

The Madawaska HIGHLANDER

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Free

June 2006

Reminiscing With Margaret Ann (McMahon) Leclaire

By Garry Ferguson

Margaret Ann (McMahon) Leclaire was born in the year 1916 on her parents' farm in Camel Chute near the Wolf Rapids. Though the county road has since been changed and no longer runs past the place where the buildings once stood, the Wolf Rapids Road, on the same roadbed, provides access to modern cottages. Rose Patterson and Judy Boles from Ohio have a summer home on the spot once occupied by the McMahon house.

Margaret's father was Alfred John McMahon who was raised on a farm, long ago reclaimed by bush, across the river from Camel Chute. Mary Belanger, her mother who died when Margaret was only two years old, was also from Camel Chute.

Because their father could not look after them when their mother died, the children were sent to live with other families. Until her father remarried, Margaret lived with the King family in Griffith since Margaret Ann (Belanger) King was her aunt. For a short period of time before going to the Kings however, she stayed with Clophia (Cluffy) and Joe Varrin. Mrs. Varrin's children were babies at the time (Wilfred was born in 1913, J.B. in 1915 and Maureen in 1918) so she had to put several in the same bed. Wilfred Varrin never let her forget this and, until he died, would tease by asking, "Remember when we used to sleep together?"

Margaret loved school beyond all else even though getting there was sometimes a hardship and always a long walk. The Christmas season, when pupils decorated the schoolroom and built a stage for a concert, was a delight. The Separate School was built on the plot where the sand shed is now situated along the Matawatchan Road, so every morning the big hill, known locally as Bill Robert's Hill, had to be climbed.

She remembers times when she, along with her brother, Patrick (Paddy) and her sister Cecelia (later Donahue), walked on the rail fence by the roadside to make the climb easier after snowstorms. Roads were seldom ploughed then.

One of the reasons for liking school as much as she did was that it was an escape from the work and toil of farm life, especially in the fall at turkey-plucking time. Long before it was time for school, Margaret Ann would get up each morning, carry water for the day, bring the cows from pasture, help milk and separate, feed the calves and nine pigs with the surplus skimmed milk then lay back down until her stepmother, Mary (Gervais) McMahon had prepared breakfast.

Nothing was wasted, not a paper bag, button, piece of string or even a pillow cover. She remembers her stepmother emptying the feathers from old pillows and making dresses from the standard blue-and-white-striped cloth while saving the feathers for comforters. Cloth from flour bags was used in making new pillowcases, aprons, dish-towels and even clothes. In later years she carried on the tradition by making a comforter from the gold-trimmed purple bags used to contain whiskey bottles. She's quick to point out that she didn't drink the whiskey but obtained the bags from someone who did. On one occasion, however, there was no choice but to waste. A hungry skunk found its way into the pork barrel where it drowned in the brine so the pickled meat had to be thrown away. Fortunately the barrel wasn't full: otherwise, the loss would have been much greater.

It has always been said that strange things happened along the river and Margaret remembers one such incident. While the family was returning from some event at a late hour on a very dark night, they approached

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Summer visitors



A young moose in a backyard at Aird's Lake

Photo: Annabell Marshall

Matawatchan Road work plans are finalized

By Bill Graham

Residents of the geographic township of Matawatchan were delighted last autumn when they heard that the County of Renfrew planned to fix the Matawatchan Road. The County said that they would use funds that they received from the gas tax to repair ten kilometres of the Matawatchan Road between Highway 41 in Griffith and the start of the Centennial Lake Road, (County Road 71).

Two weeks prior to work beginning, plans are now finalized. Until now changing messages and rumours have kept local residents in a state of confusion.

The promised 10 kilometres was reduced to 5 kilometres by mid-winter and then in May was further reduced to 2.6 kilometres beginning in Griffith at Highway 41. But, just prior to pub-

lishing we have learned that plans have changed again—and changed favourably for Matawatchan area residents.

County planners must have heard the dismay of local residents; particularly local Councillor Karin Lehnhardt, about their plans to resurface, during the 2006 construction period, the least damaged part of the road, which is closest to Griffith. Plans have now changed and a middle section incorporating 2.4 kilometres of road will be under construction this summer. This is a section of road that is in real need of work. The work will not be just simple resurfacing, but rather total reconstruction—presumably, road bed, realignment, culverts, surface and all.

The new "proposed construction program" will see total reconstruction beginning 2.6 kilometres south of the conjunction of Highway 41 at the Matawatchan Road for 2.4 kilometres.

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Volunteers Recognized

By Richard Copeland

On June 17th, The Township of Greater Madawaska recognized the numerous and hard working volunteers of the township. The evening event provided an array of food and refreshments, fellowship and entertainment. The dedication of these volunteers was recognized by Reeve Isobel Kristinjan and MPP John Yakabowski who both praised the hard work and selflessness demonstrated of this group of dedicated citizens. Service to the community was underscored by the late arrival of many of the Calabogie Volunteer Fire Department members who had just extinguished a van fire on their way to the event.

Special recognition was given to the 'Seniors' of both Calabogie and Griffith-Matawatchan with a presentation by John Yakabowski from both the Federal (on behalf of Cheryl Gallant) and Provincial Governments.

Our MPP also displayed his talents and his own volunteerism by entertaining the group with three songs. He will soon launch a CD (perhaps by the end of August), the proceeds of which will be given to support local hospitals.



John Yakabowski entertains volunteers

Matawatchan Rd

continued

For those who know the road, this is roughly just past the boundary line between the geographic townships of Griffith and Matawatchan to the vicinity of the former Pines Cabins Trailer Park. Road work will begin on July 3.

The second section of work is proposed for the summer of 2007 and will proceed south from the end of the 2006 construction (5.05 kilometres south of Highway 41) for a total of 4.4 kilometres to the Centennial Lake Road. Again, this will be total reconstruction of the road.

During the final construction period in 2008, the County will work on the Griffith end of the road, which covers 2.6 kilometres of road. This work will entail resurfacing and culvert replacement.

It is important to know that while the 2006 construction period is probably a guarantee; construction in the following two years is only proposed and is subject to fiscal priorities. Local residents will need to keep the County accountable.

Weather Post-cast

By Richard Copeland

Oops! You haven't had a weather post-cast in the last few issues of the paper, so this will bring you up-to-date on the winter heating season and the spring.

Remember how much warmer January was? If you have forgotten, January was 22.2% warmer in 2006

than 2005. The rest of the heating season from February to May was also warmer in 2006; about 7.6% warmer over the 4 month period. February was actually 6.7% colder in 2006, but March and April were 10% warmer and May (which has fewer heating degree days) was 41% warmer. Maybe we should look at June next issue – most folks around here lit their fires this month.

It was indeed a much warmer winter this year than last; an icy one requiring nimbly shuffling around the yard in 4 inch shuffling steps. It was very easy on the firewood, but variable. This May had extreme swings in temperature from +36.1C to -3.5C. At one point in our household we had both sandals and snow shoes at the front door.

Winds were higher this year, particularly in February and March, with April and May 2006 comparable to 2005.

So winter's over and our activities are already focused on the next one. Got next years' wood in yet?

End

On another bright note, road work sponsored by the Township of Greater Madawaska, will also take place this summer on the entire section of the Matawatchan Road between the Centennial Lake Road and the beginning of Frontenac Road.

There may be some inconveniences this summer—and summers to come—with all this road work, but when it is finally completed your cars will have shaken far fewer bolts loose and the drive will be far more pleasant. All this will be thanks to both levels of government.

End

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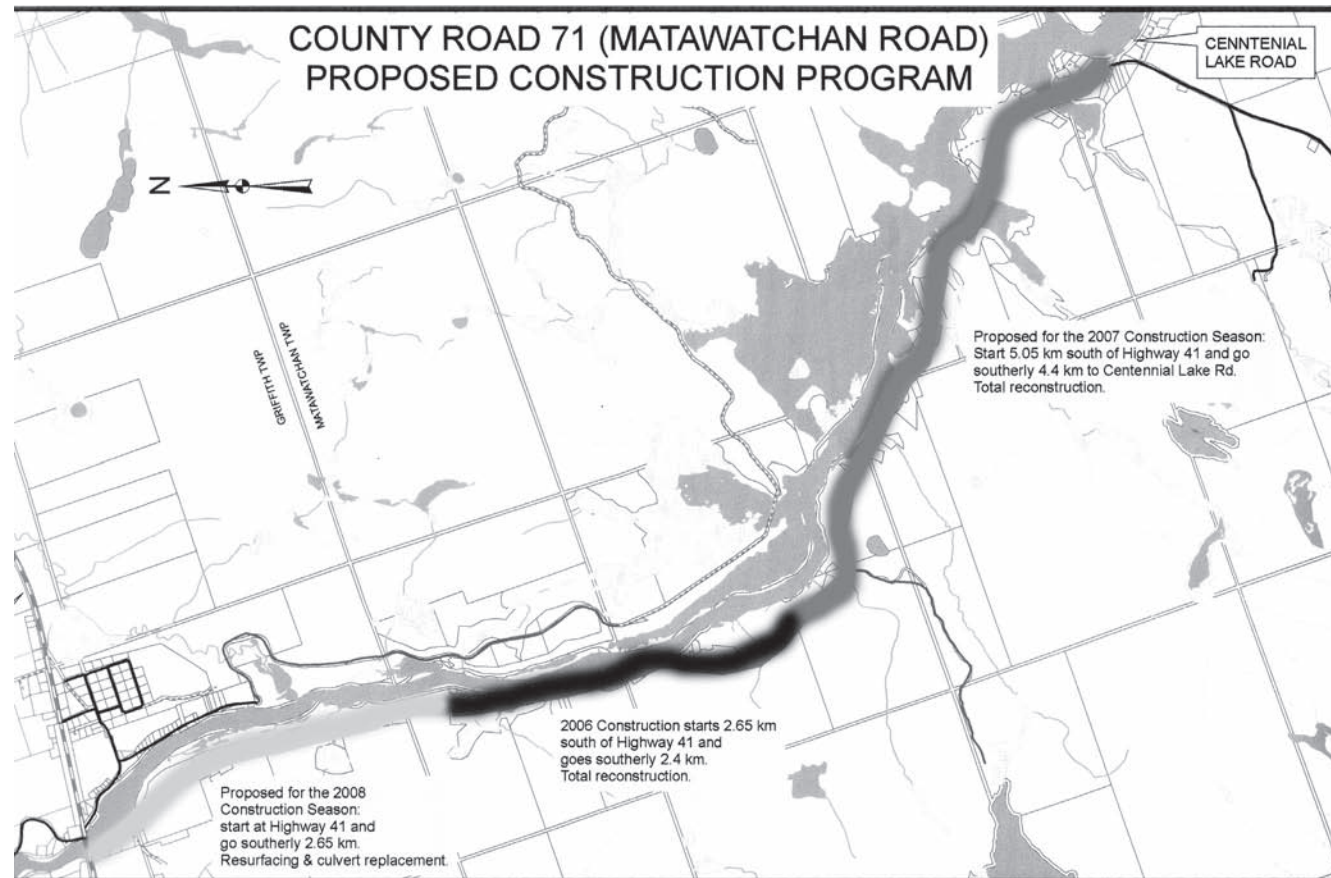
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Reminiscing

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a swampy area near their home. They were taken aback to find that the whole swamp was lit up with a strange light. Her father climbed up onto a fallen tree trunk to determine the source but gave up since it seemed to emit from everywhere.

