

# Algonquin Land Claims: A History

By Bill Graham, Editor

The Algonquin living in the Ottawa River watershed were among the first Native people to make contact with Europeans in the person of Samuel de Champlain and now, four hundred years later, are among the last to have their land claims resolved.

The Ottawa River watershed, which includes Ontario and Quebec, is considered traditional Algonquin land, however, the land claim being negotiated only concerns the Ontario portion. In Ontario this includes most of Eastern Ontario. In the north it stretches along the Ottawa River from North Bay south to Hawkesbury and extends west irregularly to just west of Bancroft.

There is archaeological evidence that the Ottawa Valley has had human occupation from about the end of the last ice age. This would be about 10,000 years ago after the great geological events that drained Lake Champlain and created the Valley as we know it today. There is also evidence that as early as 500 AD (1500 years ago) the area was inhabited by a generalized Algonquian cultural group. From that group, peoples identified today as Chippewa, Mississauga, Cree, Ojibwa, Montagnais and Algonquin were derived. This land claim concerns only the Algonquin.

This article will consider why it took 400 years to get to these negotiations and outline the historical events spanning those years. A subsequent article in June will look at the more recent history of negotiations.

The Algonquin were a hunter-gatherer society that was organized into small family groups that worked cooperatively. They did not live in fixed villages but migrated seasonally through a defined geographic territory.

These hunting grounds were occupied and controlled by the Algonquin but the idea of ownership was outside their cultural psyche. When the Europeans arrived everything changed.

At the time of first contact, Europeans (Champlain) were exploring and asked permission to travel through Algonquin land. Later when the fur trade thrived they became allies with the French along with related groups like the Nipissing and the Huron. Competition for furs led to hostilities with the British and their Iroquois allies.

Hostilities between the Iroquois and Algonquin are recorded as early as 1570, but all out war was waged by the Iroquois against the Algonquin and the Huron people between 1540 and the end of the seventeenth century. The Algonquin and their allies were dispersed and went into hiding. It was also a period of widespread epidemics, chiefly smallpox that killed many.

By the end of the seventeenth century the Iroquois were driven out of much of Southern Ontario by Ojibwa speakers but maintained control of areas in the eastern extreme of Ontario and the St. Lawrence seaway area. In 1701 the French made peace with the Iroquois in Montreal. By the mid-1700s Algonquin and Nipissing peoples were again spending some of the summers trading at Lake of Two Mountains (Oka) on the Ottawa River.

All of this set the scene for the occupation and de facto conquest of native peoples by the Europeans. The Algonquin people and Europeans couldn't have been more opposite in their respective world views. The Algonquin were hunter-gatherers who would migrate within a territory that was theirs by virtue of traditional occupation. Europeans came from a complex stratified society with laws con-

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Photo: Tracy Hunchak

# The Highlander is back!

By Bill Graham, Editor

After an absence of one full publishing season (2011), by popular demand we are back. During the year that the Madawaska Highlander was absent I can't tell you how often readers told me that they missed the paper and wished that it would return. Now we are back and are committed to publishing for at least three or four years.

There have been a few changes. Foremost, is that Richard Copeland has decided to remain permanently retired. In his place his son Adam stepped forward and will be my co-publisher. Since 2005 Adam has been involved with the Highlander in design and layout. Now he remains responsible for those same duties as well as for advertising. I will remain the Editor responsible for content and for administration.

Most of the contributors are still with us, though some have changed their roles. Mary Joan (Skippy) Hale has retired as our local librarian so will no

longer be writing her former library column. Instead, Skippy will be writing the regular column for CABA (Caledonia & Area Business Association) plus a new column called Bogie News. In addition she will submit ad hoc articles. Wes Bomhower continues to write his "First Concession" stories despite being sick. I have received three new stories from Wes in recent months. Floris Wood has sold his cottage and now only visits occasionally from Ohio. He has discontinued his nature articles but has consented to write the odd article. One of these articles will be an article on genealogy. Floris is well known in U.S. genealogical circles.

The local news columns by Garry Ferguson for Griffith and Matawatchan News and Christi Landrie for the Denbigh News will continue as before. John Roxon is still with us but not in his former capacity as author of Cottage Corner. He wants to write a more general column of commentary that could be quite edgy. The Ottawa River

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## We're Back (Cont)

Institute (ORI) will continue to contribute articles to the Highlander. Wellness articles by Susan Veale will also continue. I still have an archive of 'true stories' by Howard Popkie that will find their way into the pages of the Highlander and Filipa Martins has promised me some 'City Girl' contributions.

I'm happy to say that we will have some new contributors. Antonia (Tony) Chatson lives in Denbigh and with her column called 'Rural Vignettes' she will share with you her memories of rural life in the 1950s. Peter Chess who is a new permanent resident in Matawatchan is also a singer / songwriter who will write a column called 'Behind the Tunes'. Beginning in June Greater Madawaska librarian Meriah Caswell will begin a regular column on happenings at the Library. Finally, Robbie Anderman, who is a naturalist and arborist from Killaloe, will be contributing a series of articles under the umbrella of the 'The Healing Tree'. Each article will outline the healing (pharmacology) properties of different species of trees. In this May issue there is an introductory article by Robbie called 'The Forest Pharmacy' plus an article specific to the Alder.

The Madawaska Highlander will continue to remain local, historical and environmental.

End

# Greater Madawaska Public Library Local History Project Continues

By Sharon Shalla

Over 28 visitors dropped by the Greater Madawaska Public Library's Local History Open House on April 17th. One of the big hits of the day was the DVD of the Black Donald Mines during 1944-1954 when Bruce Garfield Edward was mine manager. His son, Brian Edward, donated the DVDs to the library and we are most grateful to him for doing so. Another popular attraction during the Open House was Wes Bomhowe's CD featuring 26 songs, all sung by Wes and he also plays guitar on the CD. Songs include Moonlight on Bogie Lake and Norton Deer Hunt. If you haven't yet heard the CD, make it a point to do so, you won't be disappointed!

Howard Popkie has donated a copy of his scrapbook as well, and we have hundreds of newspaper clippings from the Renfrew Mercury dating back to the early 1900's. The collection of clippings was donated by Rita Quilty.

All of this content and more is available to the public at the library. Although it can't be checked out, visitors are most welcome to view the print items, or watch the DVDs, and listen to Wes's CD on one of our public computers. We also have a nice collection of photos on CD donated by Bill Gra-

ham. It includes a picture of the Old Wooden Bridge.

A very exciting part of the project in the library's Our Ontario collection which is available to view online. Since November 2011, content has been uploaded to the special website including the Black Donald DVD and Wes's CD, so if you can't make it into the library, please visit the "Our Ontario website" to enjoy these and many more interesting items. Highlights include a scanned copy of the Corporation of the Municipality of Bagot and Blythfield Township Review: 1977-78, and a booklet entitled Bagot & Blythfield Library: The First Five Years. Just go to: <http://vitacollections.ca/Greater-Madawaska/search> to view the digital collection. Statistics are being kept on site visits and I am happy to report that 2,951 visits have been made to the library's, Our Ontario website, during the month of April.

We are recruiting volunteers for the project, so if you would like to help out in any way, please contact the library at 613-752-2317 or email [gmpl@bellnet.ca](mailto:gmpl@bellnet.ca). You don't need to be tech savvy or have had previous experience with digitization to be a volunteer. One of the biggest jobs right now is scanning the many items that need to be uploaded to the Our Ontario website.

End

## Bogie Beat by Skippy Hale

*Starting with the June issue, I will be posting an article with news around Calabogie. If your club is planning an event; has honoured a member; or would like to highlight a special role or aim of your group, let me know before the end of May. Please send me contact information if you wish to be included. [bogiebeat@gmail.com](mailto:bogiebeat@gmail.com)*

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**Special thanks to:** Jamie for

Proofreading & Tracy for the

photo

**Published in Matawatchan**

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# Land claims (Cont)

cerning property and ownership. The Algonquin considered the land theirs to use but had no sense of ownership like the Europeans. The process by which the Algonquin were dispossessed of their land was slow but inevitable.

After the British conquest of French Canada in 1759, Upper and Lower Canada was ruled by the British crown through a number of governors who in the absence of defined policy regarding native people, acted very individually in their approaches.

As more and more Europeans arrived, towns were established, land was cleared and the landscape changed. Settlement areas were surveyed and mapped, while areas outside these lands were called "wild lands". This suggested to the European consciousness that these wild lands were empty (not owned) when in fact they were the hunting lands that the native people needed to sustain themselves. It was not too long before native people were outnumbered in their own land.

As they became outnumbered by settlers and others with commercial interests in the land, natives began to mistrust the colonial government and learned to use the European system and delivered petitions to the Crown

The Canadian Encyclopaedia sums up the Proclamation very well: "King George reserved the western lands to the "several nations or tribes of Indians" that were under his "protection" as their exclusive "hunting grounds." As sovereign of this territory, however, the king claimed ultimate "Dominion" over the entire region. He further prohibited any private person from directly buying the interest of native groups in their ancestral soil. This exclusive right of purchase he rather reserved for himself and his heirs alone. As detailed in the Proclamation, he set out a procedure whereby an Indian group, if they freely chose, could sell their land rights to properly authorized representatives of the British monarch. This could only take place at some public meeting called especially for the purpose. It was thus that the constitutional basis was established for the future negotiation of Indian treaties in British North Ameri-



On October 9, 1783, Captain William Crawford negotiated with several Mississauga chiefs, in exchange for guns, gunpowder, 12 laced hats and red cloth, the sale of land from "Toniato or Onagara River (on the St. Lawrence River)

to a river in the Bay of Quinte within eight leagues of the bottom of the Bay including all the islands, extending back from the lake so far as a man can travel in a day". The land was subsequently settled by United Empire Loyalists and Britain's Indian allies who had been forced to leave their homes in the new United States. The eastern extremity of that purchase included Algonquin land but no Algonquin was a signatory of the purchase.

