

The Madawaska Highlander

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The Acton Saga

By Elmer Stong

Editor's note: The Acton Saga is a continuation of the "Old Time Religion" articles published over the last two months. In fact it is a chapter in Elmer Strong's book entitled *St. Andrew's Untied Church*. You may recall mention of a charismatic Marxist/Leninist taking over the Matawatchan congregation in the 1930s in the last issue of the paper. I mentioned that it was another story. This is that story or at least all that can be told even after all these years.

At the height of the depression, during the early 1930s, Matawatchan was without a minister and had little or no funds with which to attract a minister to the charge. Pat Carswell, about this time, was visiting his cousin Pat Bruce at Dacre and was informed of a lay minister who had been preaching in that area and had recently had a falling-out with the congregation there and was looking for a new position. It was suggested that he visit Matawatchan and give a sermon or two so that the Matawatchan people could assess whether they wished him to remain on a more permanent basis.

This minister, Mr. Acton, was not ordained. He apparently came to Ontario from somewhere in the Maritimes. He was a charismatic gentleman who had attracted quite a large following in the Dacre area but had recently encountered considerable controversy in his relations with a number of key members of the community. He was a gifted speaker and appealed particularly to the younger members of the congregation. Following his introductory sermons at Matawatchan, he was asked to continue on, which he did for the balance of the year. The community was pleased to have a minister during the winter months, since they had for so long been served only by a student minister during the summer. The initiative to hire Mr. Acton was taken solely at the local level and did not have the blessing of the presbytery. In fact, they strongly advised against hiring Mr. Acton and, when their advice was ignored, turned their back on the congregation and provided little or no support to them for several years following.

It was not long before several of the senior members in the Matawatchan community began to have concerns regarding

some rather disturbing implications contained' in Mr. Acton's teachings. These teachings had a clearly Marxist/Leninist philosophy running through them. This was not unusual, because there was a widespread socialist sentiment in many parts of the nation at this time. This sentiment was fanned by communist sympathizers attempting to exploit, for their own political gain, the unhappiness amongst the poorer segments of the population resulting from the Depression hard times. Whether Mr. Acton was part of a larger coordinated movement or acted alone to exploit this trend for his own personal gain is unknown. His activities apparently did not go unnoticed by the authorities in Ottawa, who were perhaps discretely alerted by some concerned citizens in the community. A stranger appeared in the community one day, ostensibly selling horseshoe nails. He seemed to ask many more questions of the local people than one would expect for someone engaged in his trade. Those who professed to be in the know quietly assumed that the gentleman was a member of the RCMP and had been sent by Ottawa to check on Mr. Acton and his activity in the community.

Mr. Acton, being the resourceful con man that he was, moved to further exploit the trust of his faithful following by introducing a form of quack medical practice. He began selling Dr. Harding's medicine, which claimed a cure for every ailment known to man. Apparently several people suffered very severe medical problems as a result of switching from their conventional medical treatment to this medical quackery.

Several of the community leaders, including John Ilan, Charlie Strong, and Colin McPherson, voiced strong opposition to the direction that the church was taking under the leadership of Mr. Acton.

The matter became a very emotional and divisive issue in the community. The opposing sides on the issue were split, even within family groups. Husband and wife often held strongly opposing views regarding Mr. Acton's ministry. Walter W. Hutson, whose wife Susannah was a sister of John Ilan, nearly had a serious falling out with the Ilan family over the issue. Annie Strong and her husband Thomas disagreed in their assessment of Mr. Acton, and it is said that Annie on one occasion loudly and publicly berated Thomas's brother Charlie over this mat-

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Photo: Claire Lepine

Dispatches from Afghanistan (2009-6)

By Major Ross Allan

Editor's note: This is the sixth in a series of dispatches during the 2009 Highlander publishing year. The events mentioned in these dispatches took place during 2008.

We have noticed an increase in the number of Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) being reported and/or turned in. A number of factors are in play including the fact that there are a lot of IED within Kandahar province; Canada counted 89 'incidents' during December. Local civilians are increasingly willing to report IED and turn them in because, in part, the IED are indiscriminate and kill civilians. The locals also turn them in for the reward. There are some individuals who will probably put their children through college given the number of IED they turn in. Some uncharitable soldiers wonder if the local is earning money twice – once from the Taliban to make the IED and then again from the Coalition for turning it in. One local tried to deliver explosives to Canadians but he went about it in the wrong way. Canadians had established a perimeter at a suspected IED site when a vehicle approached in a suspicious manner – had Ray Charles been on guard duty, even he would have noticed something amiss. The driver ignored the warning signs, the polite requests to stop, the more urgent signals, and used the time to accelerate towards the soldiers. We took this as our cue to stop being polite Canadians and, several hundred shots

later, the vehicle halted (at this point, it may not have had a working transmission let alone an engine). At first, we thought the driver was wounded and we wanted to question him. When the soldiers found three 250-pound bombs in the vehicle, surrounded by home-made shrapnel, we really wanted to question him but, unfortunately, he succumbed to his wounds. We do not believe that the driver was hurrying towards the Canadians to claim the monetary reward for turning over found munitions. We believe that he was looking to deliver the bombs to Canadians and claim a reward in the afterlife. We were able to help him meet his objectives and ours – a true Canadian compromise – such that the only unhappy people were the driver's organizers. Some of his fellow bombers also had a bad week. We spotted three men planting an IED and, using the old military adage of "if one is enough, then several is better" we engaged with one SELF-CENSORED, a SELF-CENSORED, and four CAN'T-SAY; I can say that they will not plant IED again.

Before shooting into the suspicious vehicle, Canadian soldiers progressed through a series of steps to get the driver's attention. When a vehicle is speeding towards soldiers, we have difficulty determining whether the driver is inattentive or intent on driving an explosive-laden vehicle into our midst. With re-

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Dispatches (Cont)

gret, Canadians have shot, wounded, and killed innocent local civilians whose only misfortune was to be in a car with an inattentive driver; on the day we foiled the suicide bomber and his 250 lb bombs, we wounded an inattentive truck driver

who was hit by the ricochet from a warning shot. As a result, we are circumspect with our application of force and firing of our weapons. We know that the Taliban are aware that we have procedures but we also know that they are unaware of the details; as a result, I will not discuss them here. However, we are convinced

that the Taliban deliberately provoke escalations such that they can analyze our reactions, determine our procedures, and gauge our reaction times. In one such example during the last month, a vehicle accelerated towards Canadians and stopped after warning shots were fired; the driver laughed at us – hardly the reaction of an inattentive driver who is thankful for escaping harm. Just as the Taliban test us, analyse our procedures, and modify their own, so do we – we analyze our own performance and that of the Taliban. As a result, I am involved on the periphery of the counter-IED and counter-insurgency battles – I buy equipment and services that help us counter the threats. For instance, this week I authorized an emergency buy that will help us counter a new Taliban tactic that we recently observed. We will probably be using the counter-tactic throughout our area of operations before the Taliban finish disseminating the tactic for which we now have a foil.

The Taliban continue to murder indiscriminately – car bombs went off within an Afghan market and outside a Pakistani polling station. Despite the Canadian deaths during December, the trend with IED in particular and attacks in general appears to be the attack of civilians, government employees, and government supporters – people who do not ride in armoured vehicles and who have either no or limited ability to defend themselves. Some people, on both sides of the border, are getting tired of the fundamentalists and their indiscriminate killings. As a result, there is increasing talk of arming private militias for self-defence/anti-Taliban work. However, the fundamentalists are already armed, trained, and organized and, until the militias are at least armed, then anyone expressing an interest in self-defence is at risk of being murdered. To create and arm the militia requires that we establish trust with the locale populace – trust that we will protect them until they can assume more responsibility for their own defence. On Monday, I read of an on-duty policeman murdered as we walked to the bakery near his police station during his lunch break. Therefore, in some areas, even the police cannot provide security for themselves. In other areas, especially in Kandahar Province, if the police are not at risk, it is possible they have been co-opted by insurgents and therefore are of no use to the local populace who want to stand against the Taliban. Whether the protection derives from police, Army, or foreign forces, the local civilians need assurances that forces will remain in place until the militia is ready. We are not yet at that stage within large areas of Kandahar Province and, in those areas where you find Canadians, it is usually because the territory is sympathetic to the Taliban. The proposed US troop surge may help provide the security, in select areas, where a militia can then form.

Within a previous letter, I mentioned that snake anti-venom is difficult to obtain and I may have left people with the impression that Canadians are without the

antidote. In fact, we have the antidote but the process to get it can best be described as painful; there is some debate as to whether the snake bite or the anti-venom's purchase is more painful. First, you have to find vendors that offer the anti-venom that we require; not surprisingly, our usual medical supply sources in North America do not carry anti-venoms for snakes found in Asia. Then, having found a supplier, we have to ensure that it can sell to Canadians within Afghanistan; there are regulatory, trade, or commercial agreements that restrict where and what vendors can sell. Having narrowed the list to those who are allowed to sell, we then have to ensure that the vendor uses a refrigerated courier service that delivers to Afghanistan. Lastly, the location of the vendor determines whether my office can order or whether we must rely upon another contracting office. Reviewing the correspondence for the last order, I pray nothing happens to the fridge where

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Action Saga (Cont)



Pentecostal Church

ter. Notwithstanding his obvious faults and questionable motives, Mr. Acton was a charismatic leader who instilled tremendous loyalty amongst his followers and a strongly held resentment amongst those who disagreed with him. He achieved a division within the community deeper than on any occasion before or since. The church that had successfully overcome a number of rifts among its members during its relatively short life now faced a crisis that was to leave a long lasting and deep impact on the church and community.

Matters reached a crisis level, in the view of some, when John Ilan's boys returned home one evening from one of Mr. Acton's meetings, all enthused about one of his latest teachings. Apparently he taught that if you had a plough or horse or some other asset that wasn't being used, there was no harm in your neighbour taking that asset for himself if he had a use for it. This socialist dogma did not sit well with the Scottish/Irish settlers who were proud of their material accomplishments, achieved through a lifetime of hard work and sacrifice. John Ilan and some of the others were disturbed by the influence Mr. Acton's philosophy was having on the community's young people.

During a visit to his wife's Moore relatives in Ompah, John Ilan was introduced to their Pentecostal religion. He was much impressed at what he experienced and saw this as a possible solution to the crisis situation that existed back in the church and community at Matawatchan. He requested that the Pentecostal church authorities provide one of their pastors to come to Matawatchan to provide leadership in the creation of a congregation in that community. Accordingly, Miss McPeak came to Matawatchan and held services in homes for several months. She was later joined by Miss Tutt. The John Ilan, Colin McPherson, and Walter Hutson families, amongst others, became regular attendees at these services. Before long larger facilities were needed to accommodate the numbers wishing to attend, and arrangements were made to temporarily use the curing room of the vacant Star Cheese factory at Wilson. Benches were put in place, and services continued there while work proceeded on the construction of a permanent church building. The Pentecostal church, which was located near

where Settlement Road intersects Colton Creek, opened in the year 1937 or 1938.

The Pentecostal congregation flourished in Matawatchan. It strongly rivalled the deeply troubled United Church in attracting adherents, by offering a simple and fundamental type of religion, free from the controversy and bickering that was rocking the other congregation. Several of its young people, including Donald and Lindsay McPherson and Alice Ilan, chose to become pastors in the Pentecostal religion and devoted their lives to serving the church in both the United States and Canada. The little tabernacle, nestled in the valley on the shores of Colton Creek, remained active until the 1960s. By then many of the founding families of the church had moved from the community, and the dwindling numbers remaining found it necessary to finally close its doors. It had served its members and the community well. Founded at a time when the religious community in Matawatchan was in turmoil, it provided a spiritual focus-particularly for the young people-when travel was restricted, radio was in its infancy, and television had not yet made its appearance. There is little doubt that the loss of these leading families from the United Church had a profound impact on the future of that congregation, and the divisions created, to some extent, still exist today.

