

The Madawaska Highlander

Volume 7 Issue 3

Free

June/July 2010

Dan's Mountain – Part 3

By Lindsay MacPherson

Editor's note: *Dan's Mountain is a table top of about 200 acres in the immediate vicinity of the Village of Matawatchesan. It is the highest elevation of the area and as such was once the site of a fire tower. Once MacPherson land, it once more returned to the MacPherson family when it was purchased by Paul MacPherson who lives in British Columbia. Paul's Cousin Lindsay, who is now 94 years old, was born on Dan's Mountain and introduced Paul to the land in a very long letter that we reproduced in the Highlander over a few issues. This is the final part.*

And then I remember years later when I saw my first grapefruit and again this was that Morans Hotel in Calabogie. Dad and I had gone down that time in the middle of the winter and he was selling lumber and lumber had gone up to quite a price at that time, imagine if you will he was getting \$8 for 1,000 feet of lumber delivered at the railroad station in Calabogie. Well anyhow we stayed again of course in Morans Hotel and at the breakfast table, that was well before daylight in the morning, I looked at these things that were in a bowl on the table and my dad saw me looking and that was in the days when kids were to be seen not heard so we didn't speak up very much you know. And dad saw me looking and so did Mr. Moran's son, I can't think of his name now, but he was a very, very nice guy and he said do you want one of those kid? Well, I said that would be nice but I had to get my dad's approval and dad said you don't have time to eat those now, we have got to hurry and get on the road. Danny was his name, the son, Danny said OK but take one along with you. I remember this grapefruit, oh I was so proud of it. I took it with care and put it in a wooden candy pail that dad had bought for 5 cents I think and I tried to wrap it up as best I could. I got it home on that 35 miles or whatever and I proudly showed this to the rest of the family you know and I said I am going to cut this up and we will share it between us. And I remember when I cut that grapefruit up and I tasted it, I couldn't believe it, I was terribly, terribly disappointed - eating my first grapefruit.

We had enough to eat in those days. We didn't know we were underprivileged. We grew our own potatoes, carrots and beets and had a good big garden. Dad grew his own wheat and barley and buckwheat and corn. I remember in the wintertime that he would take his wheat up and I would go with him again to Denbigh. There was a grist mill up there that was run by water power and stoves that ground the wheat. So we always had our wheat ground up there and also the corn for cornmeal to make Johnny cakes from it and we had the buckwheat that my mother and grandmother would make buckwheat pancakes.

Oh there was so many other things we had. We had our own meat of course because dad kept quite a few pigs and in the fall was the time that the butchering went on and that was the time of the year that I did not like very well because I did not like to see things killed at that time but I knew it was a necessity and there was very little that was wasted of anything, lard was rendered down and used for cooking purposes and even the tails of the pigs were used. That is my meat because I was the only one that would eat the pig tails. I used to have Grandma MacPherson cook them for me and I should have mentioned the fact too that Grandma and Grandpa MacPherson lived there with us because actually it was his home way back years before but all his family had gone and dad being the youngest of the bunch stayed home and took care of the farm.

It was pretty hard work farming in those days and especially land such as we had, you know a lot of stones and all that hard to plow and hard to work and I have often thought of that since that time. I don't know how in the world they ever made a living, but they did, somehow or another and we had enough to eat, both summer and winter. Of course mother and grandmother would make sure they put down pork in salt brine and it was awful, awful salty but they would parboil it as they called it and that took out a lot of the salt from it and then we had our own butter and we had our own bread because Grandma and my mother would bake the bread, whole wheat and it was good

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Organic growers Filipa Martins and Adam Copeland at the Matawatchesan Market
Photo: Richard Copeland

Dispatches from Afghanistan (2010-3)

Major Ross Allan

Editor's note: *This is the third in a series of dispatches during the 2010 Highlander publishing year. It is also the beginning of the third year publishing these dispatches. All-in-all I was given 95 pages of Major Ross Allan's letters (in WORD format) from his wife. Major Allan is no longer in Afghanistan but his memories and humour live on. The events mentioned in these dispatches took place during 2008.*

I cannot find fault with the Air Force again this week. Either I am getting sloppy or they are getting better at hiding their mistakes. Worse, with grudging admiration, I again have to compliment the Air Forces for their part in the fight.

The Taliban usually plan their ambushes with a well-defined egress plan such that, if they receive effective return fire, they

fade away. Because they use civilian vehicles, which typically have higher on-road speeds than military vehicles, and they know the area, they quickly break contact and blend into the local populace if we return fire. Because they cannot outrun a helicopter no matter how hard they try, the insurgents will not bother ground troops accompanied by helicopters. This week, one group of soldiers was without helicopter support but there was one in the area on another task and its crew was only too happy for an opportunity to fly home with a reduced ammunition load. When the soldiers came under fire, they responded, the insurgents broke contact and were happily driving away when the Air Force showed up to ruin their day...and their truck...and some of the surrounding landscape.

The daytime highs this week were in the low 20s, the forecast high for tomorrow is

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CABA Business Directory accompanies this paper. Remove and use for future reference.



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Burnstown Affair of the Arts joins the 'McNab Days' Festival

By Bill Graham

You might have thought that you had missed the annual Festival of the Arts in Burnstown, which has been traditionally held at the end of May since its beginning seven years ago. Luckily the festival remains but the dates have changed. With the incorporation of Affair of the Arts with the McNab Days festival both activities have benefited. With the Affair of the Arts in Burnstown now slated for the late June weekend of June 26 and 27, many seasonal residents will have opened their cottages and hopefully will attend.

The Highlander and other media reps got a preview of this coming attraction on June 2 hosted by McNab/Braeside Mayor Mary Campbell who acted as media coordinator. She provided a very pleasant few hours of tours through three galleries and a meeting with other participants at the Neat Coffee Shop. The tour was accented with tasty treats.

The weekend of June 26 and 27 should be marked on all calendars for a visit to this festival of the arts. Here are a few highlights:

Stephen Haigh's Images Studio will feature his new marquetry, which is an ancient art form of creating images in wood used a palette of hundreds of different species of wood veneer. Also working in wood, local carver Dub Juby will carve local characters in local woods.

Bittersweet Gallery celebrates in big city style with a trunk show party & celebration of Italian design with the new PIAL collection by Montreal designer Anne Marie Chagnon. Enjoy refreshments on the patio with a Tuscan flair 3 to 7 p.m. on Saturday June 26. You can enjoy a timely sneak peak at the subject of sculptor, Richard Gill's fall show: The Canadian Pacific Railway at Fog Run Studio, which shares space with the Gallery. Richard's clay sculptures are inspired by old photographs from the CPR's early days.

When you visit the Riverstone Gallery you will bring nature indoors as you walk Karen Phillips-Curran's "Natures" floor art. Karen's floor-cloths of natural settings; brooks, streams, wood and grasslands, are as playful as they are intense. She creates them to your specifications. A long time theatrical set painter at Canada's National Arts Centre, her technical repertoire gathers steam, carrying her work to new dimensions. Her latest work there plays a part in the inauguration of a brand new sculpture



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of Oscar Peterson by Ruth Abernathy, on the corner of Elgin Street in front of the NAC itself. Her concept sketches for the upcoming Peterson tribute will be on display at the Riverstone Gallery.

In addition to the visual arts there will be theatre, talks by local writers, puppetry, photography, wellness demonstrations and live music.

The "Laft Theatre" group will be presenting short scenes for your enjoyment on stage June 27th and includes a - Calling for Contestants for "Affair of the Arts Singing Idol" (no age restrictions, June 27th at the MRM stage - call 613-433-3537 to book your spot! First 15 contestants to call only will be accepted.

Hear readings by the authors, learn more of the creative process and keep an authors signature for posterity. Enjoy the writings of: James Hutcheson, Glenda Jones, Roseanne McNeill and Irene Glenda.

James Photography gallery display captures the soul of nature in the Ottawa Valley; Moira Hutchinson and Rua Ginsberg provide insights into wellness; Neat Coffee shop brings back its 'Farmer's Market'; Trish Leeper stirs the imagination with puppets and masks and Heather Zigmeister and Echo Echo Productions draws you in to the alternative world of theatre.

Neat Coffee Shop outdoes itself with 3 concert/dinner events: Montreal Deli Dinner/United Steel Workers of Montreal (bluegrass/rock) on Friday 25 June 8:00; Dinner/Ely Shepherd on Saturday 26 June 8:00m (funky jazz); Dinner/Jim Bryson on Sunday 27 June 3:00 (pop/rock) and the art of John and Val Webster on Sunday 27 June.

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The Madawaska Highlander

Co-publisher and Editor:

Bill Graham, 613-333-1694

Co-publisher and Business

Manager:

Richard Copeland, 613-333-1551

Mailing address:

The Madawaska Highlander

C/O Bill Graham

1837 Frontenac Rd

RR#3 Griffith

Matawatchan, Ontario KOJ 2R0

E-mail:

highlandereditor@hughes.net

Advertising:

Richard Copeland, 613-333-1551

E-mail:

Contributors and other volunteer staff:

- Garry Ferguson
- Mary-Joan Hale
- Wes Bomhower
- Howard Popkie
- Christi Laundie
- Ernie Jukes
- John Roxon
- Floris Wood
- Susan Veale
- Ross Allan
- Doug Vasey
- Lindsay Macpherson
- Betsy Sawyers

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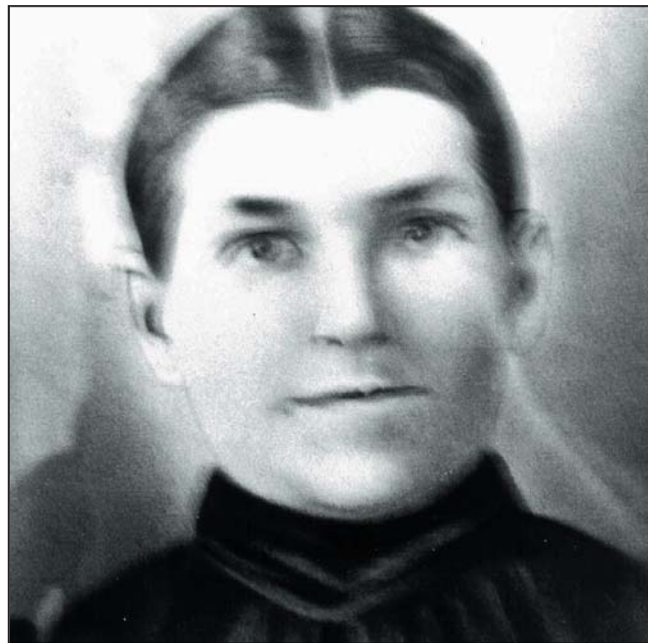
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Dan's mountain (Cont)

for you, had pancakes out of buckwheat flour and cornmeal, they would make Johnny cakes with that and then we had our own sugar.

I remember that we had very, very little white sugar and it was only kept for when company came and they put that in their tea. We had maple sugar that we used to use on our cereal, on our porridge in the morning and my dad along with Witty Hudson used to tap 1,000 maple trees every spring and they had a big lightning evaporator, as they called it at that time and I remember that the top price for maple syrup a gallon was \$1. Sometimes they had to sell it for 50 cents to get rid of it because that was quite a price back in those days and imagine maple syrup now. I noticed last year was \$55 a gallon so that is quite a change.

And then I remember the first car that I ever saw because my Grandpa Wilson and that was my mother's father, Andrew Wilson, he had the first car in the country along with his brother Jim Wilson, he had one too. I remember my Grandfather Andrew Wilson was stone deaf as long as I ever could remember and he always read lips and he could tell pretty well what you were saying. He would repeat



Kate McNevin (Dan's Wife)

over again what he thought you had said and if it was so you would nod that that was it and if not you would try again. But I remember that him being deaf like that when he would come to a hill he would

push this car forward into his little pedal on the floor that you would push down and put it into low gear and then there was a handle there that you would pull down for the gas and he would pull that right

down as far as it could go and the stones would fly out from under those wheels and we'd go tearing up those hills. It was unbelievable but I enjoyed riding with him and he never did have an accident.

And of course I remember too that some of the instructions later on that I read and found out about was if you were going to attempt to drive at night, you had to make sure for safety sake that someone would walk ahead of you with a kerosene lamp and not to attempt to drive even over 5 miles an hour. So that was quite a thing and I don't remember that they had any drivers license back in those days. I remember finally when they came out with little wee tiny lamps on each side of the wind screen, as they called the windshield back in those days, little wee coal oil or kerosene lamps that you lit and they wouldn't show light ahead for 10 or 15 feet I don't think. And I remember a lot of the old timers looking at one of the cars and they said well this is a marvelous improvement - I don't know what is going to happen anymore, I don't know what the world is coming to but they said they could never improve, never make a car better than this one is.

End

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Your Greater Madawaska Fire Department (GMFD) Team

By Betsy Sayers

Your Greater Madawaska Fire Department (GMFD) Team

2010 is a special year for your Fire Department. The Calabogie station is approaching their 60th anniversary, and the Griffith station will be 10 years old in August 2010. In celebration and appreciation of the hard work and personal sacrifice our volunteers and their families put into keeping our community safe, we will be profiling members of our team throughout the year.