Another agreement was signed on March 9, 1819, by the land agent John Ferguson with 159 Mississaugas of the Bay of Quinte region and 98 from the Kingston area who claimed this huge tract of land known as the Rideau Purchase Tract. The Mississaugas agreed

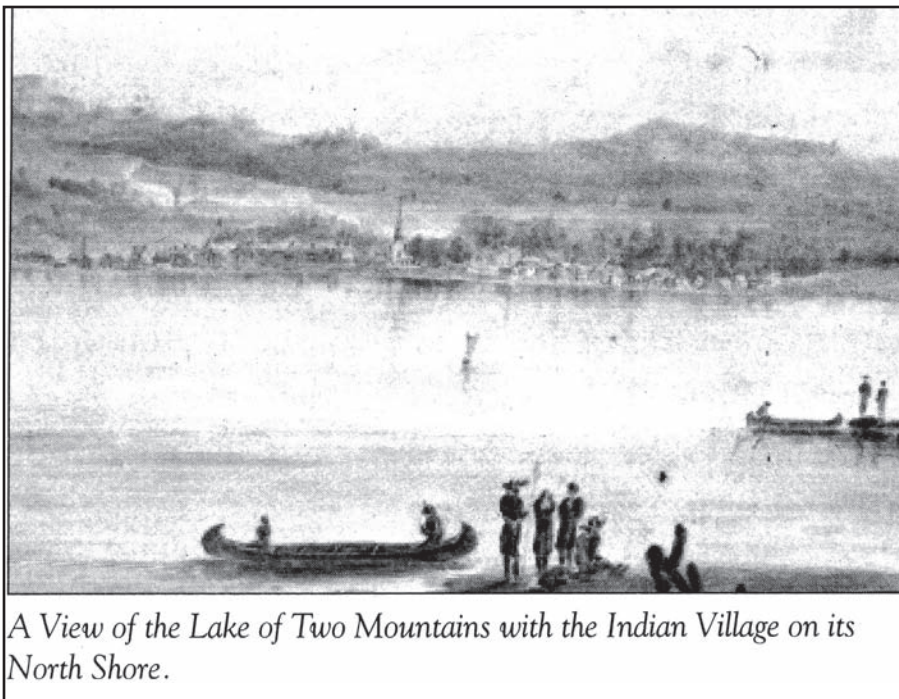
to sell this tract of land covering 2.748 million acres for an annuity of 642 pounds, 10 shillings, to be paid at a rate of 50 shillings per person. Once more the Algonquin did not participate in the purchase even though parts of their land were once again sold.

Finally in 1873 the Algonquin people received some land compensation from the government in the creation of the Golden Lake Reserve. It was a relatively small reserve given in compensation for lumber and mining rights, which had been taken from them earlier. Many families chose not to become "treaty Indians" and to remain non-status.

In 1897 a large area of traditional hunting grounds were taken from the Algonquin to become Canada's first national park. The only ironic compensation was that it was named Algonquin Park.

This article only scratches the surface of the history of Algonquin dealings with Europeans; whether they are called French, British or Canadian. Other than retaining a few small reserves they were dispossessed of their land. Not having signed any treaties, the Algonquin people, for the most part, remained non-status and melded into the Canadian social landscape without compensation for what they lost.

End



A View of the Lake of Two Mountains with the Indian Village on its North Shore.

asking that the activities of settlers and commercial interests be curtailed. A long history of failed petitions ensued.

The Royal Proclamation of 1763 established the constitutional framework for the negotiation of treaties with the aboriginal inhabitants of large sections of Canada. The purpose of the proclamation was to organize Great Britain's new North American empire and to stabilize relations with Native North Americans through regulation of trade, settlement, and land purchases on the western frontier.

ca. The Royal Proclamation thereby established the British Crown as the essential central agent in the transfer of Indian lands to colonial settlers."

While the Proclamation of 1763 led to the ultimate loss of Indian lands, it is important today because it acknowledges that Native people were the first owners of the land. This is a significant element in the current Algonquin land claim since the Algonquin people never signed a treaty with the Crown.

Numerous purchases were made by the Crown but most petitions by Algonquin and Nipissing chiefs were ignored.

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# Out on the First Concession

By Wes Bomhower

## LIKE MANNA FROM HEAVEN

It was winter, 1938, on the First Concession where we had recently moved and Wilma & I along with the Harris children were beginning the long, three mile trek to school that morning. Harold Harris and I reached the County road in time to see Ernie Filion's smart team of bays go flying past, the little enclosed bread sleigh in tow. Ernie was the village baker and he made his local bread deliveries to the outlying farms quite early on Mondays and Thursdays.

The roads were not snow-ploughed in those days and the heavy traffic of teams and sleighs on the County road caused a series of 'cahots' to develop where the snow was drifted the deepest. As the little bread sleigh recovered from one of these cahots, the back doors flew open and, like manna from Heaven, two freshly baked loaves wrapped in cellophane tumbled out onto the snow, then the doors slammed shut again and the bread sleigh continued on its way. Harold and I ran to retrieve the loaves but were undecided what to do with them. They smelled so delectable and we surely looked for-

ward to devouring them because our mothers still manufactured the coarse, home-made style bread.

About then, Harold's father, Lorne Harris came over the hill with team and sleighs on his run to the Kraft Cheese Factory in Newington where he hauled milk two or three times weekly in winter for some of the local farmers. Lorne stopped the team when we showed him our prize, the two loaves of baker's bread. Should we carry them to school?

Lorne scratched his head a moment, and then selected a big fence post over in the field where the snow was quite deep. He tramped a large hole in the snow beside the post, buried our loaves and said we could dig them up on our way home from school late that afternoon, which we did. And we thoroughly enjoyed the baker's bread, using it for our next day's lunch.

What a treat! Little did we realize that one day in the not too distant future we would long for the taste of a home-made loaf again because our mothers literally quit baking bread the following year.

Ah! Those were the days!



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# The Forest Pharmacy

By R.H. Anderman

**Editor's note:** *This article introduces Highlander readers to Robbie Anderman. Robbie is an arborist, naturalist and author who lives in Killaloe. Some years ago he wrote a series of articles about the medicinal properties of our native trees. In this issue of the paper this article introduces the idea of a forest pharmacy and an additional article from The Healing Tree series, which is about the Alder, is also included.*

For about ten years, I have been doing research and experiments with the medicinal qualities of local Trees, prompted by plain curiosity about the effects and safety of nibbling while strolling in the forest. I have always been interested in the healing properties of herbal plants in general, and like the annual and perennial small-sized herbs, the Trees have a folk legacy of being helpful healers for human kind. And when the seasonal climate puts Nature's herbal pharmacy under a blanket of snow, what's the alternative? The Forest Pharmacy.

You might imagine my delight and surprise when I learned that nearly all our local Trees can be nibbled safely and are medicinal to one degree or another. We live in the bioregion of the North American Northeastern Woodlands, pretty much at the northern limit of the hardwood forest. Over 25 Tree species make their home here, with many varieties within species expanding the quantity.

The Native people who lived here first were in tune with the properties of the Trees. They passed on much of their herbal knowledge to the Europeans, who combined it with their own herbal legacy to insure their survival.

The first medicinal quality of this region's Trees to be noted by Europeans was the antiscorbutic property of the Hemlock: Native people offered a tree's worth of needles to Cartier's crew to cure their scurvy - which it did, along with clearing up their venereal diseases. Actually there's a question as to whether it was Hemlock or Spruce that did the job - both are quite capable. During the Second World War, when supply lines were threatened, Canada's government assayed the Ascorbic Acid content of boreal Trees and found that all the evergreens have significant Vitamin C content, with highest quality in Pines, Spruces, Firs and Hemlock. Recent studies show that three year old needles growing in full sunlight have the most 'C', while less light and more or less age yield reduced levels.

Teas made by steeping a handful of needles in nearly boiling water are the most common ways of getting the Vitamin C from evergreens. Chewing needles, inner bark, young twigs and spring buds are other possibilities.

A cautionary note must be inserted here about the poisonous thuyone content of the White Cedar. Medicinally beneficial in small quantities for arthritis and rheumatism, and containing Vitamin C, White Cedar is poisonous when taken regularly in sizable quantities.

Red Cedar, an evergreen of the Juniper family, contains podophyllo toxin along with quantities of Vitamin C. This is very dangerous and has been used to commit suicide and abort babies. Not a tree to dabble with lightly. And Hemlock, being very astringent, should also be taken cautiously. Large quantities can constipate, cause stom-

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# Valley Heritage in Griffith

By Garry Ferguson

On Wednesday April 25, 2012, Dai Bassett radio personality, along with a very professional backup crew from Renfrew's Valley Heritage Radio, moved his daytime program (at FM 98.7) to the Pine Valley Restaurant in scenic downtown Griffith. Recorded music was replaced by that from a group of our talented local musicians and live on-air chat was replaced by Dai's periodic phone-ins to the station. The community station was in the middle of its annual radiothon to raise funds and obtain members so there was a practical reason for getting out on the rural routes.



*Dai Bassett belts out a song accompanied by local musicians*

Listening to the car radio however, the background revelry during those calls led me to believe that a real tamarack 'er down party was in full swing. When I arrived at the restaurant, I found that it was. I didn't realize that so many of our locals came out in daylight hours during the week or that folks could get so high on music, burgers and coffee. As expected, Dai was

keeping the music rolling and working the crowd with his friendly banter.

Since he has become well-known around The Valley, not only as the host of a daily radio program but as a performer and recording artist, (you should see the Singing Farmer with his rubber boots on) I thought that listeners would like to know more about him.

Dai, from Wales originally, was into music - never was there a Welshman born who wasn't? - long before he came to Canada in 2000, so it is not surprising that he befriended musicians like Brian Hebert, one of Canada's top fiddlers, or that he became involved with the Stone Fence Theatre group during its *Look Back at Mac* days. When Valley Heritage Radio became more than a concept, he volunteered to help out. This eventually led to his full-time position as host of the four-hour daytime slot from the first day on air until the present.

Two of Dai's CD's are on sale at the Pine Valley, *My Heart to Yours* and *Thumbs Up*. Each sale of the first, *My Heart to Yours*, ensures that \$2.00 goes to a hospital situated in the area in which the sale is made. To further promote sales and raise funds for hospitals, this CD will be featured at *An Evening with Dai and Friends* to take place from 7 p.m. to 12 midnight on Friday May 25, 2012 at the Beachburg Legion. Tickets will set you back a mere \$20.00 per person or \$30.00 per couple. For this pittance, guests will get an evening of entertainment, the chance to bone up on the "squares," a complimentary CD and a nice lunch. Of course, Art Jamieson will be the MC. (I think he MC's every event that takes place in Eastern Ontario). To check out Dai's web page, go to [www.daibassett.com](http://www.daibassett.com).

*End*

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*“Read cover to cover”*

## An Update From the Greater Madawaska Seniors Housing Corporation

Incorporated in 2010 as a not-for-profit corporation, and overseen by a group of determined community directors, the Greater Madawaska Housing Corporation has been planning for new seniors housing in the Township of Greater Madawaska. The goal is to either work with private developers to provide or for the corporation to build and operate up to ten apartments in the Griffith area and up to fifteen apartments in the Calabogie area for seniors.