In the meantime, the strife continued at the United church. The presbytery, in 1933, attempted to resolve the matter by appointing Reverend Raleigh, with his wife and daughter, to teach at Matawatchan. The church board sent them away and refused to let them use the manse. The presbytery, rebuffed in this manner, declined to provide any further support and in fact chose to ignore the congregation for several years afterward. It was not until 1938, following the departure of Mr. Acton, that they send Bob McLaughlin, a student minister, to serve the charge.

During the time he spent in Matawatchan, Mr. Acton stayed with Eli and Jane Ann Troke. He used Eli's horses to travel to Hydermans at Griffith, where he also held services. He received strong support from a number of Matawatchan

families, including the Walter W. Hutsons, Alex Kellys, Thomas Strongs, and Eli Trokes, amongst others. He travelled to Dacre frequently, where he still had a dedicated following. It was during one of these trips to Dacre that an incident occurred, the nature of which is now obscured by the passage of time but which led to the revelation of the true depth of Mr. Acton's deception. The suspicions of many were now confirmed for all, and Mr. Acton's support in both the community of Dacre and Matawatchan quickly evaporated. He disappeared quietly and was not heard from again.

Even after his disappearance, some of his strongest supporters at Matawatchan had difficulty reconciling to the fact that they had been ruthlessly deceived by a slick con man. This knowl-

edge was driven home when it became known that Mr. Acton had departed while still owing a respected member of the congregation fifteen hundred dollars and was suspected of being the author of several other questionable acts.

The United Church in Matawatchan survived its brush with Mr. Acton, but there is little doubt that it left many deep and lasting wounds. The church has experienced many controversies, both before and after Mr. Acton's stay in Matawatchan, but none held the potential to totally destroy the congregation such as this episode threatened to do. It is a credit to the dedication and faith of its leaders that the congregation was able to overcome this hurdle and go on to rebuild its credibility and leadership in the community.

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MEMORIES OF THE OLD DAYS

By Wes Bomhower

During the Great Depression most everyone was poor but there were some families who were absolutely destitute; little work could they find and they were too proud to accept 'relief', as Government welfare payments were referred to in those long ago years.

We were fortunate enough to live on a rented farm where we had our own milk cows, laying hens, a few pigs and a huge garden to sustain us, but just up the road in a very small house there existed a large family by name of MacKenzie. Hugh, the father, was a stockily built man with a slow, precise way of speaking and in between puffs on his old corn-cob pipe, he could tell the most interesting stories we children had ever heard. Most of the stories were true, of course, and there being few radios and no television in those days, everyone listened.

His good wife, Dora, possessed an extremely shrill voice and weighed barely a hundred pounds but she not only kept her own large brood in line, she also raised two boys from her sister who died in childbirth. They were Eddie and Billy Crawford by name. Hughie made axe

handles, hammer handles, shovel handles, pick-axe handles and the like and walked miles and miles during the winter months selling his wares to all and sundry from an enormous canvas bag that he slung over his shoulders. In the summer months, he worked for various farmers in the area as a common labourer and managed to feed his family. Dora was handy with needle and thread and the children came to school with patches on the patches, sometimes over-size trousers or dresses that were handed down from the older ones. In the summer, there was not a wild apple, plum or cherry tree within a five mile radius that was not fair game for these hungry children and they seemed to digest green apples with no problem whatsoever.

A couple of the younger boys would come every evening to our barn when Dad was finishing milking the cows and the boys always carried a two quart pail with a cover for the milk they would take home. Dad was supposed to charge them ten cents each time but often as not they didn't have any money, so Dad would shrug and fill their pail to the brim anyway and they would thank him profusely. Their mother taught them good manners. And milk was worth less than one dollar per one hundred pounds at the cheese factory.

continued on next page

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The Madawaska HIGHLANDER

Affordable housing for seniors

By Bill Graham

During September the newly formed Senior Housing Committee conducted consultation meetings with residents from Calabogie (Sept. 21) and the Griffith / Matawatchan area (Sept. 23) to seek the advice of local residents about their expectations for needing affordable housing in the next five years. These meetings were to supplement information derived from the survey that was included with the most recent tax bill. The committee's efforts are directed at intermediate accommodation for seniors who are not yet ready for longer term care institutions such as the Bonnechere Manor.

What has brought this sudden concern for affordable senior housing forward is infrastructure money from the federal government with contributing money from the provinces. This recession has brought to the front of the stove important issues that until now were backburner. Everyone, especially government, realizes that as the baby boomers enter their 60s there will be an increasing demand for services (for seniors) for health care, housing, long term care, etc. If affordable facilities for seniors can be built with government investment to create jobs now to offset the effects of this recession, so much the better.

In all, the federal government is investing \$7.8 billion in job-creating housing-related projects, which includes social-housing, on-reserve housing, and housing for low-income seniors and Canadians with disabilities.

If the attendance for each of the meetings in the township is any indication, the number of concerned residents is much higher in the Griffith - Matawatchan area. The reason is probably a higher median age in this area and a higher immediate concern.

Like municipalities all over the country the immediate concern of Greater Madawaska and the Senior Housing Committee is to take advantage of infrastructure money and begin building affordable housing for seniors while the financial support is available. The Committee will combine survey information and input from the consultation meetings to draft a plan by February 2010. The application for funds will need to be filed by March 2010 and the building completed by December 2011. Given the usual speed of the wheels of government, this will be challenging.

In order to get seed money for the planning phase of the project, the Township of Greater Madawaska has recently agreed

to make the application since a registered 'not for profit association' has yet to be incorporated. Council has also agreed to donate land in Calabogie if a 'not for profit association' decides to build a home seniors there. In tandem, the Committee is continuing to search for a potential site in the Griffith / Matawatchan area for a building site for seniors

To date the money being spent is for the expansion of existing seniors' housing such as the 24 unit Fairfield facility in Eganville. With the existing timeline, new facilities will not be expected to materialize until 2011.

While dealing with immediate infrastructure money challenges, the Senior Housing Committee recognizes that the issue is much bigger. This same concern was raised by Paul Isaacs, who attended the meeting in Griffith and is a resident of Denbigh. What about the care of those seniors who want to remain in their own homes? The money now available does not address this, but Senior Housing Committee recognizes that it may be the focus of issues in future.

Home care is the future issue most relevant for Greater Madawaska. In a township where 94% of all homes are owned; where the median age of the population is high and where most seniors want to stay in their own homes and communities, going into a 'home' only occurs in the direst of circumstances. However, affordable senior housing can be a wonderful alternative for seniors who want to stay in their own communities without having to worry about isolation or doing maintenance on their home.

What should be added is that every community needs its elders.

So, how should they be supported?

Editor's note: Anyone needing more information about this initiative or having contributions to make on the subject should contact Angela Yolkoski, CAO of the township at 1-800-347-7224. *End*

**HAPPY 80TH
BIRTHDAY**
**Gerry Marshall October
21st**

**With love from Annabell &
the Family**

Looking back...



Taking off the hay in an earlier time

NEWS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

By Betsy Sayers: Fire Chief

October 4 to 10 is FIRE PREVENTION WEEK:

Please join us in our efforts to make the Township of Greater Madawaska one of the most fire safe communities in Ontario.

To help you help us, we have taken information from the Ontario Fire Marshall's Office

(www.ofm.gov.on.ca) and created a fire safety trivia game we call **'I knew that!'** In this and the next Highlander, we will be providing game pages for you to play with your family. Players get one point for each fire safety tip they can identify - the player with the most points wins.

There is no prioritization to the fire safety topics in the game. Don't try to cover them all at once. Pick the ones that most closely fit your lifestyle and do those first. Hunt camp owners and cottagers are encouraged to post the game page in their outhouse ☺ to help visitors know that fire safety is important to you and our community.

The **'I knew that!'** fire safety trivia game is also available on our website at www.townshipofgreatermadawaska.com click on 'Council Documents' and follow the link to the 'Fire Department' page.

Playing this game might very well save the life of someone you love. Please take the time throughout the year to talk to your family and friends about fire prevention, and most important of all, to set a good example yourself.

Other news:

If you are a high school student looking for interesting work to fulfill your volunteer hours before graduating, let us know by calling 613-752-2222 + 0 or sending

an email to firechief@townshipofgreatermadawaska.com

We will be working over the winter months on several projects to improve fire safety in our community. But, we can't be successful without you. Fire Department policies and By-laws are subject to a regularly scheduled review each year. This review will be conducted from January to March 2010 - you are encouraged to provide your input in writing. Email us at firechief@townshipofgreatermadawaska.com or drop off or mail your thoughts to the Township Office. Special mailboxes will be installed shortly at both the Calabogie and Griffith Fire Halls to also make it easier to provide input.

Some Final Thoughts:

- If your clothing catches fire, remember your childhood training - STOP! DROP! to the ground, and ROLL (over and over) to put the fire out.

- Cool a burn by running cool water over it for 3-5 minutes - seek medical attention if the burn is severe.

End

PREVENT COOKING FIRES
**Watch What
You Heat**


Cooking left unattended is the most common type of cooking fire. Watch what you heat. Always stay in the kitchen while you're cooking.

“I Knew That!”

A fire safety trivia game from your fire department, based on information provided by
The Ontario Fire Marshall (www.ofm.gov.on.ca)

DIRECTIONS: Read the title and introduction to each fire safety topic. Then, taking turns , each player identifies one fire safe practice. Pass if you can't think of one. You get one point for each fire safe practice you can identify before anyone else does. The player with the most points wins.

Let's see if together you can get them all!




**Pull
Aim
Squeeze
Sweep**

**If you have a fire extinguisher
in your home, learn how to
use it correctly!**

ESCAPE PLANS – Get out and stay out – do NOT try to save pets and possessions
A large number of fire deaths find people just inside the door to their house. In the panic of a fire, if we don't have an escape plan then we will try to make it to the door we usually use. Most often, it is too far to get out safely. In some cases, people have gotten out safely and then returned into the burning house to save pets or possessions.

- Develop and practice a fire escape plan from your home
- Everyone must know how to get out and where to meet
- Practice your escape plan with the entire family
- If you are caught in smoke, 'get low and go' under the smoke to the nearest way out, not the door you use everyday.
- Make sure windows and doors are not blocked and are easy to open in heavy smoke
- Identify who will help young children, older adults or anyone else who may need help getting out
- Choose a meeting place outside, such as a tree or neighbours house where everyone will go immediately so you can know they got out safely
- Make sure your child can open the window by themselves and get out
- Call 911 from a safe place outside

**TEST YOUR
SMOKE ALARMS**



**Test your smoke alarms
once a month and replace
the batteries every year.**

HEATING SAFETY – Watch your ashes

Check your chimney- Creosote is a major cause of chimney fires – have chimneys and pipes cleaned regularly.

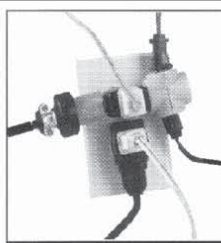
- Allow the ashes from your woodstove or fireplace to cool, then put them into a metal container and keep the container outside.
- Make sure your ash bucket has a tight fitting lid so the wind does not spread sparks
- Have all chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified service person.
- Check your chimney regularly for signs of damage or corrosion
- Install a carbon monoxide (CO) alarm to alert you to deadly gases
- Give space heaters space – keep them at least one metre (3 feet) away from anything that can burn
- Protect your home from sparks – use a fire screen
- Watch for smoke backing into the room, this could mean a blockage in the chimney or a faulty damper control.

CANDLES – A glowing concern – WHEN YOU GO OUT, BLOW OUT!

Candles are a common cause of home fires. Candle use when the power is off is common in our Township.

Please use candles safely.

- Keep lit candles safely away from children and pets
- Blow out all candles before leaving the room
- Buy good quality candles that are smoke-free and drip-free
- Secure candles in a sturdy holder, in a location where they can't be knocked over
- Keep all combustible materials away from lit candles.



Avoid overloading a circuit with "octopus outlets". If additional outlets or circuits are required, have them installed by a licensed electrician.