David's real job is working at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario in the Autism Intervention Program. We are all very familiar with the wonderful work that CHEO does, and are very proud to have someone of David's calibre on our

team.

David and his wife Kelly moved to Greater Madawaska with their four children in 2001. Andrew and Jacob are 14 this year, Matthew is 8 and Owen is a typical 2 year old. Having four active children keeps the Ripmeester family very busy to say the least, but they all love it.

Blessed with a fabulous sense of humour, (which makes him an awesome trainer) when we asked what attracted him to the Fire Department in the first place, David replied "Being a fire fighter, playing with fire trucks and wearing the cool outfits!" Then he told us what is really in his heart. "Working with people in the community - helping people. That's what I like most about working with the Fire Department."

Being a firefighter is a tough and dangerous job at the best of times. Being a volunteer firefighter is even harder because it's also hard on your family and you are juggling two jobs one of which often keeps you up all night. For example, over the Easter weekend this year, GMFD had 4 fire calls one of which was from 1am to 6am on Easter Sunday. It's tough to be up all night unexpectedly and then be helpful and cheerful at the dinner table on a special day. We salute the wives and families who are the glue that holds our Fire Department together.

On behalf of the community David, we'd like to take this opportunity to say 'Thank You' to you and your family for your excellent work with GMFD.

Have a fire safe summer everyone.



Calabogie Station firefighter David Ripmeester

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GREATER MADAWASKA LITERARY MATTERS

By Mary-Joan Hale

Welcome summer! At least, the solstice will indicate that it is here and hopefully, the weather will agree. However, during these past few years Mother Nature has let us know that our use of her gifts has caused us to pay dearly for our disrespect. We have some materials in the library on climate, eco-problems and magazines with current issues on the topic. There are also books on gardening, landscaping and DIY building projects. We are currently cataloguing some new DVDs on home renovation.

For those in wards 2 and 3, the courier service is still up and running. Gary makes a weekly visit to the Eagle's Rest and Lacourse's store. We are currently working on getting a depot in the Dacre area. Delivery days are Wednesday. This is an excellent service and we received a Trillium Grant to establish it. Please use it. There are manuals at the stores with the collection information or you can go online via the township website. Just click on 'Library' and on the left side, go to 'GMT library searching'. You may also connect to Interlibrary Loan through 'Direct link to Interlibrary searching'. The township website is undergoing changes which will improve our page. I will keep you posted.

Services are constantly being updated and increased. In addition to our in-house 6 Hi-speed Internet stations, we are wireless and you can connect when the library is closed. Just visit the parking lot and when searching for a wireless connection, we are 'Linksys'. 'Greater Madawaska' is the township and of course, it is password protected. You cannot go there! If there has been a power outage, the server is automatically closed and will need to be restarted the next time I am at work. Please let me know if you have any connection problems.

We offer several museum passes. These will give free admission to various museums in Ottawa-Gatineau. You can get photo-copies in black & white or coloured; send faxes; coil and/or laminate documents; get adult literacy materials; check email and have access to many free websites through Knowledge Ontario. Best of all, you can borrow any number of materials in various media types: print, tape, CD, VHS, DVD and Play-away. The only catch is you need to join the library (except for Internet). For residents of Greater Madawaska, membership is free, but those outside of the township must pay a \$15 annual family membership fee.

Adult literacy materials are available for those who cannot read or write easily. Remember that information is kept con-

fidential, so do not be uncomfortable approaching me if help is needed. Not only are there materials, but I can also get you in touch with a personal teacher who will guide you if you do not have a friend or family member to help you. If you know someone who needs this service, please help them get in touch with the library and we can go from there. You may also borrow the materials for someone you know is in need and unable to come in person. Our mandate is to meet the literacy needs of all people in the township. This is your right as a taxpayer, so come in and we will take care of you!

The TD Summer Program will be offered again on Wednesday afternoons. The theme this year is all about jungles, safaris and exotic places. This program is offered free and the materials are funded by the TD Bank and created by the Ottawa Public Library (French) and the Toronto Public Library (English). Kids from 5 to 12 have always enjoyed the fun in past years. For the wee ones from birth to 5 years, the Preschool Storytime is on Tuesdays 2 to 3 p.m. all year long. There is a comfortable children's area for quiet reading or play. There are toys, an Early Learning Station, an Audio-visual centre and places to browse. Come in to the cool and relax on those 'easy, breezy days of summer'.

For budgetary reasons, there will be some adjustments made this year. An official message will come from the Library Board detailing these temporary changes. Even under these circumstances, I will provide the best service I am able, to meet your needs.

Enjoy the summer and take the best therapy there is: Read, Read, Read!!!!

End

Affair of the Arts (Cont)

While this article has concentrated on the Burnstown Affair of the Arts, 'McNab Days' has many more activities for you to enjoy. Information about these events will be available in Burnstown. Make a point of travelling to Burnstown on June 26 and 27; we are fortunate to have an arts colony so close.

End

Space Weather: Dark Star Cometh (Part 2)

By Douglas Vasey

Author's note: In Part One I indicated that our solar system is likely being affected by a brown dwarf star; making our planets associated with a binary star system, rather than just one sun. By extension NASA scientists have discovered that through a galactic ribbon of sorts (as our solar system lines up with the centre of the Milky Way Galaxy) matter and energy are being donated (by an apparent injection) into our solar system.

Theoretical physicists are learning that life exists in different dimensions and on different scales. An example is that a broccoli with its stock and branches look a lot like a tree. A cyclone or tornado looks a lot like a swirling galaxy. The model of a molecule looks a lot like a solar system. Many patterns exist throughout life. I once heard a Rabbi state that every time a person dies a whole universe is eliminated.

There are laws that govern patterns throughout the universe. A great cosmic consciousness (The essence of God) seems to master the patterns. It's just a matter of scale. Is it such a reach to sug-

gest that a doctor's inoculating syringe injected into a person's body is similar to a magnetic bubble called a solar system being inoculated from beyond? Whether the inoculation is premeditated by an extraterrestrial effect or automatically part of a cosmic cyclical event; the anomaly is apparently still happening. It is important to note that if the effect were extraterrestrial in origin it is likely that the source of the effect would still be influenced by the over-riding cosmic consciousness.

Voyager 2 has reached the edge of the heliopause unexpectedly early, leading scientists to believe that the heliopause itself is distorted. It appears to be dented in the southern celestial hemisphere by an unknown magnetic field.

Scientists had theorized that there was something significant occurring in that area because of magnetic polar shifting that has been occurring in our outer planets. Earth's magnetic field is also shifting. Astronomers now understand that our galaxy and other phenomena interact with our solar system in ways that were not previously detected. Scientists are now working toward the knowledge of

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The Madawaska HIGHLANDER

“Read cover to cover”

Dear Editor,

ONTARIO’S FINEST IN ACTION

On May 18 this year, I finally broke down and wrote the required boaters test (cost \$45) in order to obtain the mandatory Boater Licence. After canoeing and boating for more than 60 years, I sat down and wrote the same test administered to summer camp students aged 10 or 12 years old. Some may be surprised to learn that I struggled through with a 100% final score. It was interesting to discover what the almighty authorities in Toronto believe is important for boating survival in Ontario. e.g. don't dry your PFD in the sun and make sure you know what those black and white channel markers mean on the international waterways of the St Lawrence.

Anyway, Sunday, June 13 was a beautiful lazy sunny day. At about 2:30 p.m. I was happily boating down the mighty Madawaska with my approved licence safely tucked away in a plastic envelope in the engine compartment. It was all very relaxing. I managed to sail a good 200 yards from my dock when I was intercepted by the very vigilant OPP water patrol.

The two officers were polite and explained that they were checking boaters and their boats for safety equipment and alcohol infractions. For the next 3 to 5 minutes, one officer went through his check list of safety items, including the boating licence, life jacket, etc... The second officer kept a silent watch on the proceedings - just in case, so it seemed, I happened to be an escaped criminal. It's interesting to note that the check list does not include the need for a spare paddle in case the motor konks out. Common sense used to dictate that. However Toronto has not deemed it a requirement in this modern day.

What is deemed essential however, is a working flashlight that can float. My boat is 18 feet long and 7 feet wide and equipped with navigational lights which can be turned on at dark. And they work. But no matter, the law apparently states that it is an offence and unsafe to operate a water craft without a working floating flashlight. Mine is kept in the engine compartment.

You can drive across Canada in your car without headlights in the daytime and never be subjected to random stops to make sure they work. So why is it that you need a work-

ing floating flashlight in the daytime on the Madawaska and be subjected to random stopping, and a show-and-tell interrogation by government agents.

It is important to understand that the OPP does not make the laws which now apply to water navigation. They only apply the laws. The OPP deserve a lot of credit for diligently carrying out their duties as they ply the backwaters of Ontario stopping every boat in sight to ensure our safety. Gives me a warm and grateful feeling, even though it is somewhat unsettling to be stopped and questioned by police while enjoying a short leisurely afternoon cruise on our peaceful Madawaska. The impact of being stopped by police is more effective when one has impressionable guests on board, especially children who ask why are the police stopping us?

My question is “What is this ‘service’ costing us taxpayers?”

As I cut short my first licensed boating tour, I was somewhat relieved that I had passed this unwarranted police attention. Back at the dock it occurred to me that the good news is that boaters no longer have to carry a bailing can on a pontoon boat. The bad news is rumoured to be that boaters may soon be required to wear a lighted helmeted PFD and carry a note from their mother saying they have permission to be out on these dangerous waters.

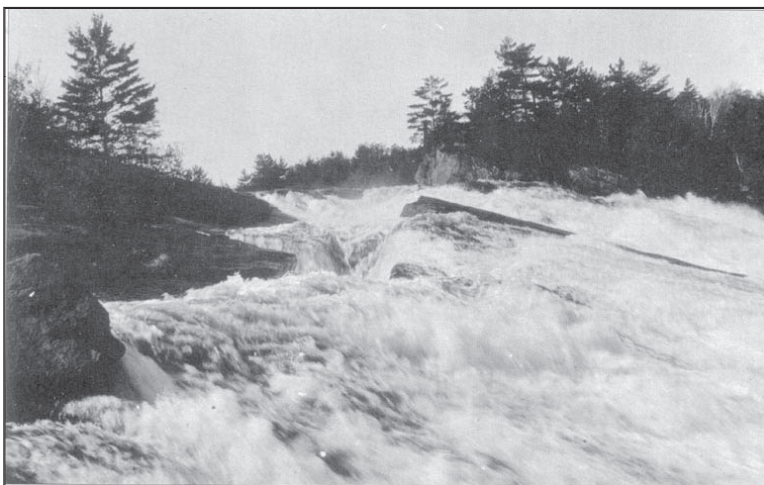
Have a safe and happy boating season and don't forget your flashlight, etc.....

J.P. De Grandmont
Matawatchan
Commodore (ret.)
Rockcliffe Yatch Club

Anniversary

We wish to thank all the considerate friends who, through cards and in person, conveyed to us their congratulations and kind wishes on our 50th wedding anniversary. We certainly appreciate your thoughtfulness.
Carol and Garry Ferguson

Looking back...



High Falls on the Madawaska River before the Hydro dams

Richard's Rant

By Richard Copeland

I decided that I needed to shoot it. The thing had caused enough grief. Others had reported altercations with it as well and it had been likely there for a couple of weeks. I had just seen it this very morning. I knew where it was. It had to be looked after. I would shoot it.

I even got some measuring sticks together. It wasn't huge, but it was worth the measure. This breed can be lethal. I hopped into the van, case in hand, and drove out to the rock cut near the causeway on the Matawatchan Road.

I couldn't believe what I saw. I had missed out by no more than a couple of hours. It was filled with lumpy asphalt, still high in the center, only one set of tracks through it like a pass through in the desert sand. I was devastated. It had been the perfect pothole and now my photograph of it would never be. Lost was my documentation of one of the worst mass murderers of local vehicles.

This single pothole, among the thousands that assault Matawatchan dwellers daily, was the fighter pilot equivalent of a 'top gun'. This one hardly ever missed the opportunity to damage incoming vehicles. About eighteen inches across, slightly oval and maybe 6-8 inches deep it was positioned slightly right of the roadway center line. This pothole conspired with the rock cut just prior to the causeway in a perfect surprise. The rock sidewalls are somewhat confining and the shoulders at that point were at times falling away - kind of like potholes without sides. If you had not yet been hypnotized by the potholed road-scape of Matawatchan Road you might have noticed its presence.

When you did see it you have a fraction of a second to determine whether or not the road shoulder would pull you into the rock cut wall if you swerved. (Actually

it didn't) If you didn't have a small car you likely applied the brakes and hit the hole with great force. If you didn't see it, you would hit it for sure - it was the perfect ambush. Your wheel would drop into it and then a hard jolt like hitting an unseen curb could knock the fillings out of your teeth. It could also crack a stabilizer bar or a windshield, bend idler arms or separate the belts in your radial tires. I mention these because I am convinced that these repairs that I have sustained are directly related to the embarrassing and constantly poor condition of this road. The long linkages on the rear doors of my vehicle have been shaken apart for years.