As teenage girls often did then, Margaret went to work for someone in the community as a domestic. At the Louie Dodge farm, she not only looked after housekeeping duties, but milked cows, skimmed the milk, cleaned stables, gathered sap and boiled down and took on any other farming tasks that came up.

Church was a nice outing, though the buggy or sleigh ride to Griffith could be an adventure in bad weather. There's no hesitation however, when asked about her favorite pastime: it was dancing. She remembers dancing 27 sets in a row at a square dance where her husband-to-be, Leonard Leclaire, called every set.

In 1934 Leonard and Margaret were married in Griffith by Father Rice. She was 17 years old. Their first home was a log house built across the road from the Leclaire dwelling on the Calabogie Road. When they later took over the family farm, the log house was torn down and moved. The property, including Leclaire Lake is still in the family but all that remains on the spot where the homestead was is the red barn that Leonard built in 1954. Here they raised three sons, Delbert, Ron and Daryl.

During those early years, Margaret took on the task of cleaning the Patenaud cottages by the Madawaska River near the old Boise farm. During a major cleanup, Leonard took the team and wagon to help remove several articles too heavy to carry. As they were inside, something spooked the horses and they bolted. Margaret, though six months pregnant, was not about to let them get away so she ran out and grabbed the lines. Unfortunately, she fell and was dragged a good distance on her stomach resulting in the loss of a baby girl.

At the age of 83, Leonard died on October 12, 1998. Margaret now lives in the beautiful Quail Creek retirement home in Renfrew. Even though the residents are from all over the county, she often encounters people she's met somewhere along the way. In one case, she and another woman – a Mrs. Larabie - found that they had many mutual friends from the old days. It turned out that the lady was a childhood acquaintance, Claire Haley with whom she'd had her First Communion and her Confirmation back in Griffith. They'd never met again until their Quail Creek days.

At 89 Margaret is still a fascinating person full of wit, charm and enthusiasm, a gold mine of anecdotes and information to help us remind readers of a very different but not-so-long-past way of life.

End



Margaret Ann (McMahon) Leclaire

TRAGEDY IN CALABOGIE

By Wes Bomhower

Foreword:

Most of the information for this story was gleaned from Wilma (Chiddle) Desjardins of Renfrew, a sister to the boy who was drowned, and from Doug Scheels, a retired Line Foreman from Ontario Hydro who now resides in Arnprior.

It was summer 1949 and little Cecil Chiddle played with his brother Billy by the waters of the Madawaska between the Calabogie control dam and the dam of Calabogie's Generating Plant. They lived nearby, just up the hill in the Ontario Hydro Colony with their siblings and parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Chiddle; their father being a lineman with the provincial utility.

There was a large log boom strung across the swift water, and it is believed Cecil and his brother ventured out on this huge log while playing. In the forest close by, worked two of the Wright boys, Donald, who was age 19 years and Reginald, a lad of 12, as they cut logs and wood. Reginald heard a splash and turned to see four year old Cecil Chiddle disappearing in the deep water and Cecil's brother Billy running up the hill to alert their mother. Reginald called out to his brother Donald, who dropped his tools, and being a powerful swim-

mer; immediately dived into the river, hoping to rescue the small boy.

In the meantime, Mrs. Chiddle and her fifteen year old daughter, Beatrice, came running down the hill and Beatrice, also a good swimmer, jumped into the deep water in an effort to locate her little brother.

It took Donald Wright almost ten minutes to find the small boy in the swirling and eddying currents and by this time Beatrice panicked at sight of her brother's limp body and was in trouble herself. Without hesitation, Donald plunged back in and brought the girl safely to shore as others tried to revive little Cecil, but to no avail.

Cecil Chiddle was survived by his sisters, Beatrice, Dorothy and Wilma and brothers Billy and Jimmy. The family soon after moved in to Renfrew where Mr. Chiddle continued working for Ontario Hydro out of headquarters near what is now the Renfrew Mercury building. Two more children, Douglas and Glen were later born to the Chiddle family.

The hero of the day, Donald Wright, who was highly praised by the O.P.P. for helping to avert a second tragedy, just recently passed away in Toronto's Sunnybrook Hospital, being a veteran of the Korean War. His brother, Reginald, is now in poor health and resides in Renfrew.



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Dr. Kris Lehnhardt chosen by Canadian Space Agency



By Garry Ferguson

Author's note: The author wishes to thank Helene Lavoie-Thomson for gathering the information for this article.

In June of 2005, Dr. Kris Lehnhardt, formerly of Matawatchan, was selected by the Canadian Space Agency for a very special one-month assignment to the Kennedy Space Center (KSC) in Florida, U.S.A.

Kris Lehnhardt, attended public school in Eganville and graduated from Opeongo High School before entering the University of Guelph on a President's Scholarship. The President's Scholarship is the university's most prestigious entrance scholarship and is awarded to only 13 students annually in recognition of outstanding academic abilities as well as contributions to school and community. He graduated with distinction in 1999. From the University of Guelph, Kris went on to the University of Western Ontario for a four-year medical degree and graduated in 2004 as Doctor Lehnhardt. He is presently in a five-year residency, specializing in emergency medicine, at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario.

As a result of his being selected by the Canadian Space Agency, Dr. Kris spent the month of April 2006 at the KSC. The following is some background and an account of his stay in his own words:

The Possibilities in Medicine are Endless!

"Medicine is a very diverse profession. There are many specialties that are well known to most, such as family medicine and obstetrics/gynaecology. However, there are many other fields of study that are more obscure: one such area is aerospace medicine. This special-

ty focuses on the effects of air and space travel on the human body and the management of related diseases.

I recently spent one month in Florida, doing an aerospace medicine elective at the Kennedy Space Center (KSC). An elective is a period of time during medical school or residency training (specialty training after medical school) that can be used to enhance a physician's knowledge in a particular area of medicine. This tremendous opportunity was made possible by the Canadian Space Agency, who selects four medical students/residents each year to participate in this program.

My time at KSC was spent in a variety of ways. I attended lectures on many interesting topics, including the effects of space travel on the human body and the medical problems experienced during spaceflight. I participated in ongoing research and even did some of my own, looking at the use of hyperbaric oxygen therapy in space (a technique that is used here on Earth to treat a number of injuries/diseases). I also had the pleasure of participating in many incredible tours of the facilities there, including the launch pads and the Vehicle Assembly Building. I even had the chance to sit inside the Space Shuttle!

This experience was one of the best of my medical training, which is not over quite yet (I have two years left in my five year emergency medicine residency). It highlights the variety that exists in my profession that many people may not know about. In essence, medicine has something to offer to everyone."

Editor's note: Dr. Kris Lehnhardt lives in London, Ontario with his wife Dr. Erin Lovett, who is also in residency at Western. He is the son of Karin Lehnhardt of Matawatchan, Ward Three Councilor for the Township of Greater Madawaska.

End

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Highlander solves decades-old mystery

By Bill Graham

It's curious how seemingly random events and coincidences can bring people from half way across the world together and solve a decades-old mystery. Recently such a thing happened and The Highlander was at the centre of it.

Cheryl Beillard who lives at Wake-Robin Farm in Douglas was on her way home via Renfrew when she happened to stop for gas at 'Gourley's Variety and Gas Bar' on Highway 132. While at the counter paying for her gas she happened to pick up a copy of The Highlander and brought it home with her. Coincidentally, only recently has Gourley's become one of four distribution locations in Renfrew for the paper.

When Cheryl read Rick Baxter's article (Dispatches from the South Seas) and realized that he was located in New Caledonia she contacted me by email with the following request:

"I read your story from Rick Baxter in the March issue of The Highlander with some interest, as it struck me that maybe there is an answer to a longstanding question forthcoming -- if I can persuade you and Rick to do a little investigative work. Years ago, my husband's best friend Jean-Paul (J-P) Carrer went to New Caledonia to serve as chief of the air control tower at the main airport. Jean-Paul was a teacher at an air traffic controller training centre in Toulouse and chief of the tower at Roissy in Paris prior to that. My husband and Jean-Paul were childhood friends in Tours, France where Paul lived up till the mid-1960s.

Since Paul moved to New Caledonia, in the mid-1980s, we have had one letter and that was it. I have been trying for years to find some trace of him, both in France and New Caledonia, but the resources, in terms of even accessing the phone book, were minimal—no luck. I was wondering if it would be too much to ask Rick to place a call to the tower at the airport (and check the phone book) to see if anyone remembers Paul (Spanish wife Marie, sons Gilles, Pascal and an adopted daughter from South America). Perhaps one of them is listed in the phone book. There have been several major insurrections and natural disasters, since the Carrer family moved to New Caledonia, so anything could be possible. Paul was also keen on extreme sports, from motorcycle racing (up brick walls), to hang gliding and even buying a race horse (with no experience) and learning

to ride (he always liked a fast start).

My husband believes Paul is dead because it is inexplicable that he would not have been in touch. However, I think I'd like to know what happened, either way.

Each year I hope to have news of Paul to give to my husband on his birthday, but I've almost given up trying, short of hiring a private detective! It is amazing with all the resources available on the Internet that I haven't been able to find him or his children, who must be in their mid-thirties or older now. Paul would be in his sixties."

I immediately forwarded Cheryl's email to Rick in New Caledonia and received the following message the next morning:

"I found J-P's son Gilles' name in the phone book and just spoke to him. Unfortunately, J-P died some six years ago. I am meeting Gilles tomorrow for coffee at 10:00 a.m. and will give him a copy of your email. He was quite interested in the story and I expect that he will be contacting you directly."

Most recently, I received an email from Cheryl informing me about what she had learned:

"You may have already heard back from Rick that the 'reunion' achieved was bittersweet. Some mysteries are solved, others outstanding. My husband's friend, Paul, died some six years ago, of cancer (third bout I think). One of his two sons now lives in France with their mother. It appears there is a second family. Strangely, it appears that Gilles, the son who remained in New Caledonia, is on the verge of completing an application to emigrate to Canada. I don't know if he remembers visiting us as a 12 year old—or maybe younger. Certainly we last saw him as a young teenager. My husband is now corresponding with Gilles and I expect that the details will emerge, but why Paul would not have contacted Michel when he first became ill is inexplicable. Some of the mysteries may never be solved. But at least we know that Paul is no longer accessible and that chapter is closed for my husband. I had hoped for a happier outcome, but my husband always felt that Paul was dead."

Who knows how this renewed contact will affect future events? If Gilles is successful with his plans to move to Canada and happens to end up settling in Renfrew County, we'll be sure to write a postscript to this story and let you know.

End



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The Madawaska HIGHLANDER

“Read cover to cover”

Let's Talk

By Joanne Murray

Many of us long for the “good old days.” We recall a simpler time, a slower pace, more time for family, for friends and connecting with nature. We also remember a time when fuel oil was cheap, hydro electric power was cheap and reliable, gas was cheap and we enjoyed those long, meandering Sunday drives. Where did those days go? Today our news casually reports the U.V. index, smog alerts and storm warnings. Increasingly we read or hear about declining fossil fuel supplies, global warming and our wasteful over consumption of our earth's resources. We hear that our future will not be bright if we stay on our current path.