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS – remember the word 'PASS'

In most cases, the best thing to do in a fire is get everyone out and call 9-1-1 from outside the home, but if you use your extinguisher, remember - Pull the pin – Aim the nozzle – Squeeze the trigger – Sweep from side to side until empty (PASS)

- Only use fire extinguishers on small, contained fires
- NEVER let the fire get between you and the way out!
- Visit your local hardware or building supply store and purchase an extinguisher that has an ABC rating. This type can be used on most fires
- Buy 2 fire extinguishers and practice with one of them before you need it
- Keep the extinguisher in plain site but out of reach of children and away from stoves and heating appliances
- Most extinguishers empty in less than 30 seconds. If the fire is not out by then, leave immediately and call 911
- Most stovetop fires can be safely put out without an extinguisher. Put a tight fitting lid on the pot to smother the flames and turn off the stove.

**WATCH
YOUR
ASHES**



Allow the ashes from your woodstove or fireplace to cool before emptying them into a metal container with a tight-fitting lid.
Keep the container outside.

SMOKE ALARM YOUR COTTAGE & HOME – Smoke alarms can increase your chances of surviving a fire by up to 50%! Just like your home, every cottage or hunt camp in Ontario must have working smoke alarms on every level and outside all sleeping areas – it's the law.

- Install smoke alarms on every level and outside all sleeping areas.
- If you smoke in the bedroom, install a smoke alarm inside the bedroom as well
- Test smoke alarms every month and replace the batteries at least once a year.
- Vacuum the exterior of the smoke alarm using the soft bristle on your vacuum cleaner
- Install a carbon monoxide alarm and maintain it at the same time as your smoke detector
- Electrically connected smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms will not work when the power is out, unless they have battery backup. Make sure your home has a battery-operated smoke alarm on every level and a battery-operated carbon monoxide alarm.

On request, your fire department is pleased to visit your house and help you ensure that smoke alarms and Carbon Monoxide detectors are placed and working properly – call (613) 752-2222 +0 for more information.

Happy Harvest

By Susan Veale BSc. KIN

Our Thanksgiving holiday is a harvest time celebration giving thanks for a bountiful yield and abundance of food.

The tradition of Thanksgiving is believed to have been brought to Canada by the European farmers who would fill a goat's curved horn with fruits and grains to represent their harvest. This horn was known as a "cornucopia" or the horn of plenty.

Today we fill our horn with root vegetables, winter squashes, tomatoes and cabbages. Other gifts of fall include the full flavour of apples and pumpkins.

Temperature change is one major influence on our health. As temperatures turn cooler, our food choices should be more to the "warming foods." These include not only vegetables from the horn but also garlic, kasha, barley, oats, butter, aged cheeses, nuts and seeds, fish, poultry and spices of clove, cinnamon, ginger, vanilla, basil, thyme and oregano.

For this Thanksgiving, you may wish to try these warming recipes with your turkey. (Serves six to eight people)

Carrot Ginger Soup
8 medium carrots, chopped
1 large leek, sliced

4 cups of organic chicken broth
4 cups of water
1 tsp of ginger
1/3 cup of maple syrup
Heat broth and water; add carrots, leek and ginger. Simmer for 45 minutes. Puree until smooth. Return to heat, add maple syrup and reheat to serve.

Herb Roasted Sweet Potatoes
4 large sweet potatoes, peeled and sliced into 1/8 inch pieces
1/4 cup organic olive oil
1 tsp of garlic powder
1 tsp each of chopped oregano and thyme

Preheat oven to 375 degree F. Combine oil, garlic and herbs, mix well. Place potatoes in a plastic zip tight bag, add oil mixture and shake to coat. Place potatoes in a roasting pan or spread out on cookie sheet. Cook for 45 minutes, turning occasionally.

Sautéed Sauerkraut
2 cups of sauerkraut
1 small to medium red onion, chopped
3/4 cup of portabella mushroom, chopped
1 tbsp of butter

Melt butter in frying pan; add onion and mushrooms, sauté until soft. Add sauerkraut, simmer for 7 minutes, and then put on low until ready to serve.

continued on page 16

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Community Calendar

CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULE

GRIFFITH AND MATAWATCHAN

St. Andrew's United Church
 Aug to Feb Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
 Feb. to August 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
 WMI meet first Monday of the month
 Sunday School 10am
 Sunday Worship 11am
 Weekly Bible study Tuesdays 7pm
 at Fellowship Hall and in Plevna
 Pioneer Club Thursdays 6pm at
 Clar-Mill Hall, Plevna

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.

CALABOGIE

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

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.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Calabogie

Pre-school Program, Tuesdays, 2-3 pm,
 year round, ages 0-5 at township library

Women's Discovery Day
 October 17
 Contact Liz Loten

St. Andrew's United Church 117th
 Anniversary Service 8:45 am and 7 pm on
 Oct. 18; refreshments after evening service
 with music and dedication for handicapped
 accessibility.

Arts and Crafts Sale,
 Oct. 24, 10 am -3:00 pm
 at Calabogie Community Hall;
 lunch provided by Calabogie Arts
 and Crafts Assoc.

Lions' Club Remembrance Day Service
 at Calabogie Cenotaph, 2 pm on Nov. 8.
 Join the march from the Community Hall
 to the Cenotaph at 1:45 pm. Refreshments
 afterwards provided by the Women's
 Institute at the Community Hall.

Christmas Bazaar
 at St. Andrew's United Church
 Nov. 28 from 11:30 to 3 pm.

Calabogie Seniors' Club, Bogie Lights
 at Heritage Point, Calabogie, at dusk.
 Everyone welcome for hot dogs, cookies,
 hot chocolate and sing along.

Calabogie Seniors' Dinner & Meeting,
 last Thursday of each month, 5 pm
 at Community Hall.
 All seniors 55+ welcome. 752-2853

Calabogie Women's Institute
 meets second Thursday monthly,
 7:30 pm. at Calabogie Home Support Office

next to 5056 Calabogie Rd.
 752-2598

Calabogie Arts and Crafts Assoc.
 Every 2nd Monday (if holiday, then 3rd
 Monday),
 10:00 am – 1:00 pm, Community Hall,
 prospective members most welcome
 (\$12 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 11:00 noon
 For emergency situations, please call 752-
 2201.

Griffith & Matawatchan

Matawatchan Market
 Thanksgiving market on Oct. 10
 Lunch served at 10:30 p.m.
 Matawatchan Community Hall

Hunter's Supper
 St. Andrews Church Matawatchan
 Stewed Beef and the fixings
 Saturday November 7 – 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
 Adults \$12 / Children 6 to 12 is \$6 / Under
 6 Free

continued on page 25

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In My Backyard

A Blue Spotted Salamander

Ambystoma laterale

By Richard Copeland

In my backyard, as in most, surprises or the unusual can be found. In a previous article I related the rare find of a white viper's bugloss. Today, another rare find is a blue spotted salamander. This small creature is found in Southern and Central Ontario from James Bay to eastern Manitoba and extending into Minnesota in the US. Also they can be found in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton but not along the coast. The rarity in the sighting is that they do hide under rocks and logs and are not usually visible in the open.

In the spring, the runoff from melting snow (and heavy rains) runs down the property to a low land level where a small pond serves as a catch basin, like maybe a billabong, where we can get water for summer irrigation. A small group of softwoods and white birch lie to the east of the pool, and it has become habitat for birds, frogs and snakes as nature relentlessly continues to shape the land to its own liking. The setting is ideal for small reptiles, like a salamander, and much to my delight I discovered one. Finding myself without my camera I dashed up the hill for the 400m to the house and re-

turned camera in hand to find my subject ready to pose for the photo shoot.

With many accumulated photos from the summer of 2008 I finally got the opportunity to research this little guy and found a match as blue spotted salamander. These reptiles breed in permanent and temporary ponds and are fairly widespread. They grow from 8 - 14 cm in length, with the tail comprising about 40% of their length. The skin is dark blue to black with spotting of blue and white flecks on the back and blue spots on the side and tail. The front feet have four toes and the back five.

Blue Spotted Salamanders lay their eggs at the base of rock and plants in water areas, preferably ponds, in early spring. The egg clutches number about 12 eggs and they will lay around 500 per year, first mating at 2 years old. In about a month the eggs will hatch larvae with well developed mouth and eyes, front limbs appear at about 2 weeks, hind limbs in 3 and they gain their terrestrial state by late summer.

This species will also hybridize with other salamanders especially the *Jefferson Salamander*. The hybrid offspring of this mating has a unique quality in that when the hybrid female is mated the sperm does not contribute genetic material to the resulting egg, essentially creating a clone of the mother. The resulting production of mostly female hybrids is one of the reasons for the *Jefferson Salamander* being a species at risk.

End



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Equipment provided**

Phone: 613-333-2762 for details



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The Hunter's Ball

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Saturday, November 7

9 pm to 1:30 am

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STAY CLEAR STAY SAFE

Recreational activities near hydro stations and dams are dangerous

For your own safety obey all warnings at hydroelectric stations, dams and their surrounding shorelines and waterways. These facilities operate year-round, affecting water flows. Water that looks safe can become treacherous in minutes and ice forming near, or even several kilometres away, can become dangerous. Signs, fences, buoys and safety booms are there to warn you, but if you see water levels changing, move a safe distance away immediately. Be advised that people trespassing on OPG property face charges, with fines of up to \$2,000.



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2nd Kevin White, 3rd C.J. White. The Overall Women's Trophy went to Tanya Rosenblath for highest points tallied and The Overall Men's Trophy went to Curtis Grant

Winners of the five 50/50 draws are Ivan Keller, Eleanor duncan, Dougl Gregg, Jerry Youmans and Pat Dicks. Gate Prize went to Bill St. John.

Pictures, Pictures: All 75 pictures taken during Countryfest are free of charge for anyone wishing to have one or more digital photos. If you want a printed copy, I can print them out at WalMart for 25 cents each, or I can put them all on a CD for you for the cost price (\$2) of the CD. Call 333-2376 or email me at denbighnews@hotmail.com.

What's New At the Denbigh Public Library? Children's monthly story and craft programs start Oct 8th and run through until June -the second Thursday each month from 6-7pm. For anyone interested in genealogy the library now has ancestry.com free for in library use. Fall Book Sale - Saturday, October 3rd from 9-12 a bag of books for \$1. DVD's--Confessions of a Shopaholic. Gran Torino. Northern Lights. Fiction: Evidence of Murder-(Large Print)---Lisa Black. Heart and Soul----Maeva Binchy. His Father's Son---Bentley Little. Last Song, The---Nicholas Sparks. Lost Symbol, The--Dan Brown. Persimmon Tree, The--Bryce Courtenay. Twenties Girl---Sophie Kinsella. White Queen, The----Philippa Gregory. 92 Pacific Boulevard----Debbie Macomber. Non-Fiction: Greatest Show on Earth, The---Richards Dawkins. Everyday Arthritis Solutions----Readers Digest. New additions arriving weekly

..... Cheers, Christi Schroeder-Laundrie, denbighnews@hotmail.com 613-333-2376

"...it is better to keep your mouth shut and appear stupid than to open it and remove all doubt..." (MarkTwain) *End*

Denbigh news

By Christi Schroeder-Laundrie

The 3rd annual Denbigh Countryfest on Sept 18, 19, 20 was a huge success!! And what a fun time it was. !!! People came from all over to watch and /or take part in the many events. Mother Nature smiled on us with wonderfully warm and sunny weather.

Denbigh Recreation would like to thank everyone who volunteered their time to help and also a big thank you to all the people who attended and made this another successful year. To all the local businesses and individuals that gave donations we would like to express a big thank you. All of our events were well attended and entertaining. One of the contestants of the Lawn Mower Pull on Friday night was 83 years old, proving you are never too old to participate.