The County of Renfrew road crews, bless their hearts, are constantly in here patching holes and we recognize their dedication and have sympathy for the role they play in this eternal project. The outboard side of the road was patched last year with strips of asphalt (I would have loved to be privy to the logic behind this repair) and the asphalt has held up very well. Funny thing with the asphalt being on one side of the road - it suggests 'thank you for visiting Matawatchan - and not welcome back'.

We really want a smooth road so we can stop destroying our expensive vehicles. After finally petitioning Council years ago, the road was to have been rebuilt and resurfaced by 2008. Now it is maybe by 2014. Yes it is being worked on this year at the opposite end where there are very very few potholes. So far a few trees have been shredded at that end. The road is perhaps being brought up to a standard to satisfy whom? Not us. That we blast rock, cut trees and have surveyors in the air and on the ground doesn't address our problem.

Asphalt looks like it works. The bridge at Kelly's Slip has a run of the stuff that's held up for years. Can't we pave what's there and just make it smooth? Mulched trees, blasted rock and surveys don't make it smooth. Make the damned thing smooth!

End

OUTDOOR COMPANIONS

By Ernie Jukes of Camp J

We are so fortunate in this great country of ours... our true north strong and free. We are indeed, along with our vast attributes, also the last outdoor frontier. We still have more productive wilderness and wildlife and have taken over the role of providing the most oxygen to the planet from our huge tracts of forests. We are blessed with more waterways than anyone else, and most of them comparatively clean. Our huge province of Ontario has the largest fresh water lakes plus endless connecting rivers and streams. It is easy to understand how our early French and native explorers penetrated North America from Hudson Bay to the Gulf of Mexico with the illustrious Algonkian-Canadian canoe. A perfect craft still enjoyed today.

You, your family and friends can also enjoy our waterways on water skis, houseboats, kayaks, sea doos or simply swimming at our fine beaches. It's not so much just doing something in the outdoors, as it is exploring it with a companion. Even climbing Everest is more meaningful with a friend. Perhaps helping out in your community as with Habitat for Humanity, or painting a seniors house, maybe it's just gathering wood for the house or cottage. What could be better, tell me, than to view our gold and scarlet woodlands on an autumn day. Its like music to the eyes especially shared with someone.

Fly fishing on the Madawaska was all the more fun with a bud. Hunting our highlands has traditionally required fellow hunters to make it work. Our Ontario Guides Group selected from old hunting companions has a slogan that reads "From dawn to lasting embers-share it with a lasting friend". Isn't it always the people that make your outdoor excursion a special and lasting memory.

Hiking our mountains and highlands are a happy venture but maybe a stroll with a pal in the park could be swell too. These kinds of walks could be combined with animal or bird watching. We haven't even discussed the health benefits gained from these outings. Naturally the mission includes our golfing days in spite of using a cart for some of us old guys. The comedian Jack Benny once said "Give me golf clubs, fresh air and a beautiful partner- and you can keep the clubs and fresh air."

Even RVers, once they get parked, often make lifelong friends while participating in exploring the outdoors around them. I recall making new friends while seeing Einstein's house in Ulm Germany. We shared companionship while panning for gold on the Klondike near Dawson. More while visiting Robert Service's cabin, The Bard of the Yukon. Then Pierre Berton's homestead and Jack London's cabin in all as a bonus. Even doing my Tai-Chi on a beach on the Adriatic Sea led me to

new friends. Our climb up Anganguo in Mexico to see millions of Monarch butterflies was all the more rewarding with our Mexican amigos.

The outdoors simplifies the task of making new companions. It is sitting there for us and most of the time it is free to use...just keep it clean. But out of all that be sure to make a good friend of yourself... the person you know best. Be true to yourself, laugh a lot, and truly enjoy this short life we have. Nature helps us in so many ways.

Of course your Outdoor Companions may simply be your horseshoe tourney group at Camp J. It could be your "plein air" painting or photo group on a pilgrimage to Tom Thomson at Canoe Lake. Perhaps it may include the Mushhead Mountaineers that meet on top of Dan's Mountain to meditate and discuss the history of the Matawatchan - Griffith area, yes global chronicles too, while looking down upon the Hutson Lakes.

Many of us ran outdoors, during school track meets, or normal jogging to keep fit. But how many of us thought they would still run for fund raising events held in towns and cities coast to coast. Gathering sap for maple syrup is another outdoor Canadian activity that is probably more parochial but aside of the help, could be companion-making, especially during the "boiling down" in the sugar shack, so I'm told.

Ice fishing is not a short form for no-boat-required, it is however a fun way to go. But again requires a fellow participant or two to get the most out of the day. The point is the wonderful memories that

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are gained by doing anything with a pal. It is not the size or glitter of the activity but the 'doing' with someone... that you enjoy being with. It may be a learning experience. It may be just for the giggles. It may be a good deed. It might mean sharing some gardening ideas for better flowers or veggies. As a writer,

artist and rover I can suggest that friendship is an art form. Outdoor Companions are the family you can choose for yourself. Travel your world with love in your heart--- peace in your soul and more joy in your life.

Happy Endings

STAY CLEAR STAY SAFE

Recreational activities near hydro stations and dams are dangerous

For your own safety obey all warnings at hydroelectric stations, dams and their surrounding shorelines and waterways. These facilities operate year-round, affecting water flows. Water that looks safe can become treacherous in minutes and ice forming near, or even several kilometres away, can become dangerous. Signs, fences, buoys and safety booms are there to warn you, but if you see water levels changing, move a safe distance away immediately.



Visit opg.com to receive your free water safety DVD or brochure.

Cutting firewood on Mud Lake near Black Donald in the 1940s

By Howard Popkie

When Barrett Chute Dam was built near Calabogie, the Madawaska River rose up several feet to form a head of water to run the hydro generators. All the trees were cut off the islands that were covered with the high water. Trees were also cut along the shores all the way to Mountain Chute and as high along the shores as the water rose.

The people in charge of cutting the trees along the shores of Mud Lake did some poor surveying and when the water rose there was a big hardwood bush growing out of the water. In the winter, my Uncle Frank Stubinski would take his team of horses and sleigh with a sawing machine to this spot. The sawing machine was made from a model A Ford engine mounted on a stone boat type of sleigh with a pulley on the drive shaft that would drive a belt to run a circular saw with a two foot diameter blade. Pieces of

wood to be cut were placed in a cradle and rocked into the blade.

This is the way that he cut firewood for his home. In the years to come the big elms on the lake were dead and the bark was gone. The stood like a grey forest on the ice in winter. The cutting of the firewood on Mud Lake continued for many years to come.

The Hydro would cut and burn all of the trees and brush on the land and save the big logs on roll-ways to cut into lumber so that when the land was flooded there would be no dead wood floating down the river and building up at the dam.

The trees that they missed on Mud Lake didn't make it to the dam thanks to my Uncle Frank. He had cut them all out to keep his home fires burning.

End

Griffith Matawatchan News

By Garry Ferguson

After nine years of living in the rarified atmosphere of Matawatchan, Doug Vasey has succumbed to the call of the Great White (farther) North – specifically Hay River, Northwest Territories. By the time you read this he may well have completed the 5000-kilometers drive to begin a one-year contract with the town's social services. Those who wish to dust off their atlases (atli ?) will see that Hay River is situated on the south-east shore of Great Slave Lake, just north of the Alberta border. Doug is best known in the community for his work with the Hall Board – five years – for which he was recognized, by the township, with a Greater Madawaska Citizen's Award.



He assures us that he will be back, since he considers Matawatchan his home – his grandmother was born along the Marchand Lacourse Road – and has kept his residence here. He will continue, when time allows, to contribute his column on the universe and all those celestial bodies – affectionately known as “For Heaven's Sake” - to *The Madawaska Highlander*. He will also stay in touch through emails and Face Book.

I am told that the pre-market day on May 29 at the Matawatchan Hall went very well with eight vendors offering a wide variety of produce and wares such as plants, vegetables and even (previously owned) used clothing. The Matawatchan Market Committee kicks off the 2010 summer schedule for real on July 3 in the morning before Canada Day festivities.

Matawatchan's St. Andrew's United Church is now out of the picnic business. It will instead hold a St. Andrew's United Church Anniversary Summer Social – (SAUCASS) doesn't exactly come across as a church function, so we'll stick to the long version – for the congregation, families and the wider community. Games, music, a cold potluck meal and lots of Saturday socializing are planned to begin at 2 p.m. on August 07, 2010. For information, contact Ken Birkett at 613 333 5534.

The Matawatchan Hall Board will take over the traditional Canada Day celebrations with a low-key, no-charge, no-alcohol (snicker) gathering on the afternoon of July 03, 2010 at the Hall. The festivities, to begin after the market, (9 a.m. to 1 p.m.) will include music, children's games and a potluck meal. The

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Hall Board will provide the roast beef on a bun. All - especially those with lawn chairs - are welcome.

The first outing of summer's Wednesday-evening, mixed-team softball is scheduled for June 16 at 6:30 p.m. Teams are made up of children, old folks and all in-betweens. No previous experience required.

The Fish and Game Club have a couple of events on the schedule for the summer. The Kid's Fishing Derby will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on July 10, again at Hutson Lake. The annual Pig Roast, on Jul 31, will begin at 1 p.m. For more information, contact Al Pennock at 613 333 2390.

End

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Community Calendar

CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULE

GRIFFITH AND MATAWATCHAN

St. Andrew's United Church

Aug to Feb Sunday Worship 11:30 a.m.
Feb. to August Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.
Contemporary interactive worship service, Saturday, July 3; fellowship at 6:30pm, service at 7:00pm.- more info at:
renfrewpresbytery.org/white-lake/calabogie

Our Lady of Holy Rosary Catholic Church

Sunday Mass 11:00 a.m.

Hilltop Tabernacle

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

DENBIGH AND VENNACHAR

Vennachar Free Methodist Church

WMI meet first Monday of the month
Sunday School 10am
Sunday Worship 11am
Weekly Bible study Tuesdays 7pm
at Fellowship Hall and in Plevna
Pioneer Club Thursdays 6pm at
Clar-Mill Hall, Plevna

St. Luke's United Church

Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

The New Apostolic Church

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays 8:00 p.m.

CALABOGIE

The Calabogie Bible Fellowship Congregational Church

The Mill Street Chapel at 538 Mill St.,
Regular service – Sundays 10:30 a.m.
Good Friday Service - April 2 – 10 a.m.

Most Precious Blood Catholic Church

504 Mill St., Rev. Father Pat Blake
Sundays 10:30 a.m.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church

Mount St. Patrick
Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Calabogie St. Andrews United Church

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

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Calabogie

Strawberry Social, St. Andrew's United Church, Sat. June 26 from 11:00 to 2:30, good will offering, 613-752-2598. Surprises!

July 1 - Canada Day in the Village of Calabogie:

Pancake Breakfast (Calabogie & District Snowmobile Club), Calabogie Community Hall, 8:00 – 11:30

Gigantic Garage Sale, Most Precious Blood Catholic Church, 10 – 4.

Lakeside street activities from 3 pm including: food, kids' game park, clown, pie eating contest, Home Support booth,

minnow race, band, 50-50 draw, fireworks; Lion's Club Bingo, Nevada, beer tent **BBQ** hot dogs, roast beef on a bun with baked beans, cake & a drink; prize table; scavenger hunt at St. Andrew's United Church 4 - 8:30 pm

TD Summer Reading Club - Go on exotic jungle safaris. July & August for ages 6-12 at township library. Call library at 752-2317.

Free Family Fishing Weekend

Calabogie Fish & Game
July 10 – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Pre-Register @ Jim's Bait & Tackle
Register @ Barnet Cottage
Call Brian for info: 752-0453
See ad on page 27

August 22 - Calabogie Lions' Club Community Appreciation Day, 1 – 7 pm at Barnet Park; all welcome, bring a chair

Free BBQ: chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs & all the trimmings Cash bar. Free soft drinks. **Fun for Kids:** face painting, scavenger hunt, balloons, games, jumping house, giant slide, clown, treats **Bogie Arts** – Paintings by Calabogie & Area artists, hand-crafted jewellery, art objects, sketch artist 1 – 7 pm Gospel music 1 -3 pm with local and valley singers Music 3 – 7 pm with Mac McLaren, fiddlers, step dancers & singers, Julie Laroque

August 29 - Giant BBQ & Garage Sale at Most Precious Blood Catholic Church with bingo and kids' activities, 1 – 4 pm

Kids' Free Movie Nights, at 7 pm every second Friday, June 11 and on....at Calabogie Community Centre, organized by Township Recreation Committee.

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

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

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

Calabogie Arts and Crafts Assoc.

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

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

The Calabogie and Area Ministerial Food Bank

538 Mill Street, 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month 9:00 am to 11:00 a.m. For emergency situations, please call 752-2201

Griffith & Matawatchan

Wednesday Evening Baseball

Matawatchan Hall grounds
Begins June 16 @ 6:30 pm

Matawatchan Community Market

Season opening July 3
9 am to 1:00 pm
Fresh vegetables, baking, preserves, etc.
Lunch : Beef on a bun & salads @ Noon

Matawatchan Canada Day Festivities

Sat. July 3 @ noon
Lunch : Beef on a bun & salads
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Activities for children & live music for adults Come early to the Market and make a day of it!