For many of us this all sounds just too alarming and overwhelming. We feel out of our league to tackle these mammoth challenges. And

yet at some level we know that in order to create a healthier and sustainable way for the earth and its people we need to become part of the solution instead of the problem.

Most of us have experienced the positive changes that people can make when they come together with their good will, their intellect, their heart and their creativity to turn tough or seemingly impossible situations around. Throughout history common people have and still do make amazing differences.

The time seems ripe to ask folks who are concerned about doing their part to foster a healthy planet for ourselves and for our children to come together to talk. To me the place to start is right at home in our own communities. We could get together in small ‘Community Round Table’ sessions and talk about the kind of community we want to build, right here where we live. We could talk about things

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Looking back...



Pentacostal church picnic at Aird's Lake in 1930

What Is This Thing Called Sustainable?

By Ken Birkett

“Sustainable living”, you say, “just write an article on sustainable living”. Now, no writer am I, but this idea has been whirling around inside me now for months. What is this word “sustainable” all about? Would sustainable be fun, exciting, boring, necessary; would it mean a “lower” standard of living? Funny thing is, we all probably know something about what it means, and we're no doubt all somewhat correct. Maybe the word itself needs to go. I shall see if I can write a whole article and never use “it” again. Some cultures say “live for the benefit of the next seven generations”, some say “smaller ecological footprint” and maybe my old hero, the founder of the back to the land movement, Scott Nearing, said it best. “Pay as you go” was his simple dictum, and if we consider every aspect of paying as we go, we might well conclude he summed it best.

I believe that if we listen to our hearts, or our gut, we pretty much know how to live in a healthy way. We can plant our gardens, stop putting pesticides on our lawn and heat with firewood and be doing all these “right” things but still somehow feel that we're not doing as much as we could. I especially get that feeling when I tank up with gas or see the amount of stuff I take to the dump each week. Each of us knows we are taking more than our fair share of resources and we get reminded of that often. Statistics are abundant that show Canadians and Americans use more energy per person (by far) than every other country in the world. Surely this cannot go on, surely this is not “pay as we go” in the broader sense. We drive a hundred miles to

Costco on \$1.00 plus a litre gas to save a few dollars on food, and surely this does nothing for our sense of health or belonging. So there is much more to “it” than just fuel efficiency.

Do we live in a deeply satisfying way with a sense of balance and belonging? Is this a way of evaluating our lives, especially if we accent the word “deeply”? I have to think it is. If we look at satisfaction, the kind of satisfaction we feel when we've done something truly fine, something beyond ourselves, and if we devote ourselves to living in that way and to exploring all the realms that this leads to, we will find a healthy way of being. We need to think of the ramifications of all our little decisions. Are all our day to day actions beneficial, not just to ourselves, but to our community and our earth as well?

Take healthy community for example. I think we know in our hearts that we need neighbours, friends and community in our lives. We can promote the health of our villages and the ability of people of all ages to live here by being conscious of our community in day to day things. It's not rocket science to see that simple decisions, like buying groceries from our local stores or lumber from the area's mills and building suppliers has a direct effect on the well being of us all. We spend a dollar there and much of it stays in our community. It's called “the multiplier effect”. They hire young folks to work in the stores and all these hubs of activity stay viable. These are places we meet our neighbours, have a little gab and buy our supplies. I think we all feel good about that, if we take the mo-

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Township of Greater Madawaska Canada Day Celebrations Saturday July 1st, 2006



Pancake Breakfast by the Calabogie Lakers
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Calabogie Community Hall - 574 Mill Street

Community Garage Sale
8:00 am - 1:00 pm

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Face Painting
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Ray's Reptile Zoo 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Cowboy Buskers 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Food Concessions
Calabogie's Largest Strudel - sponsored by The Duck Restaurant
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Donations accepted at the gates to help defray the cost of the fireworks.

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Hazards close to home: Cleaning products

By Bill Graham

Everyone wants a clean and germ-free home. To do this, people use a number of household cleaning products, but they may not realize that these same products can be hazardous to their health and the environment. Household cleaners include products such as detergents, fabric softeners, furniture polish, disinfectants, and products to clean bathrooms, ovens, windows and floors.

Most household cleaners contain hazardous and toxic chemicals. Ammonia is in almost all cleaners and is lethal if combined with bleach. Physical symptoms that can occur because of exposure to chemicals in household cleaners include headaches, burning eyes, nausea, vomiting and skin rashes. The more serious effects cleaners can have on ones health are liver and kidney damage, asthma and cancer. At the 'Indoor Air Conference' in Toronto, scientists revealed that housewives have a 55% higher risk of developing cancer than do women working outside the home.

The majority of cleaning products contain chemicals and many of these can be classified as hazardous. Any product marked with a "danger" or "poison" symbol tells you that you're handling the most hazardous ingredients. Those with a "warning" or "caution" symbol indicate that a product has a moderate risk to your well-being.

In late 2005, Environmental Defence, a Canadian environmental watchdog and research group published a report entitled Toxic Nation: A Report on Pollution in Canadians. The report has been back in the news recently and you may have seen media reports about it. The Toxic Nation report says that in the last 50 years, the global production of man-made chemicals has increased substantially, with more than 80,000 new chemicals created.

"Information on the health and environmental effects of chemicals has not kept pace with their development and use," the report says. "As a result, many of the chemicals that people are exposed to every day have never been assessed for their impact on human health."

Environmental Defence group says similar studies on chemical exposure have been conducted in the United States and Europe. But until now, information on pollution in Canadians has been limited. This study is therefore the first in Canada to test for a broad range of chemicals in average

Canadians throughout the country.

The report finds that, no matter where Canadians live, how old they are or what they do for a living, they are contaminated with measurable levels of chemicals that can cause cancer, disrupt hormones, affect reproduction, cause respiratory problems or impair neurological development.

The study was commissioned by Environmental Defence. It examined blood and urine samples taken from eleven people from across the country to examine the range of pollutants found in Canadians' bodies.

The report recommends that industry be made accountable for the chemicals they bring into the marketplace by shifting the burden of proof onto industry to prove the safety of its chemicals before their introduction to, or continued use in, the market. Also recommended is to mandate industry to adopt a safe substitution policy to replace toxic substances with safer or non-toxic substances and to regulate toxic chemicals in consumer products. If governments in North America were to follow through with these recommendations, it would bring consumer health protection laws up to the standard that is already in force in Europe. The previous article in this series in the Highlander covered this.

According to the 'Canadian CancerSmart Consumer Guide', cleaning products can contain four chemical ingredients that should be avoided. These chemicals are: Trisodium nitrilotriacetate, Silica, Ethoxylated nonyl phenol (NPES) and 2-butoxyethanol. One rule of thumb that I have heard about says "don't use any product containing a chemical that you can't pronounce".

Trisodium nitrilotriacetate, which is used as a builder in all laundry detergents is listed as a possible human carcinogen and it has an environmental impact by hampering the elimination of metals in wastewater. According to the Consumer Guide, it is particularly present in Sunlight Laundry Detergent, Sunlight Ultra2 Laundry Detergent and Wisk Laundry Detergent.

Silica is made from finely ground quartz and is carcinogenic when it occurs as a fine breathable dust. It is found in some abrasive cleaners and the Guide recommends using a cream cleanser instead. According to the Consumer Guide, Silica is found in Ajax Cleaner with Bleach,

continued on page 23



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Pine Valley

Griffith / Matawatchan News

By Garry Ferguson

Fifty Years in Priesthood

On Saturday June 03, 2006, the Griffith/Lions Hall was full to capacity for a celebration marking the fiftieth anniversary of Rev. Joseph Legree's ordination. The Parish Council and Building Committee of Griffith and Esmonde organized the event that began with an eleven-o'clock Thanksgiving Mass. The celebration continued in the afternoon with a catered dinner at 1 p.m., a speech by guest speaker Karen MacDonald from M.P. Cheryl Gallant's office, and the presentation of a plaque from the two congregations in appreciation for 50 years of service. Mary Anne Brown and family created a banner signed by all present on Saturday. It will hang in the churches for a time so that others wishing to put their names on it may do so.

It is fitting that the much-respected seventy-five-year-old Parish Priest – known fondly to his parishioners and the wider community as “Father Joe” – be honoured for his work in this area where his ancestors were pioneers and the Legree roots are deep. We here at the *Madawaska Highlander* extend congratulations to Father Legree for his long and successful career in service to his church, his parishioners and to his community.

Township Grant

The Matawatchan area received a well-appreciated grant of \$350.00 from Council to help with Canada Day Celebrations. This is the second year that such a grant has contributed to the marking of our National Holiday.

Legion Honours Comrade

On Saturday May 13, 2006, members

of the Jimmy Clarke Branch 328 Royal Canadian Legion, Northbrook, came to the cenotaph in Denbigh to unveil and dedicate a plaque to one of their own.

Legionnaire Jim Wright was honoured for his tireless efforts to see a cenotaph erected in that village. Rev. Shirley Shouldice officiated over a ceremony that was well-attended in spite of nasty weather.

Branch President Cecil Hawley stated that Jim is recognized, not only for this project, but as a life member



Cecil Hawley, President Branch 328 Northbrook, Ernie Ballar and Tim Wright

for a lifetime dedicated to The Royal Canadian Legion.

During each October, members of the Jimmy Clarke Branch 328 visit all the cemeteries in our area to place Canadian flags on the graves of those who served in all wars. They also ensure that there is an annual Remembrance Day ceremony conducted at the Denbigh cenotaph. This year, that ceremony will take place on Saturday November 11.

For information on Legion activities, contact President Cecil Hawley at 613 336 2389.



Sister Terasa Rice, Father Legree and Father John Afleck

Old-Time Music Association to Visit Matawatchan

From 1:30 to 5 p.m. on the afternoon of August 20, 2006, the Heritage Old Time Country Music Association (HOTCMA), in cooperation with the Matawatchan Memorial Centre, will host a Jamboree in the hall.

The Association will bring along Stan Callaghan, well-known radio host, and a Pembroke band, called The Country Airs, to entertain and provide backup for individuals who wish to come out and showcase their talents. Performers, who are exempted from the entrance fee, may sign up at the door and be placed on the program. Watch for posters and ads in this and other local papers.

The entrance fee will be \$9.00 per person - \$8.00 for HOTCMA members.

Denbigh Griffith Lions Club

The May 19th toll road was a great success, thanks to you generous folks out there with change jingling in your pockets and your readiness to part with it. There were a lot of black flies looking for Lion blood but a lot of loonies and twonies made up for the few pints lost.

Now that the camping season is here again, the Lions turn their attention toward organizations to which they contribute. One is Camp Dorset for those suffering from kidney disease. There are 23 dialysis machines available so that patients may receive treatment while the family, allowed to attend with them, enjoys the camping facilities. Another is Camp Trillium, near Wellington Ontario, where children with cancer and their families may spend time.

With so many deserving candidates, the committee had difficulty in choosing a recipient of the \$500.00 Lions Bursary for 2006. Its final choice was Amber Vernick who will graduate to Algonquin College from the Opeongo High School.

The Lions will again be involved in the Matawatchan Picnic on Saturday July 01, 2006, so if you get to hankering for a hot dog or a game of bingo come along to the old hall and look around for the snazzy purple and yellow vests.

Apparently, a few incorrect summer dates for Lions Bingo at the Griffith/Lions Hall were published by someone, somewhere at sometime. The games will commence at 7:30 p.m. on each of the following dates:

June 27, July 11 and 25, August 08 and 22.