Friday's Lawntractor Pull Results: Stock Lawnmower - 1st Billy Rosien, 2nd Steven Rosenblath, 3rd Darryl Beckett. Stock Lawn Tractor: 1st Ryan Gregg, 2nd Devon Rosien, 3rd Tanya Rosenblath. Modified: 1st Bryan Jackson, 2nd Steven Rosenblath, 3rd Kevin White. Kid's Lawnmower 1st Branden Liedtkie, 2nd Dwayne Rosien, 3rd Darian Malcolm, 4th Jarrett Malcolm & Cody Lalonde. Other Trophies: Putting On A Show - Lonnie Liedtkie. Do You Think My Tractor Is Sexy - Tiffany Rosien. Travel the Farthest - White Bros Kevin and CJ. 'Should Have Mowed The Lawn' - Chris Case. King of the Lawn - Bryan Jackson. Most Unique Lawnmower Gift Certificate was handed to Jarrett Mal-

colm by LornaLee Layman. Gift Certificates, donated by PineCrest Marine and Heat Source Firewood, were also handed out to the drivers. A special thank you goes to Mark Rosenblath for all his help in the event.

The Café Night, also a success, showed that we have some very good talent out there. Now was that the real Kenny Rogers, I wonder? Sure looked like him.

Saturday's horse pull saw some magnificent animals performing. These majestic teams were a sight to behold, and the crowd was well entertained. The trophy for the Best Dressed Team: Perry Hartwick of Palmer Rapids. Trophy for Best Matched Team: Dustin Turcotte of Bancroft. Trophy for Best Teamster: Murray Dillabough of McArthur Mills. There were numerous children's games, with ring toss, Plinko, golf, fish toss, etc. and a large petting zoo from Eganville with some very exotic animals, including a Python constrictor.

Saturday night's supper of schnitzel, sausages and sauerkraut really hit the spot. Thank you to all the kitchen staff who made such a yummy meal. We danced to music by Jim Barkey's Sound Experience, great music to dance to, but not so loud that you couldn't converse with your friends.

Sunday's logging events also drew large crowds. Interesting to watch was the chair cutting. Four contestants created four different chairs cut out of logs with a chainsaw. All four chairs were auctioned off to willing buyers. I especially liked the footstool. Logging Events organized by Marvin Kellar were as follows: Couples Cross Cut: 1st Curtis and Loretta Grant, 2nd Marvin and Corinne Kellar. 3rd

Steven and Tanya Rosenblath. Women's Cross Cut: 1st Donna Snider and Alecia Keller, 2nd Corinne Kellar and Karen Weichenthal, 3rd Tanya Rosenblath and Myrna Stein. Men's Cross Cut: 1st Curtis Grant and Marvin Kellar, 2nd Amp Snider and Dan Snider, 3rd Mike Kerr and Amp Snider. Speed Cut - 60cc: 1st Brody Gregg, 2nd Ryan Gregg, 3rd Curtis Grant. Speed cut - 70cc: 1st Kevin White, 2nd Marvin Kellar, 3rd C.J. White. Ladies Axe Throw: 1st Tanya Rosenblath, 2nd Loretta Grant. Men's Axe Throw: 1st Steven Rosenblath, 2nd Tied - Kevin White and Ryan Gregg, 3rd Tied - Curtis Grant and Brody Gregg. Log Rolling: 1st Marvin Kellar and Curtis Grant, 2nd Steven Rosenblath and Kevin White, 3rd Amp Snider and Ryan Gregg. Chair Making: 1st Steven Rosenblath,

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Griffith Matawatchan News

By Garry Ferguson

Unfortunately there's bad news this time around. Matawatchan's primary social centre will close down on December 31, 2009. For decades, this place of tri-weekly gatherings – add another for holiday weekends - better known to us locals as "the dump" will no longer exist as a place where gossip was disseminated, news gathered, friends made and treasures could be had for the taking. I spent some time on the phone with Jamie Doering, Greater Madawaska's (GM's) Public Works Manager, who is extremely knowledgeable on the subject, and I ended up with a pretty good idea of the story behind the message - "Closed December 31" - on the sign at the dump gate.

tawatchan and its southern suburbs, there are a few silver linings here. To accommodate a greater number of people from a wider area accessing one set of dumpsters, "business" hours have been extended. They will be as follows: Wednesdays, 12 noon to 5 p.m., Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sundays and holidays, 12 noon to 5 p.m. The Ontario Government has imposed a tire-disposal tax on manufacturers so that we no longer will pay a fee (don't get too excited; we always pay somewhere) to get rid of our old tires. Hope they've cancelled the \$5.00 tax already levied by the Peterson Government. To make the deal sound even sweeter, the township will be allotted a certain amount per tire. As an example, a passenger-car tire would bring a whole



The Ministry of the Environment (MOE) has decreed that the Matawatchan Waste Site has reached its capacity and must be replaced by a transfer station. This site, to be located at the existing Griffith dump as of January 01, 2010, will consist of a compactor and four dumpsters, accessed by a ramp. There will also be an area for all the other "stuff" we've always left at the traditional dumps. Recyclables will be removed by recycling companies and

eighty-eight cents pouring into GM's coffers. Lastly, Gary will still be the "Dump Dude."

Jamie mentioned that removal of all disposables from the Griffith Waste Site will extend its life because weekly coverage – it takes twenty-five percent of available space – would no longer be required. Though the MOE has all the townships by the short and curlies – and twisting hard – it seems to me that through good



disposables will be taken to the Black Donald Site where there is still a few years left on the clock. The start-up cost to GM; approximately \$470,000.

The MOE has also decreed that the abandoned site shall be leveled and covered to a depth of 75 centimetres (two and a half feet) including a 15-centimetre (six inches) layer of topsoil. Jamie estimates that by using clean fill resulting from planned spring road work in the vicinity, the cost of satisfying this requirement can be significantly reduced.

Though the new location will be an inconvenience for those who live in Ma-

planning our municipal staff has made the best of the situation. They are to be complimented.

Another township project on which Jamie Doering was able to bring me up to date is the relocation of the sand shed. It will be moved to a four-acre plot of land purchased from Renfrew County at a cost of \$8700. Anyone who has travelled along the Matawatchan Road between Camel Chute and Matawatchan lately will have noticed the preparation activity at the Renfrew County Forest pine grove next to the soon-to-be-history Matawatchan dump.

continued on page 24

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Frogs and the Nature of Nature

By Floris Wood

Most people can tell the difference between a frog and a toad, but for the record here is the official difference. Frogs have: bulging eyes; long and strong hind legs with webbed feet good for leaping and swimming; smooth or slimy skin; longer, more slender bodies; eggs that are laid in clusters; teeth. There you have it. Toads, on the other hand, have: non-bulging eyes; stubby bodies with weaker, small legs more fit for walking; dry or warty skin; homes in dryer places (but usually breeds in water); paratoid (poisonous) glands behind the ear; chest cartilage different from frogs; eggs that are laid in chains; no teeth. Frogs are spread over a wider range of continents than toads, appearing everywhere except Ant-

arctica. Having pointed out these differences, it must be said now that some of these characteristics can be found in both frogs and toads. If frog and toad characteristics were placed on a straight line with the far left end of the line containing

all the frog characteristic and the far right having all toad characteristics, most frogs and toads would fall in between, sharing some characteristics. Those toward the center of the line would be difficult to classify, sharing many characteristics of both frogs and toads.

Among frogs there are two major families, true frogs of the family Rana and tree frogs of the family Hylida. Since both frogs and toads are of the order Anura and Anurans are known as the frog order, some claim that both frogs and toads are just frogs of a different family. Anura, by the way means tailless and refers to the fact that Anurans are the members of the Amphibian class that have no tails. Toads are Anurans of the family Bufo.



arctica. Having pointed out these differences, it must be said now that some of these characteristics can be found in both frogs and toads. If frog and toad characteristics were placed on a straight line with the far left end of the line containing

I like the scientific name for the common toad, Bufo Bufo. Bufo also became the common name of an overly large, eighth grade classmate of mine who was the class bully, formerly known as Bobby

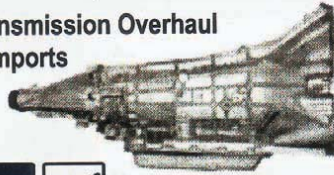


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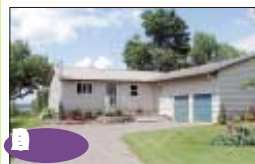
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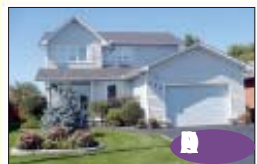
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LaClair. Since he was the class bully and bigger than the rest of us, we disguised the insult later by changing it to Biffy, which seemed to irritate him less. Biffy LaClair, as an adult, became a butcher known as Beef LaClair.

Right up front let's just say it, frogs are not all that cuddly. Further, their chief defence is to suddenly leap right in the direction and distance (they are capable of jumping ten times their body length) one least expects, startling its adversary and making good its escape. Although most frogs are not poisonous, as toads are, if you accidentally put your hand in your mouth after handling frogs you will find that your hands taste pretty bad. Rubbing the frog secretion into your eye can be kind of painful. Frogs that are poisonous usually have the word "Poison" in their name, such as the Poison Dart frog of South America. Also they tend to like to advertise their poisonous nature by being very distinctly coloured. This combination of loud colours and poison always invites mimickers as evidenced by the

continued on page 16

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Frogs (Cont)

False Monarch butterflies.

If you have had a basic high school biology course you have probably endured the dreaded frog dissection labs. Frogs are usually used in biology instruction because they contain most of the same organs as mammals, even lungs, even though the lungs are used somewhat differently. Usually a plastic colouring agent is injected into the various organs for easy identification.

The frog's life begins as an egg inside the female frog. When water temperatures reach around 60 degrees Fahrenheit in the spring, the males hop on the back of a female and, in an amorous embrace, wait for the female to release her eggs. This wait can take only a day for some species and a few weeks in others. The female releases the eggs into a fairly large slimy cluster that is surrounded by a jelly-like coating. The size of the cluster and its jelly-like coating inhibits the many smaller predators from eating the eggs. Shortly after the female releases the eggs, Mr. Frog releases sperm into the surrounding water and fertilizes as many eggs as possible. After about 21 days of development each fertile egg forms an embryo that lives off the yolk inside each egg. The eggs cluster, known as the frog spawn, then slowly releases the squirming embryos and the freed embryos attach themselves to plant

life and continue their cell division until each embryo begins to take on the characteristics of a tadpole. Depending on the species of frog the transformation into a tadpole can take from three days to three weeks. The tadpole breaks free from the plant to which it was attached and begins to fend for itself, eating tiny water plant life called algae. At about five weeks old the tadpole begins to change into a frog. If you have ever witnessed the metamorphosis of a tadpole into a frog I am sure you were intrigued. Changes occur daily with the lengthening of the tail for better swimming, the changing of the front end to look more like a frog, the growth of legs and feet. As the lungs develop the tadpole will begin to make trips to the surface to breath air. Adult frogs take air into a throat sac, which in some species inflates. Then they force the air into the lungs by constricting the sac. If they want to vocalize, which they do a lot of during mating season, they push the air through vocal chords on its way to the lungs. Their wide neck-less throats serve as a resonance chamber, making them audible many metres away.

Frogs and the Nature of Nature (Part 2)
 The life-span of a frog is from 4 to 15 years in captivity, depending on the species, but wild frogs, with their many predators, live much shorter lives. Their greatest defences are their camouflage, their leaping ability, and the nasty taste

continued on page 21

Harvest (Cont)

Spaghetti Squash with Vegetables

- 1 medium spaghetti squash
- ½ cup of carrots finely chopped
- ½ cup of celery finely chopped
- ½ cup of red sweet pepper, finely chopped
- ¼ cup of red onion, finely chopped
- ½ cup of organic vegetable broth
- 3 Tbsp of organic olive oil
- 1 tsp of chopped basil
- ½ cup of Parmesan cheese

Cut spaghetti squash in half lengthwise, steam in small quantity of water until soft, approximately 20 minutes. Remove from water, let cool. Heat oil in frying pan, sauté carrots, celery, pepper and onion until soft, set aside. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Scrape spaghetti squash lengthwise from skin by using a fork to remove the squash in strands. Be careful to keep skin intact and set aside. Add squash to vegetables and then add broth and basil. Simmer for 15 minutes stirring occasionally. Using a big spoon, divide the squash mixture into each half of the skins; sprinkle the parmesan cheese on top. Bake in oven for 10 minutes. Serve from skins.