July 10 – Fish & Game Club

Kid's fishing derby – 15 yrs and under
Hutson Lake – 10 am to 1 pm

July 31 - Bake and Rummage Sale

St. Andrew's Church Matawatchan
9 am to 1 pm

July 31 – Fish & Game Club

Annual Pig Roast
Watch for posters

Lion's Club Bingo

May
11th Bingo
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Kilts and Tartans

By Garry Ferguson

Editor's note: It has been about five years since we last published this scandalous revelation by Garry Ferguson.

I've never had trouble believing the thing about what's not under kilts. For the desperately poor Highland Scottish clansmen, bloomers wouldn't have been a priority wardrobe item, even if they'd had a Giant Tiger just down the glen. It was the kilt itself that didn't ring true. The Highlanders, in their inhospitable environment, would have come up with something more practical just to survive. I also thought it unlikely that the plant dyes available would provide the multitude of colours we see in tartan catalogues. I came across a book, *Scotland and Her Tartans* by Alexander Fulton, which confirmed my suspicions but sorry to say, exploded a lot of myths I'd held.

Canadians who have ended up with a clan name usually have some interest in kilts and tartans. Though the place that was home to those clans is foreign to us, our names entitle us to membership in a, now international, clan and to identify with its plaid - like the Ferguson plaid shirt that hangs somewhere in my closet.

I envisioned something pretty lean in the crotch when I came to the paragraph on the ancient clansmen's garment, called a *leine-chroich*. It made me think of our fleece-lined combinations after our mother had boiled them for an hour on the old Findlay stove. When it became apparent that this frock was a loose kind of shirt that extended below the knee, like a mini moomoo, my bout of phantom male itch faded. I can imagine a few wind-burned cheeks, but it must have been pretty comfortable.

This, in time, gave way to the *feileadh mor* (big wrap), a huge blanket of cloth which was the plaid. To dress, the Highlander lay down on it and wrapped it around himself, fastening a belt round his middle to keep the thing together. I didn't find this maneuver that unusual since I thrash around in a similar fashion to get my pants on in the morning. When all the rolling around was done, the wearer stood up and draped the top half around his torso. He could even put it over his head if it was cold enough or use it as a sleeping bag by night as well as a garment by day.

I got to wondering why this handy apparel had gone the way of the corset, considering the savings on bed clothes and pajamas - not to mention pain inflicted through the careless use of zippers on trousers. As I read on, I understood why and thanked God for Giant Tiger. It seems that the wool, from which the plaid was made, was soaked in human urine to remove the grease and to act as a fixing agent for the colours. My hunch is that a certain vulgarity, now used ex-

tensively in English, was coined when some clansman had to be reminded how to soak wool.

It's easy enough to believe that "the little kilt" came from this garment, but the version recorded in Fulton's book is enough to rupture a haggis. It'll probably bring on a few strokes in Scottish traditionalists or even the Lowlanders and other nationalities that play wannabees by prancing around in kilts on Robbie Burns Day. The clans threw a rebellion in 1715 and another in 1719 which provided a plot for the movie *Rob Roy*. The British Government didn't consider the creation of such movie material quite cricket, so they appointed a General George Wade as Commander-in-Chief, Scotland, to keep the "savages" in order.

The General couldn't find anyone who needed killing right away so he passed the time by building roads throughout the Highlands. This opening up of the region had industrial as well as military applications. One of the first to take advantage of this opportunity was an ironmaster, Thomas Rawlinson, from Lancashire, England. In 1727 he established a foundry, at Invergarry, to be worked by men of Clan MacDonell on whose territory it was situated.

Rawlinson soon realized that the plaid was not very well suited to cutting down trees and stoking furnaces. It must have been akin to mud wrestling in an evening dress. Consequently, the ironmaster had a tailor, named Parkinson, whip up something appropriate. He created the modern kilt by separating the bottom half of the plaid and sewing the pleats so they were held in place. The invention became a hit.

"G'awae wi' ye, ye wee beastie," I gasped. (Highlanders spoke Gaelic, but since I'd learned only *leine-chroich* in that language, I used the Scottish accent I'd picked up from watching *Royal Canadian Airfarce*) But, there it was. Fulton just had to go blab it. An Englishman, he claimed, had invented the kilt.

I have no historical evidence, but it's quite possible that another widely used expression "Up yer kilt," originated when this news got out.

At least he made them out of clan tartans that had been around forever, I sneered. What about all those romantic stories? Walter Scott, and all that stuff? I sneered again.

Well, I soon learned that "tartan" isn't a Highland word and Scotty was a Lowlander. He acknowledged that Lowlanders had never worn plaid or had distinctive tartans though he may have designed a tartan, now associated with Clan Scott, for use as his personal plaid.

continued on page 22

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The House Mouse and Their Unrequited Love for Humans

By Floris Wood

Let's suppose the airport flight schedule monitor shows that you face a two hour flight delay. Suppose too that the person sitting next to you looks very different from you. Maybe he is an African pygmy, an Australian aboriginal or a Bandaho River tribesman of the Amazon forest. You try to think about what you might have in common to talk about. One thing you might say is something like, "hey, how 'bout those House mice?" Unless he lives pretty close to one of Earth's poles he has to take stringent measures to keep the House mouse out of his lodging, just like you and I. The House mouse lives on every continent except Antarctica, although the species' origin is thought to be somewhere in Eurasia. You can

probably come up with a better line than that. I never did well with small talk.

This little House mouse loves the company of Human beings. In areas not inhabited by humans the House mouse is content to live in the wild. They are incredibly opportunistic both in habitation and diet. Basically they live where they can and eat anything that does not make them sick. Their dietary preference runs along the lines of seeds, leaves, roots and stems of plants. They will also eat cockroaches (bless their miniscule little hearts), carrion (second blessing), caterpillars and beetle larva. When they cohabit with us humans they vary their wild diet to match ours. They will even

fatten themselves on your hand soap or glue. The little darlings repay you for the food in a currency resembling grains of black rice.

Wild House mice like to live in elaborate borrowed burrows, where the soil conditions permit and someone else will do the major digging. In the burrows they organize pantries, sleeping nests, toilette areas and several escape routes. If the terrain is more rock than soil, such as in the Madawaska Valley, a protected rock crevice makes a nice home too. Since a rocky home lacks flexibility a House mouse may have to store the food off the premises, but that works too. In human homes they are famous for living behind the wainscot or any other panelling, the attic, under the floor, inside a couch or almost anywhere. In rural areas they favour grain storage areas as dwelling

places, but, again, necessity is the mother of invention and these animals are the Thomas Edisons of the animal world.

One may fairly ask why there are so many of them. Unlike so many other animals which bred seasonally, the House mouse can breed any time of the year, weather permitting. Here in the northern climes females often forgo winter litters because the survival rate of the babies is small. House mice are born hairless, blind and have sealed ears, in litters average about 6-7 newborns. These newborns are called pups. In a mere five weeks later both male and female pups are themselves adults and ready to reproduce. In twenty-one days after impregnation these "pups" have their own pups. At this rate several generations can be produced in one year. So the original Mom can be a great, great Grandmother by year's end. Since she and each one of

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Out on the First Concession

WE MOVED TO THE FIRST CONCESSION (Part 2)

By Wes Bomhower

Alas! There were rough times ahead on the First Concession! The day had been fairly mild and one of our ex-neighbours had brought our remaining supply of potatoes, about ten bags, well covered on his sleighs, but everyone was tired from the unloading and the bags of potatoes were stacked against the kitchen wall instead of taken down to the cellar. The weather turned extremely cold that night, the fire went out and next day when Mom went to peel some potatoes, she found they were all touched with frost. There went a large part of our food supply for the remainder of the winter plus seed potatoes for the spring planting.

In my estimation, one of the hardest things in a child's life is moving to a different school, especially in the middle of a school year. New teachers, new children and new surroundings plus the fact that Wilma and I now had to walk three miles each way to and from school, where as we were accustomed to only half a mile. Footwear for girls in those winter days consisted mostly of shoes and overshoes and Wilma seemed always to have cold feet. We became acquainted with all the neighbours fairly quickly on our route to school because Wilma would stop at nearly every farmhouse to warm her feet for a few minutes.

Invariably, they would welcome us and have Wilma put her stockinged feet up on the oven door of the big wood range which dominated every farm kitchen. My footwear in winter, the same as all the other country boys of that time period, was gum rubbers, and they were not too bad for warmth if you owned a good pair of insoles and the boots were not too

tight. Their main drawback was that they were only ankle high and if you were in deep snow, (which was often,) one's socks would get wet from the melting snow at the top of the gum rubbers, and as a result, most of us boys had chapped and bleeding ankles all winter long. But when you are young, those are trivial matters it seems.

Dad made arrangements to rent half a dozen cows so that we would at least have fresh milk and perhaps a little milk to send to the cheese factory for income. I'm not sure what the man charged to rent the cows, but we would be allowed to keep and raise whatever calves they produced and thus eventually have a herd of our own. Dad had also hoped to find part time work in the area, but no one knew him in this part of the country and besides the economy was very slow; no one had money to spend.

That spring of 1938, with only the half dozen rented cows, there wasn't enough work to keep both Dad and Everett busy, so one day Everett went back to our old stamping grounds and found work with another farmer, an ex-neighbour, and for me, life was never the same. I missed my big brother so much and even though he teased me constantly, he was my mentor in all things, be it animals, girls or just learning how to split firewood.

Joy and Winnie, still at Grandma's and High School, were doing alright until Winnie landed in hospital with appendicitis at Easter time and when she recovered from the operation, she came home to us which was some consolation to me, but it marked the end of her school days. There was no money to board her in the village and attend the local High School, and to travel the distance each day was out of the question. Poor Winnie. Joy



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completed her school year in Grandma's village and came home to find her school days were numbered also. There just was not enough money to even have her stay at Grandma's during the school year; she would have to find work the same as Everett, and she did. A distant relative, an older lady, became ill and Joy became her right hand, so to speak. The remuneration was not great, but it was a job.

Because hard cash was so scarce that first spring and Dad could find little outside work, he defaulted on the monthly rent payments for the half dozen cattle. One day in June, Wilma and I returned from school to find the cows gone, only the calves born that spring remained, and Dad in the most despairing mood we had ever seen. There was no milk now and no income from the cheese factory where we shipped the milk. A very black day indeed! Fortunately, the County decided to rebuild a section of the County road about five miles away and Dad was the last man hired on the road crew. He walked the distance morning and night and worked a ten hour day, six days a week, enough to keep up the mortgage payments for the present time on the farm. We managed to get the crops in that summer and autumn and Dad helped cut firewood in the bush for many of the neighbours the following winter, bringing in a little more cash.

The following year, just before Christmas, 1939, Winnie turned fifteen and a big dairy farmer from up the way came around to hire her to help his partly crip-

pled wife with house work. This led to another position in much the same capacity and soon Joy was also working for a big farmer in that area too. The Second World War had begun and Winnie eventually joined the Royal Canadian Air Force and Joy married shortly after her eighteenth birthday. In the meantime, Wilma finished grade eight and then went to help a cousin some miles away who had two small children. When she was fifteen, Wilma enrolled in a crash course that was being offered in the city, and soon became a junior draftsman for General Electric away up in Peterborough just after her sixteenth birthday. General Electric in those days was turning out war material of course. This left just Peachy and I at home and as Dad gradually worked up another small herd of cattle, I was planting crops and taking in the harvest plus working part time for other farmers, while Dad more and more was doing carpenter work in the area as the general economy improved with the war years.

Now as I reminisce, I realize that the farm my parents purchased in 1938 was partly marginal land, low and swampy and nowhere nearly as good as expected. The high land produced fairly good crops, but there was not enough high land to sustain more than ten cows plus a team of horses at any time. I think Dad often wished he had stayed with the rented farm where

continued on page 18

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House Mouse (Cont)

her female offspring can have 5-8 litters in one year, the growth rate is exponential. And the males? They are polygamous so those that breed can have literally hundreds of offspring at the end of a good year. One reason for the high fertility rate is, of course, the accompanying mortality rate. The House mouse is one of the fastest aging mammals in existence, i.e. they have one of the shortest time periods from birth to weaning, birth to sexual maturity, gestation period, etc.

The House mouse constitutes part of the diets of several predators including, many predatory birds, foxes, snakes, weasels, skunks and cats. We humans kill our fair share of them too. Weather and weather related disasters kill many pups. Mice, living under the protection of humans as pets or in labs, can live to be four years old, but in the wild the lifespan averages about 18 months. There seems to be a natural population control, besides predation, built into the genetics of the house mouse. When populations in a given area exceed a certain threshold fe-

the words "domestic", "tame" and "wild" to describe these different habitats I have succumbed to the convention myself.

It is not hard to imagine that the House mouse, or *Mus musculus*, has many subspecies. Any species that can produce so many generations in a short time will evolve quickly in response to new environmental pressures. One such subspecies is an albino mouse that is sold in pet stores. Several species have long been used in medical labs where genetics constitutes the prime focus of research. Because of their value in research the mouse's genetic code was one of the first one mapped.