The Board of directors has met with many groups including our Municipal Council to request support for this project as well as identify potential building sites. Surveys were conducted with the residents of the municipality, statistics were obtained and analyzed and a complete and comprehensive proposal was developed. That proposal and a request for funding were submitted to the County of Renfrew in anticipation of possible provincial and or federal funding assistance under the Affordable Housing Program. Unfortunately there are no funding allocations available at this time.

While we are hopeful that a new round of funding will be provided by government The Board of Directors is looking for new and creative ways to make this project a reality.

## Heads-up on graphite mining in Greater Madawaska

By Bill Graham, Editor

After over 60 years of inactivity in graphite mining, the prospect of renewed mining activity in the Township of Greater Madawaska area is a possibility. A newly formed company called Standard Graphite, which is listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSE), has listed claims around Black Donald Lake and at a property called Little Bryan. The Black Donald property entails some 9000 hectares surrounding Black Donald Lake. The Little Bryan property consists of 14 claims covering some 2800 hectares and is located just north of Griffith in Lyndoch Township. These claims in the area of Little Bryan approach the Lower Madawaska Provincial Park and the river itself.

Graphite was at one time a very important commodity in our area. The Black

The corporation intends to reach out to the community at large to see what the community can contribute to such a project. If you can help with financing or fundraising, have land available or are a builder or developer we would like to hear from you. The project will require a number of trades, supplies, machinery, volunteers and assistance with fundraising.

We are seeking “expressions of interest” from individuals or organizations interested in participating in this project. Known contractors and developers will be contacted directly. We hope others will indicate their interest to us. Members of the board will be pleased to meet with you to discuss confidentially any questions you may have. We have prepared a package detailing some of the areas in which we will require assistance and would be pleased to provide this package to you. In the Griffith area the contact is Pat Holleran at (613) 333-1229; in the Calabogie area Bill Griffiths (613) 752-2201. They can answer your questions or refer you to our consultant and architect. Our goal is to help keep our valued seniors of all income levels living in our community. Your creative ideas and contributions are welcome.

*End*

Donald Graphite Mine was one of the largest and richest graphite deposits in North America and was extremely high grade with historic ore grades of up to 80% graphitic carbon (“Cg”). During the last 10 years of mine life the average reported grade was 25-30% Cg. Some 94% of the total value of Ontario graphite production came from the Black Donald Mine. The graphite was in both high quality flake and amorphous form.

According to Ramsey Hart of Mining Watch, which is an advocacy groups working on changing public policy and mining practices, Standard Graphite is only in the most preliminary exploration stages and still has limited resources (approximately \$300,000) for preliminary drilling. The lands where the claims lie are either Crown land or private land where the Crown owns the

## Looking back...



*Frank Dodge Jr., G.G. Lord Tweedsmuir and aides at Black Donald Mines — 1935*

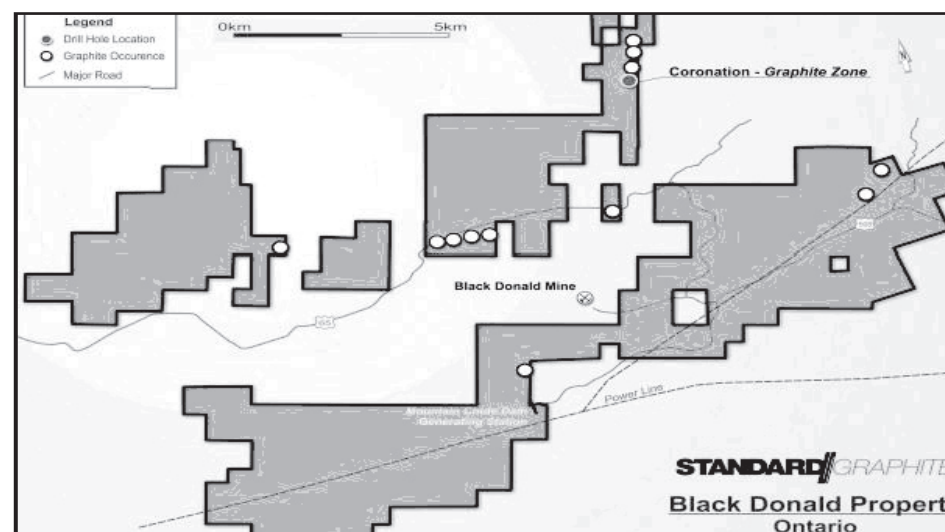
mining rights. The company is raising funds through their mining stock on the TSE. The stock is currently trading at 49 cents a share.

The Ontario Mining Act is an antiquated piece of legislation that is currently under review for modernization. Individuals or companies that have mining claims have extensive rights by virtue of the claim. If you do not own the mining rights on your property you cannot prevent intrusions on your property.

Unfortunately the company does not give the location of their claims in a Lot and Concession format. They do provide a map, which is included here, but it doesn't tell you too much.

The Ontario Woodlot Association has good advice for landowners who are concerned about the possible intrusion of mining companies on their prop-

navigating through the “Mining Lands CLAIMaps” section of this Web site, you will be able to locate your property and see if the Crown retains the mining rights. However, there are two important points to keep in mind! As the disclaimer on the site says, “material in this service involves a new use of technology, which may cause errors, and therefore the information may be inaccurate or incomplete.” It should also be noted that just because your property isn't on the list, it may only mean that the Crown doesn't own the mining rights. It is entirely possible that the previous owner may have sold the rights to someone else. As a result, the information on the MNMD Web site shouldn't be used as gospel; it is only your first step in determining the status of the mining rights on your property.” Landowners in the Black Donald Lake area should particularly have a look at the CLAIMaps since the Crown



erty: “As a landowner, do you know if you own the mining rights to your property? A quick check of the Ministry of Mines and Northern Development (MNMD) Web site at: [www.mnmd.gov.on.ca/mines/lands/claimap3/default\\_e.asp](http://www.mnmd.gov.on.ca/mines/lands/claimap3/default_e.asp) may provide you with some preliminary information. By

still owns most of the mining rights in the area. From the website focus into Brougham Township and then zoom down to a map that shows lots and concessions. If you zoom too far you will only see a colour background and

*continued on page 10*



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# Climate change and extreme weather

By Ole Hendrickson

Most people think about climate change in terms of global warming. The international climate change negotiators encourage this. Their current target is to keep average global temperature's from increasing more than 2 degrees Celsius. In theory this may avoid impacts such as submerging of coastal cities owing to melting of the polar ice caps.

But you might ask, "Is all the recent flooding in places around the world - Australia, Brazil, Sri Lanka - connected to climate change?" Scientists tend to avoid answering this question directly by talking about stochastic processes, probability distributions and random events.

Scientists have nevertheless reached some conclusions from weather data. On its website the Library of the Parliament of Australia asks "Are extreme weather events - severe storms, flooding, droughts, heat waves or extremely violent cyclones - becoming more common?" It says "The answer appears to be 'yes'."

This Australian summary points to a trend "towards more powerful storms and hotter, longer dry periods," while noting that "extreme cold-weather events are expected to decline in frequency, and for some regions of the world this will produce a positive impact, reducing health and infrastructure costs associated with freezing events."

It explains that global warming generally means greater evaporation, and a warmer atmosphere holds more moisture that can fall as precipitation. It says that "The frequency of heavy precipitation events has increased over most land areas, particularly over eastern parts of North and South America, in northern Europe, and northern and central Asia."

This analysis was based on the 2007 report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Australia was then in the grip of a decade-long drought, with massive forest fires and major loss of life and property.

Australia is naturally the world's driest continent. The Australian analysis notes that "One of the biggest questions for Australia is whether climate change will cause an increase in the severity, duration, frequency or distribution of droughts." It cites modelling by Australia's national science agency suggesting that "incidence of drought in some areas could triple by 2070, based on scenarios using different levels of carbon dioxide emissions," and adds that "such predictions

indicate dire challenges for Australia's agricultural sector."

A natural cycle in the ocean currents and winds of the South Hemisphere, known as El Niño and La Niña, occurs on average every five years (but ranges from two to seven years). During El Niño, warm water masses pile up in the eastern Pacific as the southern trade winds decline, with impacts on weather around the world. In Canada, El Niño winters are warmer and drier. This winter the Pacific is in the La Niña phase of the cycle. This brings colder temperatures to Canada, along with more precipitation across the country and more snow in southern BC.

Some commentators have suggested that La Niña, not climate change, is responsible for the current major flooding events around the world. This begs the question, is climate change affecting the El Niño/La Niña cycle, including more intense periods of drought and precipitation? This is a major preoccupation of IPCC scientists. Their ability to model the cycle is improving, but far from perfect.

Scientists note that increasing frequency, severity or variability of extreme weather events has implications for planning, design, and performance of built infrastructure. This includes zoning to keep new developments out of flood plains, or changing the design criteria for spillways, drainage structures, heights of levee banks, and strengths of buildings and dams.

Planners and engineers use estimates of the "return period" for a weather event of a given magnitude (e.g., the 20-year or 50-year flood). They assume that these statistics, based on past events, also apply to the future. Climate change means that this often will not be the case.

In planning for or adapting to climate change and estimating its impacts, a key issue is how extreme events are likely to change. This is very much a work in progress. As we keep experiencing "unexpected" events, our sense of a safe and predictable future is eroding away.

*Watershed Ways is a publication of the Ottawa River Institute (www.ottawariverinstitute.ca), a non-profit, charitable organization based in the Upper Ottawa Valley.*

End

# CABA Corner

By Skip Hale

As a non-business Community representative on the executive, I have been asked to write the CABA Corner. I retired as CEO/Librarian as the Greater Madawaska Public Library, so I guess that makes me qualified to receive any tidbits about local business that you may wish to present. I will not be your free advertiser since the Highlander needs that support, but if you have some innovation or quirk that you wish to present, let me know (after you have paid for an ad of course!). I will also pass on news from the Association.

The new edition of the CABA Directory will be in the June edition of the Highlander. Only those businesses which have paid their 2011/12 membership dues will be included. If your business is one of the 17 unpaid members, better pay up or lose this opportunity. If you are aware of any new businesses or prospective members, tell them to check out the website. Membership has its advantages. Check the website. Byron has been busy revamping it and adding many new features. Try it and, like Mikey, you'll like it!