Candied Ginger Pumpkin Pie

- 1 15-oz. can of unsweetened pumpkin puree or 2 cups of cooked fresh pump-

- kin
- 1 14-oz. can fat-free sweetened condensed milk
- 4 large eggs
- 1 9-inch graham cracker pie crust
- ¼ cup chopped candied ginger
- Pinch of sea salt
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Wisk together pumpkin purees and milk in a large bowl. Blend in eggs and salt. Pour filling into graham cracker crust and bake for 30 minutes. Sprinkle chopped candied ginger on top and bake for another 25-30 minutes more or until a knife inserted into the side (not top) of the filling comes out clean. Cool and refrigerate 3 hours or overnight.

Bon appetit this Thanksgiving and should the occasion arise, you may wish to repeat this bit of humour.

Two pilgrims go out hunting. One has two blunderbusses. The second pilgrim asks, 'Why do you have two blunderbusses?' The first pilgrim explains, 'I usually miss the first time I shoot. By taking two I can shoot again.' The second pilgrim thinks for a while and then says, 'Why not just take the second one, and only shoot once?' Susan Veale
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COMPUTER CORNER

By Doug Vasey

Power Failures and Computer Damage

I believe that living in beautiful Madawaska Township is a privilege and a treat. That is, until one of Hydro One's many service interruptions. Then it can be costly and a frustrating nuisance. I have known many people who have sustained real damage to their computer as well as other electrical and electronic equipment.

A **power outage** (also known as a **power cut**, **power failure**, **power loss**, or **blackout**) refers to the short or long-term loss of electric power to an area.

There are many causes of power failures in an electricity network. Examples of these causes include, faults at power stations, damage to power lines, substations or other parts of the distribution system, a short circuit, or the overloading of electricity mains.

Power outages are categorized into three different phenomena, relating to the duration and effect of the outage:

A **dropout** is a momentary (millisec-

onds to seconds) loss of power typically caused by a temporary fault on a power line. Power is quickly (and sometimes automatically) restored once the fault is cleared.

A **brownout** is a drop in voltage in an electrical power supply, so named because it typically causes lights to dim. Systems supplied with three-phase electric power also suffer brownouts if one or more phases are absent, at reduced voltage, or incorrectly phased. Such malfunctions are particularly damaging to electric motors, and power supplies.

A **blackout** refers to the total loss of power to an area and is the most severe form of power outage that can occur. Blackouts which result from or result in power stations tripping are particularly difficult to recover from quickly. Outages may last from a few hours to a few weeks depending on the nature of the blackout and the configuration of the electrical network.

Even though a blackout is the most serious form of power outage, I think it is the least damaging to one's computer equipment. I have found the effects are simply defined as a power shutdown; like flipping a switch power is completely removed from the event.

The effects of a brownout, however; can be more varied and difficult to control. A brownout can present violent power fluctuations that can blow electronic components. The main computer compo-

nents that I have seen damaged by power fluctuations are: power supplies, mother boards and communication modems.

Power dropouts although similar in nature to a brownout are much less violent and intrusive. I suspect a temporary dropout can cause computer damage, although, I personally haven't witnessed any. So brownouts tend to be the most damaging electrical phenomenon to computer equipment. We can't predict brownouts but there are ways to lessen or prevent the damage that they cause.

Power surge protection bars seem to be the consumer's choice as they are inexpensive and often come with a built in insurance policy to replace damaged equipment. However, many consumers would rather prevent damage in the first place and don't like the inconvenience of damaged equipment. For these people battery back up units or UPS (uninterrupted power supply) units are the best solutions. These units come in varying capabilities and related prices.

Battery back up units come in commercial grade specifications and are more expensive. They can cost hundreds to over a thousand dollars for an advanced unit. These units protect businesses from expensive downtime caused by power failures. I'm sure some wealthy eccentrics would also enjoy this type of protection for their homes.

Most Canadians, however, would be wise to purchase an uninterrupted power supply (UPS). These units range in price and capability. They can cost anywhere from sixty to a thousand dollars with their varying power supply capabilities and optional conveniences. These units while not perfect offer a high degree of protection and reliability. Some units are sealed and its battery cannot be changed when it has outlived its usefulness. However, most units do offer the ability of changing the battery after three or four years. Mine is still working fine after five years. I paid \$150 for it at Cosco. It protects my equipment from most brownouts, and allows me five to 10 minutes to save my work and safely shutdown my computer and other equipment in the event of a blackout. I am very pleased by its performance however, it isn't perfect. It was once unable to protect me from a brownout and a blown power supply was the result.

Different units come with larger or smaller batteries, depending on how much equipment you wish to protect with it. Most computer stores sell them and Staples offer a very good selection.

End

Did you know that you have to replace the battery in your smoke detector twice a year: when you set your clocks ahead and when you set them back. Are you going to remember to do that in November?



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REMEMBERING EARLIER DAYS ...

By Marge Smith

Whatever happened to the little green frogs which could be found by the hundreds on grassy areas or swamps or along the shores of lakes and streams? They were the favorite snack of turtles and fish and so were caught easily by young boys and sold to fishermen for five cents a piece. Now it is rare to see a "greenie," and it can't be because too many were used by fishermen. Pollution, global warming (?), acid rain, lawn mowers (?) are blamed, but the loss of these creatures seems to be a worldwide phenomenon.

Whatever happened to the wild strawberries and raspberries, which were so abundant everywhere? There were so many some years that it was not difficult to pick enough to fill a large pail in an afternoon and that didn't count all those eaten. They were tiny and so flavorful - not like the tame ones.

Turtles, too, were also very common - especially mud turtles. They lined up on logs to sun themselves, and as a boat neared one could hear the plop - plop - plop as they jumped into the water and disappeared. Large snapping turtles were also prevalent. Some were two feet or more in diameter with very powerful jaws. There may still be some of these

behemoths around, but they are not as common as formerly.

We all know what happened to the beautiful, stately elm trees, which were everywhere. In a matter of twenty years Dutch Elm disease wiped them out.

What happened to the beautiful fields of daisies? Along with the daisies there was a wildflower often called devil's paintbrush - an orange flower atop a tall stem. These are not often seen and they, like the daisies, once covered large fields when farming was common in the area.

Another wildflower (weed?) was Viper's Bugloss or "blueweed" as it was known here. It is still seen occasionally, but in large patches it was especially stunning along with daisies and devil's paintbrush.

Large areas of milkweed also were common with their flowers and sweet odor, but today we see very few of them. They were especially attractive to many different butterflies who also have disappeared from our summer landscape.

Over the fifty plus years that I have been spending time in the area during the summer, I have seen many changes in the natural landscape. These are but a few of the most obvious. Perhaps there are changes in the habitat that are noticeable in the fall, winter and spring that year-round residents have noted. If so, share them.

End

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CABA CORNER

Who's New in CABA?

By Carolyn Jakes

Ten businesses have joined CABA in the past year. This issue highlights five. Two have changed ownership: The Duck Restaurant and Jocko's Beach Resort. One has changed ownership and name: Pinky's Bar and Grill. Two are totally new members: Turn 2 Motorbike School and Inspirations Gallery. Here is what they have to say about themselves.

As a follow-up to the October Burnstown-Calabogie Festival of the Senses, **Inspirations Art Gallery** invites you to celebrate with us a "Sense of Inspiration". Although this is only our second year as a member of the charming village of Burnstown's art world, the eleven artists in our co-op have many, many years of experience developing their unique styles and skills. The purpose of a visit to our gallery is not necessarily to make a purchase, but to enjoy the experience of viewing artistic interpretations. The artists own joy of painting is expressed in a variety of media and subject matter. Come and enjoy our still life, sunsets, wild life, old barns, farms, ships and local scenes that you will surely recognize. This is an opportunity for you to conveniently familiarize yourself with the work of eleven local and talented artists who exhibit their work all year long under one roof. Our gallery is tiny, but charming, and within is an abundance of approximately eighty to one hundred paintings. Claire Amirault, Heather Anderson, Nancy Bailey, Brenda Beriault, Barbara Blackstein, Sylvia Burnette, Violet Cronier, Kevin Dodds, Shiela O'Brien and Georgette Reed invite you to visit us and to be "inspired".

Turn 2 Sportbike School offers a unique experience for all types of motorcycle riders, and we are extremely pleased to call Calabogie Motorsports Park our home! Our motorcycle training programs accommodate a wide range of riders... from first-time novices to experienced racers looking to shave seconds off their lap times! Riders can bring their own bikes or choose from our wide selection of rental bikes. We also supply full riding gear head to toe! Don't just dream about it—do it! Website: www.turn2.ca
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In August, Lea-Ann and Jamie Pinkham, a brother-sister team, opened **Pinky's Bar and Grill**. This is something they have always wanted to do and it felt like this was the right time. Both lunch and dinner menus are available featuring big portions, reasonable prices, vegetarian dishes, pastas, burgers, salads and more. Most Saturday nights there is live entertainment and a taxi service is available some Saturdays. Hallowe'en, hunting season and New Year's Eve will be high-

lights this year. Friday nights, join the DJ and Karaoke crowd. Pinky's friendly staff looks forward to serving you soon. Pinky's is located at 5056 Calabogie Road. 613-752-1444.

Jocko's Beach Resort has been a mainstay in Calabogie for generations. Guests recall fond memories of days spent fishing, hunting, four-wheeling, skiing, boating, swimming, or hiking and then settling in for a comfortable night's rest in their lakeside house, cottage, cabin, or motel room. Purchased in 2008 by Joe and Lenore Guthrie, the resort has un-

dergone a few changes but one thing remains – folks return to 'this little piece of Heaven' time and time again. "It's delightful to know that our guests have been coming to Jocko's as far back as the 1950's and now their children and grandchildren are spending time here," said Joe and Lenore. The heart of the resort is an expanse of sandy beach that stretches along the shore of Calabogie Lake. So, when family and friends need a place to stay, be sure to send them our way. For reservations call Jocko's Beach Resort at 613-752-2107 or visit www.jockosbeach.com

The Duck Restaurant, now under new ownership, is a unique restaurant. It sits on the shore of Calabogie Lake overlooking a mountainous landscape and natural wild life. We take pride in the food we serve to our guests and keep in mind the quality of freshness. We try and stick to the 120 kilometers radius for our food. We get our coffee from Bridgehead which is a Canadian coffee company and it prides itself on serving fair trade coffee. All of our pastas, from Parma Ravi-

Continued on page 22




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Renfrew County Fiddlers Association

By Garry Ferguson

After I'd returned to the Greater Madawaska area from less peaceful climes, I kept hearing good things about an organization called the Renfrew County Fiddlers Association. (RCFA) A few years passed however, before I began to meet some of the originals such as Norm Warren, Guy Jameison and Delmer McCalum. I soon learned that these *real folk* were passionate about preserving a musical heritage handed down to us from our pioneer ancestors and were always willing to be there when there was a need for the rosin to meet the wire.

Since that time, I've have had the privilege of meeting many more of the Association's outstanding musicians including Joe Quilty, the first president and only surviving member of the founding trio that consisted of Joe, Ed Mayhew of Renfrew and Tom Charbot of Calabogie. The story of this highly successful organization is well worth the telling.

In the 2003 RCFA's Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Souvenir Booklet, Association President Barry Martin quotes a passage from Mac Beattie's book, this "Ottawa Valley Of Mine." With the few following words Mac articulated



2007 photo of some members who have served as president, RCFA. From left: Dennis Harrington, Ken Spence, Joe Quilty, Dalton Hein, Sheldon Church, and Barry Martin.

the two art forms behind the reason for the Fiddlers Association's existence.

"Fiddlers from across the seas brought their reels, jigs, hornpipes and strathspeys to the upper Ottawa Valley in the days when the big pine timber was being cut. In the lumber camps they pooled their music and dancing talents and eventually gave it a distinct Canadian sound. They began to compose Canadian tunes, songs and a dance we call the step dance. It was born in the lumber camps and passed down through the years and today we see the polished art on TV, stage and show."

It's easy to forget that without the fast music there wouldn't be as much hap-

pening in the step dance department either. Each specialty fosters the other. Whenever you see one of the local, top-notch steppers scuffing a rhythm on the planks, it's a good bet that the person cranking out the jigs and reels is a member of the RCFA. The genesis of the Association came out of one conversation between two men back in 1977.