An article in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute publication relates that in the 17th Century in Japan and China mice were raised as pets and bred for their beauty and unusual traits. The practice caught on in England where breed catalogues were created to the joy of mice fanciers. The fad moved on to North America where in 1900 a lady named



male pups begin to develop into sterile adults.

The relationship with humans and their structures has enabled the House mouse to inhabit areas where they otherwise cannot survive. In some areas the human habitat is used only as a winter home, while summers are spent in the nearby wild.

In reading the research about mice, writers usually refer to mouse life away from a human structure as the "wild" and mouse life in a human structure as "domestic" or "tame". This somehow implies that they are welcome visitors to the human household. Unless you have some pet mice I think you would agree that they are not welcome. Sometimes cottagers will just resign themselves to coexist with the resident House mouse population rather than exhaust themselves trying to get rid of them. But "welcome" usually does not describe our feelings toward them. Rather than exhaust myself trying to reform all these writers who use

Abbie Lathrop in Massachusetts bred mice on her farm. Later she began to sell one subspecies to Harvard University for research. This subspecies started the line that has become the standard mouse in research labs all across North America.

Territorialism in House mice is used to protect whole households rather than the territory of any individual mouse. It is enforced by both the male and the several female mates of his polygamous family. Each female usually visits the whole territory during the course of a twenty-four hour period. While mice are primarily nocturnal they may well search for food sources during the day if the night's marauding was not particularly productive. Mice tend to rest and search in short cycles, competing as many as 15 cycles each day.

House mice living out-of-doors have difficulty competing for food and territory

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Solar Power in Matawatchan: Final

By Bill Graham, Editor

Editor's note: This completes the articles on the Ontario Government's MicroFIT program, which encourages the development of small electrical generation for sale to the province's electrical grid. The first article covered the nuts and bolts of the MicroFIT program and the second article in May outlined the personal experience of the four Matawatchan residents who installed solar arrays. This article is a summary of results after one full month of operation by the four households that installed solar panels in Matawatchan.

Producing electricity without compromising the environment was certainly a motivation for the four Matawatchan households who installed solar panel systems, but the over-arching motive was making a good investment with a secure annual payout. All of us are getting questions. Some of these questions are from others interested in installing a system; other questions are about how well the systems are operating and still other questions about how much money we are making.

The short answer to this last set of questions is that we are banking kilowatt hours with Hydro One but no one will see any cash until at least August. This is because it takes Hydro One three months to set up a billing cycle. It is the same cycle as you encounter with Hydro One when you get two estimated bills and then the third billing is based on an actual reading of your meter by a Hydro One employee.

While the delay in getting cash in hand due to the Hydro One billing cycle is

understandable, the delay caused by bureaucratic inertia is frustrating. It is compounded by the fact that three separate bureaucracies are involved in the process of getting the payment administration in place.


You submit your application for a MicroFIT contract with the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) and then wait for it to be processed. In January and February it was thirty days. If you submitted after the beginning of March the promised time was 60 to 90 days but then it was revised so that now such applications won't be granted approval until the end of August. Approval in the form of a 'conditional offer' is not a contract. That happens in its own time at the other end of the process.

With approval your system needs to be inspected by the Electrical Safety Association (ESA). The actual inspection is usually very fast. However, the time it takes for their office to inform 'Hydro One' that they can connect the solar system to the grid can take some time unless you are on their case.

Hydro One connects your system to the grid and then, once again, you wait while their office informs OPA that you are connected and the contract proceedings can now begin. At this point the delays return to the OPA's office. It's a good thing that these bureaucracies were not in place during the Second World War or we would have lost. It's frustrating and requires patience.

The brighter side of this equation is that kilowatt hours are being banked while the sun shines. My system (5.25 kilowatt

continued next page



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Solar (Cont)

system or 30 panels), which became operational at noon on May 13, generated 650 kilowatt hours of electricity between then and the one month mark on June 13. Most of that (over 60%) was generated in May. The most significant reason is that in June it became cool and wet. Doesn't it remind you of last year? Another reason was that there was some grid instability in the Matawatchan area for a week in early June. The grid became stable after the planned Hydro One outage in the early morning of June 12. Hydro One does some things right.

If this first month is typical then I should generate almost \$6400 worth of electricity in my first year. This is about what I expected. However, the dollar value is likely to be more since more electricity is normally generated in winter than in summer. Even though it seems counter-intuitive, the winter skies have less pollution and are clearer, there is the reflection factor of snow, cold temperatures produce more conductivity and our winters are becoming more bright and sunny.

My three fellow solar electricity generating households in Matawatchan have systems of just under 10 kilowatts (57 panels) and are now well above one megawatt hours (1000 kilowatt hours). One of them got connected to the grid on May 6 and he has to date generated 1.7 megawatt hours, while the other two, who were hooked up on May 13 have now generated 1.4 megawatt hours. This represents \$1342 and \$1148 in banked production respectively.

Another 10 kilowatt system is being installed in Matawatchan this week and there are several others who are seriously thinking of doing likewise.

While this is the last article in this series I will report back from time to time about how solar production in Matawatchan is doing.



End

Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there

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Learning to grow grass

By Adam Copeland

When you choose to live out in the country you are choosing to surrender all control to your environment. It is a rare day that goes by where you actually are able to accomplish the tasks you planned the night before. More often I wake up and wait to see what jobs will take priority that day, it doesn't take long. Between Mother Nature, raising animals, raising kids and growing food there are always plenty of things to do. So what I really needed to discover out here were activities that could provide food and maybe a little cash with minimal time investment. In my readings I came across a great article about growing grass. After struggling with tomatoes for years, growing grass sounded like a much easier alternative. Pull up a lawn chair, crack your beverage of choice and watch the grass grow.

look the other way. We have been doing that for a long time, now it has caught up with us. The meat produced in feed lots and factories is not good for you. We are told to limit our servings of red meat because of the potential health problems that arise from the fats. Would you be surprised if I told you that eating a steak from a grass fed animal is actually good for you? When chickens are housed indoors and deprived of greens, their meat and eggs also become artificially low in omega-3s. Eggs from pastured hens can contain as much as 10 times more omega-3s than eggs from factory hens. For example, compared with feedlot meat, meat from grass-fed beef, bison, lamb and goats has less total fat, saturated fat, cholesterol and calories. It also has more vitamin E, beta-carotene, vitamin C and a number of health-promoting fats, including omega-3 fatty acids and "conjugated linoleic acid.



Large Black Pigs with guardian Bart

There was a time not all that long ago when most farmers in this area were in the business of growing grass. There is still a lot of "grass growing" going on around here these days, just not the type I'm talking about, sorry. With minimal inputs, some rain and the sun the grass will grow. To me it has always been a bit of nuisance, I don't like to waste time and money cutting it, only to have to do it over and over throughout the busy summer. The solution, either pavement or get some animals and have them eat it.

There are many animals that thrive on a diet of good grass; almost all need access to it for optimal health. It may seem obvious but raising healthy animals is very, very important. Not only is it important for the quality of life of the animal but it greatly influences the quality of the food—common sense right? Well it is not so common. With so many health problems on the rise, scientists are starting to look at our food for answers and what they are finding is scary.

We have all heard about the horrible treatment of animals in the factory farms. We don't like it but at the same time we have to eat, so we continue buying it up and

What is conjugated linoleic acid or CLA? It is one of our most potent defenses against cancer. In laboratory animals, a very small percentage of CLA—a mere 0.1 percent of total calories—greatly reduces tumor growth. Is it mere coincidence that cancer rates seem to be going through the roof? How was this allowed to happen you may ask? There are differing opinions on this, but the over all goal was to supply a lot of food for a cheap price. If I have learned nothing else by living out here it is there are no shortcuts. Pay now or pay later. We are paying now.

Unlike our old traditional sustainable farms, factory farms are willing to sacrifice the quality of their products to maximize their profits. Because of this, consumers can end up buying inferior food that is unhealthy to eat. Well it goes back to the grass. If a farmer feeds his cows grass, he is not buying grain, or spending piles of money on equipment to grow grain.

So where does that leave us? The science is there, why are we not changing the way we raise our food? Good question, I don't have an answer. But there is



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a lot of money at stake, no pun intended. The good news is that there are more and more farming folks getting into pasture-raised animals—especially around here.

Providing this nutritious and natural diet requires healthy soil and careful pasture management so that the plants are maintained at an optimal stage of growth. Because high-quality pasture is the key to high-quality animal products, many pasture-based ranchers refer to themselves as "grassfarmers" rather than "beef-farmers." They raise great grass; the animals do all the rest.

We decided to jump into the pasture animal game last year, raising rare breed pigs simply named the Large Black. We choose them for the ability to live outside and root up new gardens for us fertilizing all the while. Some around the village in Matawatchan got to know their rooting abilities first hand; however they were not looking for new gardens on their

front lawns. We have gotten a little better at keeping them home.

We have acquired some new rare breed animals this spring. We have teamed up with Highlander poster boy Ken Birkett and Joanne Murray and purchased a small herd of small cows. The breed is Dexter, they were popular in Ireland many years ago and they do very well on rough pasture with a high conversion rate of grass to meat. They grow to about half the size of the larger breeds, making the transporting of them more manageable. They are very intelligent and friendly. Although we are a few years from becoming producers we look forward to supplying the local market with our grass feed meats and eggs.

We hope to have some of the animals at the market for a meat and greet. The market in Matawatchan is open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. all summer starting July 3rd.

See you there.

End



Dexter cows of Matawatchan

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

By Judy Ewart, Coordinator
of Volunteers

June is Seniors Month, a time to celebrate seniors and all they have done for us and our communities. While we traditionally define a senior as someone who is age 65 or older, Renfrew & Area Seniors' Home Support provide services to people age 60 and over. Whatever age we define a senior as though, seniors are worthy of celebration as they have helped to build our communities and continue to make our country a great place to live.

Statistics Canada has produced "A Portrait of Seniors in Canada" to provide an overview of the seniors population in our country. Using statistics from 2005, this report states that the number of seniors in Canada increased from 2.4 million in 1981 to 4.2 million in 2005 and they project that by the year 2036 the total number of seniors in Canada is expected to be 9.8 million or almost 25% of our population. Provincially, in Ontario seniors account for 12.8% of the total population but in Renfrew County according to the Ontario Trillium Foundation, 1 in 6 people or 17% of the population is Senior. Of these seniors, the vast majority (95%) remain living in the community in their own homes or with family.

With so many seniors living in their own homes, services that can assist them to

remain as independent as possible benefit not only our communities but can help to reduce healthcare costs. Friendly visitors help reduce the effects of isolation and loneliness, telephone security checks ensure the clients' well-being, volunteer drivers assist seniors to get to their medical appointments, home maintenance workers help keep the home in good repair and safe and frozen meals/grocery delivery ensures that seniors are getting the nutrition they need. While our services help seniors to maintain their independence, our volunteer opportunities allow seniors to remain active, give back to their communities and receive the health benefits of volunteering.

To all our seniors, thank-you for all that you have done to build our community and continue to do to make this a great place to live.

End

In 2005 women accounted for almost 75% of persons aged 90 or older.

Space weather (Cont)

understanding how these cosmic forces can affect Earth and our atmosphere. The problem astronomers have had up until now is that bright objects can be easily seen in the night sky. However, cooler dimmer objects remain invisible to the eye.

Until now, scientists have thought our solar system contained only one star (the Sun). Binary star systems are common in the galaxy. It is estimated that one-third of the stars in the Milky Way are either binary or part of a multiple-star system. Some scientists and theorists are now opening their minds to the possibility of red and brown dwarf stars affecting our solar system. These objects are many light years away but likely will move closer to us as cosmic cycles such as those implied by the Mayan calendar come into effect.

The mystery of the Fluff has to do with its surroundings. About 10 million years ago, a cluster of supernovas exploded nearby, creating a giant bubble of million-degree gas. The Fluff is completely surrounded by this high-pressure supernova exhaust. Understanding the physics of the outer heliosphere is important because of the role it plays in shielding the solar system against cosmic rays. The heliosphere's size and shape are key factors in determining its shielding power and,

thus, how many cosmic rays reach Earth. (Science@NASA)

Evidence is growing that one or more significant celestial bodies are accompanying this cosmic cloud. Some theorists predict a brown dwarf (dark) star that is about 500 to 1,000 AU (astronomical units) from Earth is causing effects and anomalies (1 astronomical unit = 93,000,000 miles.) NASA is now admitting that their theoretical models are faulty. Cosmic currents cannot cause the strength of the opposing magnetic force coming from the general Milky Way and its gas clouds.

Some theorists think; this dark star may be more massive than Jupiter and in an elliptical orbit that brings it into close range of our solar system only periodically. That is possibly the only mass that could magnetically interact with our solar system the significant way that it is.

During the summer of 2009 the New Scientist magazine reported the findings of the astronomers Alessandro Morbidelli, of the Observatoire de la Côte d'Azur, and Harold Levison of Boulder, Colorado, USA. Without getting too technical, the study claims; that gravitational forces on the outer solar system must be caused by a body they have not yet seen.