Work Party to Prepare For Picnic

In spite of the rain, a work party made up of hardy souls met on Saturday June 03, 2006 to restore the outdoor stage roof that had become vertically challenged over the winter. While they were at it, they brought along some paint to spruce up the old hall for the upcoming Matawatchan Picnic.

The Many Waters Metis Community generously donated a major share of the material required to complete this refurbishing project.

It is fortunate for the community that a group of dedicated citizens have stepped in to maintain a functional social center in the absence of an official hall committee. That deserves at least three “Attaboys” and Attagirls from *The Madawaska Highlander*. Thanks to Doug Vasey, Mary Wilson, Steve Flynn, Shirley and Roy Vanlderstine, Gordie Kauffeldt, Ken Birkett, Bill Graham, Elaine Kauffeldt, Adam Copeland, Kent Gautier and Randy Gill for the work they volunteered.

Annual Matawatchan Canada Day Picnic and Dance On Again

For the hundredth and twenty something time, a traditional – twelve-noon, baked-beans-and-stew dinner will be served up at the Matawatchan Picnic. There will also be silent raffles, crafts, games, bingo and a two-hour stage show with more than a dozen musicians from Renfrew to Denbigh. Roy Berndt, of Denbigh, will stage a display of old engines and may even fire a couple up if coaxed.

The picnic will barely wind down before the Annual Canada Day Dance begins. Sponsored by the Matawatchan Memorial Centre, the event gets under way at 9 p.m. and ends at 2 a.m. **Jim Barkey** will carry out the DJ duties. The LCBO rules that only those 19 years and over will be admitted.

Fish and Game Club

There will be a Canadian Firearms and Hunter Safety Course conducted from July 21 to 23, 2006. The cost of the Firearms Course is only \$80.00, books are \$15.00 and \$20.00, and the exam is \$42.50. For those who wish to cut to the chase and challenge the test, the cost will be \$42.50. The Fish and Game club will pay the entire cost for those under the age of 16 years.

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Fishing with Jim

By Jim Weatherall



This year's pickerel season opening was a wet one, but it didn't stop the true fishermen. There were a lot of fish caught in the Madawaska River below Calabogie dam, but they were small. My son Tom Weatherall, caught two pickerel behind my store which were only 8"-10", so they went back in.

Todd MacDonald and Kevin Stafford fished the river below Calabogie on opening morning and did well. Kevin got the biggest at around 4 lbs., BUT, His 7 year old son Alex out-fished him... That-a-boy Alex.

Fishing in Calabogie Lake has been better this year with a few more 20" pickerel caught, but there are a lot of 14"-17" fish being pulled in also. I was out twice (4 hours each time) and boated 15 pickerel, all 13"-17 1/2". All these fish were caught on 3/8 oz. jig heads and minnows.

The seven rock piles (piers from

the logging days) at the mouth of the river going into Barret Chute, where I fish a lot, have been causing some concern since the markers have been pulled off by the ice during the winter. The Calabogie Firemen have kindly replaced the markers with fluorescent metal stakes, which are embedded in the rock. These hazards should now be very visible to all fishermen in the area. Many thanks to these fellows for a job well done for our community and its visitors.

Bass season opens on June 24th, a few weeks away yet, so the Large and Small Mouth Bass are still on their nests. It is not a good idea to fish them (and also illegal) when they are on the nest; this takes them off the nest and the predators will clean up the young.

Harry Cox and Stan Smaggus recently went to the Bay of Quinte for a fishing derby. When you see Harry, please ask him how he made out. I understand that it was a trip to remember.

July 1 - 9th is Fishing Week in Canada and July 7-9 is a free fishing weekend. You folks without a licence can

fish for free and take your kids out and enjoy an experience to remember. The free weekend allows you to Fish under the Conservation licence rules (regulations are available free at all stores and bait & tackle shops who issue licences). This weekend applies only to residents of Canada.

Invasive species such as the round goby, Eurasian water-milfoil and the spiny flea threaten the health of Ontario's lakes and waterways and can have significant impacts on our fish and wildlife populations. Anglers and boaters can inadvertently spread these invaders to new lakes, if they do not take the necessary precautions when transferring fishing and boating equipment from one lake to another or disposing of live bait. The Invading Species Awareness Program is a partnership initiative of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. Take care of our waters for our future fishermen and encourage our

children to be aware of all the safety concerns, both for our natural resources and for themselves.

Have a good fish and be safe... and I will see you out on the water.

Jim

Things to think about

How important does a person have to be before they are considered assassinated instead of just murdered?

Why do you have to "put your two cents in" .. but it's only a "penny for your thoughts"? Where's the extra penny going?

Why is "bra" singular and "panties" plural

Out on the First Concession

WHOEVER THE HELL YOU ARE

By Wes Bomhower

"Whoever the hell you are, we have a loaded shotgun and we'll damn well use it if you come through that door". My two older sisters, Joyce and Winnie, practised this over and over in hushed voices as Wilma and I cringed in the corner of the upstairs bed room listening to them plotting a strategy to get rid of a suspected burglar. There was a terrible thumping and banging in the little shop below, just outside the back kitchen door and it had been getting progressively worse for the past five minutes.

It was June 1934 and Mom and Dad drove the horse and buggy into the village that evening to attend the first strawberry social of the season and Everett, the eldest of us siblings, was gone fishing. Aunt Kate, our great aunt, would normally be there to watch over us but she was detained at a church meeting or something and this left Joyce, who was thirteen years old, to assume the responsibilities. She was reading us a bedtime story when the racket first began downstairs, and after turning the kerosene lamp down as low as possible, (no hydro or telephone in those years) she and Winnie began devising a plan to scare the would be burglar away.

We all agreed it was as good a plan as any, and we hoped by throwing a few cuss words into our threats it would make it seem more authentic and scary to whoever was trying to break in. There was a slight lull in the nois-


es now, so brave girls that they were, they sneaked quietly down the stairs and shouted their dire threats into the kitchen, then raced back upstairs to cringe in the corner with Wilma and I. Amazingly, the banging stopped completely and the girls congratulated themselves on having so much courage and ingenuity. We all piled into one bed and stayed very quiet, our ears tuned for the slightest movement downstairs but we heard nothing, and eventually we went to sleep.

Next morning we discovered the burglar's identity. One of the horses had knocked a gate down and managed to open the door to the shop adjoining the house where Dad kept a large bag of coarse salt. In his love for the mineral, the horse clomped around on the wood floor while eating a good deal of the salt and scaring the daylights out of us children upstairs.


Dad spent part of the night driving the horse up and down the driveway to relieve the inner pressure because the animal had consumed gallons of water from the cattle trough after devouring so much salt and became bloated. The horse survived, though it continuously released air for the next- twenty four hours.

We laughed about that scary night a good many times in later years, and though my older sisters have now passed away, in my mind I can still hear them shouting, "Whoever the hell you are, we have a loaded shotgun and we'll damn well use it if you come through that door".

Times indeed have changed



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Community Calendar

CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULE

GRIFFITH AND MATAWATCHAN

St. Andrew's United Church
Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 8:30 a.m.

Our Lady of Holy Rosary Catholic Church
Griffith: Sat. Mass 7:30 p.m.
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
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Tuesdays:
Ladies Bible Study (Bi-Weekly) 1pm
Bible Study (weekly) 7pm
Bible Study (Bi-Weekly) Plevna----7pm
WMI-Monday (monthly)
Third Sunday of every month
New Beginnings, Clar-Mill Hall,
Plevna-----6:30pm

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

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

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

CALABOGIE

The Calabogie Bible Fellowship Congregational Church
The Mill Street Chapel at 538 Mill St.,
Regular service – Sundays 7:00 p.m.

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

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

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

1st Sunday of every month.
Bible study every Wednesday evening
7:15 – 9:00

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Calabogie

Calabogie Canada Day Celebrations
Breakfast 8:00 am-11:30 am at the
Calabogie Community hall.
Canada Day celebration begins at 4:00
pm. Starting off with the Community
Builders awards ,antique car show ,
fun for the kids, spectacular fire works
,bingo, Cowboy Busker's,
Ray's Reptiles, great food, displays,
silent auction, music and
much more.

Calabogie Fun Day
July 22, 2006

**Activities that day
for Barnet Park improvement**
Breakfast from 8:00 to 11:30,
Barbecue from 2:00 to 6:00,
Antique Car Show, Ponies,
Guinness World Record Breaker
– Longest Floating Line,
Youth Dance (7:30), Adult Dance
(9:30),
Baseball tournament, Horse Shoes,
Karaoke, Beer Bar and more.

**Magic Theatre Products:
Mario and the Magic Coat**
Calabogie Community Hall
574 Mill Street
@ Calabogie Fun day
Date: Saturday July 22, 2006
Time: 2:00 pm –3:30 pm
Tickets: \$9.00 each
(must purchase tickets in advance)
Call Chantal at the Township
office @752-2222

Strawberry Social at
St. Andrews United Church
July 8th, Calabogie
11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Sandwiches, desserts, hot or cold drinks
Good Will offering

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

Calabogie Seniors: Pot luck dinner
and meeting – the last Thursday of each
month – Community Hall begins at 4:00
p.m. followed by dinner and meeting.

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continued on page 18

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Moose are big!

By Floris Wood

On May 16th this year my wife and I rounded a curve on the Matawatchan road a little ways west of Camel Chute. Ahead of us was what I thought was a horse in the road. Strangely, there was no rider. I slowed the car and as we got closer we could see that it was an odd looking horse . . . a very tall horse with a big long head. Of course, it was a moose. As soon as it spotted us it bolted west into a clearing. As we pulled up to the clearing we could see its back side disappearing into the bush. We were thrilled! Just the year before, I had sighted a small black bear near the corner of Matawatchan and Centennial Lake roads. I think the moose sighting was even more dramatic. Having told several people along the river of our sighting of the moose they told me of several other recent sightings of moose in the Centennial Lake area.

I wanted to know more about what I saw, so I did a little research. Moose, it seems, are very solitary animals, herds of moose are rare but not unheard of. They belong to an order of deer-like animals known as antiodactyls, or even-toed, hoofed animals. Their North American cousins are elk, caribou, mule-deer and white-tailed deer. While most of us know what the two deer look like, elk, caribou and moose are more rare in this neck of the woods.

Moose are generally dark in coloration, but with shades of brown mixed in. Moose's legs are generally a lighter color, sometimes grey. Their bodies are angular, set on long legs with the front legs a little longer than the hind, giving a sloped appearance. The moose's head is enormous and long, so huge and long that a great muscle, located above the shoulders, is needed to control the head. The shoulder hump adds to the somewhat sloped appearance. Its nose is very long, large and humped in most species, ending with almost prehensile lips similar to a camel's. The moose's tail is a mere stub, while its ears are long, large, erect and can rotate 180 degrees. They sport a "bell" of loose hide under their chin. All these characteristics are beautiful adaptations that have enabled moose to flourish in North America and Eurasia, but, at best, the mother moose might describe her son as a fine, robust bull. Moose have very bad eyesight, so function, rather than form, might have played a larger selective roll in moose evolutionary design.

Elks have a more rounded body and its head is well chiselled, coming to a point at the nose. Its antlers are thinner than a moose's and can-

delabra-like. They are much smaller than a moose, lighter in color and are very social animals, preferring to live in large herds. They range much farther south than moose.