After Joe Quilty and his wife Madge retired to their place along the Norton Road near Calabogie, Joe became a well-known fiddler around his part of the valley. It's said that he was never far away from any gathering where a jig or a waltz was needed. He noticed however, that in an area where fast fiddling had been a tradition – three generations of Quilts before

him had bowed the strings around Horton Township – up-and-comers were getting as scarce as hens' teeth. So, one day in Calabogie, while talking to Tommy Charbot, another top-notch fiddler, he mentioned the loss of the traditional music.

Out of that conversation came the conviction that something had to be done to rectify the situation so the two made a trip to Perth where an existing club could provide them with valuable information. Armed with good advice, Tom Sharbot, Ed Mayhew and Joe Quilty met on May 28, 1978 to discuss the possibility of forming a local version. To test the waters they whipped up a fiddle jamboree in Calabogie that drew over 300 souls. The musicians might have been getting scarce but it was evident that love of the music was still there, so The Renfrew County Fiddlers Association came into being on June 20, 1978.

Joe became the first President, Norman Warren, Vice President, Ed Mayhew, Treasurer and Madge Quilty the Recording Secretary. Minutes of the first recorded executive meeting on August 22, 1978 show the newly elected executive plus Tom Sharbot and George Thacker in attendance. Seven more people have filled the President's position since that time—a couple have served two terms.

In a decade-old circular pertaining to a "Junior Achievement Awards Pro-

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Fishing with Jim

By Jim Weatherall



Fall is a great time of the year for fishing. As the water cools down, the fish will start to feed in the shallows.

You will be able to find the Pickerel up close to shore in the evening just before dark. You can throw a crank bait.. i.e. a 'Rapala Tail Dancer', a 'Wally Diver' or any bait that has good action. I like to use a jig head and spinner with a minnow.

The Bass you were fishing in 8 to 12 feet of water will now be closer to shore, but you can fish them the same way I just described.

It just seems like yesterday we were telling you about getting your boats and motors ready for summer and here it is ready to put them away. Make sure you drain the lower end of your motor and fill with new lower end lube. This will stop the chance of there being water left in and freezing and cracking the lower end unit. Remove all the batteries from your boat and charge them up and store in a warm place if possible. Put fuel stabilizer in the fuel tank. Remove the spark plugs and spray a mixture of gas and oil in the

cylinders and turn engine over to coat the walls. This will help to keep the piston and rings from seizing over the winter.

As for your boat, make sure it is clean and dry. Put moth balls in all the compartments and cover it up, whether it is stored inside or out. I always remove the drain plug and jack up the front of the boat to make sure all the water is out.

For my fishing rods and reels, I will wash the reels out with water and spray the reel and line with "Reel Magic" before I store them away for the winter. For your fishing tackle, be sure it is stored in a dry place. If you have open bags of rubber worms like I do, take your preferred scent (I use garlic) and spray some in each bag and seal them up. This will help to keep them for next year.

I hope some of these tips will help you and I trust that I will see you out on the ice this winter.....that is, when I get back from fishing in Myrtle Beach, S.C. of course.

Catch the Big One and be safe.

Jim

Frogs (Cont)

ing or even poisonous skin secretions. Their economic benefit to humans takes the form of food, ridding the environment of many insects, drug testing and as the aforementioned instructional lab subjects.

In cold climates like ours, frogs go to Florida for the winter. Just kidding! They stay right here and freeze, literally. Their bodies are capable of using enzymes to break down blood glycogen into either glucose (a sugar) or glycerol (found in anti-freeze), depending on the make and model of frog. As siesta time nears the frog finds a good hiding place and slowly freezes, but not quite to death (unless something goes very wrong). Frozen frog bodies take on the same temperatures as the other materials surrounding it. In the spring the first item of frog business is to thaw out the heart and get it pumping. The next item of business is to find a breeding pond.

You may have heard that frog and other amphibian populations have taken some hits in recent years. Scientists have conducted a great deal of research to find out why amphibian populations, on a worldwide level, have been reduced, causing the loss of several species. Also weird genetic mutations have appeared, causing numerous gross physical deformities. Again, no single factor can be uncovered, but some of the contributing factors seem to be that amphibians are less able to change as rapidly as our climate and environment has changed in the past

few decades. For example, being hairless creatures allows increased levels of ultraviolet radiation to penetrate their bodies. Frog's eggs also have little protection from UV light causing an increase in mutations. Amphibians are teaching us much about the fragility of life here on earth.

Abstract life, as we know it, takes the form of a physical being or organism, and living organisms carry that life only as long as it takes for that organism to wear out. To sustain life over a long period of time (many, many centuries) life must be passed on from one organism to another. All the elements of life can exist on a planet and life can even exist in one organism on that planet, but it cannot be sustained until that living organism figures out a way to reproduce and pass that life onto the next generation. Some definitions of life include a corollary stipulating that an organism must be able to reproduce itself in order to possess life. However, it is quite probable that life was created in millions of different forms before one form of a living being was created that was capable of reproducing itself. Once that being was created and life could sustain itself, evolution could begin. If that organism could only produce exact copies of itself it might not survive because, as its environment changes, as environments always do, the organism could not adjust by producing offspring that are better fitted to the new environment than even the parent is. Sustainable life depends upon reproduction and nature has created myriad ways for

Continued on page 22

True Stories:

The Hillbilly Truck

By Howard Popkie

My brother Rueben got an old 1928 Chevrolet car when he was about sixteen years old. One day he decided to make a truck out of it.

He used a hack saw and a cold chisel to cut off the back of the body and move it up behind the back of the front seat. He drilled holes all around the cut part and used stove bolts and nuts with washers to connect the two pieces.

The old car had a rubber roof so with the use of a can of tar he sealed that roof well. He took the back seat and my Uncle Frank Stubinski had just torn down his barn that was made from 1 by 12 inch boards. He gave some of the wide boards to Rueben to make a flat box for his Hillbilly truck.

I can still see that truck parked in front of Jack Wilson's store with its wooden spook wheels and all the men standing around admiring the new truck in town.

It was the war years and gas was rationed as well as rubber tubes and tires.


When we went to Renfrew Dad would dress up in his suit with a white shirt, tie, a vest and a dress hat with a small red feather in the hat band.

The truck was hard to start so he would harness up the horses and hook the whipple tree to the front bumper and run beside the truck holding the lines until got it started. On the trip to Renfrew and back home they would often get a flat tire and get out the patching kit and patch the red tube then put a blow out patch where the hole was in the tire then pump up the tire with a hand pump and put the tire back on the vehicle.

The truck had a bad battery and in the winter Rueben would put it on the stove to warm it up sometimes. When we got to Renfrew we had to park the truck at the top of Thompson Hill and walk to town. When it was time to go home, we pushed the truck to get it rolling down Thompson Hill, pop the clutch and it would start and get us home again.

Rueben would get the truck going on gas and then pour in a gallon of coal oil to save on the rationed gas. One time

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Frogs (Cont)

life to reproduce. So if some of my articles seem a bit obsessed with the reproduction methods of the subject at hand it is because nature has been so incredibly clever in providing us with so many and varied reproduction methods. For example, the female of one species of frog, thought to be extinct now, swallowed her own fertilized eggs, remodelled her stomach from a food processing plant to nursery, and, several weeks later, regurgitated several living young but fully developed frogs. Needless to say, she was very hungry.

Nature romantics tend to think of nature as the perfectly efficient machine, but that is true only in the sense that nature does not have to worry about such constraints as time, resources, energy or economics (things we humans obsess over). Nature can afford to waste anything she wants to waste. In the effort to make a copy of themselves frog parents, the mother in particular, must release thousands of eggs. Some are imperfect and cannot reproduce even if they come into contact with sperm. Many never come into contact with sperm. Many are eaten as eggs or tadpoles or baby frogs. Many simply rot. The chances of one of those eggs becoming a frog, that later reproduces, are about as good as you winning the lottery, the big lottery. The lottery you didn't even buy a ticket for. OK, I exaggerate a little.

Nature's efficiency comes in when we consider that the eggs not used for reproduction were used to feed animals. Even

if they rotted, their broken down molecules were used, eventually, to form other substances, some living, some inanimate. Matter can be converted into energy but, even in that conversion, the energy is then used in the process of creating more material. It may come as little solace to us that our bodies will help feed some of mother nature's darling little critters or the roots of trees, in spite of the undertakers best efforts to make our clay last as long as a plastic bag (450 years) before we break down into something useful again.

Evidence that nature is very good at what she does abounds because there is life all over this planet, from miles underground to miles into the stratosphere. This evidence, however, is also deceiving. As abundant as life is here on Earth, we have yet to discover another single celestial body that sustains even one molecule of life.

End

CABA (Cont)

oli in Ottawa, are fresh. Our steaks and meats come from a local butcher, Valley Roots in Arnprior, and they provide us with only the best product. Between our mouth watering duck and succulent AAA Canadian strip-join and to die for scallop potatoes, it is well worth the drive to the Duck Restaurant located at Calabogie Lodge. For reservations call Kristina Chapman at 613-752-0888.

A future issue will highlight other members who have joined CABA in the past year.

End

Ottawa River Institute

"Fostering sustainable communities and ecological integrity in the Ottawa River Watershed"
www.ottawariverinstitute.ca

Ottawa River Institute Offers Free Home Energy Upgrade Workshops across Renfrew County

Back By Popular Demand! Following on the success of last autumn's workshops, the Ottawa River Institute announced another round of it's free workshop, "Home Energy Upgrades" today, as part of it's new 12 month series of energy related presentations and workshops across Renfrew County. The Home Energy Upgrades Workshop will be brought to eight Renfrew County communities, with the first one being offered in Killaloe on Wednesday October 7th.

The workshops will be conducted by the Ottawa River Institute's Project Coordinator, Cheryl Keetch and will demonstrate simple ways and effective ways to make energy saving improvements to your home. Some of the techniques demonstrated will include, how to apply weather stripping, how to caulk windows and doors, how and where to install pipe insulation and hot water heater jackets. Thanks to funding from The Ottawa Riv-

er Power Corporation, Renfrew Hydro, Keetch's Building Supply and private donors, all workshop participants will receive a free kit of materials to upgrade their home, a \$100 value!

The other workshop locations and dates include; Pembroke on Oct 10 and 19, Renfrew on Oct 17, Eganville on Oct 24, Arnprior on Oct 31, Griffith on Nov 7, and a Beachburg date to be announced. All eight of these workshops are free and donations to the Ottawa River Institute are welcome.

Established eight years ago, the Ottawa River Institute's mission is to foster sustainable communities and ecological integrity in the Ottawa River Watershed. The Ottawa River Institute gratefully acknowledges funding for this project from The Ontario Trillium Foundation. The Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the Ministry of Culture, receives annually \$110 million of government funding generated through Ontario's charity casino initiative.

For more information or to register for a workshop in your community, please contact Project Coordinator, Cheryl Keetch at 613-756-3884 or ckeetch@webharta.net. Visit us at www.ottawariverinstitute.ca.

End

Press Release Richard Gill Annual Fall Show – *A New Found Look at the Rock*

In the early 1980's Canadian Geographic Magazine offered funding for research in geography. The offering grabbed the attention of a 30 something Burnstown sculptor Richard Gill. A former architect he was, a geographer he was not, however this didn't prevent him from submitting his application as an artist who longed to study and sculpt ceramic reliefs depicting the raw beauty of Newfoundland.

To Richard's surprise he was granted the funds that enabled him to make his first of many visits to Newfoundland. A show was born, and a love affair with the land and people was ignited.

When Canadian Geographic covered the show, a Newfoundland doctor who was also the CEO of Grenfell Health Services read about Richard and was so taken by the work he flew out to Burnstown to meet him and the two of them became close friends. The doctor became a great patron who was to continuously commission Richard's works for donor recognition, retirement plaques and other special occasions over the years. Thanks to the patronage of the doctor, subsequent trips to the rock followed and Richard's fond-

ness for the Newfoundland landscape and people deepened. In fact the geographic splendor of the land enticed him so much that it almost stole him away from his beloved Burnstown.