Some theorists think there is a brown dwarf out there in our neighborhood that is of immediate concern. Something is af-

continued on next page


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Space Weather (Cont)

fecting our protective heliosphere, shifting the magnetic fields and changing the climate of our solar system. A weakening of our magnetic field would expose us to an increase of cosmic and solar radiation. The magnetic effects can alter planetary orbits and change the direction of comets and asteroids. If the Earth's rotation speeds up or slows down due to changes in its magnetic field it could change the length of our days and nights accordingly. This kind of change would have fundamental effects on the type of life this planet could support.

A recently discovered dwarf planet, named Sedna, has an extra-long and unusual elliptical orbit around the Sun. Sedna is one of the most distant objects yet observed. Sedna's orbit around the sun is estimated to last between 10.5 to 12 thousand years. Sedna's discoverer, Mike Brown of Caltech University, said that Sedna's location doesn't make sense. "Sedna shouldn't be there," said Brown. "There's no way to put Sedna where it is. It never comes close enough to be affected by the Sun, but it never goes far enough away from the Sun to be affected by other stars." "Perhaps a massive unseen object is responsible for Sedna's mystifying orbit, its gravitational influence keeping Sedna fixed in that far-distant portion of space."

John Matese, Professor of Physics at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette

thinks the gravitational influence of a solar companion to our sun is disrupting part of the Oort cloud, scattering comets in its wake. His calculations suggest Nemesis is between 3 to 5 times the mass of Jupiter.

Putting the pieces of this puzzle together is not easy. The private and government funders for astronomers regulate the type of information scientists are permitted to publicize. That being said; NASA has recently launched a satellite specifically to search for brown dwarf stars and asteroids. This device called WISE (Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer) searches for infrared (heat) signatures and analyzes its structures.

Part of the WISE mission is to search for brown dwarfs, and NASA expects it could find one thousand of the dim stellar objects within 25 light years of our solar system. Ned Wright, Professor of Astronomy and Physics at UCLA and the principal investigator for the WISE mission, said that WISE will easily see an object with a mass a few times that of Jupiter and located 25,000 AU away, as suggested by Matese.

The WISE team don't suspect they'll have completed the search for candidate objects until mid-2012, and then they

continued on page 25

First Concession (Cont)

we always milked eighteen to twenty cows and had feed left over. But as they say, it is useless to cry over spilled milk and hindsight is a great thing.

I joined Ontario Hydro the year I turned eighteen as did my brother two years previously after his discharge from the Armed Forces. He became a heavy equipment operator and I a lineman and

we earned a good living. Peachy finished High School and spent some years with Insurance Company before getting married. I have no regrets but my thoughts often turn to that eventful day so long ago when we moved to the farm on the First Concession, and how it changed most of our lives forever.

And times indeed have changed

End

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Do you recognize this label?



By Susan Veale

This is the new Canadian Organic Growers logo.

Clients ask me, "What is the difference between natural and organic foods and why should I eat organic?"

The terms "natural foods" and "all natural foods" are displayed on many food labels. This does not guarantee the food to be organic. Natural or all natural food labelling is loosely used in the food industry and there is no legal definition for this type of description.

Often it is assumed that "natural foods" do not contain food additives such as preservatives, dyes, flavours or sweeteners. It is also assumed that "natural foods" are not processed and do not contain hormones, antibiotics and have been grown without the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. The reality is, foods labelled in this manner may contain the above as there is no government criteria to say differently.

"Organic food" is a term used to define foods that have been grown or manufactured without the use of synthetic food additives, growth hormones, food irradiation, antibiotics, chemical ripening or genetically modified ingredients. If non-organic ingredients are used, a certain percentage of the food's total ingredients must be organic. In Canada, that percentage is 95%. Within the regulations, pesticides may be used as long as they are not synthetic.

Up until June 2009, standards for organic farming were voluntary within each province. Since July 1 2009, there are now Canadian Organic Standards which fall under the Organic Products Regulations and all certification must be carried out by a certifying body recognized by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. These standards are recognized internationally and any producer intending to trade their products across provincial or international borders must adhere to these standards and have their certification clearly displayed on their products.

So why go to all this bother and expense to produce organic foods? Here's why according to the organic food information website www.organicfoodinfo.net: The average non-organic fruit contains more than 20 pesticides.

Organic food is much more rich in vitamins, minerals and fibre and retains the levels of nutrients much longer.

-Your body will be more resistant to disease and will have higher levels of the essential nutrients needed to fight off infection

- You will have more energy by consuming lower levels of toxins and chemicals that slow your body down

continued on page 22

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Denbigh News

By Christi Schroeder-Laundrie

The bus trip to the Ottawa Tulip Festival on Monday, May 10 was a sunny and fun filled day. A total of 26 people from Denbigh, Griffith and Eganville took the tour through the Experimental Farm to Dow's Lake, where the bus rested for two hours while we took in the vast panorama of colourful tulips nodding happily in the breeze: tulips of every shape and colour one can imagine. Naturally, yours truly took lots of pictures. There was a pavilion with tulip oriented items for sale, many for rather reasonable prices. For the second half of the afternoon, the bus ferried its charge to the Byward Market, the hub of Ottawa activity. Everyone dispersed in different directions. Yours truly did not come home on the bus, but chose to catch a ride with hubby Don (Griswold), as he drives to Ottawa every day for work. He enjoyed the company on the way home, and yours truly was home in time to send in the news for the Monday night deadline. We need more trips like this, for I really enjoyed this one. Hats off to those who organized it! Let's have more of that good stuff.

Remember the Chocolate Easter Bunny sale campaign? Seems the bunnies were so popular, Denbigh Griffith Lions Club ran out long before they reached my road. They wish to thank all the chocolate lovers from the Denbigh Griffith area for their support in making this campaign such a great success, and offer condolences to yours truly for not having the chance to bite the ears of one. Maybe I'll get my chance next year, right?

Thank you to the residents of Denbigh and surrounding area for assisting Angela Bright, on behalf of geographer Robert McLeman at the University of Ottawa, in the research of our environmental history. Your suggestions, co-operation and information were very helpful and beneficial to the project.

Vennachar Free Methodist Church will change the Sunday morning service time to 10am for the summer months, effective Sunday, June 13th. Please feel welcome to come and join us! As well, Bible studies, Sunday School, Pioneer Club and WMI will recommence in the fall.

Theresa Madigan of Slate Falls Road received a surprise when Hydro One drove into her yard on Monday, May 31, and presented her with a 250 dollar gift certificate. As you can guess, Theresa was all smiles when I went there to take her picture. Apparently, Hydro sent a survey out to all the homes on which they had done some work, removing trees and such, and the surveys were entered in a draw for a prizes, one of which Theresa won. She said she plans to use some of the money to buy a red maple tree to plant on her property. Congratulations, Theresa.

What fine entertainment Bill White and White Pine provided Denbigh area with last Saturday evening. Yours truly is a classical music fan, but Griswold loves the foot stompin' kind, so we sat and watched 6 musicians crowd onto the small stage at Denbigh Community Centre to play to a most appreciative full house audience. Not only were they better than I had imagined, but the easy way they interacted, and the zeal which with they performed was something breath-taking to behold. Sure, they were practiced, but there was more: a passion, a true love for what they were doing, sharing their talents with us. Not just performing, but sharing their zest for the beat, the lyrics, the style. Joking, laughing, playing together on the dobra, mandolin, big bass, guitar, and violin, their enthusiasm shot out into the crowd and infected all who were watching. And the Tebworth Brothers, what a treat!! Wyatt, 7, and Marshal, 5, sang their hearts out, and delighted us with their own mandolin and violin playing. Bill White, of course, already well known to Denbigh residents once again thrilled us with his songs, and hand clapping music. But watch out for Joe White, folks, for here is a maestro in the making. Yours truly comes from a large family of professional classical musicians, and I know the real McCoy when I see it. Did you know there are three parts to a beat? The top, middle and bottom. Most people play/sing at the bottom: some are able to do so at the top, but only a very few rare individuals can perform the middle. Joe White plays the middle with an inborn relaxed versatility in both hand and wrist. And although a bit heavy on the bow, his quick and practiced movements elicited some pretty awe inspiring sounds from the instrument held under his chin. Yours truly was impressed. With fellas like these filling the room with hearty sounds, I think I would rather listen to them than Liberace. Thank you, Bill White and White Pine for a wonderful evening.

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

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Dispatches (Cont)

24 C, and the night-time lows are above 5 C – I can run in the morning wearing shorts and T-shirt. Therefore, we have the unusual situation of needing heat at night and wanting air conditioning during the day. Further north in the capital Kabul and up in the mountains, temperatures will get to freezing and they will have seen snow but it is prime tanning weather at KAF. As the seasons transition from winter to summer, we have unusual weather patterns. One day this week, we had a dust storm, with badly restricted visibility, and rain trying to make its way through the dust. I was out for a run during the dust storm and had to take a bath towel to use as a makeshift burnoose and face scarf. When I finished my run, I showered and found very fine dust in interesting places.

Whereas in Canada, I could use migrating geese or buds on trees to indicate the changing seasons, the signs at KAF are more subtle because there are neither geese nor trees. Instead, I take my cue from the Air Force people in the tent near mine. Each morning, they congregate for Tim Horton's coffee. During the cooler months, they wore parkas and stood around in the dark complaining about the cold. Now they lounge on the patio furniture during daylight hours and compliment each other's tans. Other indications of the warming weather – the air conditioning repair guy visited the office to ensure that it works now so as to cut down on the rush when we really need it. The final clue that summer approaches – I spotted Royal Air Force (RAF) personnel tanning on the flight line.

There are signs posted all around the air field warning people not to take flight line pictures. I had assumed it was to safeguard information about the type of aircraft, their numbers, and their weaponry (for instance I never knew that SELF CENSORED could carry SELF CENSORED – SELF CENSORED of them!). However, I learned this week that the restrictions on flight line photography are to protect our fair weather friends from embarrassment which would surely result if pictures were ever published of their sunbathing on the flight line. Plus, seeing an RAF airman in a thong is cause for mental anguish and will cause the public to forget the success of the Battle of Britain. However, I only saw RAF flight line tanning so our Air Force continues to be embarrassment-free.

For someone who grew up in Eastern Canada and lived for a couple of years in Western Canada, I did not know much about dust until I came to Kandahar. The Kandahar area is essentially a desert. If not for the rivers, there would be no human habitation and the settlements are largely confined to within 2 km of the river beds. However, the soil is not sand similar to a Canadian beach but a mixture of rocks, clumps of earth, and dust. The

slightest wind creates a dust haze and stronger winds create conditions with fog-like visibility. The dust is finer than talcum powder and quickly coats everything including indoor rooms with no windows. When wet, the dust becomes a clingy, clay-like substance. Therefore, vehicles quickly acquire a patina of dust (summer) or mud splatter (winter). The dust is hard on vehicles and I have seen Chinook helicopter blades whose blade tips have been scoured clean – paint and metal both eaten away by the abrasive dust. Almost my entire time here, I have had low-grade congestion as my sinuses filter out the solids in the air that I breathe.

There is no news from the Mews. The donkeys are apparently settling in fine. Having seen the feed bill (US \$65,000 for a year), they must be enjoying themselves as their feed costs roughly twice what I pay for three cooked meals for Afghan workers. In fairness to the donkey contractor, the feed itself may be inexpensive but the armed escort is not. The food can be hijacked simply because this is Afghanistan and, if it becomes known that the feed supports Canadian forces, then a different type of criminal will target the feed truck hence the requirement for armed security. Nonetheless, I have this vague uneasiness that I am being screwed. However, the donkey feed bill is much less than what the KAF food contractor charges Canada for a day's food in the cafeteria (about \$32/day); one of the civilian contractors told me what he pays for the same meals (\$50/day to eat in a cafeteria or should I say KAFeteria) and suddenly the Canadian bill does not seem so bad.

Recall that last week, the Army fired more than a ton of munitions and missed two IED planters. This week saw an unusually high number of range requests and practice shoots. Mixing metaphors: after the horse fled the barn, we decided to bolt the barn door and shoot the barn (we would probably miss the horse because it is a moving target).

My small batch beef jerky arrived - ten bags of cured, strips of beef from Butcher Boy Meats of Regina. Regrettably, the DHL shipping label said 'jerky' and not 'Scientology reading material' so word has gotten out – after three days, I am down two bags of jerky. Fortunately, I was able to throw out more secret documents and make room in my secure filing cabinet for the jerky. My team wonders why I asked them to vet all contract demands for cutting torches, lock picks, and truth serum so I will either have to continue sharing or start sleeping in the office. *End*

A fanatic is one who can't change his mind and won't change the subject

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Guide to Organic Pesticides

Effective and nontoxic products to zap pesky bugs.

Today's scientists are discovering more and more plants that produce natural bactericides, fungicides, and insecticides. In fact, many nontoxic household products are considered effective in the war against gardening pests. Below are the acceptable organic controls that gardeners find most effective today.

Household detergents: Mix these insecticides right in your kitchen.