As an impartial non-business person I have been elected as Nominating Chairperson for the 2012/13 CABA Election. All of the present executive terms are up in June. The new term begins July 1, 2012. The executive has decided to call for volunteers for 7 directors' positions and to have an election of specific offices at the first executive meeting. If you wish to vie for a specific office, you may do so and an election from the floor will occur at the June 11, AGM 7:00p.m. to be held at the Lakeshore Café. Otherwise, the positions will be elected from the Directors as noted above. Please send your intentions to me: fill in the app on the website or contact me.

I wish to thank the 2011/12 executive for their excellent leadership of CABA. This has been a difficult year for many businesses and we owe them a debt of gratitude for their enthusiastic support. Debbie Knaut, President; Lucy Lester, VP; David Abrahams, Treasurer; Cath Reynolds, Secretary; Carolyn Jakes, Deb Giffen, and Byron Hermann, Directors. I too, am a director, but I cannot thank myself.

(613) 752-9944; [rich-skip.hale@sympatico.ca](mailto:rich-skip.hale@sympatico.ca)

End

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# Community Calendar

## CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULE

### GRIFFITH AND MATAWATCHAN

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

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

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

### DENBIGH AND VENNACHAR

**Vennachar Free Methodist Church**  
424 Matawatchan Road 613-333-2318  
Sunday School 10am  
Sunday Worship 11am  
Weekly Bible study Tuesdays 7pm  
WMI meet first Monday of the month  
\*effective Sunday, June 3rd, worship services will **change to the summer start time of 10am**

**St. Luke's United Church**  
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesdays 8:00 p.m.

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

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

### Burnstown

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

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### CALABOGIE

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

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

**St. Patrick's Catholic Church**  
Mount St. Patrick, Sundays at 9:00 a.m.  
**Calabogie St. Andrews United Church**  
1044 Madawaska Dr. (on the waterfront)  
Christmas Eve service 7 p.m.  
Church Services Sunday Mornings at  
8:45 a.m. Communion  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month.

### Calabogie

**Bike Workshop**, Sat. June 2 at Barnet Park.  
10:00-12:00) "Bring your bicycle, youth and adult, and learn how to check, adjust and repair it by yourself. The workshop also includes tips on safety and riding skills. Don't forget your helmet."

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Burnstown

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

**Griffith & Matawatchan Annual Hall Clean-up of the grounds**  
May 18 at 9:30 a.m.  
Matawatchan Hall  
Bring a few yard tools

**Matawatchan Market Pre-Market Plant Sale**  
June 19 – 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Lunch will be served

**Ham supper in support of Millennium Garden**  
Saturday May 26 – 5 pm to 7 pm  
St. Andrew's United Church

**Matawatchan Lion's Club Bingo**  
Bingo May 15 and 29 & June 12

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

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

**"Northern Lights" Seniors**  
Meet the third Wednesday of each month  
Fellowship Lunch at noon  
Meeting at 1:30 p.m.


Griffith Lion's Hall  
General Wellness assessment by local Paramedics available at each lunch  
Diabetes Outreach Program on May 16  
Then every 3 months thereafter  
contact Lois Robbins at 333-1082.  
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### Denbigh

**Music in the Hall**  
Every second Sunday 1 to 3 pm  
at the Denbigh Community Hall

*continued on page 11*

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# WEDNESDAYS are “SHOOSDAYS” at CAMP J

By Ernie Jukes

Of course no one knows who invented the first horseshoe, but horses have been ridden since the second millennium B.C. The Romans apparently made both leather and metal shoes called “hipposandals”. Evidently European horsemen were nailing metal shoes to hooves by the 6<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. Centuries. They knew that their horses needed that protection for long distances over rocks and the early flagstone and cobblestone roads.

There was an early game which Roman soldiers played during off duty time called Quoits. This distant cousin of horseshoes was a metal ring or disc thrown over a stake. This game was carried to “The Canada’s” by early French soldiers and later turned to “Horseshoes” with the first British and Canadian troops. In fact it seemed to be played often enough for the Duke of Wellington to write after the 1812-1814 conflict with our neighbours “the war was won by the pitchers of horse hardware”.

Our early Canadian settlers made it a family sport that was a bit of fun from the tough occupation of farming. And everyone could play it from their men and women or boys and girls and there was never a shortage of “Shoos” albeit often large or small. The game became more organized as rural folk made more recreational time as on Sundays after

church, at picnics or at Fall Fairs. In the old days ringers were worth 5 points and leaners counted 3...and as today a shoe within six inches (or a shoe width) of the stake counts 1 point.

Today the method of scoring on “Shoosdays” at old Camp J is 3 points for a ringer, 2 points for a leaner and 1 point for closest to the peg...until the 15<sup>th</sup> end is pitched for totaling of scores and claiming the winner of that flight to proceed into a final challenge. “Shoos” have been played fairly regularly at Camp J on Frontenac Road in Matawatchan since 1945. In recent years this game has been played each Wednesday afternoon from 1 to 5 pm. The old sports that participate are your host Ern Jukes, still noted for some ringers, Playmaster Dave Felder noted for his double leaners, and Gary Shumski noted for his music and honest score-keeping most of the time. Other regular players include Sandman Al Pennock, Groundskeeper George Lutomski, Peacekeeper Dan Stones, Fern Martel, Jacque LaLonde, Guy Pins Poulin, Richard Copeland, Roy McCaffery and Cider Bill Graham. Some times on a good day we see Pete Chess, Ken Birkett, Cliff Holleran, and Mike Gorman.

Everyone participates when they can. A few other fellows have visited Ern’s gallery to see his paintings or latest book...and stayed to play “Shoos” it just seems to go with the place. One time a blonde visitor (we won’t men-

tion her name here) asked “is horse shoo what you say to a horse if you want it to go away”?

Our fine group of sportsmen has for many years now, prided themselves that they have never been rained out. Well...that is partially due to the giant, spreading Hemlock trees protecting the pitch and its players. This same unique setting is also responsible for some shoos occasionally getting hung up in the branches. Not all bad however as House Rules permit another throw. That event does not allow any penalty points just a lot of giggles.

This fun loving group participates in a competitive tournament at the end of each month from May to November. Winners in various categories enjoy prizes that may include prints of local scenes by the host or outdoor items or some that are simply FUN ... and that is what “Shoosday” on a Wednesday is all about at old Camp J.

**Post Script:** Roy McCaffery died suddenly while in Florida in January. We will miss him.

End

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## Mining (Cont)

no information. If you see a black dot within a lot and concession rectangle, then the mining rights as well as the surface rights are owned by the land owner and not the Crown. Land owned by the Crown is available by lease to mining companies.

If you go to [www.mci.mndm.gov.on.ca/mines/data/google/claims/claims.kml](http://www.mci.mndm.gov.on.ca/mines/data/google/claims/claims.kml), you can download an application that will take you to Google Earth showing land claims in your area. It is not easy to navigate since you are not always sure where you are on the map, but there is claims information imbedded in the map that are click away. Without a decent computer and enough bandwidth, you should not even try to access this resource. For the rest, here is a tutorial that may be helpful: [www.mndm.gov.on.ca/mines/documents/claimaps/tutorial\\_e.pdf](http://www.mndm.gov.on.ca/mines/documents/claimaps/tutorial_e.pdf). No one should panic as development, if any, is probably years away. However, it is good to know where you stand and this is your heads-up.

End



# Griffith and Matawatchan News

By Garry Ferguson

**Good news or bad news?** It depends! Our half-empty readers might see it differently than our half-full readers. Lennox & Addington County council bowed to the wishes (well, half-way) of citizen groups who lobbied hard for years to have it ignore the advice of a consultant group who, for some reason or other, deemed emergencies in the north part of the county less important than those farther south. On this premise, it recommended the closure of the Denbigh ambulance station. The bottom line now is that the Denbigh station will be retained but service will be reduced to 12 hours per day, seven days a week.

Since the ambulance service also responds to calls from the adjoining counties of Renfrew, Frontenac and Hastings, and is reimbursed by the serviced county on a per call basis, this decision has an impact on us folk here in the GM area. I see this as a positive – a victory for those citizens who lobbied so long and hard to keep the station open - but to be safe, I'm hoping for a copy of a schedule so that I can plan my emergencies during the 12 hours that the Denbigh station is staffed.



Harvey and Elda Malcolm celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary

**We're going to a party!** For the past 30 years the Denbigh Ambulance Service has served us well and for this we can thank a group of community-minded people who began the service as volunteers. So, to celebrate and to give recognition to those pioneers, "the committee that looks after all these affairs" is throwing a Thirtieth Anniversary Party starting at 11 a.m. in the Denbigh Heritage Park on July 08, 2012. There will be displays of memorabilia, a BBQ at noon as well as speeches and music in the park.

In order to set up interesting displays, the committee is looking for anything related to those years such as pictures, old uniforms, newspaper clippings

– not old attendants: they don't store well – or anything else that may be of interest. If anyone out there can contribute an article, please contact Ruby or Gary Malcolm at 613 333 1449.

Friends, family and neighbours jammed the Griffith Hall on Sunday April 22, 2012 to celebrate Elda and Harvey Malcolm's sixtieth wedding anniversary. There wasn't a spare chair to be found for most of the afternoon as folks socialized, listened to groups of local musicians then finished off with a scrumptious supper. As of this week, the Malcolms are working on their second sixtieth.

The *Highlander* may have taken a breather over the last few months, but the Denbigh Griffith Lions has not slackened its pace. Its members just keep on pledging to great causes then coming up with the cash. The club has a big year planned, including a repeat of the highly successful Show and Shine in August, and we will be reporting these events over the summer. For now, just keep in mind the bingo every other Tuesday (next dates: 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of May) and the Fellowship Luncheons at noon on the third Wednesday of each month.

The Matawatchan Market will come out of hibernation with a Plant Market starting at 0900 on Saturday May 19, 2012 in the Matawatchan Hall. As usual, there will be a lot of socializing and eating – lunch will be available – but you can also pick up your bedding plants or other treasures while you are there.

The Northern Lights Seniors Club has a new board since we last published, with Al Kitching as president, Sandy Sutcliffe, vice-president, Sandy Downs, secretary, and Terry Grant as treasurer. Meetings and activities are held in the Griffith Hall on the third Wednesday of the month, following the Lions Fellowship Luncheon. Anyone with enough seniority on the planet (50) is welcome to plunk down 10 loonies and join.

Anyone who is planning to travel south on May 19 might want to stop in Cloyne and have a look around at the Annual Mammoth Yard Sale sponsored by the Cloyne and District Historical Society. It will be held from 9 a.m. until noon, rain or shine, at the Barrie Hall. In case there are folks in the area who may want to part with some unwanted treasures, the society welcomes donations. For info, call 613 336 6858. *End*

## The Forest Pharmacy (Cont)

ach unrest or disturb pregnancy.