In the early spring of 2008 the doctor died after a lengthy battle with leukemia. He willed that Richard sculpt plaques for all those who helped him during his illness. His widow arranged a reception in Newfoundland for Richard and his wife Cheryl to meet the recipients of the plaques. Hence, another journey to Newfoundland was taken and has rekindled the artist's fascination with the rugged beauty and magnificent geography. This recent visit and circumstances have indeed compelled him to capture Newfoundland's rich texture and culture once again in clay.

Richard Gill's 2009 Fall Show is inspired primarily by Newfoundland, presented by Bittersweet Gallery at Fog Run Studio in Burnstown, opens October 3 and continues to October 12 daily from 11 to 5 and by appointment. Other elements of show are inspired by travels to Mexico and he has also sculpted pieces depicting Ottawa, the Valley and others parts of Canada. For information call 613.432.5254



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11-5 through Monday Oct. 12
At other times by appointment

Fiddlers (Cont)
gram," then President Dennis Harrington (1989 to 1990 and 1997 to 1998) stated the Association's mandate as follows.

"It is the mandate of the Renfrew County Fiddlers Association to promote old time fiddling and its related arts, or heritage activities involving old time fiddling and step dancing throughout the country, but particularly in this county of ours."

Anyone associated with the upper Ottawa Valley at any time during the last 28 years will have been exposed to the influence of the Association. It is reasonable to believe that it has far exceeded the goals envisioned by the original founders. It is also reasonable to believe that on a June day in 2078, there will be a huge party where massed fiddles will trill and people will make speeches congratulating the RCFA on its first century of promoting one of the liveliest music forms in the world.

End

Burnstown: The Magic of Candlelight.

On Friday, November 6th and Saturday November 7th the merchants of Burnstown, will once again host "*The Magic of Candlelight*". It's a Burnstown tradition. Come let the warmth and glow from hundreds of our mason jar luminaries lining the streets, take you back to a time when life seemed less hectic and communities reveled in the joy of the season and the camaraderie of friends, family, and neighbours. Bask in the ambience of this artistic little hamlet. You can meander from place to place, enjoying the food, and personal service of the shop owners themselves. On this special weekend, our shops will have extended hours of 11 am till 9 pm.

The Magic of Candlelight event also marks Burnstown's local church fund raising for **Burnstown's St Andrew's United Church**. The fund helps local families in need. This year, our handmade *Mason Jar Luminaries* will be for sale to the public. They are perfect for adding a seasonal welcoming glow to your tabletop, walkway, lawn, deck or driveway, or

to give away as a gift for someone special.

Please set aside some time to enjoy a wonderful day and evening in Burnstown on November 6th and 7th, where you'll find gifts worth giving! The shopkeepers of Burnstown look forward to seeing you.

Neat Coffee Shop: incredible coffee, artisan baking, pizza, and so much more in the old schoolhouse.

Somethin' Special: Unique gifts and women's clothing.

Inspirations Art Gallery: A local artists' cooperative gallery.

Bittersweet Gallery at Fog Run: Contemporary Canadian fine art craft and jewellery. Featuring the clay relief sculpture of Richard Gill.

The Riverstones Gallery features the fine artistry of Karen Phillips Curran, along with prints, gifts and framing.

Blackbird Café: Casual dining in a nostalgic atmosphere, reservations 613-432-3599

Call 613 432-0670 for further info or go to www.burnstown.ca.



The businesses of Burnstown Invite you to the **Magic of Candlelight** Friday and Saturday November 6 and 7 11 am - 9pm

Enjoy the candle-lit streets as you shop in the beautiful boutiques and galleries of Burnstown.

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G/M News (Cont)

The only modification will be an added two feet in height to the present eight-foot, concrete foundation wall (to allow a greater amount of sand storage) and a paved apron to prevent leeching. Though the budget set for the move is \$190,000, the cost is expected to be well under that at \$150,000. This can be explained by the fact that township employees are doing much of the work.

The old geezers in our area (including yours truly) can no longer indulge in bouts of feel-good self pity over perceived neglect by Calabogie, Pembroke, Toronto, Ottawa, the United Nations and the world in general. In line with the Federal Government's Economic Stimulus Plan, grants are being doled out to help municipalities build affordable seniors housing. Consequently a hard-working, volunteer committee has been formed to get in on the action (\$\$\$) and public meetings have been held in Calabogie and Griffith. The meeting at the fire hall (Station Two) in Griffith on Wednesday, September 23, 2009, attracted a crowd of 37 people. Bill Graham's article elsewhere in this edition will fill you in on the details, but I brought the subject up in order to send *Highlander*-style kudos to our two local lasses on the committee, Pat Holleran and Juliet LeGal as well as to the 37 citizens who came out to make the committee proud. The meeting would

have been a huge success even without the butter tarts.

Members of the Denbigh Griffith (What? No Matawatchan.) Lions Club never seem to tire of telling me how much they appreciate our community for its ongoing support and I never tire of passing it on. So if you have, of late, attended one of their events or tossed a loony - better yet a fiver - into the toll-road box, take a bow.

It looks like the Big Kitty Club will be busy for the rest of the year just staging its routine and annual affairs. The following is a line-up of things to come.

End

True stories (Cont)

we came home in the dark and the truck had no lights while my brother Donald sat on the front of the truck holding a coal oil lantern. Rueben was driving and didn't see Uncle Frank's gate. I can still see Donald riding on the front going through the gate holding the lantern. The gate was broken right in the centre and Rueben had to fix it, so he put hinges on the side that didn't have them and from the day on Uncle Frank had two gates on his fence.

End

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COTTAGE CORNER

By John Roxon

Head of State

There's anarchy in the air at our neighbors in North Frontenac County. And who can blame them. Plevna mayor Ron Maguire cited such things as slow ambulance times, spotty broadband availability and paying for things which are either irrelevant to that part of the county or situated too far away for any of the local residents to enjoy as his main reasons for wanting to secede.

And you know, he could be on to something. I think that we should take this a step further and try to imagine the possibilities if individuals were allowed to split from their respective municipality, county, province or even the country itself.

For cottagers, the possibilities can be very sweet. Picture yourself, for example, being invited to a G20 economic summit – there would be the States and Britain and France and of course you, the cottager representing the Republic of Smith. While the other bigwigs are complaining about their respective deficits, you could present a paper outlining how you managed to pay off your Visa, install a new showerhead and have money left over for a 24 of beer at the end of the week. Why, in no time you would have some of the most powerful leaders in the western world coming to you for advice.

Oh the possibilities are endless. You wouldn't really have to worry too much about money because you can now print your own. Of course the amount in your treasury (which is actually the bottom of your underwear drawer) would have to be backed by your wife's jewelry and your power tools, but there are special loans and grants available from the World

Bank for individual nations. Wouldn't it be great if you received a 50 year low interest loan from Russia so you could buy a new Lund boat for your navy and a nice new Ford F150 with all the bells and whistles for your army?

Of course you wouldn't have to worry about ambulance wait times. In case of an emergency, just throw the air mattress in the back of the pickup and you would be allowed to drive the 508 as fast as you cared to. Be sure to get a number of reciprocal agreements in place with other republics, of course, before you attempt any of this. While you may want to drive down hwy 508 at 185km/hr, be aware that the service vehicles of neighboring republics could travel across your driveway at the same speed if they had to. You would hate to have an international incident arise because of little disagreements between neighboring cottage states.

I've only touched on some of the positive aspects from forming your own nation state. You would now have an excuse to fish every day with your buddies as they would form the inner cabinet of your Fisheries department. If you fancy stock car racing and wrestling on TV – don't worry. These are all activities that would fall under your dual portfolio of culture and sports. And of course intergovernmental affairs means that you could do anything from having a few beers with your buds on Friday night to having a twirl on the dance floor with that cute neighbor who lives down the lane.

For all these positives, there are a few negatives which I feel I should point out. The two biggies are health care and education. You'll need to have a fair amount in your underwear drawer to cover these expenses as you would now be on your own. The smart thing here would be to pay for one kid to be a doctor and the other to be a teacher. Then you could charge neighboring states to provide health care and education to her citizens.

Another drawback to the Republic of Smith, of course, is all the damn meetings. You would have to meet with neighboring states and you would have to meet with your own department heads. Even if you were your own department heads, you would have to spend hours each day meeting with yourself to work out various crises that arise. For example, if you went fishing and came back empty handed you would have to meet with yourself in order to figure out how to increase production in your Fisheries portfolio. And god forbid if your potato crop isn't what it was last year – heads will roll and that head will be, in all likelihood, your own.

This raises another obstacle to seceding from the mother government – the increased workflow. Your coffee breaks alone will suck up half the day and taking paper from one pile and placing into another pile will consume the other half. It

will be impossible to find the time to increase revenues, farm, fish or have those beers on Friday night. You will be caught in your own top heavy bureaucracy and soon you would be a perennial have-not state with your hand continuously out to the World Bank, Care, the Red Cross and any other organization that is willing to help. Eventually the UN would step in and attempt to strip you of your confederacy. Then of course, the spouse will be verily pissed off due to the wanton mismanagement of resources and attempt a coup.

This would be messy, very messy.

I sincerely wish the mayor of Plevna success in his endeavor to – at the very least – open up a dialogue about some of the core issues that are plaguing many other regions under amalgamation. For us cottagers, well, we'll always be king of our domain.

End

Community calendar (Cont)

Adults \$12 / Children 6 to 12 is \$6 / Under 6 Free

Matawatchan Hunter's Dance

Saturday November 7 – 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.
DJ & light lunch
LCBO 19 years or over
Matawatchan Community Hall

Matawatchan Christmas Market Sale & Community Appreciation Buffet

November 14 – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Buffet will feature local organic turkey
Price of admission: A dessert, a non-perishable food
for the Food Bank or a cash donation to the Food Bank
Matawatchan Community Hall

Lion's Club Bingo

Every second Tuesday at 7:30 pm

Sylvia's Foot Care

Every six weeks
St. Andrews Church (Matawatchan)
Call Annabell Marshall 333-1752

"Northern Lights" Seniors

Meet the third Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. alternating between Griffith and Matawatchan. For information contact Lois Robbins at 333-1082. All Seniors Welcome

Denbigh

Denbigh Playgroup for preschoolers

First Monday of every Month
Denbigh Public Library
From 10 am till 12 pm

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 26

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GREATER MADAWASKA LITERARY MATTERS

By Mary-Joan (Skippy) Hale

BEE A BOOKEE!!! Wee all want to Bee one! So, what's a Bookee already? This is not about the races, or your travel agent. A Bookee is someone who thinks literacy is important. It is someone who loves to read. Bookees are library patrons (or wish they were). It is someone who wishes to help the library in so many ways. Bookees volunteer in the library. They provide activities or supplies for children. They deliver books to folks who are confined to home. They advocate. They become members of the Library Board of Trustees. They teach Computers, Chess, Bridge, or any myriad of interests. The list is as varied as the Bees! Wouldn't you like to bee one?

Thanks to the Ministry of Culture, Ontario, I was fortunate to attend Symposium 2020. It concerned the future of libraries in the digital (and as yet unknown) age. The day opened with a video-message from Premier Dalton McGuinty. He said that as the future unfolds, libraries will be the cultural hubs of communities. The Minister of Culture, Eileen Carol gave us encouraging welcome remarks. Her ministry has been most helpful in providing funds to enable us to plan for the future.

All the Presenters were entertaining as well as informative, but one theme dominated. The idea of a library being a dark, extremely quiet hole has gone by the wayside. We were told that we must turn outward to the community rather than be internalized with our traditional rules and regulations. People and their needs should be our focus. Engaging the community and its needs should be at the forefront especially when planning new buildings. We were shown architectural showcases which were award- winners, but were not inviting to patrons. The idea of having the library an important part of its neighbourhoods, surrounded by usable green space, exterior reading areas, places for relaxation, such as cafés with Wi-Fi capability which would generate not only good feelings, but revenue for the library. My head is still spinning with the possibilities!