1) USDA recommendation: Mix one teaspoon of liquid dishwashing detergent with one cup of vegetable oil. Shake vigorously to emulsify and add to a quart of tap water. Use at 10-day intervals as an all-purpose spray for white flies, spider mites, aphids, and various insects on carrots, celery, cucumbers, eggplants, peppers, and others. We've used it on evergreens and other ornamentals. Note: Test on a single plant first, because it may cause tip burn. This is a contact insecticide, so spray mix directly on the pest.

2) Liquid detergent-alcohol spray:

Mix one teaspoon of liquid dishwashing detergent plus one cup of rubbing alcohol in one quart of water. Test on a few leaves first to make sure no harm is done to sensitive plants. Spray top and bottom sides of leaves; or if plant is small and potted, invert it in a large pan of solution (holding soil ball securely) and gently swish back and forth. Repeat in seven days.

3) Liquid detergent—hot pepper spray:

Steep three tablespoons of dry, crushed hot pepper in 1/2 cup hot water (covered) for half an hour. Strain out the particles of peppers, and then mix solution with the liquid detergent formula mentioned above. Good for a number of insects on both indoor and outdoor plants. Note: Apply to plants outdoors. Do not use on windy days. Avoid breathing fumes, which can be irritating to nose and eyes. You can substitute hot Tabasco sauce or Louisiana hot sauce for hot pepper.

Pyrethrin: This natural insecticide derived from the pyrethrum plant (*Chrysanthemum cinerariaefolium*). Along with pyrethroid, its synthetic substitute, it is highly effective against a wide range of insects. Each should be used according to manufacturer's directions.

Lime sulfur: This old-timer, still used by both organic and nonorganic gardeners, is applied during the dormant period. Kills most species of mites as well as mite eggs and those of many other insects. Lime sulfur also has fungicidal value and can be used on fruit trees as well as ornamentals. Note: Lime sulfur applied to plants near the house will stain the paint. Apply cautiously near buildings.

Sabadilla: Made from seeds of a South American lily. Used for squash bugs and

stink bugs. Irritating to eyes and lungs if care is not taken. Use according to manufacturer's directions.

Garlic and onions: Grind up raw onions or garlic into a puree. Soak in warm water overnight and strain. Liquid can be sprayed on roses, fruit trees, and flowers. Kills aphids and apple borers. Scrape off any loose bark on the trunk and swab liquid on. Many gardeners mix onion water and wood ashes and paste mixture on tree trunks.

Ryania: Made from ground stems and roots of a South American shrub. Controls European corn borer and other worms. See directions on container.

Tomato leaves, crushed: To avoid chemical sprays, try using crushed tomato leaves for leaf-spot diseases. Tomato leaves contain solanine, a chemical that has an inhibiting effect on black spot fungus. Grind two cups of leaves to a puree. Add five pints of water and one ounce of cornstarch. Keep refrigerated.

Tobacco water: Cigar and cigarette butts will kill worms in the soil of houseplants. Mix a solution of tobacco and water so that it is the color of brown tea; pour on the soil. Don't let anyone drink it by mistake! The solution kills fungus gnats, symphylids, centipedes, root lice, and other underground pests—and it could kill you.

If you have aphids or other insects in your terrarium or dish garden, ask a friend who smokes to blow cigarette smoke into the glass and then seal the top. The smoke knocks plant lice for a loop.

Snuff: For tiny flies or worms in the soil of house plants, try sprinkling snuff on the surface. Note: Do not use homemade tobacco remedies on tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, and other members of the Solanum family. It could spread tobacco virus to these plants.

Retenone: An old remedy for killing Mexican bean beetles. It is produced from derris, a plant found in Central and South America. Kills aphids, thrips, and chewing insects on contact. Note: Toxic to fish and nesting birds.

Hot pepper: To discourage cats, dogs, many insect pests, and snails from munching, dust powdered hot pepper or a spray of hot pepper sauce on plants.

Oil and sulfur sprays: Petroleum oils (of organic derivation) have been used successfully for killing insects for over 200 years. Apply only on "hard" or woody plants. There are two types:

1) Dormant oil should be used only when plants are dormant in winter or early spring.

continued next page

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Kilts (Cont)

Before I could recover, Mr. Fulton delivered the knockout punch. A company in Edinburgh seems to have been the creator of quite a number of tartans, but two English brothers, named Allen, were in a league all their own. They went through several name changes to appear Scottish, finally ending up with the moniker of Stuart in order to pass themselves off as descendants of Bonnie Prince Charlie. In 1842, these rascals published a book containing 75 tartans in full colour, most of them new even to the clans to which they were said to belong. They even created a significant number for Lowlanders. It doesn't matter that the pair were eventually exposed as phonies when their

schemes became ridiculous. The work itself was a fake but nearly all the tartans became accepted and are still worn, as appropriate patterns, by clans and families.

Fulton has no mercy.

Whether true or false I'm not sure, but in spite of the ensuing trauma, I did manage to hang on to one conviction at least. It's about what they don't wear under the kilt. As for the Ferguson plaid shirt, I've never been able to find anything at Giant Tiger to go with it anyway.

End

Organic Growers logo (Cont)

- If you are eating non-certified organic dairy or farm produce then you are also eating the chemicals, drugs and growth hormones given to the animals

- Organic food producers must meet stringent standards

- Organic farms respect our water resources and do not leach nitrogen and other pollutants from their soil

Organic food just tastes so much better! We are what we eat as well as what we do not eat. Consistent eating of non-organic foods may contribute to a lethargic-

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End

Organic Pesticides (Cont)

2) Summer oil should be used during the growing season and restricted to woody plants. Some oil sprays can be applied in either summer or winter.

Miscible oil sprays kill insects and eggs such as over-wintering leaf rollers and aphid and mite eggs. They also kill scale insects and adult mites. Dilute with water according to manufacturer's directions. The oils cause little or no harm to most beneficial insects, and resistance to sprays does not build up with oils.

Talcum powder: Effective against flea beetles and corn ear worm. Lightly dust leave surfaces after every rain.

Soaps as insecticides: Soapsuds are ideal for killing aphids. Many home gardeners prefer vegetable- or plant-based soaps as effective aphicides.

Rhubarb leaves: Boil one pound of chopped leaves in one quart of water for 30 minutes. Strain and use as a spray against aphids and other pests.

Mouse (Cont)

with other species of mice. House mice are not particularly aggressive. Territories are maintained more by tacit agreement than by warfare. Nevertheless, two male mice caged together will usually not end well for one of them. Staying alive outside among the House mice many predators poses another lethal problem. During certain parts of a year food can be very scarce in the wild. Since House mice do not hibernate they need the same quantity of food year round. Hence, they need to be near a larger food store than nature can usually provide. Who stores food better than humans? For all the above reasons House mice and humans are usually cohabitants of the same area. It is not because we smell nice to them or that we are such great companions.

As building dwellers House mice have developed many talents necessary for building life, especially a covert life. Their sense of balance, hearing and smell is remarkable. They see well but not in colour. They also swim well. In size they seldom reach 10 cm (4 in), counting the hairless, scaled tail length which doubles their size. Their colour ranges from gray to brown. For the size of their heads their ears appear fairly large.

Garlic and red-pepper spray:

Grind up a large bulb of garlic (or a large onion). Add one tablespoon of ground cayenne pepper and one quart of water. Steep for one hour. Strain liquid into a sprayer or watering can and refrigerate remainder in a tightly covered jar. It will be potent for several weeks, and is effective on all kinds of chewing and sucking insects.

Spearmint spray: Put into a blender one cup of chopped spearmint leaves, one cup of green onion tops, and 1/2 cup of chopped hot-red pepper. Add 1/2 cup of water to assist in blending. Pour solution into a gallon of water. Add 1/2 cup of liquid detergent (preferably lemon-scented). Dilute by adding 1/2 cup of mixture to a quart of plain tap water.

If the plant is small, dunk it in this solution, otherwise strain it and spray on. Effective on all chewing insects.

Source: Mother Earth – February 1994

End

I have not read anything describing the House mouse as a human parasite, although it, at least partly, fits the description. The House mouse is not totally dependent upon humans, but we are a convenient, even if unwilling, host. They have been with us in the Western civilization since humans settled down to farming in the Fertile Crescent. There are known wild populations of House mice. On Gough Island in the South Atlantic where six human beings have maintained a weather station for South Africa for many years there are half a million House mice all over the fairly large island. However, in such cases the House mouse has evolved its behaviour to accommodate the environment. In their case on Gough Island the mice kill, by swarming, defenceless baby albatrosses by the thousands for their primary sustenance.

I am afraid that reading and writing about the House mouse has not convinced me to coexist peacefully with them in my dwelling. Even though the death of my daughter's pet mouse years ago, of that nasty disease that makes them blind, was very sad for the whole family, I am as determined as ever to keep them out of my

End

Community Yard Sale

Once again a community yard sale is being planned for Sat. July the 31st in downtown Matawatchesan.

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Summer Fire Prevention Guide

As the Township of Greater Madawaska Fire Department (GMFD) partners with you in our fire prevention measures, we are pleased to see and hear results. Thank you!

Our focus this summer is on smoke alarms and safe burning practices. We'll be going door to door to help you make sure your alarms are well placed and working properly, and to remind you of the following information extracted from our Burn Bylaw (2005-13).

ALL FIRES:

- Must be guarded or attended until completely dead out
- No fires are to be started or allowed to burn during windy conditions
- Sufficient water and other methods of extinguishment must be ready to prevent spread
- When a FIRE RESTRICTION is in place, only campfires are allowed.
- When a FIRE BAN is in place, NO FIRES ARE ALLOWED, and ALL PERMITS ARE CANCELLED.

Campfires:

- No permits are required
- The site of the fire must be bare rock or other non-combustible material
- The fire must be at least 2 metres from any flammable material
- The space around the fire must be at least 3 metres from vegetation
- The fire must not exceed 1 metre in height and 1 metre in diameter.

Burning of Brush:

- Permits are ALWAYS required during the Fire Season (March 1 to November 30 each year) and are good for only 48 hours.
- All burning must be done 2 hours before sunset or later and be extinguished 2 hours after sunrise or earlier. (This is the time of day when the wind drops and the dew prevents spark ignition.)
- Materials must be limited to untreated wood, brush, leaves and discarded wood by-products
- All material to be burned must be piled in a clear area and a clear area must be maintained for a distance of 3 metres from any flammable materials.

Incinerator fires:

- Permits are ALWAYS required and are issued on an annual basis.
- Materials must be limited to untreated wood, brush, leaves and discarded wood by-products
- The incinerator must be:
 - an enclosed device constructed entirely of non-combustible material
 - at least 5 metres from any forest or woodland
 - at least 2 metres from flammable materials
 - covered with a screen having mesh size of not more than 5 millimetres

According to the Forest Fires Prevention Act, fireworks must be ignited at least 300 metres from any forested area and all debris must be completely picked up and removed.

Did you know that we have a 'cost recovery' clause in our Bylaw? This much misunderstood clause only applies **when the fire you set is in violation of either Provincial legislation or our Township Bylaw.** Costs are \$300 per truck and \$25 per firefighter for each hour we are needed, and can easily reach over \$1000 per hour!

But don't worry, as long as you **follow the Bylaw safety measures and restrictions cost recovery does not apply** no matter how long you need us. That's the kind of fire response your property taxes already cover.

PLEASE familiarize yourself with Provincial legislation and our Township Bylaws & be careful!

While we are all enjoying our campfires outside, don't forget about the need for smoke alarms inside.

In Ontario, the law says that you must have working smoke alarms on every level of your house and outside of every sleeping area. We're here to help.

We will be going door to door and visiting campgrounds to help you ensure that your alarms are working properly and your home escape plan is in place. If you are having a gathering of residents in your neighbourhood, we'd love to come. Just ask.

We hope this Fire Prevention Guide will help you and yours to have a fun and fire safe summer. See you in the fall.

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Space Weather (Cont)

may need up to a year of time to complete telescopic follow-up of those objects and analysis of all the data.

Even if Nemesis is not found, the WISE telescope will help shed light on the darkest corners of the solar system. The telescope can be used to search for dwarf planets like Pluto that orbit the Sun off the solar system's ecliptic plane. The objects that make up the Oort Cloud are too small and far away for WISE to see, but it will be able to track potentially dangerous comets and asteroids that a death star may send our way.

Anatoly Perminov, head of the Russian Space Agency, caught scientists off guard when he called for a closed meeting of Russian scientists to counter a killer asteroid headed our way. He said that a potential impact from the asteroid Apophis around 2036 could kill hundreds of thousands of people.

As asteroids go, Apophis is a whopper, measuring 1,000 feet across, about the size of an American football stadium. In 2029 it will make its first pass around the earth, so close that it will travel beneath our communication satellites. In fact, you might see it whiz by overhead with binoculars. Depending on how it whips around the earth, there is a slight chance it might actually hit the earth when it returns in 2036 (but the latest calculations only show a one in one hundred thousand chance of impact).