White Pine, on the other hand, was and is very commonly used for coughs, colds, respiratory problems, etc, with no adverse effects recorded. Like many trees it was listed in the Pharmaceutical Dispensary of the United States

at least up to the 1947 edition. My favourite tasting evergreen tea is made with the needles of the White Pine. The spring buds and male pollen flowers are certainly a nibbler's treat. Spruce also was a common beverage ingredient in the forms of both tea and Spruce beer. The People's ready-source of Vitamin C in a land devoid of Citrus. *End*

## Calendar (Cont)

### Denbigh Ontario Early Years Playgroup

(up to age 6) Every Tuesday  
Denbigh Community Hall 10 a.m. until 12 p.m.  
Info 1-613-336-8934 ext 257

### 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.

### HEALTH CARE FOOTCARE CLINICS

Sylvia's Foot Care  
Every 6 weeks in Denbigh and Matawatchan  
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**The Highlander wants to start a Buy / Sell classified section. Classified ads under 20 words are \$5 and classified ads 20 to 40 words are \$10. Send your ads to highlander\_editor@xplornet.ca. Deadline for the next issue is June 16, 2012**



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## Out of Gas

By Bill Graham

‘Out of Gas’ is the name of a song written by Madawaska singer-songwriter Peter Chess for a documentary film of the same name. This is part of a larger documentary film project by Mary Sheridan on our rural communities in the Madawaska Highlands – the wonderful country culture of our people, unparalleled beauty of our countryside, current difficulties and future outlook.

Mary’s film will raise awareness about present difficulties causing disintegration of many local infrastructures in our rural communities. This has already happened in her own village of Boulter, located west of Hardwood Lake. In the spring of 2010, The Boulter General Store and Gas Station locked its doors for the last time, after 100 years. It fell victim to regulations beyond the ability of small businesses

to bear – such as \$30,000 to \$50,000 for new underground tanks plus thousands in installation costs (compliance fines of \$50,000 or prison), liability insurance, and bank refusals to mortgage small rural businesses (independent gas stations, general stores, restaurants).

Gasoline is essential for transportation and there are many miles between villages in the Madawaska Highlands. When there is no local gas, people go elsewhere and while there buy groceries and generally spend their money. First the gas goes, then the local store and eventually the infrastructure of a village erodes.

To quote Mary: “Ghost gas stations— Ghost villages. Even though hundreds and thousands of us country folk live in these hills, we are abandoned without the most essential services of life - fuel, food, postal services, emergency medications and hardware supplies, and coffee. Coffee and informal, chance-meeting small talk is the very

essence of community life; it binds people together who might not otherwise meet, and introduces newcomers and visitors into the neighborhood. Without our gas-general store-coffee places, tourists have no friendly store-keeper as greeter, guide and local historian, and no friendly locals to chat with. Without a gas stop, local restaurants lose business and close; we have lost several in the past year. Our tourist industry will be devastated, to say nothing of leaving it “out of gas.”

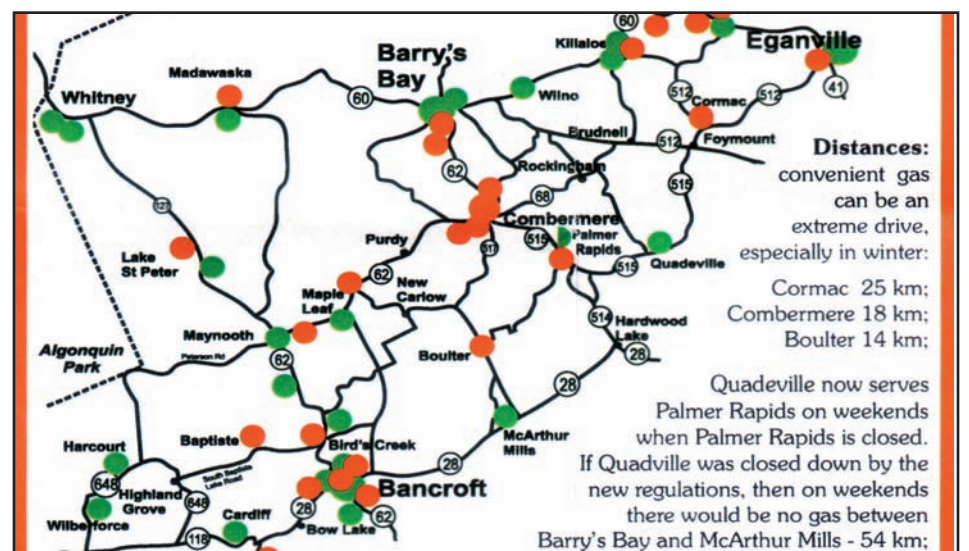
Canadian environmental regulations for gas pumps and underground storage tanks were virtually copied from the United States. What was not copied, what was ignored, were the accompanying regulations and remedies to protect small village independent gas stations as essential services. These protections, at US national, state and local levels, included government-backed liability insurance to help the small gas pump owners and ensure that mortgages could be obtained from banks for possession and sale. Also, there was a small tax relief at the pump for owners/operators;

Gas station operators in the Madawaska Highlands have probably already met Mary. She and her film crew -- Rainer Jopp and Henry Zankowicz -- have visited them to record their experiences with this very troubling issue.

All of this brings us back to the song “Out of Gas” by Peter Chess, and the documentary of the same name that is now being filmed. I was involved in a discussion sequence about rural life with Jon Williams at 41 Stop filmed in Denbigh last week. Peter Chess was filmed singing his “Out of Gas” song at the Wilno Restaurant and Tavern this week. Next week Pete will record the theme song on film again in front of the gas station in Quadeville.

“the government, the government, the government’s doing us wrong .....our government doesn’t give a damn; they’re selling us for a song”

To quote Mary once more: “It is a documentary film about how the closing of our small village gas stations is closing down our highland heri-



and financing arrangements for compliance costs. But no such provisions to protect rural life in Ontario were ventured by any level of government.

tage villages. When the gas station closes, everyone must drive for gas. Then shopping takes place

*continued on page 20*





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<p><b>29 Partridge Dr</b> New home located on quiet street in Calabogie. Geothermal heating, ICF foam insulated, 4 bdrms, 2 full baths, 3 pc ensuite, finished lowerlevel. Attention to detail thru-out. MLS #816271 \$289,000</p>	<p><b>1018 McNabb Rd</b> Three bedroom cottage on Calabogie Lake. Screened porch w/cathedral ceilings, woodburning fireplace, open concept lv/dn/kit area. Walk to golf course, stunning sunsets. MLS #827471 \$339,000</p>	<p><b>185 Viewmount Dr</b> Uniquely designed 2 storey home in "Peaks Village". Cathedral ceilings, flr to ceiling windows 4 bdrms, 2 full baths, workshop, screened upper porch, stone fireplace paved drive. Deeded access to Calabogie Lake. MLS 812167 \$349,900</p>	<p><b>3200 Highway 132</b> Private woodland setting on 7 acres w/walking trails &amp; creek. Laminate flrs, 3 bdrm, double garage, decks w/above ground pool. Close to Renfrew &amp; Calabogie. MLS #829094 \$249,900</p>	<p><b>12620 Lanark Rd</b> Duplex in village of Calabogie. Recently renovated. One bdrm apt on main flr, 2 bdrms apt on second &amp; third flrs, both units have separate entrance, parking. MLS #767210 \$199,900</p>
<p><b>52 Whipporwill Valley Lane</b> Cottage on Calabogie Lake with 245 ft frontage. Seasonal, 2 bdrms, dock &amp; decks, close to ski hill, golf, ATV/hiking trails. MLS #826114 \$249,900</p>	<p><b>9 Carnegie Cres.</b> Custom built home plus salon w/separate entrance. Open concept lv/dn/kit, 4 bdrms 4 baths, master ensuite. Distinctive solarium on two sides w/ceramic flrs. Possibility for B&amp;B, home business, in-law suite. Zoned tourist/residential. MLS #817024 \$449,900</p>	 <p><b>Mike Labelle</b></p>	<p><b>13 Bill Hodgins Way</b> Half acre plus building lot in "Peaks Village" subdivision. Deeded water access to Calabogie Lake. View of ski hill, walk to golf course, access to miles of ATV/hiking trails. MLS #820532 \$45,000</p>	<p><b>0 K &amp; P Trail</b> Waterfront building lot on Calabogie Lake w/approximately 475 feet frontage. 1 1/2 acres in natural state with laneway into lot. Private access, ATV trails, close to golf. MLS #829140 \$309,000</p>
<p><b>6695 K &amp; P Trail</b> Attractive waterfront home w/225 ft frontage on Calabogie Lake. Docks, sand beach, screened porch, 3 bdrms. Private location, family oriented. Fabulous view of lake &amp; surrounding hills. Walk to golf course. MLS #811420 \$449,900</p>	<p><b>329A Church Farm Rd.</b> Year round living on Calabogie Lake. Bungalow w/hrdwd flrs, wood walls &amp; ceilings in open concept lv/dn/kit area wall-to-wall windows overlooking tiered walkway to decks &amp; dock. Separate oversized garage w/sleeping loft &amp; 2pc bath. MLS #827087 \$465,000</p>		<p><b>Lot 15 Lower Spruce Hedge Rd</b> 312 acres of rolling meadows and woodland with Taylor Lake included, 2 wells on ppty, very private, great fishing. Close to Burnstown. MLS # 809354 \$650,000</p>	<p><b>177 Pheasant Run</b> Half acre building lot in "The Highlands" subdivision surrounding the golf course with deeded access to Calabogie Lake. MLS #829964 \$39,900</p>



**Calabogie Real Estate**





# Behind the Tunes

By Peter Chess

In the spring of 1945, 19 year old Matilda Scaduto was working as an elevator operator at the Schroeder Hotel in Milwaukee. One afternoon she struck up a conversation with one of the guests, a musician with the charming and poetic name of Diadorius Boudleaux Bryant. He was, as she was to find out, named after a French soldier who had saved his father's life during WW2. Boudleaux, as everyone called him, was in town playing fiddle with Hank Penny and his Radio cowboys. Seven years her senior, he was born in Shellman Georgia and was trained as a classical violinist, spending the 1937/1938 season with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. However, he had more of an interest in country music than classical and soon joined Hank Penny's band.