In our beautiful township, it is a shame that the library is hidden. I still have folks coming in who did not know we have a library. Part of the blame certainly falls on me in terms of marketing, but we need to make the library exteriorly attractive as well. My two potted urns are a start. However, I was elated that some of the suggestions have already been and are still being initiated by the Board. We have outreach to Wards 2 and 3. While we lost the Dacre venue, negotiations are in play to find a new one to serve that area. We are a drop-off spot for the Local Food Bank. We collect mitts, hats, scarves, etc. in November and December. Two new projects are in the works: The

'Nancy Gorra Memorial Welcome Baby Book Bag' in partnership with The Women's Institutes of Calabogie and Burnstown, and another to welcome new residents. We will let you know when those are ready. This is just a teaser.

This summer we added more copies to the collection thanks to our Summer Students, and we have many more to add. There was a delay getting the up-dated Manuals to Eagle's Rest and Lacourse's Store, but they are there now. Gary Guilmette is still making his weekly treks 'up the mountain to pick up and make deliveries. Please take advantage of this service. We have added a new type of audio book, 'Playaway' which will make listening so much more convenient for you. Just provide your own earphones or hook it up to the car speakers and away you go!

Please think of those who may need a little extra at Thanksgiving and Christmas and drop off non-perishables at the library. The Mitten tree will be set up in November, but it is not too early to start knitting! We do have some wool if you need it as long as it lasts. Do drop in.

In the spirit of the season, I wish to thank all of our patrons and supporters. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving and enjoy the beauties of our colourful trees, our trails and waters. I extend a welcome to those who do not already 'belong' to the GMPL. Come in and see what we have to offer and 'BEE A BOOKEE'!

End

Dispatches (Cont)

we store the anti-venom, its power supply, or anything else that affects the anti-venom's shelf life because I do not want to order more. I am even reconsidering my policy of dropping food waste in the Air Force tent lines because a rash of snake bites (from the snakes following the mice that want the food) might deplete the anti-venom and trigger a re-order. Until I make a final decision on my food-waste habits, I will modify the plan somewhat and ensure that I do not feed mice in the vicinity of tents of anyone associated the Tim's Resupply Plan B.

End

Calendar (Cont)

HEALTH CARE FOOTCARE CLINICS
Sylvia's Foot Care
Every 6 weeks in Denbigh and Matawatchan
Next clinics are August 11 & 12, 2009
For information or appointment
Please call--Muriel Burgess 613-333-5559
OR --Annabelle Marshall 613-333-1752

JOIN THE DUCK RESTAURANT FOR NEW YEARS!!!



Dinner Starts At 7:00pm

4 course meal along with

A glass of champagne to toast

The year 2010

Price: \$ 120.00 per person

There will be a dance to commence after
Dinner up until we bring in the New Year!

Reservations Required
Deadline December 15th, 2009
Call (613) 752- 0888



4th Annual Christmas
Craft Show
Saturday October 24, 2009
Calabogie Community Hall
10 am – 3 pm

It's beginning to look like Christmas!
And we are here to help you kick start
your Christmas Shopping. Annual
Fundraising Bake Sale, Tea Room
Luncheon, Many Crafters and so much
more... No admission, Donations to the
Christmas Food Bank would be Helpful

Merry Christmas

Calabogie Artfest



Jack Stekelenburg from Renfrew.



Shirley Hickey from Douglas

Discover How to Make High Speed Internet Work for You

**Come to Calabogie for the Free
High Speed Internet Showcase**

**Friday, Oct. 16th,
2:00 to 8:00 pm**

**Saturday, Oct. 17th,
2:00 to 5:00 pm**



**At the Calabogie Community Centre
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- Experience hands-on high speed connectivity in our wireless mini-lab
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- Discover the education you can get on-line through Algonquin College
- Build your business with special programs from Enterprise Renfrew County
- Keep your entire family safe on-line with tips from the OPP
- Learn what a web-site can do for your business; where and how to get one
- Find out how to save time and money with the Public Library's on-line reservations
- Meet the "Surf Support" squad of local students, here to help you get started

**This Internet exhibition and showcase is
presented as a free public service by the
Township of Greater Madawaska as part
of its "Rural Connections"
broadband project.**

**Check our website for up-to-the-minute details
on all the live presentations and exhibits
www.townshipofgreatermadawaska.com**



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Scenic Chairlift Sky Rides are open weekends until Oct. 12th
Ride the chairlift up 760 feet to the top of Dickson Mountain to view a spectacular array of fall colours.
Only \$10/per person or \$35/family of four.

Chef Jake Davies opens the fall season with his Harvest Menu
Canthooks Restaurant is open daily for lunch and dinner.
Call for reservations at ext. 1610.

Calabogie Peaks Ski Swap - October 24th
Check out The Peaks' Ski Swap for all your winter needs.
Call the Adventure Centre at ext. 1705 for more information.

CALABOGIE PEAKS RESORT

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<p>624 MILL ST \$249,900</p> <p>Old world charm throughout summarizes this century old well-maintained home in the heart of Calabogie village. Original hardwood floors add warmth and appeal, a master bedroom on the fourth floor with a window seat overlooks the lake - perfect for a relaxing read. Loads of room for expansion on the four acres. Walk to the store, ski hill is just minutes away and ten minutes to the golf course. Definitely a must see - move in condition</p>	<p>LOT 12 NORCAN LAKE LA \$249,000</p> <p>Totally private for your dream waterfront home or vacation property. Natural beauty with mature trees and an amazing view and access to tranquil Norcan Lake. Sloping lot with 541 feet of your own shoreline. Just a short 1 hour and 10 minute drive from downtown Ottawa. Submarine hydro and telephone supplied to lot line.</p>	<p>177 PHEASANT RU \$399,900</p> <p>Harmony with Nature! Exceptional one-of-a-kind home. Cedar walls, ceilings, railings throughout. Lvrn features 12 ft window complimented by stained glass inserts overlooking gorgeous enial gardens & screened gazebo. Open concept kitchen/eating area/dining room just perfect for family gatherings. Lower level has 3 bdrms, full bath, l/r, kitchen, separate access to gardens.</p>	<p>LOT 3 VICTORY LA \$80,000</p> <p>"The Ironwood" Beautiful natural state building lot with water access to Norcan Lake. 3+ acres to build your dream home or vacation property on. Ownership of this lot includes 1/9th share of common area with lake access. Check it out @ www.hilltopvacationproperties.com</p>	<p>569 KENNEDY RD \$35,000</p> <p>NICELY TREED CORNER LOT AT THE ENTRANCE TO KENNEDY WOODS (CALABOGIE RD (508) AND KENNEDY RD).</p>
<p>6031 CENTENNIAL DR \$355,000</p> <p>115 FT OF WATERFRONT ON CENTENNIAL LAKE .THIS 4 SEASON HOME WITH OVERSIZED GARAGE COMPLETE WITH ALUM HANDY OR BOAT STORAGE, OFF-ROAD VEHICLES, HARD WIRED GENERATOR, STORAGE SHED AND DOCK ARE ALL INCLUDED. MAKE THIS HOME YOUR GETAWAY FROM THE URBAN RUSH - COME BOAT, DOWNHILL SKI, GOLF OR RELAX ON THE LAKE.</p>	<p>34 MORNING FLIGHT CT \$389,900</p> <p>ON THE GOLF COURSE WITH DEEDED WATER ACCESS THIS NEW HOME OFFERS A PRIVATE 1+ ACRE TREADED LOT IN A HIGH END SUBDIVISION. OPEN CONCEPT MAIN FLOOR A LARGE FAMILY ROOM ON THE LOWER LEVEL, 4 PIECE ENSUITE WITH JACUZZI TUB, 12 BY 30 FT REAR DECK, YOU WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED.</p>	<p>1086 VICTORY LA \$399,000</p> <p>"The Stone" cottage is a real treat. This one is a classic. Right on the shores of Norcan Lake, and all the comforts. Bathroom has whirlpool tub for relaxing. The view of the lake is second to none, all with your own private boat dock and beach area. Enjoy all nature has to offer with nature trails nearby, golfing, skiing and all just a short 1 hour 10 minute drive from Ottawa. Check it out @ www.hilltopvacationproperties.com</p>	<p>31 CENTENNIAL DR \$100,000</p> <p>WATER FRONT LOT ON CENTENNIAL LAKE 210 FT OF SHORE LINE LOT IS NATURAL STATE BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME OR COTTAGE HERE.</p>	
<p>LOT 1 VICTORY LA \$50,000</p> <p>"The Juniper" Very affordable water access lot with acreage. Water access and 1/9th share of common area go this lovely property. Boat dock will be in place waiting for your boat. Close to the Calabogie Peaks Ski Hill and the village of Calabogie. Build your dream home or vacation property here.</p>	<p>173 VIEWMOUNT DR \$262,500</p> <p>Tranquility away from the urban crush! Together with deeded water access on calabogie lake this 3 bedroom home has a stunning view of the ski hill. Large wrap-around deck, cozy wood burning fireplace, hot tub room, garage & partially furnished. Walk to the ski hill and beach. Be ready to enjoy winter on the ski hills or snowmobiling and summers at the beach, fish, boat or golf. Just an hour to Ottawa, two hours to Kingston.</p>	<p>132 HUTSON LAKE RD \$55,000</p> <p>100 ACRES OF NATURAL LAND SMALL HUNT CABIN ON THE PROPERTY.</p>	<p>5513A Centennial Lake Rd \$120,000</p> <p>Affordable cottage living on 1 acre lot overlooking Madawaska River just minutes to Centennial Lake. One bedroom with bathroom and living/dining/ kitchen area. Outbuildings included. Fish, canoe or swim - come and enjoy!</p>	<p>117 PHEASANT RU \$45,000</p> <p>DEEDED WATER ACCESS TO ALABOGIE LAKE WITH THIS NICELY TREADED LEVEL LOT ON THE HIGHLANDS GOLF COURSE BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME HERE</p>
<p>39 KILLARNEY LA \$349,900</p> <p>Brimming with appeal and livability! Charming sunshine bright waterfront bungalow with beautiful perennial gardens, large wrap around deck, original pine floors - perfect setting for your family to enjoy watersports, golfing at the nearby course or downhill ski at Calabogie Peaks just minutes away. All this to use as your year round home or cottage and just an hour to Ottawa, 1 1/2 to the Kingston seaway area. Definitely a must see!</p>	<p>25 VEIWMOUNT DR \$245,000</p> <p>Country Serenity! Immaculate chalet in Peaks Village overlooking Calabogie Peaks with many updates from hardwood floors, new propane furnace 09, central vac, a 23'x12' deck with sunken hot tub in the front and a screened porch with skylights overlooking the rear yard. The two 12'x20' moveable sheds provide storage for your lawn equipment and a locked 8'x12' shed with electric door for the "boy toys". Move in tomorrow - enjoy!</p>	<p>86 Viewmount Dr \$368,900</p> <p>Custom built 3 bdrm, 2 baths on 1/2 acre lot overlooking ski hill in Peaks Village. Boiler gas radiant heat a/c, open concept main floor, 2 car garage. Deeded water access.</p>	<p>1086 VICTORY LA LOT 10 \$349,900</p> <p>"The Store" Waterfront living at its best, ideal view of Norcan Lake, saw. Its all here, including the boat dock. Spacious open concept, 2 bedrooms with an extra large family room and bunk beds for fun vacations or full time residence. 1 hour and 10 minutes from downtown Ottawa. Just minutes from downhill skiing, golf, snowmobiling, nature trails and all the fishing and boating you want. Check it out www.hilltopvacationproperties.com</p>	<p>40 NORTON RD \$189,900</p> <p>5 BEDROOM BUNGALOW WITH A VIEW OF CALABOGIE LAKE MANY UPGRADES TO THE HOME. JUST MINUTES TO THE SKI HILL, CALABOGIE LAKE, GOLF COURSE AND ATV TRAILS. NY UPGRADES TO THE HOME. JUST MINUTES TO THE SKI HILL, CALABOGIE LAKE, GOLF COURSE AND ATV TRAILS. WONDERFUL FAMILY HOME.</p>

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