Caribou are still smaller animals that live in great herds in the far north. Their candelabra antlers, worn by both males and females, sweep back from the head but then curve forward in a near semi-circle, leaving spikes pointed backwards, as if a strong head wind had shaped them. In addition to the semicircular set of antlers another, shorter branch may grow from the base angled slightly for-



White moose(not albino) located near Timmins, Ontario

ward. Caribou are semi-domesticated in Scandinavia and northern Russia where they are known as Reindeer.

The life cycle of the moose begins usually in the late spring (May/June) when the cows calve. Single births are the rule but in areas where browse is plentiful and the females enjoy good health, twins are not uncommon, triplets are fairly rare. Calves are a rusty brown color that will darken with age. They weigh from 11 to 16 Kg (24 to 35 lbs.) at birth. By three weeks the mother can lead them out to browse and by five months they are completely weaned. Calves follow their mother usually until displaced by a new calf in the next year. In many areas over half the calves will not survive the first year of life. Predators, hunger and cold account for most calf deaths. Female moose, no shrinking violets at any time, are very aggressive in defence of calves.

Although female moose can begin to reproduce after their second year they are in their prime at four to five years. Male moose can reproduce after two years of age but many are not physically capable of beating out the older males to win a female until two or three years later. At rutting time the bulls antler rack is at its full growth and strength. Although each year it falls off during the win-

ter the rack returns larger each year until the bull reaches its sexual prime.

During the fall rut (mid-September to mid-October) the bull will create a foul (to us) smelling wallow replete with moose urine and musk. Cows deliver a set of long, low, hormone laden bellows that could only be called a moose mating call. This call can be heard by other moose three kilometres away. The cow also gives off a strong odour that lets bulls know she is in oestrus. Although their eyesight is bad, moose have a very keen sense of smell and hearing.


with more fluids and mix them up with vigorous wallowing. Now, all gussied up for the next cow, he delivers some bellows of his own.

Dominant bulls will usually mate with several cows during the rut. A bull wandering into what another bull considers his territory is in trouble. Most disputes are settled out of court with the smaller bull yielding peacefully to the larger. But when two similarly sized bulls decide to sue for their conjugal rights, all hell breaks loose. As the hormones return to their non-mating level the cows and bulls disregard each other and once more become the solitary souls for which they are well known.

Moose are not only big but they are dangerous, especially during the rut. People, cars and even trains are not safe from a raging moose bull during the rut. Moose kill more people than bears and in a moose vs. car collision, both lose. Cars sweep a moose off their long legs and, likely as not, the moose's body is thrown into the windshield. Moose like highways. In winter especially when salt is lacking in their winter diets of mostly conifer needles, they will drink from road puddles or roadside drainage ditches for its road salt content.

A moose is a moose is a moose, right? Unfortunately, no. There is quite a bit of confusion among people who write about moose regarding the subspecies names of moose. But the most prevalent subspecies in eastern Ontario is the Eastern Moose or *Alces alces americana*. In spite of

continued on page 22



KIMZART: A Passion to Paint

Calabogie artist Kim Carnegie paints local landscapes, floral subjects, wildlife and pets, mainly in oils but also in watercolours. While most of her subjects are her own, commissions are welcome.

Her most recent paintings are on display at 9 Carnegie Crescent (The Hair Port) – less than a kilometre from Calabogie Peaks.

The public is welcome to visit and to purchase the painting illustrated above or other paintings on display.

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Cottage corner

By John Roxon

The beaver is a noble little rodent who fastidiously builds his twisted stick and mud dams wherever the sound of running water is present. Uh-huh. A keystone species, beavers are nature's custodians of wetlands that can help control floodwaters, prevent erosion and, through the use of their architecturally efficient barriers, can help purify water. Uh-huh.

Castor Canadensis was on Canada's first postage stamp designed by Sir Sanford Fleming. Fleming apparently had some downtime when he wasn't surveying for Canadian Pacific in vain hopes of tying this mottled nation together. It is also on the nickel and is the sole rodent of choice on many coats-of-arms throughout the land. Uh-huh. Why, the beaver even attained official status as an emblem of Canada when the act to enable a rat, mouse or similar rodent to high exaltation was given Royal Assent in March of 1975. Needless to say the rat was disqualified due to bad publicity from the black death of the 14th century and the mouse due to possible trademark disputes with The Disney Corporation. So we have the hardworking, affable beaver. Yup, all good.

Why then do those damn dams and the trail of masticated trees, which often lead in a path worthy of Hansel and Gretel to the beaver's lodge – cause so much consternation to those of us who live near waterways. The furry one with the lustrous coat and pancake tail can cause no end of indirect nuisance through flooded homes and lake levels which are either too high or too low. And that's not even counting the occasional downed tree which blocks a road or rips through a power-line. Yes, I know that the area surrounding a dam is often a wetlands teeming with life-forms of a biodiversity rivalling a tropical rainforest, yet somehow all this is forgotten when the land is flooded and you have to traipse through the black-fly and mosquito infested undergrowth in search of that dam.

Brilliantly built, the dam with the many small sticks and twigs sunk deep into the mud and silt can be a real chore to dismantle. Even a small dam measuring a few feet across can easily take a couple of hours to dislodge – only to have the thing up again in all its pristine beauty overnight. I've heard that even black bears experience some difficulty in deconstructing the buck-toothed wonder's work.

My son, Sam, and I had such a proj-

ect recently in hopes of restoring water levels in the lake. Traversing the wetlands soaked in bug spray, clomping about in rubber boots we set forth with C4 explosives, jackhammers and wrecking balls to find the mighty beaver dam. We pictured a majestic river with rapidly discharging bursts of water across which a dam must exist that rivals the engineering feats of the pharaohs—on the other side, a very bucolic calm. A stillness that seems to mock the power of the river—a stillness that mocks nature and God himself.

With boots full of water, bug spray mixed with perspiration stinging our eyes, and a funny rash on our lower arms we continue our trek over bog and log, marsh and grass until we come upon it—the bane of our water woes, THE DAM.

“Uh, dad”, Sam said, “This can't be it”. What we came upon was at most four feet across, a foot and a half wide and about the same again high. The low levels and the consequent massive wetlands were caused by a blockade not much bigger than a tenth of a cord of wood. It couldn't be. But it was. Leaving the C4, jackhammers and wrecking balls aside, we got to the task of constructive destruction with our bare hands. Tossing aside clumps of mud, pulling sticks and

twigs out of the silt we gradually created a flow way for the water. Those buggers really know how to build, too. I could swear that I heard laughter from the woods as Sam pulled on a stick, which suddenly became free, propelling him backwards into the water. Naturally I did the same thing not five minutes later. Totally soaked, itchy, stinky and overall in need of warmth, showers and dry clothing we completed the task. Elapsed time from the start of our journey to the last twig out of the muck: 3.5 hours.

We could still hear the laughter from the woods (beavers, I later learned, are great practical jokesters). But we had won. We had defeated the beaver; defeated the dam and could once again claim dominion over nature. We went home tired and wet but victorious – we thought.

The next day we went back to check on the water flow and to do a bit of cleanup... No! No! NOOO!!!



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New Homes and Renovations

Denbigh Checking In

By Melody Jones

Addington Highlands Public Library - Denbigh Branch News

Check for new arrivals on our web site: www.addingtonhighlandspubliclibrary.ca

1967 Denbigh Centennial Celebration DVD available for purchase at the library

T.D. Summer Reading Program: "HEROS" Program
Instructor: Rebecca Lloyd
Every Thursday from July 06th to Aug. 24th

Time: 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Watch for upcoming program

schedule.
SIGN UP AT THE DENBIGH LIBRARY

News Release: April 07, 2006, McGuinty Government Boosts Literacy and Learning.

Both Denbigh and Flinton libraries will receive a grant to strengthen literacy and promote life-long learning. This one time grant will allow us to improve, expand, and continue our growth in services. The grant will also provide means to update and expand the current collection.

denbighl@hotmail.com
613 333 1426

GREATER MADAWASKA LITERARY MATTERS

By Mary-Joan Hale

Well it may have been pouring rain outside on June 9, 2006, but the sun was shining inside the library that day...well not literally, but figuratively. The glow was coming from the smiles on the faces of library board members and me. That was the day we welcomed the Honourable John Yakabuski and Glenn Arthur from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to announce our Trillium Grant for the Outreach Project. Mr. Yakabuski presented us with a lovely Certificate of Appreciation for the library's contribution to the community. Mr. Arthur presented us with a wall plaque announcing our grant. Both will be proudly displayed in the library. Reeve Isobel Kristijan gave greetings from the Township. It was a joyful celebration after the months of preparation, visits around the township and procuring materials. A demonstration of the new computer system, which will soon be available on line, was presented to our guests. After the formalities, guests joined the board members for a light lunch in the Council Chambers. We thank our good editor, Bill Graham for doing the photo gig!

We are most grateful for the financial support from the Trillium Foundation. With these funds, we are able to extend library services to Wards 2 and 3.

Volunteers at the three stores also make this project possible. Patrons may pick up and drop off materials at Lacourse General Store, Eagles

Rest Country Store and Mill Valley General Store. Pop in, get your application form, look at the manual and order away. We'll send the books, magazines or talking books out to you on the Township trucks.

One is always amazed by the courage that some seem to find under the most horrific circumstances. I wish to suggest a book, which illustrates such courage. It is entitled "Left to tell" by Immaculee Ilibagiza. The forward is by Wayne W. Dyer. Immaculee grew up in Rwanda, a young Tutsi girl. During the holocaust in which marauding Hutus murdered thousands, she hid in a tiny bathroom with seven other women for three months. Her story is one of courage and faith. There was one tiny window up high and they were fed irregularly when the minister, in whose house they were hiding, could sneak in small amounts of food. They communicated by signs and hand signals and were constantly tormented by the screeching of the hordes bent on Tutsi blood. Many times, they heard the killers searching the house for her. When the genocide ended, only one of her brothers remained. The rest of the family was slaughtered. In spite of it all, she increased her faith in God and lived to fall in love, marry, have children and settle in the USA with her American husband. You will not be the same after reading this book. Strangely enough, it is an uplifting experience.

I purchased a book at the Relay for Life in Nepean, written by three young girls from St. Marguerite d'Youville School in Ottawa. The

Sustainable

continued

ment to let ourselves feel. Now there's another component of "it".

Well, I think I have only grazed the surface of "sustainable" living. Darn, I had to use the word. Maybe there will be a whole bunch of articles about "it". What do you think?

End

Let's talk

continued

that matter to us, like health and aging issues, the cost of transportation, the availability of quality food and the viability of our rural economy. These areas and many more present major concerns as we look at the future. We have a wonderful life here, and a beautiful place to live in, so let's form Round Table discussions now, and make our communities even healthier for the long run. We hope lots of neighbours are interested in pursuing this idea so please call Joanne Murray or Ken Birkett at 333-5534 to start working together.

End

young authors, Kathryn Farrell (12), Sanda Ajzerle (11) and Chelsea Crawford (12) impressed me with their intelligence and concern for others. It is a lovely story about three triplets who get separated when their parents divorce. They hatch a plan to change identities with each other. This is quite difficult since, though close, their personalities are all different. What impressed me the most is that the proceeds from this book go to the Canadian Cancer Society. You may order by e-mail at: ottawatriplettrouble@hotmail.com or visit their website www.tripletttrouble.tatipe.com.