Five days after their meeting, the couple ran off together and married. Felice, (Boudleaux's pet name for his wife) believed the couple's meeting was fate. "I had dreamed of Boudleaux when I was eight years old" she said. "When I saw this man walking toward me in the hotel, I knew him right away".

Over the course of the next 30 years, the couple would write over 6000 songs together, selling more than 200 million records by a diverse and iconic list of recording artists. In the early years of their marriage Boudleaux continued to work as both a musician and a mechanic, She couldn't play an instrument nor read music but believed her lyrics had an intrinsic melody to them and Boudleaux was able to tap into that melody and write the music down. After compiling a list of 80 songs or so, just for fun they decided to pitch the songs to all the people they knew in the music business and strangers alike. After seven months of futility they finally placed a song called "Country Boy" with Grande Old Opry star, Little Jimmy Dickens. The song went to #10 on the country charts and by the next year the couple had moved out of their mobile home and rented a house in Nashville. They were signed to the Acuff / Rose publishing company and scored a few more hits, including "Hey Joe" by Carl Smith, a popular country singer, and "I've Been Thinking" by Eddy Arnold, another Grande Old Opry star.

It was into the fifties, with rock and roll on the rise, that the Bryants hit their stride when they hooked up with two guitar picking harmony singing brothers from Kentucky...Don and Phil Everly. It was a match made in hillbilly heaven. The Bryant's biggest hit of all was a tune that had been turned down at least thirty times by other artists, including a rising phenomenon named

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Elvis Presley. In fact, it had been rejected in the morning of the same day the Everlys heard it in the afternoon. The song was "Bye Bye Love" and it rocketed the Everly Brothers to the top of the charts in a few short weeks after its release. What followed was a string of #1 hits, including, "Wake Up Little Susie", "All I Have To Do Is Dream", "Bird Dog", "Devoted To You", "Problems", and "Take A Message To Mary". Buddy Holly had a chart topper with "Raining in My Heart" and a song I will refer to in a future column, "Love Hurts" which was recorded on the "B" side of Roy Orbison's monster hit "Running Scared".


Their string of hits continued through the 60s and into the 80s' with artists including Tony Bennett, Sonny James, Eddy Arnold, Charley Pride, Jim Reeves, Leo Sayer, Simon & Garfunkel, Sarah Vaughan, The Grateful Dead, Elvis Costello, Count Basie, Dean Martin, Ray Charles, Gram Parsons, Emmy Lou Harris, Bob Dylan and numerous others.

Over 1500 of their songs have been recorded and both Felice and Boudleaux were inducted into the Songwriter's Hall Of Fame and The Country Music Hall of Fame". It is unlikely there will ever be such a prolific and talent-

*continud on page 21*

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## Rural Vignettes

By Antonia Chatson

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

### PRIORITIES

Once the farm had been purchased, and furnished with a ramshackle array of furniture, there were other things that had to be seen to. My mother's first priority was to have the aides of the large barn torn down in case they might fall on top of me. This was a rather unlikely occurrence as the logs were so well fitted together that nothing short of an earthquake would have shaken them. But then my mother had always been an alarmist. My father saw to the replacing of broken window panes. As the house had been deserted for years there was a lot of dirt and grime to clean up that had made its way in from the outside, to say nothing of remains of wild-life and indications of hordes of mice.

I presume that my mother dealt with the sprucing up of the interior of the house

so my father was left with the exterior priorities. And of course the main one was the construction of a privy. Never one to succumb to tradition, he decided to build it not only to be functional but also to be a work of art. He constructed it in a picturesque position beside a large silver maple under one of its gracefully arching branches. The door opened by means of a sliding latch and one could close it on the inside by another one on the inside of the door. The privy had a board floor. Behind the seat was an elongated window, the length of the back wall, and ten inches deep which would provide the gentlemen patrons with a pleasant view out onto the back pasture while they were occupied. On either side of the seat were two smaller windows about 10 inches by twelve which could be opened and closed by means of a wooden spool from thread nailed on to the frame. This would provide the lady customers with not one but two different views. The window on the right looked out onto the old apple orchard and the window on the right gave a pleasant view of the silver maple behind which was the stone house. The seat was in the middle of a bench on either side of which were several copies of the Family Herald. Once read, these were torn off page by page and used to wrap the toilet paper in. Thence it would be deposited in one of the two buckets on the

floor of the privy. This would be periodically emptied into a bin in the kitchen near the stove and would be used to start fires with. In another bucket on the floor was first of all dirt, then sawdust when we became more civilized and owned not only a car, but a trailer with which we hauled sawdust from Robinson's sawmill in town. Deposits were made in a bucket under the seat then covered with dirt or sawdust. Every few days my father would lift the entire bench, lift out the bucket, escort it to a compost box and the contents of the safety deposit bucket would be added to the heap. The privy was painted white and instead of lurking behind the house as if it had done something wrong, this privy stood out as a beacon of beauty and hope to those in need.

It was many years later that we arrived at the farm unexpectedly early one Friday afternoon. I was the first to go to the privy and when I opened the door, I could not help but let out a scream. Neatly placed on top of the toilet seat were two rather large boxes. I ran into the farmhouse to report my findings. My father came out with me to view the aberration and upon closer inspection ascertained that they were two full cases of beer. As none of us were drinkers we were appalled but also intrigued as to who would have hidden it there.

With a twinkle in his eye, my father transported both cases into the house

and then began a waiting game. Early the next afternoon, a half ton drove into our driveway right up beside the house, not seeming to register that our car was parked in front of the house. A rather apprehensive youth emerged and scooted over to the privy. When he opened the door and found his boxes had gone missing he was in an awful dither looking around the side and even the back of the privy in case the boxes had taken a notion to travel. As you can by now guess, I was watching with great interest from an upstairs window! The youth widened his horizons of search, circumventing the trunk of the large poplar tree beside the privy. Then - he stopped dead as realization hit him and he looked towards the house. His peripheral vision must have taken in our car parked at the front of the house. With much nervousness and hesitation he approached the back door and knocked. My father opened the door a little too quickly indicating that he too had been observing the proceedings and graciously invited the youth in. My father talked at him about the weather marvelling at the amount of snow we received last winter, what a late cold spring it had been, the poor hay crop due to drought and the possibility of not enough pasture for cattle this summer. My father then asked him who he was pointedly telling him that he knew of most of the people round

*continued on page 22*



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## The Healing Tree

By Robbie Anderman

### ALDER (*Alnus*)

Most folks might not call the Tag Alder a Tree because of its size. Occasionally, though, it does reach heights worthy of the name, 'Tree', and I include it because it looks like a small Tree, has so many healing properties, is so common, and because I like it.

When I think of Alder I usually also think of water; as the 'speckled' or 'tag' Alder and most of the *Alnus* (Alder) family like living near water. Stream and river banks, lake shores, even gullies and swamps with some drainage are the favoured home sites of the Alder. The presence of Alder often indicates water nearby or close beneath the surface.

A fascinating feature of Alder is the nitrogen fixing ability of the clusters of swellings on the rootlets. This probably helps them with their quick growth, and then benefits the soil fertility when they die.

Male and female flowers appear on the same tree, formed in the autumn so that the male catkin is ready to elongate and release its clouds of yellow pollen early in spring, often while there's still ice and snow on the ground. Bees greatly

appreciate this, and use alder pollen for spring brood rearing.

The cone-like female catkins are woody and remain on the tree for a year or more after the small winged nutlet has matured and flown away. These little 'cones' help to distinguish the Alder from a young Birch, which it resembles. The Birch's female catkin disintegrates after the seeds drop.

Ptarmigan and grouse eat the soft buds and seeds. Muskrat, deer, rabbits and moose browse the twigs. Beavers and rabbits chew the bark. People also eat the buds, liking them for their soft chewiness and ease of picking. The inner bark of the Alder may be eaten for emergency food.

Alder leaves crushed or pulped when green, or moistened with warm milk or water when dry and used as a poultice, have been used for reducing swelling of all kinds. The fresh leaves placed in moccasins, shoes or boots relieve or prevent hot and aching feet. A strong tea of the leaves used as a foot bath is a foot soother.

The strong leaf tea is also a soothing wash for pimples, wounds and sores. As a poultice it is known to take the 'fire' out of scalds, burns and inflammations, just like the water that Alder loves to grow by. Leaves can also be chewed and placed on a bleeding wound as a styptic to stop the flow. As a mild tea

Alder leaves have been used as a treatment for blood ailments and rheumatic complaints. Most Alder leaves contain about 5,000 ppm of molybdenum, a rare and necessary mineral.

Like the leaves, the inner bark - which is available all year round - is known for being astringent, cooling and soothing and was much used to reduce swelling, alleviate dropsy, as an alternative for regenerating internal glands, and even to aid in a cure for gangrene.

With this in mind it is easy to understand that Native American Peoples and early settlers used a strong brew of Alder bark as a regular vulnerary for deep wounds (even to the bone) and bruises, and effected what could be termed miraculous recoveries.

The Delaware chewed the bark as a quick poultice for swellings, strains and heavy bleeding. While chewing it they could also be cleaning their teeth, relieving mouth pain and firming their gums. I've known it to reduce a tooth abscess overnight.

The boiled bark as a tea had many uses. It was drunk for diarrhea, diphtheria, haemorrhage of the lungs, bloody stools, general weakness, to solidify mucous in a cold, and to stop cramps and retching. It was gargled as a mouthwash, especially during toothaches and for sore throats. Alder bark tea was also

used as a wash for sore eyes, for sores, and to treat itching.

Inner bark of Alder was also boiled in vinegar to make a remedy to kill head lice and relieve the itch (scabies).

The powdered inner bark was used as a dusting on chafed skin, even on saddle galls of horses.

Alder's twigs were the main part used in some areas, where they were boiled and used as a bath for sprains, bruises, headache and backache. For strong bruises one drank an infusion made from year old twigs every two hours. Besides healing the bruise this tea was thought to calm the pain.

In some areas people sought the stronger astringent power found in the root bark. This again was used for swellings, as an astringent and coagulant tea, and as a wash for horses' saddle galls. It was also used as an emetic.

The root was also used as a yellow dye; the yellow dye is also found in the inner bark and can colour the skin when the bark is used as a skin poultice.

Alder wood is hard and good for burning when it's dry, but like Birch, it can't be left sitting long with its moisture-proof bark on or the wood will rot.

All in all, Alder is a helpful little tree for humans, animals, and the Earth's soil, as it not only fertilizes but helps hold together stream and river banks.