The Russians take such a threat seriously, since a "city buster" hit Tunguska, Siberia, in 1908, flattening about a thousand square miles of forest, destroying about 100 million trees, and leaving a huge scar in the Earth. The object that struck Siberia was probably only 100 feet across, yet it created a blast about

1,000 times greater than the Hiroshima bomb. The shock waves were so intense they were detected in southern Europe. It created a strange glow that spread over Asia and Europe. If it had hit Moscow, it would have completely flattened that city and beyond. A city-buster like that happens once every 100-300 years, with most of them hitting the oceans.

A hit from Apophis, however, would be quite another story. It would be a "country buster," capable of creating fire storms, shock waves, and a rain of fiery debris that would destroy an area almost the size of France, or perhaps the entire Northeast of the U.S. The energy of the impact would be roughly 100,000 times that of the Hiroshima bomb. If it hits the Pacific Ocean, it could also generate a huge tidal wave, a gigantic wall of water that could swamp most coastal cities in the Americas and Asia. An impact from an Apophis-like asteroid is estimated to happen once in a thousand years. (Dr. Michio Kaku: Professor of Theoretical Physics, New York City College)

It is possible the effects will be more gravitational in nature. Maybe the Earth's climate will change, and possibly another planet in the solar system will become more inhabitable. Possibly our evolution will accelerate even more than it has in the past century. I don't think anyone knows at this point. All we can do is follow the signs as they appear (just like driving down the road at night).

I certainly don't mean to sensationalize this situation. I believe the unfolding events sensationalize themselves. I'm just the messenger. The Russian Space Agency intends to be proactive. Their plans are sketchy at this point. However, they may include nudging the asteroid's trajectory to move it away from Earth. At present, none of the hardware for such a mission exists, so we will be helpless for years if a real threat emerges. And any

continued on page 26

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The Journey

By John Roxon

Walter was a picture of forlorn longing as we paddled from the dock. To him, we weren't going to return, or if we did, we wouldn't remember each other. Or at least, we wouldn't remember him. He sat watching as the canoe grew tinier, floating across an endless lake. Walter is insolent, a dog who acts more like a cat and very spoiled. He also weighs 130 pounds and is in the final vestige of puppyhood. We've taken journeys before. We've paddled from the dock in the past and in each circumstance, Walter let out a lugubrious yawn and settled in the shade of the cedar overlooking the water. He seemed content, and whether we were gone for 15 minutes or two hours, he would be there, waiting for us at the end of the dock. Walter is also one of the water breed – except in this case, he's afraid of the water. At least he's very reluctant unless it's on his own strict terms. And his terms would limit him to wading up to his belly at which point he would turn around and exit the water. I tried to encourage swimming last summer. He clearly didn't care for it, nor did he care for my methods. He let that much be known. Walter also talks, except he speaks only with me and he doesn't always say the nicest things. The choice words he had for me after being thrown into the water, I couldn't repeat. Perhaps this is why he looks at me with a jaundiced eye whenever I call him to the lake.

So why was this time different? Why the look of desperation and anxiety? I still don't know. What I do know, is that after we left the dock, something happened in that brain of his, perhaps he had an afterlife moment, or perhaps he realized how easy and care-free his life is and it was those people in the disappearing canoe that are largely responsible for it. It doesn't matter, and while I'm sure Walter

will tell me one day, his youthful sense of immortality and ego will keep his lips sealed, for now.

Whatever it was that was guiding him, this lazy insolent dog decided that he either wanted to be with us, wanted to follow us to ensure his meal-ticket was safe or just wanted to know what we were up to.

So with these invisible forces leading him, he starts for the bush. We had no idea, of course, because we were out of sight of the dock and, based on past experience, Walter was safe beneath a tree in doggie-dream heaven. At this point we were at the opposite shore, exploring the flora and fauna and seeing what damage, if any, there was to the shoreline after the cold winter and spring storms. It was a hot day – one of the heat wave days we had in late May. The temperature was at least 27C and there was no breeze to mitigate the heat. As we were slowly making our way to the far shore – close to two kilometres away, Walter was steadfastly making his way to the same point. He went past a neighbouring cottage, stopping long enough to nod acknowledgements, and then into the thick bush he went. The neighbours weren't quite sure if he was running away from us, chasing some spirit known only to Walter or completely lost. And what a trip it must have been. The woods close to the shoreline is very unforgiving to man or beast not accustomed to its ways. The combination of rocks, fallen trees and uneven shore, plus deep woods just beyond, could potentially mean peril. Our best guess is that Walter must have heard our voices as we were the only ones on the lake at that time. Still, he didn't have eye contact and since the lake is in a bowl-like setting, the echoes tend to distort all sound.

At the far end of the lake, it is quite a bit more shallow and warmer than the deeper parts. The lake temperature was about 14-15C, but was closer to 20C where we were. As our son, Sam, decided to take the first swim of the season, we heard

a faint rustling in the nearby trees. Sam saw him first. Well, didn't really see him, but rather a brief swoosh of white tail. "Look, a deer", Sam yelled to us. As we looked, we realized it was no deer and in unison we cried, "Walter". There was Walter, going over and under the downed trees, tail wagging, panting fiercely. Sam got back in the canoe and we rowed it to the shore where Walter was heading. He reached us, and, kept right on going. He went right to the spot where the two shores meet, as if to satisfy a personal challenge,

turned around and came towards us. He alternated between walking on land and in the water. For the water portion, he would put his nose under, and bring it up again with a snort. Finally reaching the canoe, he had one last long drink of the clear water before putting his front paws on the edge of the canoe. After some tugging and coaxing – for Walter has never been in the canoe before - we got him in for the journey back. Walter looked genuinely satisfied as he groomed himself while the canoe cut the still lake.

End

Space Weather (Cont)

serious proposal will require billions of dollars, for new booster rockets and the complex machinery to deflect the asteroid. Of all the possible threats, only a gigantic asteroid hit can destroy the entire planet. (Dr. Michio Kaku). The dinosaurs never knew what hit them.

Perhaps prophecy is not to predict an end as much as it is meant to be a test for us or to predict possibilities for our consumption. Science and spirituality (religion) are not as dissimilar as people may think. The two disciplines just take

different paths to find the truth. This be known; they are traveling in the same direction. Most just don't know it yet.

We are challenged every day of our lives. These challenges usually come in the form of recognizable obstacles that have commonly shown themselves. It is said we are in changing times. We are evolving at a rapid pace and our world is expanding into space. No one knows if we will always succeed in our endeavors. But, it's pretty clear; God has given us the tools to try.

End

Calendar (Cont)

"Northern Lights" Seniors

Meet the third Wednesday of each month at 1:15 p.m. in Griffith at the Lion's Hall following food and fellowship beginning at noon. For information: contact Lois Robbins at 333-1082. All Seniors Welcome

Diners Club

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

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

HEALTH CARE FOOTCARE CLINICS

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OR --Annabelle Marshall 613-333-1752
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End

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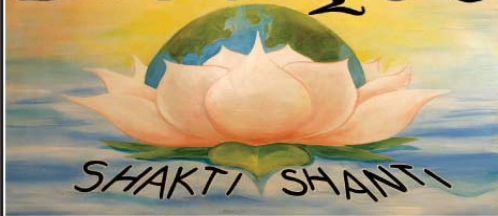
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What's happening in Matawatchan

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<p>Lot 3 Stacey Dr, Burns town \$59,900</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Building Lot</p> <p>Build your dream home on this half acre plus lot in a high-end subdivision in the historic village of Burnstown with access to the Madawaska River.</p>	<p>Centennial Dr \$100,000</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Waterfront</p> <p>Waterfront lot with 114 feet of shoreline on Centennial Lake Lot is in natural state. Come and build your dream getaway..</p>	<p>187 Eagle Crest Trail, Calabogie \$575,000</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Furnished Waterfront</p> <p>Nestled among the whispering white pines with 200 ft waterfront a fullyfurnished home complete with outdoor furniture, 17 ft Gastron 4.3 litre inboard mercruiser, boat trailer, water skis. Tiered walkway with decks to gazebo and boat hoist. Buy today enjoy your summer.</p>	<p>678 Mill St. Calabogie \$159,000</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Commercial Acreage</p> <p>Zoned commercial corner lot fronting on Calabogie Rd (Cty 508) and Mill St. in Village of Calabogie.</p>	<p>25 Veivmount Dr, Calabogie \$229,000</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red; font-size: 1.2em;">SOLD</p> <p>Enjoy country serenity with this immaculately maintained 3 bdrm chalet on half acre lot overlooking Calabogie Peaks. Gleaming hardwood flrs, screened porch, oak kitchen cabinets, front deck with 'sunken hot tub'. Deeded water access to Calabogie Lake</p>
<p>624 Mill St \$249,900</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Calabogie Village</p>  <p>Old world charm! A beautifully refurbished century old house on 4.4 acres w/original hardwood flrs, three levels. Master bdrnm has glorious views of Calabogie Lake. Relax on the inviting wrap-around porch. House in the heart of Village just mins to golf/skiing.</p>	<p>85 Sentence Lane, Calabogie \$299,000</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">"Waterfront on Private Lake"</p> <p>Extraordinary opportunity to own a pine log post & beam waterfront home located on a pristine lake. Furnishings, kayak, appliances, tools - the potential for enjoyment is unlimited.</p>	 <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Tourist Commercial</p> <p>5 Acre commercial property with frontage on Calabogie Rd. Prime development site in this four season resort with large pond on property.</p>	<p>L18C11 Calabogie Rd, Calabogie \$299,000</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Tourist Commercial</p> <p>5 Acre commercial property with frontage on Calabogie Rd. Prime development site in this four season resort with large pond on property.</p>	<p>6031 Centennial Drive \$355,000</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Waterfront</p> <p>115 feet of waterfront on Centennial Lake - This 4 season home has an oversized separate garage complete with alarm system, storage shed, docks are incl. Enjoy your selves on the deck overlooking a private back yard setting accessing the lakefront. Move in tomorrow and enjoy the summer!</p>
<p>330 Harold's Lane \$380,000</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">"Furnished Waterfront Home"</p>  <p>Wow! 239 feet waterfront on Centennial Lake. Fully furnished 3 bedroom house on private gated drive, bunk house, wood shed, 400 sq ft steel frame dock, cathedral ceilings in living area w/wall to ceiling windows overlooking tiered landscaped yard to waterfront.</p>	<p>5056 Calabogie Rd \$449,000</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Commercial Plaza</p>  <p>7000 sq ft commercial plaza presently occupied by a restaurant, retail store and office fronting on Calabogie Rd (Cty Rd 508), paved parking. Excellent opportunity to own in this fast moving tourist area.</p>	<p>1036 Barryvale Rd # 2D Calabogie \$119,500</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Condominium on Golf Course</p>  <p>Excellent opportunity to own a condo overlooking Calabogie Lake backing on the golf course - walk to the clubhouse. Features a wood-burning fireplace and balcony. Use as permanent residence, week-end getaway or as an income property.</p>	<p>6099 Centennial Drive \$289,900</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Waterfront Centennial Lake</p>  <p>Home or cottage with open concept living area, three bedrooms, loads of storage space in lower level, large deck overlooking the lake. Many extras - a/c, central vac, wood stove, water softener. Private setting with perennial gardens on 114 feet of shoreline. Don't miss seeing this property.</p>	<p>1048 Madawaska St, Calabogie \$315,000</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Affordable Waterfront Living</p>  <p>Delightful 3 bdrm, fully refurbished interior, freshly painted, new electrical & plumbing systems, roof, pressure tank. Upper balcony affords views of Calabogie Lake with gentle summer breezes. Waterfront deeded to property.</p>
<p>329A Church Farm Rd, Calabogie \$480,000</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Waterfront - Great Swimming</p>  <p>Open concept lv/dn/kit areas with wonderful view of lake & terraced gardens. Gleaming pine walls, floors & ceilings. Oversized garage with large living/sleeping loft & 2pc bath. Just mins. to 27 hole golf course or 15 mins. to ski hill.</p>	<p>4997 Centennial Lake Road \$599,900</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Splendid Waterfront Privacy</p> <p>800 feet shoreline on natural point, sand beach area, gentleslope to water, perennial gardens. Custom built to affordviews of lake from every window. Oversized garage w/loft work area. Private setting!</p>	<p>74 Bluff Point Dr., Calabogie \$797,500</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Unique Waterfront Home</p>  <p>Sunfilled 3 bdrm home on 160 ft shoreline Calabogie Lake. Floor to ceiling windows, soaring ceilings, delightful master bdrnm w/balcony, possibility of in-law suite on lower level. Attention to detail throughout. 3 car plus garage. Simple elegance.</p>	<p>36 Winsum Court, Calabogie \$649,000</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Panoramic Views of Calabogie Lake</p>  <p>Architecturally designed 4 season home on 2.5 acres with 333 feet weed-free shoreline. Hickory cabinets, hardwood floors throughout, immaculate condition with eye to detail. Stunning views of lake, cedar stairs down granite bluff, to decks & cantilevered docks.</p>	<p>9347 Hwy 511 \$998,900</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: red;">Private Waterfront Retreat</p> <p>2600 ft shoreline on Napier Lake. Picturesque custom built stone faced home with scenic views of lake & sur rounding natural woodlands. Possibility of in-law suite lower level. Peaceful and private - great trout fishing at your front door.</p>

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