If your youngsters are looking for something to do this summer, register them for the TD Summer Reading Program. The theme this year is "Quest for heroes". We welcome back Christina McCallum to guide the festivities. Call or register

Things to think about

How is it that we put man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?

Can a hearse carrying a corpse drive in the carpool lane?

If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, what is baby oil made from?

If electricity comes from electrons, does morality come from morons?

Once you're in heaven, do you get stuck wearing the clothes you were buried in for eternity?

your children in person. It will run Wednesday afternoons July 5 - August 16 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. for kids 5 - 12. If you live in Wards 2 and 3, visit Calabogie and swim or play a short round of golf at one of the courses while the kids read, do crafts and have fun with Christina.

The Pre-school Story-time continues all year round from 2:00 to 2:45 p.m. every Tuesday in the Chambers.

Due to a small registration, the computer course has been postponed until fall. Watch the paper and website for announcements.

Hours: Tuesday: 1:00-7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday 9:00-12:30 p.m.
Sunday, Monday: Closed
(613) 752-2317
mjhale@bellnet.ca
<http://www.townshipofgreatermadawaska.com/library.htm>



CABA Corner

A Focus on Sustainable Growth

By Mike Greenley, President Elect (CABA)

It is generally true that any business or community is either growing or shrinking. It is the hardest challenge of all to "maintain the status quo"; in fact it is nearly impossible. As a result, any group must be focused on either shrinking or growing.

Recently, the Calabogie and Area Business Association (CABA) published its latest Strategic Plan. This plan will guide the actions of our association to work with business leaders, residents, and members of government to continue to grow a community that supports successful businesses and encourages them to prosper. This community is clearly focused on growth.

Sustainable growth in Greater Madawaska Township (GMT) means two things: it means: (1) responsible, persistent, incremental growth while respecting and preserving the natural resources that make the area so attractive in the first place, and it means (2) ensuring a growing residential base, a growing recreation and tourism base, and a growing supply of trades and services that all work in combination.

It is the "combination" of residents, tourists and businesses that must be kept in balance. Residents enjoy the region, and are the heart and spirit of the positive community that we all want to be a part of. Residents need trades and services to support them and they seek different types of shops and stores to enhance their quality of life. To be successful, businesses need more customers than the population of a "spread out" township like GMT provides, so the presence of visitors is important to support those businesses. Successful businesses are needed to provide jobs for residents and especially youth, so that the residential base remains strong, and a positive community spirit can be maintained and grow. These relationships all interact, and require a persistent and enthusiastic focus on sustainable growth.

I'm a "new guy" in the GMT community. I'm a part time resident, and I've been here less than a year, but I'm committed to this growth story for the long term. I've moved one of my

businesses here from Ottawa, gotten involved with CABA, and now have the honour of serving my new community as President of the association.

I'm excited about the opportunities for the future of GMT, and am encouraged by the responsible commitment to growth that I've seen. I'm very excited by the "glint in the eye" of some longer term residents who want to start new businesses and grow the next generation of success (my favorite topic) and I'm even more excited that these local entrepreneurs are reaching out, seeking business planning support and asking for assistance in finding investment resources or government support. Helping to provide this assistance to realize the communities' dreams is one of the greatest opportunities of being part of CABA.

As we move through the next few months, the strength of the new CABA Strategic Plan will be evident, as new projects are undertaken, as the collaboration with local government continues to improve and as we all see the next steps in continued sustainable growth.

Just as we all benefit from the stronger community that growth supports, we should all participate where we can in supporting growth activities.

For those without the time to volunteer or participate in community projects, it is really easy to participate in growth; you only have to do two things; (1) "BUY LOCAL", because when you support your community businesses you help create a stronger community, and (2) "WELCOME VISITORS", because their presence and financial input to our community makes it stronger.

Business leaders with some time and the interest should participate in CABA, to help execute projects that are needed to build the community. There is always a role if you have the interest.

And most importantly, to the budding entrepreneurs out there, with a spark of an idea for a new business, you should come forward and talk about it, and make it work. If you have the right idea and the passion for it, the other resources required can often be found. Your business association is just a click away on the Internet at www.calabogie.org or email president@calabogie.org.

End

Mill Valley



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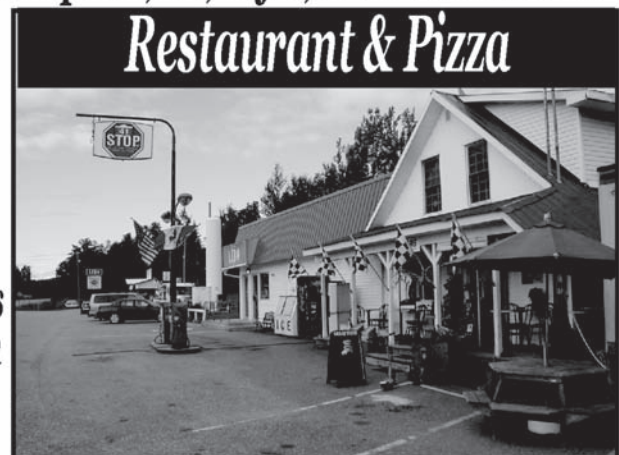
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Energy Dreams: Sanity and Hydrogen

By Richard Copeland

I was raised mostly in the Niagara Peninsula. St. Catharines to be exact, the Garden City. It was a garden because the prominent use of the land was growing tender fruit. As a child, I lived in a suburb, which bordered an abandoned orchard of almost every fruit. The trees, although untended, bore apples, peaches, cherries sweet and sour, plums and pears. It was a childhood paradise. Snacking involved only a short walk. A worm was looked upon as protein. Nature provided.

Only a 20-minute excursion by bicycle could land you at the vast Lake Ontario or the magnificent Welland Canal. This strip of water, which was the second canal built in Ontario, transported large ships by our city and on to destinations far beyond the imagination of a young boy. Coin collecting was a pass time enjoyed by many, as sailors from around the world would toss what was likely the equivalent of pennies, into the hands of children who entertained with a song, dance or a well rehearsed regimen of begging. If you chose to situate yourself at a lock, you got to watch the ship rise or fall with the water as it was released into or out of the ship's gate-locked confinement. The churning of the incoming water or the roaring of the outgoing water was a demonstration of a power sufficient to raise or lower these huge floating vehicles.

Not too far away, was Niagara Falls, a break in the escarpment, which allowed the water of the mighty Niagara River to fall the full vertical distance, which the ships, enabled by the canal, had to move up.

And it was here that the water's energy was harnessed, by running it through huge turbines, which produce vast amounts of electrical energy. In those days, enough extra electricity was produced to light the QEW Highway from Toronto to Niagara Falls. When I was older, I would get to see the vast rotating machines of the Sir Adam Beck Generating Station, which powered the hydro lines that stretched across the province of Ontario and beyond.

Much has changed since then. The Garden City was paved over and overbuilt. The lights on the QEW are long gone, the extra electricity being extra no longer. Beck still produces, but the energy is needed elsewhere. The great machines still rotate and generate, but the levels of power consumption has changed. The great ocean and lake ships still

rise and fall in the locks of the canal and water flow through those locks still powers their vertical transit. It is that water, that vast amount of periodic liquid gush that plays on my mind. It was where this dream began.

Back then I remember asking my father why they didn't place machines in the intakes and outlets to the locks. He explained that they needed them to turn all the time, like they do in Niagara Falls, to make electricity practical. They would turn only when a ship needs to be moved. Too expensive he said.

He was right of course. But he was right for then.

The St Lawrence Seaway Authority operates the shipping laneway from Lake Erie to the Atlantic Ocean. In doing so, they employ large numbers of people and operate and maintain a vast fleet of vehicles. The vehicles are powered mostly by internal combustion engines and consume non renewable fossil fuels; a source today of pollution concern, cost concern and long term availability.

Hydrogen, on the other hand, is in great abundance. Hydrogen is just about everywhere, its only allusive quality being that it is generally stuck onto a couple of oxygen molecules in the form of water. To get at it with any consistency requires that you break the elements apart and the best way to do that is to apply energy in sufficient quantity to break their bond. Generally that energy is in the form of electricity. Electricity as we know is in short supply. But some are doing it. In Iceland buses are running on hydrogen, using fuel cells. Hydrogen can be burned, its desire to re-join with oxygen is extremely high and with an open flame it will do so, producing motion and clinically pure water as an by-product and nothing else. In the 1980s a fellow named Billings (Billings Energy Corp) re-fitted internal combustion engines to use hydrogen. From lawnmowers to Cadillacs he demonstrated its versatility, and found safe means for tank storage. After a demonstration, Billings would drink the pollution from the exhaust. Why not? It was probably the purest water he would find in the city. Hydrogen can be used in internal combustion engines as well as fuel cells. It is getting and distributing the stuff that's the problem.

So you can get hydrogen by electrolyzing water and trapping the gas at one of the electrodes. Hydrogen can be taken from natural gas, but that would just perpetuate our problem. The electrolysis does not have to be a continuous process - the electric-

ity can be applied to the separation as you have it available. The feedstock for the process could be water. If there is a need for oxygen, that also could be claimed and saved during production. If you are thinking about the ships going up and down in the canal and the churning gushing water, you are sharing in this dream.

One could install turbines and generators into the inlets and outlets that control the water levels in the canal locks. Water, in great supply here, could be electrolysed from electricity generated from the inlet and outlet flow and the hydrogen compressed or liquefied locally for use in Seaway vehicles. The hydrogen fuel station for Seaway vehicles could be right at the lock where it is produced. The

Seaway Authority would have its own production, distribution and non-polluting consumption system. Sustainable energy I think. Retro-fitting the first group of vehicles to use hydrogen would be an inexpensive alternative to immediate conversion but down the road fuel cell powered vehicles could become the choice of the times.

If the system proved successful, excess production could be sold to the local city to provide pollution free fuel for transit. It just might be worth a small investment for a trial at one of the locks.

Only if we move forward to find more diverse and pollution free means of supplying ourselves with energy will we overcome the energy crunch of today and the likelihood of more of them, more frequently down the road.

The Township of Greater Madawaska

July Meetings

July 5, 2006 4:00 p.m.	Public Works
July 6, 2006 12:00 p.m.	Finance & Administration
July 6, 2006 2:00 p.m.	Public Services
July 6, 2006 4:00 p.m.	Planning & Economic Development
July 13, 2006 5:00 p.m.	Committee of the Whole (DACA Centre - 111 Flat Road)
July 20, 2006 7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting (Council Chambers)

**** Please note that Council will not be meeting during the month of August.**



Left to right: Wes Bomhower (Award for Community Service), Mike Greenly (President elect CABA), Kim Carnegie (Award for Store Front), Carolyn Jakes (Outgoing President CABA) and Corinne Sullivan (Award for Customer Service).

Community calendar Continued

Griffith & Matawatchan

Matawatchan Summer (Canada Day) Picnic

Saturday July 1 – Matawatchan Hall
Beef Stew lunch at noon (\$10)
Live music (2:00 – 4:00 pm)
There will be children's games, displays, old-engine demo, refreshments, St. Luke's United Church serves the meal and Denbigh Griffith Lions Club will operate a refreshment booth.