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## Addington Highlands News

By Christi Laundrie

Hey, hey, it's yours truly here, sending a cheery "hello again" to all of you in the Addington Highlands. Much has happened since the Highlander was last sent out. As I have been out of touch for a while, I will need to reconnect with all my old contacts, so I can work as a viable reporter for all you readers. Feel free to contact me with any news you may come across. Send it to my email or call me. Remember to let the phone ring until the answering machine kicks in (9 rings).

Jack Frost is trying to hang on with blasts of cold and occasional snow, but spring is just behind him with tulips, crocuses and daffodils blooming. And, unfortunately, the little black beasties are biting already. We now need one night of hard frost to drastically cut down their numbers.

Does anyone know how to eliminate moles? If so, please contact me. They are digging up a large portion of our lawn and garden.

Melville Choir will be hosting its annual Spring Festival of Song at the Melville United Church in Eganville on Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm. Choirs

come from all over the county to perform at this event. It is an afternoon of uplifting music, and there will be refreshments served in the church basement afterwards. The free will offering that the Festival collects is always donated to any one or more of the many area charities that offer services to the general public, so your dollar will go to help someone in need. Mark the date on your calendars, bring a friend and come out to enjoy the music

Local residents ran to put out a small grass fire behind a mobile home along Slate Falls Rd on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Several homes were in danger, and unable to douse it due to high winds, they waved down passers-by to call it in. The fire spread quickly across the yard, up over the hill, then roared off into the bush. Grass burned around two nearby residences and along the back of a third. The fire department received the call between 1 and 2 pm. Two trucks from Denbigh and one from Kaladar-Barrie responded. One residence sustained some damage to the siding on the back of their garage, but it and the main structure were saved from the flames. The firefighters, most of them local volunteers, worked hard and tirelessly all afternoon. Thanks to the effort of a neighbour, who used a tractor to plough up a fire break, the crew

finally managed to get the fire under control, but it was well after 5 pm before the blaze was contained. Even then, several firefighters stayed behind to catch any hotspots. It seems hot ashes, dumped outside, started the blaze. Since the nights are still cool enough to warrant some form of heat, Fire Chief Casey Cuddy is asking residents to make sure hot ashes are cold before they are dumped outside. The snow is gone and last year's grass is dry as tinder, taking only a small spark to ignite. Those flames, especially wind fanned ones, can travel faster than one can drive a car. Such an inferno would decimate hundreds of acres of bush, killing animals and endangering homes and people. So, please folks, be careful with any type of fire.

41 Highway, our talented local musicians, have been busy in the area, providing us with songs we all love. Recently they have been playing music from Joe Grant, who used to be a member of Tanglefoot. 41 Highway played at a retirement centre in Barry's Bay on May 03, 2012, bringing some fun into the lives of the resident seniors. Did you folks know Harold Kaufman, one of the four members of 41 Highway is not only an artist and a musician, but also writes music? Yours truly was told he had music books out as well. Harold also had a showing of his art at the Raynard Gallery in Kingston recently,

and received a great review in the paper down that way.

The Cloyne and District Historical Society is holding a mammoth yard sale, rain or shine, at the Barrie Community Hall in Cloyne May 19<sup>th</sup> starting at 9 am.

I look forward to serving again as your local reporter.

When you have news from the Denbigh area that you want to share, please contact me at 613-333-2376 or by email at: [christi.L \[highlandsreporter@hotmail.com\]](mailto:christi.L[highlandsreporter@hotmail.com])

"... if a man is only as good as his word, and his word is no good....then is he?...." End

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*Boat, Motor and Trailer for sale:  
 14.5 ft Springbok aluminum boat (1991) new floor, and 15 H.P. Mercury Four-Stroke short shaft motor (2006) with very low hours, and EZ Loader trailer (2005). Asking \$2900. Call John at 613 333-1870 or 613 526-4817 in Ottawa.*





## GMFD Fire News

### ***Welcome back to summer –together we can make it a safe and enjoyable summer***

Our beautiful Township has almost 50,000 acres of Crown land and many pine plantations. Most of our private properties are beautifully landscaped with trees by Mother Nature. Along with the ability to enjoy this natural beauty comes an obligation for residents and visitors to be vigilant in keeping it safe from fire.

Everyone saw the horrific pictures from Slave Lake last year. Residents from both Calabogie and Griffith were astounded to see and strongly smell smoke from Quebec and Northern Ontario Fires. Disaster level fire is one of the top 3 risks for Greater Madawaska. The potential for us to be trapped by fire and needing to take to the water in an attempt to save our lives is a major concern. Please! Plan your escape now and make sure family, renters and visitors know what it is.

Almost all of the Townships around us have adopted an automatic fire ban policy every year in the early spring when conditions are dry, cottagers don't have water hooked up yet, and the desire to rake and burn debris is at its highest. Other Townships do not allow open air burning for the entire fire season from April 1 to October 31 each year. We hope to avoid having to take either of these steps through a public education and awareness campaign promoting a safe burning culture by everyone in our Township.

Just a few of the important rules about safe fires you may not know are:

- Most of the regulations surrounding outdoor burning are Provincial law, not Municipal policy
- You can only burn at night from 2 hours before sunset to 2 hours after sunrise
- A 45 gallon drum is not an approved incinerator
- It is illegal to burn garbage
- There are very stringent fire safety rules specific to campgrounds and forestry operations
- Between April 1 and October 31, burn permits are required for all non-cooking and warmth fires
- ALL fires must be guarded by a responsible person with sufficient suppression capability until dead out
- Grass fires during the fire season (April 1 to October 31) are not permitted
- Your burn pile must be no bigger than 2m x 2m and be located at least 3m from all other combustibles
- No fires are to be started or allowed to burn during windy conditions (not greater than a light breeze of 6 to 11km/hr felt on face; leaves rustle; ordinary vanes moved by wind)

Phew! That's a lot of rules to remember and that's not all of them!

Conversations with many of you indicate that most people are not aware of these laws and have illegal fires without realizing it. Doing so, could subject you to fines and cost recovery charges in excess of \$1200 per hour if a 9-1-1 call is made and we arrive to find you have an illegal fire. If your fire got out of control and the Ministry of Natural Resources water bombers were needed, the cost for you would be well into the tens of thousands of dollars if no houses were lost and much greater if your neighbour's house is lost or someone is injured or killed in the fire.

It's important to note that if your fire is in accordance with provincial and municipal requirements and still gets out of control cost recovery for GMFD services does not apply – your tax \$ cover this kind of response.

To ensure that your fire is safe and legally compliant, familiarize yourself with the Ontario Forest Fires Prevention Act available at [http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws\\_statutes\\_90f24\\_e.htm](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_90f24_e.htm) and the Township of Greater Madawaska Burn Bylaw 35-2011 available at: <http://www.townshipofgreatermadawaska.com/fire-and-rescue/public-education/burn-by-law-35-2011/>

#### **BURN BYLAW UPDATE:**

In 2011 Council approved changes to our Burn Bylaw (35-2011). These changes apply 100% cost recovery to residents holding illegal fires where the fire department is called to respond, while also greatly improving and streamlining the process for obtaining a fire permit. For example:

BURN PERMIT IMPROVEMENTS – As of May 1, 2012, you can now:

1. Purchase a 48 hour permit for \$5, a monthly permit for \$25 or a fire season permit for \$100.
2. Apply for a burn permit in advance (e.g., you plan to burn while on holidays in July – you can apply now)
3. Apply for your permit in person; through the drop-slot at the Township Office or by sending us an email

For more information on this new process, call 613-433-2545 (leave message) or email [firepermit@greatermadawaska.com](mailto:firepermit@greatermadawaska.com)

Stay tuned for more improvements in 2013 as we explore ways for you to purchase your burn permit on-line

### **CALL BEFORE YOU BURN! - 613-433-2545**

We have established an information line for residents to call and find out the status of fire danger in our Township. Each time a fire restriction (campfires or approved incinerators only) or a fire ban (no burning or fireworks of any kind) are required, this phone message is updated and available 24 hours a day.

***Remember, even if you already have a permit, CALL BEFORE YOU BURN!  
If a fire restriction or fire ban is put in place, your permit is automatically cancelled.***



# Bridge is not for beginners

By John Roxon

Nor is it for any sane person, really, for bridge is a mish-mash of other card games, strange conventions, byzantine scoring and, if that isn't enough, your partner is always the dummy, when you're playing the hand.

That it's still enjoyed by millions of people world-wide defies logic. It was originally derived some 500 years ago from a game called whist, which is itself a bastardization of whisk - so named for players supposedly "whisking" their cards off the table in utter frustration. A more probable source of the name "whisk" is the sheer volume of whiskey that must be consumed to make sense of the game. The name bridge itself is from the Russian, Biritch and, since the English don't have a particular skill at adapting to other languages easily, simply called it "Bridge".

So let's examine this game of bridge a bit more closely. The modern name, bridge, is used probably because of a player's propensity to toss his partner off the nearest bridge once the gap between partners bidding and his actual hand is revealed. So frustration is built right into the name.

The deal consists of the entire deck of cards being distributed to four players, or two teams of two. The individual players are positioned and named as if on points of a compass - North, South, East and West. This way, the players can easily escape from the other players and be as far away as it's possible to be.

Every player receives 13 cards. Uh oh, bad luck right from the deal. Once the players have their cards, they start a verbal square dance called bidding or "the bid". Before the bidding can commence, players must take stock of their hands and add up the "point value" of the cards using an archaic system invented roughly one hundred years ago. In simple terms, no one should open the bidding process unless their hand is worth at least 13 points. This point assessment is just for your own purposes to gauge the quality of your hand. The points are added like this; aces are four; kings three; queens two and jacks one. Of course if you have a void (nothing) in one suit, you can add 3 points, a doubleton 1 point and a singleton 2 points. Similarly, you can add points if you have a 5 card suit, a six card suit, a gabardine suit and a special 2 points can be added if you're the one serving the drinks.

Basically, the bidding process reveals to all players what cards you're holding. Of course, just telling everyone in straight terms the cards in your hand would be too simple. So a type of code has been invented. For example, if your

partner opens with one no trump (indicating a fairly balanced hand among all four suits and 15-16 high card points) you may very well reply "two clubs" even though you may not have any clubs at all in your hand. This bidding convention is called Stayman, because, what you're saying is; wait, stay, man, my hand isn't all that bad. And this is only one twisted bidding convention out of, god only knows how many. There are at least 20-25 different codes or conventions that the experts say everyone should know before they start playing, so it's a good idea to have an Enigma machine by your side before starting.

