those were the days!

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Healing tree (Cont)

In spring, summer and fall it's the large asymmetrical heart-shaped leaves that are the great identifying sign. In spring I like to nibble the tender mucilaginous leaves by themselves or in a salad. Steeping a fresh leaf or two (1 tsp., if dried) in a cup of hot water for half an hour makes an infusion that is diaphoretic and can cleanse the system of excess mucous, particularly in the lungs, kidneys bladder and stomach. For a chronic cough, colds, and sore throat remedy, suitable to break up bronchial catarrh, drink this tea as frequently as necessary.

The inner bark of the Basswood is most noted for its long, strong fibres. They have been used for thousands of years by native peoples to make a superior rope that is soft on the hands when wet and is tangle-free when dry. Mats, bags, and fishing line are also crafted from this fibre. Being antiseptic by nature the fine fibre threads have also been used to suture wounds.

The inner bark contains mucilaginous materials, and has been used as an antiseptic dressing for binding and healing wounds, skin irritations and burns, and as an emergency bandage, cut fresh from the tree. Many people recommend it as a burn remedy. It is boiled into a poultice for resolving boils.

The inner bark can also be chewed fresh for emergency food, or dried and pounded to make a nourishing flour. Boiled into a tea, the inner bark can help a cold.

Mohawk women have used a specially made tea of Basswood branch bark mixed with staghorn Sumac bark as a tonic for childbirth.

Thanks to the bees, Basswood flowers usually mature into nutlike fruits the size of a pea. They cluster beneath large heavy wings that act like twirling parachutes when all is ripe, and downward they descend. A fixed oil can be expressed from the seeds, but they're eaten more commonly fresh as a survival food.

About a hundred years ago a French chemist discovered that Linden fruits can be ground up with some of the flowers into a very nutritious paste with a flavour similar to chocolate. It doesn't keep well, but one assumes that eaten soon after grinding it would be a fun and healthy food. Basswood fruits would probably yield a similarly flavoured paste.

End

St. Gabriel's Historical Preservation Committee Project

By Skippy Hale

How time flies when you are having fun. Those of us involved in the project to preserve this one-of-a kind pioneer church can honestly say, it is a labour of love and it has indeed been fun. We have the privilege of having a beautiful example of a pioneer church in the Township of Greater Madawaska in the original Bagot Township.

St. Gabriel the Archangel Roman Catholic Church was built in 1854 by Edward McCrea, stone mason, on land donated by Gerrard McCrea, an Episcopalian. Previously, worshippers trekked up the mountain to St. Patrick's Church, walked through the bush or canoed down the river to celebrate Mass at McCrea's Stopping Place. Early settlers were served by a visiting priest from Mount Saint Patrick and later from Renfrew. The church was blessed by His Lordship Joseph-Eugene-Bruno Guigues, Bishop of Bytown, under the invocation of St. Gabriel, Archangel on January 20, 1854. It is situated high above the Madawaska River in Springtown. It must have served as a beacon to the weary log drivers as they rounded the bend of the river. Even today, boaters and canoeists are comforted by its presence and view it as a milestone on their journey.

It replaced an earlier log building, St. Mary's, one of several built by Father John McNulty. We have yet to find the location of this building. Much of the interior woodwork has been dated to the original construction in 1854. In 1900, it was suffering somewhat from decay. From a leaky roof which was affecting the internal aspects, to crumbling stones, it needed to be replaced or repaired. The decision to retain and repair it was a blessing for those of us who wish to see it preserved in 2012! The exterior treatment is imitation ashlar, which is stucco finished, scored and tinted light blue to resemble dressed stone. The interior was repaired and a porch added. The altar, roof, spire and vestry were enhanced. The interior is unique at least to its 1909 renovation. The paint and carpets date to that time. Polychrome tin in relief, adorns the walls and ceilings.

The newly renovated church was blessed on July 20, 1909. The presider was His Lordship Bishop Lorrain with many clergy and members of the congregation present. It never became a parish and remained a mission of Most Precious Blood Church in Calabogie. It closed in 1952, was opened in 1955 for the funeral of Lewis Joseph McCrea. A mass was held on August 4, 1974 to commemorate its dedication 120 years before as well as a memo-

rial to Edward and Bridget McCrea, the founders of Springtown in 1846. Though no longer consecrated, it is a monument to the settlers who built it, a unique example of pioneer church architecture and the history of the Roman Catholics in Renfrew County. It is preserved as a moment in time since it remains as it was in the early 20th century, unchanged by Vatican II. The Communion Rail, pew boxes and Stations of the Cross remain as they were. The renovations thus far, include repair of the roof flashing to stop influx of flying fauna and sealing off the hole for the bell rope. We no longer need a sign "No bats allowed in this belfry!" A brick chimney was removed since it was causing a portion of the tin ceiling to sag. Many of the windows which were vandalized over the years have been removed and temporarily replaced with fitted plywood until such time as proper conservation of the antique glass and frames can be accomplished. The next step is to slope the land away from the building and prevent rain and spring run-off flowing into the basement and further harming the substructure of old-growth square timbers. This must be done carefully since we do not wish to disturb the rubble foundation, nor the possible burials which were poorly documented in earlier times.

It is apparent that there are many projects ahead of us, but the progress must be slow in order to maintain the integrity of the site and not to do further harm. Needless-to-say, money is in short supply and we have been fortunate thus far to employ volunteer help and donations in kind. Two engineers have assessed the building and we await their proposal. We know that it will be a great expense and plans for fundraising will need to begin in earnest. One project which is nearly finished is a memory book by our very own Valley historian, Carol McCuaig. It will be published in the fall and launched at a special event.

If you wish to participate, have particular expertise, have extra change in your pockets or be on our mailing list, please get in touch.

We are gradually piecing together a statue of St. Joseph and the child Je-

sus in the basement of Most Precious Blood Church in Calabogie. Many fractured grave markers are lying at the bottom of the river under the Springtown Bridge. Over the years, divers have brought some up as souvenirs. A local farmer told me that he has seen some in his stone fences and did not know what they were. We hope to recover these stones and return them to the cemetery for a memorial of some kind.

maryjoanhale@gmail.com or (613) 752-9944

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