Canada Day Dance

Saturday July 1, 2006
9:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.
Matawatchan Hall
Admission: \$5.00
LCBO 19 years and older
DJ: Jim Barkey

Lion's Club Bingo

Every second Tuesday at 7:30 pm
June 27, July 11, July 25
Community Centre, Griffith, 613- 333-5523

Busy Bees Craft Club

Meet the second Tuesday of every month at the Matawatchan Hall.
(Contact: Hazel Warren (333-2798) or

Carol Anne Kelly (333-5570)

"Northern Lights" Seniors

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

Community Bus Service

Phone Kay Kelly for information and reservations at 333-2731 by Tuesday evening. Bus travels every other Thursday for shopping. The bus fee is \$10.00.

Fellowship Luncheon

These meals are held the first Wednesday of each month at noon. Please contact at Pat Holleran 333-1229 or Lois Robbins at 333-1082 if you wish to attend and be added to our mailing list.

Denbigh

Diners Club

Dinners are held the first Monday of the month at the Denbigh Community Hall at 12 noon. Full Course Meal \$5.00. Contact Lynn McNicolle at 333-5586 for information.

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

HEALTH CARE

Paramed Health Care Services Foot Care Clinic/Denbigh
Call 333-5559, Muriel Burgess, for an appointment

Why does Goofy stand erect while Pluto remains on all fours? They're both dogs!



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Calabogie Fun Day Horseshoe Tournament

Date: July 22, 2006

**Time: 10:00 am start
until finished**

Place: Horseshoe Pits at Community Centre, Mill Street

Proceeds: To Community Improvement Projects

Categories: Singles, Mixed and Youth

Trophy: One for the grand winner

Prizes: Yes, for each category

Registration: In advance or from 9 am to 10 am on July 22 at Community Centre

Contact: Carolyn Jakes, 613-752-2500

Sign Up Form

For advance registration, please forward with payment of \$5 per person (cheque or money order) to Carolyn Jakes, 318 Kennedy Road, Box 159, Calabogie, Ontario, K0J 1H0. For more information call 613-752-2500 or email carolyn.jakes@sympatico.ca

Name of Participant(s):

Amount enclosed:

Category:

Mailing Address:

Telephone:

Comments/Questions:

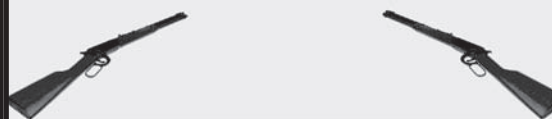


HUNTER SAFETY AND CANADIAN FIREARMS COURSE

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for information

Instructor: Wenda Cochran



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WE CANUCKS

By Ernie Jukes

Editor's note: Ernie is so passionate about Canada that that I have been calling him Captain Canada. In celebration of our national holiday (Canada Day), he wants to share some of his thoughts about this country and being a Canuck.

We are often asked, "what is a Canadian", hunch? A question that is darn tough to answer for sure. Its actually easier to explain what we are not, as in ---we are not an American, we are not an Englishman, Irishman or a Scot. We cannot be -- our blending of peoples just does not allow it. The broad task of finding a Canadian personality is simply impossible because of the vastness of our gigantic nation. Even the size of our huge provinces, each capturing some individual character, are larger than most countries in the world. Ontario for example is two-thirds the size of all Western Europe. But the "big, bigger, biggest" issue can be left to others. Lets examine ourselves.

Another fact of our marvellous mosaic is that everyone—yes all of us—are immigrants! Even our first nation's ancestors walked across the Bering Strait from Asia. And we are still a young country only a thousand

years if you start with the Vikings or 500 years old if you start with the French. Well say now, listen here, we have lots of languages and even more dialects of some form of English sprinkled across this huge land of freedom—the land of the Maple Leaf.

While we don't have a national personality and we don't chase a dream; we do have giant strengths – giant visions in a giant land. We used to worry about finding our national character but found we don't have to, it's built into each province and territory—a string of common denominators and traits that make us more satisfied and probably bigger in our bigness then we used to believe. While we have not traded humility for arrogance, we are no longer intimidated by anyone. We are still reasonably conservative and realize that we can be smart, without being smart-asses.

Much of our small population is still close to the land. Our attitude about this land and nature and a simpler life style certainly affects the way we go to the marketplace. This integrity is evident when we can still do business on a handshake. Individual Canadians care about the planet, world hunger, water and poverty. We are a serious bunch, but I find it peculiar that we still have more humorous storytellers than any other

nation. And we also seem to shine in our inventiveness and in our arts and music. We are achievers in every aspect of world activity---but we can still be humble about it.

Honesty in our society, in our press, in our administration (most of the time) is another trait that makes us credible in a world that seems to be going in the other direction. This is apparent, for example, when our health authorities are immediately reporting such concerns as SARS, Legionnaires, cattle diseases, insect diseases, virtually as they appear despite the consequent loss of billions in trade or tourist dollars. Sure we have some problems but don't a lot of them go directly back to the way we are brought up. In most families, in our classrooms and through our youth activities and sports it is taught that it is not necessary to cheat to win. We don't hand out undeserved plaudit—our hero's are few.

Many people think of Canada as wilderness and cheap real estate, even though we are in fact one of the most advanced and developed of countries. Millions are coming here including many Americans for many reasons—true freedom, education, health care and peace. In other words a better place to live. Our reader's quaint remote pocket of rolling semi-forest-

ed hills and reasonably clear waters still attract those that appreciate nature. We all love the tranquility and the local history that has established our tiny hamlets in the backcountry of the Eastern Ontario Uplands.

We are still building this Canada of ours—still pioneering, still finding ourselves—and liking what we find. We do amazing things in an amazing land considering the small population, which we have to draw upon, and the small tax base that we have to pay the way. Each province and territory is precious in making up this strong land of four seasons. Our deep history of "the brave north" goes back to taming and mapping the wilderness, helping to save Europe in two world wars, fighting Communism, fighting terrorists and dictators. Sure we have warriors and real heroes that's why we are "strong and free". While we may not be fearless we do not suffer from paranoia either. We still try to live in a world of realism. And you know we gained our independence without firing a shot. Maybe these are valid reasons why we think there is a lot more to life than packing a gun.

Yes, we are still growing up, but perhaps today when our good neighbour to the south moves, snores or worse, it will no longer spell our doom. In

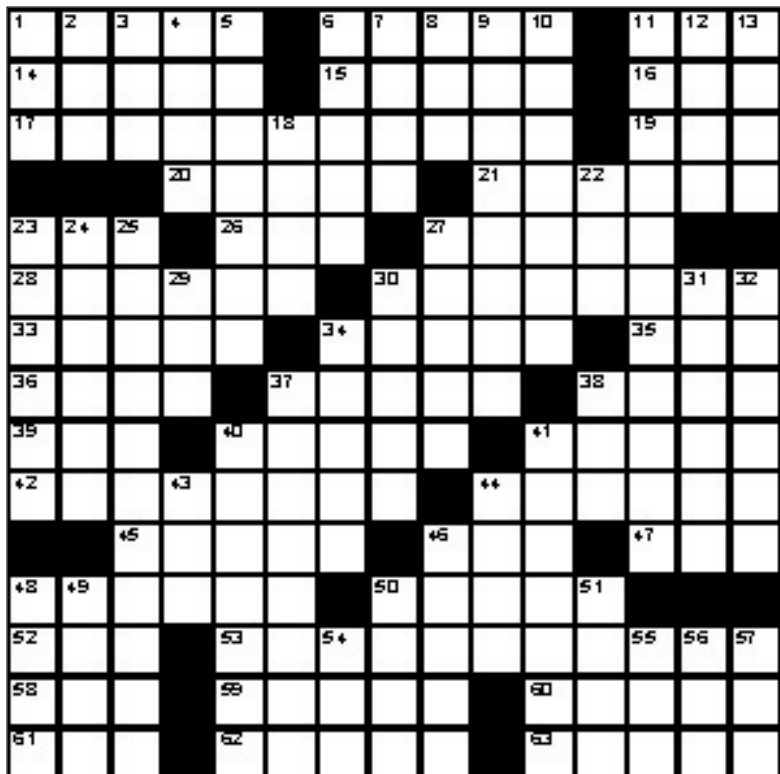
continued on page 21

Ottawa Valley Crossword

By Doug Bell

ovcrosswords@gmail.com

answers on page 23



Across

- 1. Brown first then cook e.g.
- 6. Hand-woven curtain
- 11. Comparative ending
- 14. Active
- 15. Mont, in the Alps
- 16. City with the most snow days: ___ d'Or, Que.
- 17. Greatest Canadian rock band of all time
- 19. Billy Bishop, for one
- 20. A Marx
- 21. Did penance
- 23. Early Russian astronaut ___ Gagarin
- 26. CPA's concern
- 27. Hold on

- 28. Pick-me-ups
- 30. Tricksters
- 33. Blues singer Waters
- 34. Then, in Thurso
- 35. Grassland
- 36. Elevator inventor
- 37. Brags
- 38. Hue
- 39. Pt. of a circle
- 40. Publishing people
- 41. Needing a cleaning
- 42. Canada's tundra is above this
- 44. Landlord's lessee
- 45. Cousteau apparatus
- 46. Chip off the old block
- 47. Classifieds, for short

City Girl

By Filipa Martins

A Sweet Beginning

First week of April 7:00AM: Spring seems to finally have arrived. At last!! I am finding that the winters are not as harsh as I expected out here, but there is no denying the joy the warm sunshine brings as the seasons shift. It's maple syrup season and this year I am going to tap some of my maples and make my own syrup. I have my handy cordless drill and I am ready to place the first spigot. Drilling the tree took some strength; it was a bit more challenging because I had to do it while carrying my eight week old son on a sling (that is one of those

baby carriers that wrap around the front of the body). I tapped about sixteen trees around my house, the buckets were placed and I eagerly waited.

Ah, this city girl was on the way to sweet success... Now from my previous adventures, one might expect such things as: tapping poplars or iron wood and thinking they were maples since there are no leaves on trees at this time. I have learned to tell the difference between different trees. I have also been warned not to boil the sap inside my house, because the evaporated sugars would coat my

continued on next page

- 48. Bury
- 50. Bill Mason's vehicle
- 52. Sk8er ___ (Avril Lavigne song)
- 53. Village along the Madawaska River
- 58. One of the Lennon's
- 59. Get rid of
- 60. Do some character assassination?
- 61. Salvador or Gabriel
- 62. Right-hand page
- 63. Beautiful red-leaved poisonous plant
- 18. God of love
- 22. Between Man. and Que.
- 23. Level best
- 24. Carpenter's tool
- 25. Heartburn
- 27. Eats with "down"
- 29. Passports, e.g.
- 30. Conclude, as a deal
- 31. Loaned, for a price
- 32. Forest gods
- 34. Scene of action
- 37. Greatest card game for two
- 38. Large cask
- 40. Actor Christopher

Down

- 1. Kind of race
- 2. ___ Kosh B'Gosh (kids clothing line)
- 3. Broke bread
- 4. Sound of relief
- 5. Hooky
- 6. Recipe amts.
- 7. Ampersand
- 8. Handle clumsily
- 9. Most smokers
- 10. Concave mouldings
- 11. Super model from St. Catharines
- 12. Grand National or Iditarod
- 13. Arctic transport
- 41. Indicates
- 43. Green indicator, for short
- 44. Large Canadian lumber retailer
- 46. Made sure of (2w)
- 48. Certain Nigerians
- 49. Soul singer Hendryx
- 50. All the players
- 51. Lace shade
- 54. Police investigator, for short
- 55. Amateur radio operator
- 56. Aspirin compound
- 57. Required: (abbr.)