The team that opens the bidding is saying that they have enough good cards (like aces and kings - the only traditional part of the game) to win the round. The opponents are basically saying, "\*\*\*\* you, our hand is better". And so the dance begins. Of course, there are a few nefarious sidebars to the whole bidding process. One fan favourite is the so-called "shit bid". The only purpose of the shit bid is to force your opponents to bid higher in hopes that they will get in over their heads and lose the contract. Of course you can always count on your opponents to foolishly bid higher because of the sheer amount of stubbornness and hubris inherent to the game. Another "\*\*\*\* you" type of bid is the "double". A double is the call you make after you shit bid your opponent over their head.

People who use the double revel in the thought of their opponents failing miserably in their quest for game. Sort of like bridge schadenfreude, if you will.

Another type of bid, only recommended for those with an unusually high opinion of themselves, is the shut up bid. The shut up bid is made when the player thinks he has great cards and is a superb player and all other players are shit. For example, the normal bidding process might go like this;

- North - 1 diamond
- East - 1 heart
- South - 2 diamonds
- West - pass
- Etc., until a contract is found.

*continud on page 21*

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# Putting You into Your Golf Swing

By Susan Veale, BSc.  
Kinesiologist

Golf season is upon us and we are fortunate to have many excellent courses in the area. Near my home, the Calabogie Highlands has 27 holes and Calabogie Peaks offers a great 9-hole par 3/4 course where on the closing hole, for me, golf balls with snorkel and fins work just fine. As a golfer, I believe it's fair to say that all golfers look for ways to better their swing, increase distance and hit straighter.

Every golfer knows how difficult it is to consistently perform the perfect swing. So what's the secret? Some say prayer; others say good equipment and technique but what about strength and flexibility? To improve your golf swing, it is important to be tension free during the full movement of the swing. Hitting a long, straight ball comes from a relaxed swing powered by some athleticism and good mechanics. Weak or tight muscles can affect balance, the backswing then interrupt the timing of the follow through.

Good flexibility, muscle strength and posture can change scores in golf. It can also reduce risk of injury as shoulders, back, hips and knees are golf vulnerable.

Before stepping onto the first tee, it is important to do some pre-game stretching and warm-up exercises. A warm-up routine not only benefits the muscles, ligaments, tendons and joints, but also, it increases blood flow to the muscles allowing them to perform more efficiently. A bit of cardio such as jogging on the spot, a brisk walk or a few jumping jacks is a good start.

Once the body is warmed up, stretch your spine a little bit by performing some simple spinal exercises such as side bends, touching your toes and spinal twists. Shoulder, chest and upper back come next. To warm up these areas, hold a golf club parallel in your hands, reach up over your head, take a deep breath, flex your elbows and let the club come down behind your head parallel to your shoulders. Repeat this 10 times. You can help your lower back, hips and knees by performing a simple rotation exercise. With the knees slightly bent, feet shoulder distance apart, place the club over your head and behind your shoulders. Start turning the shoulders as far as possible in one direction then let your pelvis follow so your tummy is facing the same direction as your chest. Stretch this area then repeat this movement to the other side. Repeat both sides 10 times. By performing these exercises a few

minutes before stepping into the tee box, you will feel more flexible and relaxed for your first swing. As far as the score card, I recommend taking a pencil with an eraser.

If you would like to participate in a more complete golf stretch program, I welcome you to join me Thursday mornings, 11 am at the Calabogie Highlands beside the putting green for a 20 minute drop-in stretch.

Susan Veale  
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## Out of Gas (Cont)

*End*  
closes, everyone must drive to town for gas. Then shopping takes place in town, and the village general store loses its customers and closes. The gas station-general store-post office-coffee shop-general meeting place and heart of the village disappears".

**Post Script:** *We have just learned that there is no gas available at this time in Denbigh pending expensive TSSA upgrades to the gas pumps at Burndt's Garage and 41 Stop.*

*End*

## Bridge (Cont)

Utilizing the shut up bid, the bidding may look like this;  
North – five diamonds  
East – pass  
South – pass  
West – \*\*\*\* off, aka "double"

The fact is, that no one truly knows how many tricks their cards can produce and they certainly never have a clue what's in their opponent's hand. For proof of this, try being an observer at a contract bridge game at a local club. At the local club, every team has the same hand and they see if they can arrive at the perfect game for the card combination. Let's say that with the cards the players are holding, a team should be able to make four spades. In actual bidding and play, the teams will do everything from getting two no-trump to not bidding at all to going down five tricks. They then root through the tricks in hope of recovering their hands in order to explain to all what went so horribly wrong.

After the bidding is complete and all players are thoroughly confused, it's time for the play. To be a good player, you should be a bit intimidating, use finesse to force out high cards and have a good memory. The good memory is essential because it's very important to

*continued on page 21*

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## Bridge (Cont)

remember who is a reasonable player and who is, well, not so good so you don't risk getting the crappy players as a partner. The intricacies of the play may be included in a future column, or not. It depends solely on whether my frustration with bridge has been renewed or whether I'm ready to give it another chance.

That's bridge, in a nutshell. Don't let the fact that it has been and is played by kings and presidents and despots and dictators impress you. To them, bridge

is a means of acting out world domination and proving to all that they can count up to twenty. Bridge, of course, has also been enjoyed by the Marx Brothers (imagine the four or five of them around the table – was Harpo the dummy?) by Telly Savales (who loves ya!) and by Omar Shariff (who bored easily of backgammon).

No, bridge is not for beginners, or intermediaries or grand masters. It's best to play "go fish"; at least then, you'll know what cards your opponents have.

End

## Behind the tunes (cont)

ed team of songwriters again. Of their success, Boudleaux once said "Unless one feels driven to compose and at the same time has the instincts of a Mississippi riverboat gambler, he should never seek song writing as a profession. Unless you know in your heart that you are great, feel it in your bones that you are lucky and believe in your soul that you might get away with it, pick something more certain. Like chasing the white whale or eradicating the common house fly. We didn't have the benefit of such sage advice. Now it's too late to back up. Sometimes it pays to be ignorant."

Boudleaux passed away in 1987 and Felice continued to write until her death in 2003. At the time she was writing a one woman play, living independently with her pet Mynah bird.

Postscript: If you would like to hear a live version of "Bye Bye Love" come to the Pine Valley Restaurant any Wednesday between 5pm and 7pm. There's a good chance you'll hear Bert Kaufeldt belting it out as only Bert can do, accompanied by the Pine Valley Boys singing harmony and pickin' along.

End

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# Think Pink for Michelle

By Mary-Joan Hale

When confronted with bad news, there are two possible reactions: fight or flight. Either is valid depending on the circumstances. One cannot be faulted for either choice (unless of course, you are Ismay of the Titanic!). For Michelle Smith, the decision to fight is most admirable.

Michelle discovered a breast lump in September, 2011 but it was not bothering her shoulder at that time. Like many of us, she has dense breasts and has felt these anomalies before. She kept an eye on it and saw her doctor in November for her annual check-up. A December mammogram detected lumps in her left breast, but the right side seemed to be fine. A biopsy was performed on December 20<sup>th</sup>. On Boxing Day she got the news that there was a malignancy which included the lymph nodes. What a way to spend the Christmas Season!

The next step of her journey was to have an MRI and a CAT scan followed by another biopsy on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012. On February 27<sup>th</sup>, another biopsy revealed a malignancy in the right breast. Decision time came and the choice was to have immediate surgery or keep an eye on it: fight or flight. I have known Michelle for about 12



Left to right: left: Maxine Allen, middle: Michelle Smith, right: Jenn Mulvihill...all busy Moms of young kids

Photo: Leon Mulvihill

years and I have never seen her back down from a challenge. She is a get - 'er-done Valley girl. True to form, she chose to fight and entered hospital in Ottawa on March 1<sup>st</sup> for surgery. There is significance here for me. We always celebrate St. David's Day in our family which is March 1<sup>st</sup>. He is the patron saint of Wales and the national flower is the daffodil. Daffodils are the flowers of hope for Cancer!

The fight against Cancer is a very personal one. Some folks just wish to take the treatments and get it over with. Others may hide from the world. Hey, who knows how any of us would react to such news? Each must tackle the process in one's own way...and then there's Michelle! No sooner was she out of hospital, than she was on Face-

book telling us all to get to know our breasts, to do regular self-exams. She asked us to promise to do so. The reaction was amazing, with all responding with, "I promise". Her message is 'awareness'. We need to know our own bodies. She is encouraging women to take control of their health.

Regular mammograms in Canada are suggested at age 50. In the US, it is 40. Michelle had not yet reached her 40<sup>th</sup> birthday. She wants women who palpate a lump to insist on a mammogram so that if there is no malignancy found, at least there is a baseline for future comparison. The feeling which seems to be developing is that fewer tests should be done. A mammogram test no longer includes a breast exam by a Registered Nurse. Many of my friends and I are furious about this decision. Not only was this exam thorough, it was a time for questions and health teaching. It was relaxing speak-

ing with a woman and reviewing the proper technique. The extent of Michelle's condition was revealed by an MRI. She wants us to push for further tests if we are not satisfied with the results. Some researchers are concerned about false positives or the anxiety from the testing process. Knowledge of results is reinforcing even if the news is bad.

Michelle is overwhelmed by the support from her family and friends. She has two wonderful children who have shown their love in so many ways from extra hugs to helping with chores inside and outside their home. Stuart, her husband continues to be a rock and his supportive love sustains Michelle.

Last year Michelle did 'The Weekend to End Women's Cancers' with the 'Cougars Conquering Cancer' from Renfrew and raised \$4,000 for Breast Cancer Research and now she is facing this challenge. Jenn Mulvihill and Maxine Allen, both runners, decided to organize a short 5K walk/run on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May to raise funds to assist with the myriad of non-medical expenses which crop up. There is gas to Ottawa, parking, eating out if there is a space between tests on the same day and so on. By the time you read this, we will all have walked or run in solidarity with our friend. They say, "It takes a village to raise a child", but it also applies to supporting our friends and neighbours when they need it.

Think pink for Michelle and for all those who are fighting Breast Cancer.

End

## Rural Vignettes (Cont)

about. By this time the poor lad had sweat running down his face and suddenly blurted out the question of the moment, "Have you got my two cases of beer?"

"Oh, yes," my father replied, "I almost forgot why you had come." The youth then explained that his parents were going away on Saturday night into Sunday and he was throwing a party but he did not want his par-

ents to find out about the beer. My father returned the semi-stolen property.

"Please don't tell my parents," the boy begged.

"Only if you find a different hiding place next time," my father replied.

We never saw him again, but we always referred to that time as 'the desecration of the privy'.

End

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