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City girl *continued*

walls and ceiling and that would be a nightmare to clean. Well... that's where I went against wise advice. It was the first bucket of sap—just one. I figured it would be okay to try to boil one in the house, especially since in the winter I cook and heat the home with the wood stove, the surface would be hot anyway...

12:30 PM: It's lunchtime and I put the sap on the stove top. All the sap collected so far fits inside my biggest pot, I estimated it would yield about 2 cups of syrup.

3:00 PM: The pot of sap is still on, there is some rapid evaporation now—this is very exciting! We are getting dinner ready, in fact, Adam is the one doing most meals these days since my hands seem to be always changing diapers and attending to the endless needs of a newborn.

4:30 PM: We have the stove going full heat and the sap is evaporating well. I hope there is no damage to the walls or ceiling. There is a smell that I wasn't expecting. It smells like burning caramel, but not in a nice way. I am really disappointed that maple sap stinks like this. I had a very different expectation. I am afraid it is going to stink up the entire house...

4:45 PM: The smell is getting worse; it smells terrible, like burnt sugar and it's all over the house. Even in the bedrooms. There is no reason to take the sap off the stove NOW, since it's too late to remedy this stink—it's everywhere! I bet we all stink of burnt sugar too!

5:30 PM: Diner at last! I am so hungry, and diner always seems to taste better when someone else cooks it for you! I look at the table and say: "Were you also going to bake some squash for diner?" GASP! "Oh no the Squash! We forgot all about it!" We run to the oven of our wood stove and open the door to see a black lump of completely burnt squash! THAT was the terrible smell! And I worried about the sap.

Next day 6:45 AM: I am enjoying a big plate of pancakes with my fresh sweet syrup. I can't wait to make more, outside!

Canucks *continued*

fact our differences can now be our benefit. We can now get off our pratt and be a lot less dependant while we take our proper place as one of the richest resource nations in the world. So dear readers you can see our "Canadian ways" as you travel from Sooke Harbour to Bonavista

Bay and up to Alert on the Arctic Sea and we are still building our elusive national character. Sure we have many differences within us, they will always exist---it is important that newcomers remember that they are "our differences" and "our tradi-

tions"! Our common but solid attitudes about protecting our unbelievable vastness and awesome beauty and our Canadian ways will continue to uphold what keeps us together---and what keeps us all Canucks.

End

Look who's reading the Highlander



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Moose continued

naming problems, the several species that inhabit Canada do not look all that different from each other. Alaskan moose, *Alces alces gigas* are notably larger than all the others, sometimes reaching 1500 lbs (682 kg) or more. Two other subspecies are found out west, the Shiras Moose (*alces alces shirasi*) and the Manitoba moose (*Alces alces andersoni*). And the different subspecies mix it up a bit too. The much studied moose of Isle Royal in western Lake Superior appear to be a mixture of Eastern moose and Manitoba (sometimes called Western moose) moose.

To make matters worse, Europeans call the moose the Common elk. What we call an elk (*Cervus elaphus*) they call a red deer.

Moose are browsers as opposed to grazers, preferring a diet of aquatic plants, willows and, in winter, conifer needles. They have several stomachs and depend upon fermentation for digestion. This fermentation process produces much heat. That heat production added to the facts that moose have large bodies and cannot sweat, ensures that moose have a great preference for the coolness of northern climates. They cannot tolerate heat above 27 degrees C for long periods of time. Like polar bears, moose have hollow hairs that provide excellent insulation.

Ticks, found in great abundance in the moose's forested habitats, are a major threat to moose. Some moose have been found with thousands of ticks on their bodies. In an effort to rub them off moose frequently denude parts of their bodies of hair. The ticks themselves do not kill the moose but ticks can leave them exposed to cold and can so exhaust the infested moose

that malnutrition and diminished immunity to disease become a factor.

Another threat to moose is the *P. tenius* (brain worm) parasite which is transmitted from white-tailed deer to moose. While it has no effect upon the host deer it can kill a moose. Studies in Algonquin Park by Roy C. Anderson showed a high brain worm infestation of the white-tailed deer there. Where the moose and white-tailed deer population seriously overlap many moose will die from the disease.

The Madawaska area is on the southern edge of the natural range for moose. The question that arises is why there are more moose recently? Of course, the answers are probably very complex but here are some of the factors that control the range of a moose population. It could be that moose population pressure from the north has driven the moose this far south. The lack of parasites such as flies and ticks will make an environment more favourable. A decrease in the main moose predators, human hunters, wolves and black bears could play a role. A greater abundance of favourite foods would help. Changing weather conditions are another possible factor.

Population-range borders, that are not the result of natural barriers such as large bodies of water, are seldom sharp borders, but will vary from year to year. I, for one, welcome these moose as visitors or permanent residents. They are better neighbours than some of our human neighbours that have been terrorizing us recently by breaking in and vandalizing our homes and cottages. Get out your cameras and let's see who can get the best moose photos. The photo on the Highlander cover taken by Annabelle Marshall at Aird's Lake sets a high standard.

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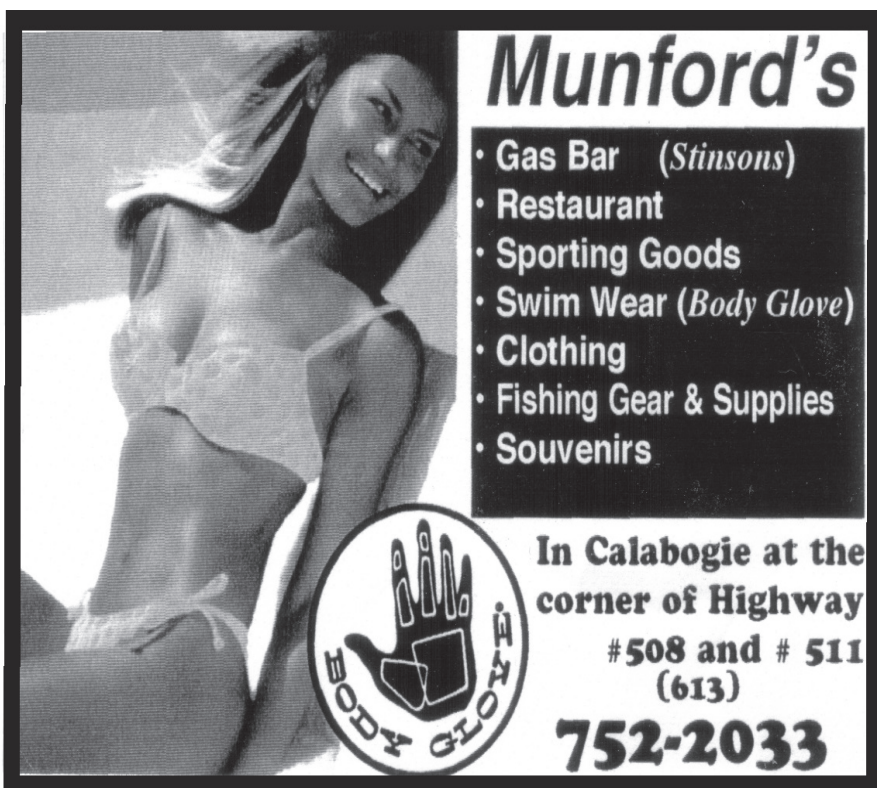
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Hazards

continued

Twinkle Copper and Brass Cleaner.

Ethoxylated nonyl phenol has been identified as an endocrine-disrupting chemical still used in North American cleaning products. Research has shown that it can induce female characteristics in male fish. It is listed as toxic under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, but unlike in Europe, it is not banned. According to the Consumer Guide, Ethoxylated nonyl phenol is found in CLR Grease Magnet and VIP Laundry Detergent.

2-butoxyethanol is also known as ethylene glycol butyl ether. It is used as a solvent in carpet and specialty cleaners. If inhaled or absorbed through the skin, it can cause blood disorders, as well as liver and kidney damage. According to the Consumer Guide, 2-butoxyethanol is present in the following cleaning products: Easy Off Glass Cleaner Lemonized, Fantastic Lemon Scent Cleaner, Orange Glo Orange Eliminator Spot Remover, Simple Green Cleaner Degreaser, Spot Shot Instant Carpet Stain Remover, Sprayway Crazy Clean, Sprayway Glass Cleaner, Tarn-X Jewelry Cleaner, Tiex Total Bathroom Multipurpose Cleaner and Twinkle Silver Polish.

As consumers become more wary of the chemicals found in their cleaning products, they begin to look for more natural cleaning solutions. There are many common ingredients in your home such as vinegar, baking soda and salt that could easily be substituted for cleaners.

Here are a few non-toxic alternatives:

Baking Soda is sodium bicarbonate. It has a number of useful properties. It can neutralize acid, scrub shiny materials without scratching, deodorize, and extinguish grease fires. It can be used as a deodorizer in the refrigerator, on smelly carpets, on upholstery and on vinyl. It can help deodorize drains. It can clean and polish aluminum, chrome, jewelry, plastic, porcelain, silver, stainless steel, and tin. It also softens fabrics and removes certain stains. Baking soda can soften hard water and makes a relaxing bath time soak; it can be used as an underarm deodorant and as toothpaste.

Borax is a naturally occurring mineral, soluble in water. It can deodorize, inhibit the growth of mildew and mold, boost the cleaning power of soap or detergent, remove stains, and can be used with attractants such as sugar to kill cockroaches.

Cornstarch, derived from corn,

can be used to clean windows, polish furniture, shampoo carpets and rugs, and starch clothes.

Isopropyl Alcohol is an excellent disinfectant.

Lemon Juice, which contains citric acid, is a deodorant and can be used to clean glass and remove stains from aluminum, clothes, and porcelain. It is a mild lightener or bleach if used with sunlight.

Mineral Oil, derived from seeds, is an ingredient in several furniture polish and floor wax recipes. Soap (NOT detergent) is made in several ways. Castile soap can be used as a shampoo or as body soap.

Olive-oil based soap is gentlest to the skin. An all-purpose liquid soap can be made by simply dissolving the old ends of bar soap (or grated slivers of bar soap) in warm water.

Steel Wool is an abrasive strong enough to remove rust and stubborn food residues and to scour barbecue grills.

TSP is trisodium phosphate, a mixture of soda ash and phosphoric acid. TSP is toxic if swallowed, but it can be used on many jobs, such as cleaning drains or removing old paint,

that would normally require much more caustic and poisonous chemicals and it does not create any fumes.

Vinegar is made from soured apple juice, grain, or wine. It contains about 5 percent acetic acid, which makes it a mild acid. Vinegar can dissolve mineral deposits, grease, remove traces of soap, remove mildew or wax buildup, polish some metals, and deodorize. Vinegar can clean brick or stone, and is an ingredient in some natural carpet cleaning recipes. Use vinegar to clean out the metallic taste in coffeepots and to shine windows without streaking. Vinegar is normally used in a solution with water, but it can be used straight.

End

R	O	A	S	T	T	A	P	I	S	E	R	S
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